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What's News At Rhode Island College

Rhode Island College

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The Feinstein School of Education and Human Development at Rhode Island College has earned a positive review from a visiting team of the Board of Examiners of the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) following a continuing accreditation review in November. The team visited the College Nov. 14-18 to conduct the extensive review of the College’s education preparation program. Final action on the continued accreditation is expected in the spring or early summer.

In its report, which will be forwarded to NCATE’s Unit Accreditation Board for consideration at its spring 1999 meeting, the continuing accreditation team noted favorable changes in the Feinstein School of Human Development and the College at large since the last NCATE review in 1993.

NCATE accreditation is a voluntary process to have your program evaluated against the highest standards of teacher education preparation. It is a rigorous, comprehensive review of not only the education program, but the institution as a whole,” said David Nelson, dean of the Feinstein School of Education and Human Development. “It is a prestigious accreditation. Many colleges apply for it, but do not receive it. Of the 1,200 teacher education programs in the country, fewer than 500 earn NCATE accreditation.”

In order to achieve NCATE accreditation, the school must submit all of its programs to national learned societies for review or to the Rhode Island Department of Education for review if an appropriate learned society does not exist.RIC submits extensive curriculum documentation to 25 learned societies for review and submits about half a dozen other programs to the state for review.

“The NCATE review process is an ongoing one. It doesn’t just happen every five years,” Nelson said. The sheer amount of documentation required, not to mention the marathon three-day on site review, attests to that fact.

The walls of the NCATE exhibit room” where the team spends hours reviewing information, are covered by a dozen or so filing cabinets and bookshelves packed with mandatory documents and exhibits. The materials range from course syllabi to faculty curriculum vitae to budget to admissions and graduation policy and procedures — and just about everything in between.

The hard work involved in obtaining NCATE accreditation pays off. The value of NCATE accreditation is very real for graduates of the program. While the state of Rhode Island does not require candidates to graduate from an NCATE accredited teacher preparation program in order to teach in Rhode Island, some states do — and others likely will in the future, Nelson said.

The state of Rhode Island has its own review process for teacher preparation programs and requires teachers to graduate from either an NCATE-accredited or a state-approved program. The state approves NCATE-accredited programs through a reciprocal agreement, Nelson said.

Reciprocity is an issue for teachers who graduate in one state, but relocate or want to teach in another state. Some states will require a candidate who graduated from a state-approved rather than NCATE-accredited program, to take additional coursework or go through some other process to be eligible to teach in their schools, Nelson said.

In Rhode Island, only two of the many teacher preparation programs currently have achieved NCATE accreditation. RIC and the University of Rhode Island.

NCATE surveys commend curriculum, faculty, student field experience

Where are they now...

William O'Brien

Class of 1991

Johnson resident

He travels. He's met presidents of two countries. And he makes almost $3,000 a year. Yes, three thousand dollars.

You see, he's a Peace Corps volunteer in South Africa.

O'Brien was back in Rhode Island for Christmas and came to the College to tell us his story. He's a handsome young man with a gentle manner.

After graduating from RIC, with a BA in applied math, he worked as a computer operator at the headquarters for Benny's auto/home stores in Smithfield. But after coaching flag football for six- to seven-year-olds, he yearned to be a teacher.

So while continuing his day job, he took classes at Providence College to earn teacher certification. Then he joined the Peace Corps.

After four days of orientation in Georgia, it was off to South Africa to learn Swati, one of nine languages in that country, and to take his assignment as a teacher. He lives with a family in the "location" of Nhlabatshe, a settlement of 100,000 blacks, in the far northeastern corner of the country. It's a modest but comfortable home, he says, with electricity and running water. The electricity is turned off for a couple hours each day, usually at night unfortunately, so he uses a lot of candles.

The Peace Corps began placing volunteers in South Africa only in March 1997, explains O'Brien, and only after the practice of apartheid, the separation of whites and "non-whites," was abolished in April of 1994. He is one of 69 Peace Corps members in the country now.

He walks about a mile to each of the five schools he visits in rotation, where as a math resource teacher, he instructs kindergarteners through seventh-grade teachers. The emphasis is on teaching African culture.

“The Peace Corps began placing volunteers in South Africa only in March 1997, explains O'Brien, and only after the practice of apartheid, the separation of whites and "non-whites," was abolished in April of 1994. He is one of 69 Peace Corps members in the country now.

Retroipect

Do you remember when Rhode Island College freshmen wore beanies? When phys-ed was a requirement? When tuition was free for Rhode Island residents? How do you remember when Rhode Island College freshmen wore beanies? When phys-ed was a requirement? When tuition was free for Rhode Island residents?

In this final year of the 20th Century, What's News will take a look at the College over the past century in this monthly feature.

The assistance of Marlene Lopes, special collections librarian in the James P. Adams Library, will explore our archives and provide a glimpse of the College during each decade of the 1900s. Look for a glimpse of life in the early 1900s in the next issue of What's News. As always, we welcome your suggestions and comments.
Where are they now? Continued from page 1

sis just now, he says, is on getting children to learn in small groups, rather than as a class with the teacher always at the blackboard. He is proud that in less than a year of his being there, students' grades have risen an average of 10 points. O'Brien also does some demonstration teaching himself and loves it. "The kids welcome me with all their hearts. They grab me around the legs and say, 'We love you, Teacher O'Brien,' in their native SiSwati," he says. In fact, all the South Africans he has encountered are "the friendliest people (he) has ever met, especially the children." One of his closest friends is Jimmy Carter's grandson, Jason. A volunteer in a nearby village, O'Brien has met the former president twice, once just before leaving the U.S. when he was seeing Jason off and again last Easter when the Carters visited South Africa.

During school vacations O'Brien gets to travel, visiting such places as Kruger National Park; the nearby Elephant Park; the Magoebaskloof; and the Kruger National Park. The Carters' visit to South Africa on Easter when the Carters visited South Africa was the contrast between rich and poor that O'Brien has wanted to teach. "That would have been really cool." O'Brien joined the Corps, he says, because he wanted to teach, he loves children, and he "wanted to help." Although he misses his family and friends, the children make it worthwhile. "I would not have gone (into the Peace Corps)," he says, "if I couldn't teach."

When he gets out — in March 2000 — he will get a severance pay of $5,400 for his 27 months of service. "What will he do then?" he asks. "I'd like to work as a recruiter for the Peace Corps, then get a master's degree in psychology, and then work as a psychologist."

John Perkins, professor of counselor education, presented a paper entitled "Research Framework: Father Daughter Relationships in an Object Relations Internship" at the annual conference of the Association for the Advancement of Educational Research held in Ponte Vedra, Fla. in December.


Robert Currier on viola, Robert Boberg at the piano, John Pellegrino on trumpet, and George Mack on cello. (file photo)
RIC alumna gets a real kick out of life

by George LaTour
What's News Associate Editor

This Rhode Island College graduate starts her day with a brisk two-hour workout after which she dons a black head Protector while on 16-ounce gloves and proceeds to pummel her sparring partner with a series of punches followed by a spinning movement which ends with a kick in the face. Christina Rondeau of Woonsocket, a graduate of the Class of 1997, is a member of the U.S. Kickboxing Team and contender for the national light welterweight title. Actually, the fight will be a rematch with Kellie Morse of Brookfield, Mass., her opponent in her first professional kickboxing fight held last October in the Worcester Palladium. Rondeau lost due to a broken and bloody nose. The ring doctor stopped it with only 30 seconds remaining in the sixth and final round.

Had the fight continued, Rondeau likely would have won by unanimous decision. She had won three of the first five rounds and was leading in the judges’ scorecards in the final round, according to Rondeau. According to Rondeau, there were only 17 seconds to go in the fight – not 30 — and the fight “shouldn’t have been stopped.” After all, a broken nose is an occupational hazard and one with which she is very familiar.

The re-match will take place April 10 in the WWF Arena (known as “The Nite”) in Lowell, Mass. and the 5’ 5”, 132 lb. Ric grad is ready. She should be.

She has undefeated in seven amateur bouts which included one knockout, and won her only “straight” boxing match in New Hampshire in 1997, making history at the time as it was the first women’s boxing match ever held in the Granite State.

She owns her own kickboxing studio and is a partner in the gym where she learned karate and now holds a black belt, indicating her mastery of the martial art.

Her paper clips detailing her achievements in kickboxing and karate adorn the walls of her studio. Rondeau started karate in 1990, just after graduating from Woonsocket High School where she ran cross-country and played softball.

“I had a friend who was the same size as me flip me over when we were playing around in the backyard, and I thought that was pretty cool,” relates Rondeau. “So she gave me a card for a free lesson, and I went down to the karate school and I just fell in love with it right away.”

She won the Deca Disease of the Class four a class as she earned her associates degree from Dean College and graduates from Ric with a major in English.

“Since then, this has been my life,” by NASA.

She had taken up kickboxing after her “straight” boxing match in 1997, and last year was the national amateur champion. “I had it with karate and wanted to do more fighting,” she explains.

“Kickboxing is still a martial art and you already know the moves. You just have to learn different ways to apply the moves.”

As a member of the U.S. Kickboxing team, she competed in Poland and Ireland.

“Kickboxing is big in Europe,” Rondeau relates. “Men and women are basically in and paid to fight.”

Kickboxing’s public exposure in the United States is on the rise, according to Rondeau. “It’s a Bikelap of the Boston Globe. On television, the lead characters on Buffy, the Vampire Slayer and Ally McBeal engage in kickboxing. And many aerobics instructors, always looking for a way to spice up their classes, have added kickboxing to their lineups.”

Rondeau likes the increased attention the sport is getting. But it is not for the timid. “As professional female kickboxers, fighters wear no headgear and ‘few wear chest protectors. Of course, fighters wear boxing gloves and shin pads on their legs as well as soft foot pads. Personally, I think people are very supportive but are hoping I have one last fight and retire.”

Center for Management & Technology becoming ‘a player’

The Center for Management & Technology is establishing quite a presence for itself. Or, in the words of the Dec. 21 issue of the Providence Business News, the Center is establishing the College as “a player among our colleges and universities offering significant business programs.”

In the past few months, the Center has launched a public lecture series featuring prominent business and community leaders, participated in the Working for the Millennium Job Fair at the Rhode Island Convention Center, and has been featured in a front page article in the Providence Business News, Dec. 2) issue.

The Center’s “external presence” will continue to grow with the addition of Lori Martin, Class of 1982, career planning and placement officer. She is working closely with students on resume writing and presentation skills, building portfolios of their work, and conducting mock interviews.

She is establishing new relationships with businesses and keeping in touch with companies where Center students are interns, with the goal of finding full-time positions for graduates.

Martin earned her bachelor’s in management with a minor in computer sciences from Ric and holds a masters in managerial technology with an emphasis in human resources from Johnson & Wales University. She has 12 years’ experience in human resources, working primarily in the health care and banking fields.


What’s News

Nominations sought for Alumni Awards/Honor Roll

Nominations are being sought for the 1999 Alumni Awards and Honor Roll which will be awarded at the annual Alumni Awards Dinner Wednesday, May 12.

Deadline for receipt of nominations and supporting material by the Alumni Office is Feb. 10.

The awards to selected outstanding alumni are presented to individuals whose personal and professional attainment and service to the College and community bring honor upon themselves and upon Rhode Island College. Candidates are chosen on the basis of professional achievement, community service and service to the College of alumni association.

The Honor Roll nominations are made through the academic departments, but input from the College community for all categories is encouraged.

The process is confidential and individuals should not be notified of their nomination.

The alumni award categories and criteria for selection are:

Alumni/Alumna of the Year

A graduate of the College who has shown continuing interest in the College and the alumni association as represented by outstanding service or commendation by impressive financial contribution.

Charles E. Willard Achievement Award

A graduate of the College who has brought honor to it by distinguished achievement in her/his field.

Alumni Service Award

A graduate of the College but one who has made a contribution to it by giving of time, talent or resources; or an outstanding citizen who has made a contribution to the state or nation which reflects the ideals of service to humanity.

Alumni Faculty Award

The person need not be a graduate of the College, but shall be employed by the College and have made a unique contribution to the College (e.g. wide student commendation for exceptional competence in teaching, printed publication, initiation, research or development of a new program, wide community recognition of quality service to the community or campus).

Alumni Staff Award

The person need not be a graduate of the College, but shall be employed by the College and have made a unique contribution to the College (e.g. development of a new program, wide community recognition or quality service to the community or campus).
The Rhode Island Foundation and Annual Fund once again had a very successful fund-raising year in 1998. The final results will be reported in an upcoming issue of What's News. This issue, I'd like to provide a look at the new funds that were created in 1998.

These funds have been established through the interest and generosity of alumni, parents, and friends of Rhode Island College. Some honor individuals, some reflect the admiration for former professors, and others reflect a desire to assist the College in continuing to fulfill its mission.

Nine new endowment funds were established in 1998. They include:

- Caroline A. Laudati Fund
- Juliet Romano Endowed Scholarship
- Dr. Paul A. Bourget Endowed Fund
- Dr. Thomas J. Howell Fund
- Vera Sohigian, Class of 1935, Endowed Scholarship
- Paul A. Bourget Endowed Fund
- Dr. Thomas J. Howell Fund
- Ms. Caroline A. Laudati

ANNUAL MEETING: The trustees of the Rhode Island College Foundation held their annual meeting in Gaige Hall auditorium Jan 19. Above (I to r), trustees Jeanne Aubin Rose, Class of 1962; Mary Juskallan; and Elena Leonelli, Class of 1942, catch up with each other before dinner in Donovan Dining Center. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

ANNUAL EVENT: The RIC Alumni Association and the RIC Foundation recently presented a check for $13,000 ($6,500 from each organization) to the College’s faculty for research. Above, Alumni Board President Paul Bourget presents this year’s check to Nancy Evans, chair of the College Council, while Alumni Director Ellie O’Neill (left) and Foundation President Joseph Neri look on. (What’s News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

ANNUAL EVENT: The trustees of the Rhode Island College Foundation held their annual meeting in Gaige Hall auditorium Jan 19. Above (I to r), trustees Jeanne Aubin Rose, Class of 1962; Mary Juskallan; and Elena Leonelli, Class of 1942, catch up with each other before dinner in Donovan Dining Center. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

ANNUAL EVENT: The RIC Alumni Association and the RIC Foundation recently presented a check for $13,000 ($6,500 from each organization) to the College’s faculty for research. Above, Alumni Board President Paul Bourget presents this year’s check to Nancy Evans, chair of the College Council, while Alumni Director Ellie O’Neill (left) and Foundation President Joseph Neri look on. (What’s News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)
 Rhode Island College values and appreciates the members of its faculty and staff whose loyalty and dedication have contributed meaningfully to the College’s growth and success over the years.

30-Year Honor Roll
Natalie A. DiRissio
Charles V. Foliz
Florence E. Hennen
P. William Hutchinson
Ronald D. Lupo
Janis H. Marceusak
James R. Medeiros
Richard A. Olsen
Richard W. Prull
Stephen M. Rothschild
Tony Y. Teng
David C. Weelman

15 Years of Service
Faculty
Joao P. Botelho
Geraldine V. DeNuccio
Frederick F. Harrup
Yolande A. Lockett
Marlene L. Lopes
Frederic G. Reamer
Charles L. Roy
Deborah H. Seigel
Albert L. Stecker
Patricia A. Thomas
Caroline Tropper

Administrative Staff
Thomas J. Bridley
Louis H. McGowan
Gerald T. Russo

Support Staff
Elaine A. Papa

10 Years of Service
Faculty
William R. Angell
James R. Buci
Diane L. Hall

Administrative Staff
William R. Angell
Anne F. Quinn

Support Staff
Joseph B. Brown
Louis Carelia
Kathy Cipriano
Maryann D'Elena
Joyce E. Fife
Linda G. Guest
Mark Hamon
Nancy Jaynes
Kheith Kong
Patricia A. McKenna
Nancy M. Moretti
Silverio Pecicillo
Joyce A. Pleiego
Anthony St. John
Harry J. Tourgee
Robert Turner

Rhode Island College values and appreciates the members of its faculty and staff whose loyalty and dedication have contributed meaningfully to the College’s growth and success over the years.

25-Years of Service
Faculty
Samuel B. Ames
James J. Betres
Lawrence Budner
Robert L. Castiglione
Linda K. Cathers
Edward W. Markward
Charles J. Marzocco
Fred H. Morehouse
Janis H. Marceusak

Administrative Staff
Thomas T. Kochanek
Bennett J. Lombardo
Barbara A. Lounsberry

Support Staff
Charles H. Allsworth

30 YEARS OF SERVICE: Faculty and staff members with three decades of service to the College were honored at a reception at the President’s house on Dec. 3. Pictured above with President John Nazarian are: (seated I to r) Florence Hennen, assistant dean of the Feinstein School of Education and Human Development; Nazarian; and Richard Olsen, director of Adams Library. Standing (I to r) are Ron Lupo, lead programmer/analyst in the Computer Center; Jimmy Medeiros, maintenance technician; Natalie DiRissio, senior word processing typist in the English department; Richard Prull, director of institutional research and planning; David Woolman, professor in Adams Library; and P. William Hutchinson, professor in the Department of Music, Theatre and Dance. (What’s News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)
Dean's List Fall 1998

Full-time students who attain a minimum grade point average of 3.25 in any semester have their names placed on the dean's list in recognition of their scholastic achievement.
Full accreditation recommended
The 1998 review team's final report recommends the RIC curricula, faculty, student field experiences, and community collaboration while making minor recommendations. “The team recommended full five-year accreditation and offered constructive suggestions in two areas — technology and diversity,” said Nelson. “The team dealt with diversity, primarily in the graduate student enrollment. They are looking for an enrollment figure that is new; the issue of diversity is a direct result of this and other strategies. They are looking for a result of this and other strategies.”

Overall the team was impressed during its extensive and thorough examination. The team reviewed records of required courses, including policy and procedures, course syllabi and evaluations. Overall the team noted that the vast amount of information and documentation was the very responsibility. Hennen, associate dean of the Feinstain School of Education and Human Development, noted RIC's accreditation coordinator.

Our function was to trace back of required courses, including policy and procedures, course syllabi and evaluations, and provide an opportunity to track what changes and progress have been made,” Hennen said.

The changes over the past five years are amazing,” Hennen said. “The changes in the buildings above. The building is wired (for computers), we have a new athletic building, the Donovan Dining Center is now open, the Recreation Center is now open, the Recreation Center has been revised. We have hired additional faculty. We have made program changes to continue to meet professional best practices in education and provide continuing education for professional development, she noted.

In the past few years several hundred curriculum changes have been adopted in the School of Education. Hennen, who estimated she did at least 5,000 pages of information through surveys and Sennett, who recalls spending countless hours in the exhibit room making sure everything was ready, were charged with coordinating the effort. The daunting endeavor back and forth is in this time as it does every time, they said.

Hennen related that she earned a reputation during the past year. ‘Here comes Dr. Hennen,’ they say, “she’s going to ask where is it written,” Hennen recalls with a chuckle.

The team noted that the past year was one that required accomplishment and success that has taken place over the past five years, he noted. They recognized the level of commitment to the profession of education and to students and faculty in the school systems shared by our faculty and staff. They commented the strides the College has made in improving technology since the passage of the (telecommunications) bond issue in 1988.

Strides in technology noted; more recommended
The team noted that while major improvements have occurred in providing access to and employing computer technology on the campus, needs still exist. In addition to completing the wiring of buildings, the team noted the need to integrate technology into the learning process more and then take it into the K-12 classrooms.

The College has been actively identifying ways to bring technology into teaching and learning is the curriculum. As a result, the College was recently chosen as the only institution of higher education in the state of Rhode Island to participate in a $10 million, five-year technology initiative.

Through RIC's involvement in the Virtual Professional Development School Consortium six school systems in Rhode Island will receive assistance in “infusing” technology into teacher development and K-12 instruction. The Consortium which includes college and school partnerships in eight states (CT, MA, ME, RI, NY, VT and WA) and

NCATE
Continued from page 1

Teamwork conquers daunting task
Congratulations and good luck to RIC graduates who were elected this past Election Day.

Secretary of State
James Langenow, Class of 1991

RI Senate
David Igloziot, Class of 1982
Joseph P. DiCenso, Class of 1984
J. Michael Leland, Class of 1987
Michael J. Flynn, Class of 1968
Daniel Issa, Class of 1974
Thomas Codere, Class of 1998
Louis P. Raptakis, Class of 1985

House of Representatives
Cory Blackford, Class of 1985
Steven Smith, Class of 1979
Mary Ann Carroll, Class of 1976
Michael Pusaturo, Class of 1988
Beatrice Lanci, Class of 1989
Paul Sherlock, Class of 1960
Timothy Williamson, Class of 1986
Edward Inman, III, Class of 1983
Stephen J. Anderson, Class of 1972
Roger Picard, Class of 1995
Carol Mumford, Class of 1965

Municipal Government
Diane Medcro, Class of 1974, Town Council Cranston
Mary Margaret Karmacyn, Class of 1972, School Committee Burrillville
Lucy Hargraves, Class of 1968, Town Council Charlestown
Andrew Polosuki, Class of 1967, School Committee Portsmouth
Ellen O'Hara, Class of 1977, City Council Cranston
Earl T. Wood, Class of 1997, School Committee Cumberland
Louis J. D'Ambrosio, Class of 1982, School Committee Committee East Providence
Franklin Arnold, Class of 1981, Town Moderator Foster
Colette Matarese, Class of 1982, Town Council Charlestown
Robert Boyden, Class of 1976, Town Council Foster
Lynne Bedard, Class of 1987, School Committee Foster
Robin Carbone, Class of 1997, School Committee Johnston
Karim L. Forbes, Class of 1968, School Committee North Kingstown
Eileen M. CooK, Class of 1978, District Committee North Providence
Roderick E. DaSilva, Class of 1976, School Committee North Providence
Kevin R. Jackson, Class of 1980, City Council Providence
John J. Igozio, Class of 1986, City Council Providence
Terrence M. Hassett, Class of 1985, City Council Providence
Linda M. Lavoie, Class of 1982, School Committee Richmond
Robert C. Taylor, Class of 1968, School Committee Smithfield
Maureen E. Cotter, Class of 1972, School Committee South Kingstown
Gerald T. Gibbons, Class of 1983, City Council Warwick
Lewis J. Pyoor, Class of 1981, City Council Warwick
Albert A. Manning, Class of 1951, Town Council West Warwick

37 RIC grads elected statewide

We were pleased at the degree to which they emphasized the level of change, accomplishment and success that has taken place over the past five years.” — David Nelson

questions regarding diversity: recruitment, retention and matriculation of persons of color; and preparation and graduation of persons of color; and preparation and graduation of minority candidates who teach in the school system for a certain period of time and participating in local and regional programs designed to recruit minority students into teaching. These programs include the Mt. Pleasant Teacher Academy and a DeWitt-Wallace Reader's Digest Foundation recruitment project.

The College has been a partner with the Providence School Department in a teacher preparation program at the Mt. Pleasant School since its inception in 1992 and is now a partner with the Providence School Department as a co-reipient of a three-year, $100,000 regional recruitment grant awarded by the federal government. “There is no one better than our staff to perform the function of the demographics of our state,” Nelson said, noting that school systems throughout the state are striving to recruit and retain minority teachers. “The College as a whole, as well as the School of Education, will continue to address this issue through a variety of initiatives.”

the U.S. Virgin Islands, is funded by a technology innovation grants from the U.S. Department of Education. Dr. Paula DeWitt-Wallace. The other recommendation of the team dealt with diversity, primarily in the graduate student enrollment. “The unit does have a diversity plan (which ... seems to have helped produce the diversity that has seen such a characteristic by diversity,” the team noted in its report.

The Providence Teacher Academy, a partnership between RIC and the Providence School System, is intended to recruit and graduate ethnically and culturally diverse students into the teaching profession. Graduates of the Teacher Academy are guaranteed admission to RIC and provided academic support and a network of professors to assist them.

As a result of this and other strategies to teach in any classroom at the undergraduate level has increased significantly over the past five years, the team noted that a level minority enrollment has not shown as significant an increase. NCATE considers two generally

"We are pleased at the degree to which they emphasized the level of change, accomplishment and success that has taken place over the past five years.” — David Nelson

ally diverse setting, and to perform well in the K-12 classrooms. "They are looking for an enrollment figure that is new; the issue of diversity is a direct result of this and other strategies,” Hennen recalls with a chuckle.

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"They are looking for an enrollment figure that is new; the issue of diversity is a direct result of this and other strategies,” Hennen recalls with a chuckle.
Tourangeau contributes quietly and consistently in a big way

by Scott Gibbons
Sports Information Director

ANDY TOURANGEAU

Eighth point two seconds left on the clock. The Rhode Island College men's basketball team was deadlocked 85-85 in overtime with the University of Southern Maine on Jan. 12. The Anchormen had blown an eight-point lead, giving up two three-point baskets and a lay-up in 11 seconds.

Senior Andy Tourangeau had the ball in his hands heading up the court. "I was just exhausted and wanted to go home," he remembers. Despite dribbling into two defenders at the top of the key, Tourangeau nailed a three-pointer off the backcourt at the buzzer to give RIC the win. "I was surprised that it went in off the backboard, but I'm glad we got the win," Tourangeau said. Tourangeau tied a career-high with 15 points in a crucial situation this winter. The Anchormen lost 67-66 in the season opener, then won 72-69 in overtime with the University of Maine at Orono on Dec 3 as well.

The West Warwick resident has been plenty of action for RIC over the past three seasons and has been a part of several great teams. The 1995-96 Anchormen are a young squad, and Tourangeau is charged with captaining the team. "In the past, we had great players like Alex Butler and Kenny Bliss," he says. "We knew they were going to out-score 25 or 30 points a night so matter what. We have to play more as a team now and rely on different players to step up at different times." Tourangeau is currently averaging 6.9 points, 2.9 rebounds and 1.6 assists per game. The 6'10", 270 pound guard is the only player on the team to start and play in each of the squad's 14 games. RIC is currently 6-8 overall and 2-4 in the Little East Conference. "We're just trying to work harder and play better every game as a team," he says. "We've been up and down because we're such a young team that hasn't played together before." Head Coach James Adams values the qualities that Tourangeau brings to the team. "Andy is one of the hardest working kids I've ever coached. We also celebrated some great events. The rededication of the Hall of Fame was a fantastic night that brought our athletic family back to its roots. Additionally, a permanent showplace dedicated to the top student-athletes—the Murphy and Howard Allen Award Winners. The Sports Auction continues to be a great fund-raiser for academic support and our summer sports camps are starting to really take off.

During the season, Tourangeau has been an important reserve off of the bench. Last season as a starter, he was one of two non-seniors playing in each of the team's 26 games.

Tourangeau originally attended Springfield College after high school graduating with the class of 1997. "I wanted to go to a local school and start right away," he explains. "I went to URI and didn't work as hard and I didn't have all my friends that went here. I was happy to play basketball after taking a year off."

He is a 1994 graduate of West Warwick High School. His father, Joe Tourangeau, is the varsity boys coach at URI (MB) High School. He has coached at Uxbridge High for the past 25 years. "I started playing ball as a kid when I went along with my dad to his camp," he says. "As a youth, he also played in the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) League in West Warwick. He also hit the hardwood in the Cranston High School Cranston Future (CLCF) as a youngster.

Tourangeau is a criminal justice major and hopes to start a career in the State Police after graduation.
RIC Theatre to perform Feb. 18-21 —

‘Noises Off,’ a farce within a farce, is a broad audience romp

by George LaTour
What's News Associate Editor

"Michael Frayn's show-business comedy, Noises Off, about a touring turkey, in which everything that could go wrong does, is a tonic for anyone's depression," said Variety in its 1982 review of the London play.

A hit on Broadway a year later, it is a play within a play that becomes the play itself, opening with a chaotic 11th hour rehearsal in one tank town and moving on to delirious performances in two others, complicated by histrionic tantrums, company romances, a set that malfunctions and actors who fail to turn up.

"It's a merciless but also affectionate tribute to hick legit(imate) theatre on the cheap," said Variety, adding, however, that "there's nothing parochial about this show biz yarn. It's a broad audience romp."

Rhode Island College Theatre will stage the play Feb. 18-21 in evening and matinee performances in its Blackledge Auditorium.

Performances Thursday, Friday and Saturday (Feb. 18, 19 and 20) are at 8 p.m.; the Sunday matinee (Feb. 21) is at 2.

In Noises Off, the comic moment unfailingly builds into second and third act pranks of slapstick, with missed cues, precision prop maneuvers and dopy to-and-fro that adds up to breathtaking stuff reminiscent of knockout burlesque.

"Although Frayn's touch falters in the closing moments, it's of negligible effect for a show that comes close to being the proverbial non-stop howler," said Variety.

The action of the play within a farce (called Nothing On) involving assnations, misplaced clothing, an Arab sheik, a daffy housekeeper and wayward plates of sardines, is repeated from both audience and Frankie backstage viewpoints.

In short, Noises keeps feeding off itself, cleverly piling up the misery as misadventures multiply. It's a fun joke with a program within the program complete with acknowledgments, cast box, etc.

"All three acts of the double-whammy English farce...are as cleverly conceived and adroitly performed a farce as Broadway has been in an age," said the New York Times.

The RIC production will be directed by guest director Dennis Blackledge, a RIC alum, Class of 1976.

Cast members and their hometowns are William H. Seward, Chepachet; Elaine Gray, Harrington; Alysah A. Cotman, West Warwick; Mark King, Warwick; Eric J. Greenlund Jr., Cranston; Holly Beaudry, Pawtucket, and Laura Ames, Providence.

Reserved seat tickets are $10 with discounts for students and senior citizens and may be purchased in advance via VISA or MasterCard by calling 456-9000. The box office is open daily from 10 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. and until time of performance.

DENNIS BLACKLEDGE

RIC alum to direct 'Noises Off'

'It's the funny business of funny business'

Dennis Blackledge, the Rhode Island College alum who will guest-direct the RIC Theatre production of Noises Off Feb. 18-21 in Roberts Hall auditorium, has been active in the theatre since his 1976 graduation.

After RIC, he was stage manager for the Trinity Repertory Company and has been at Trinity "on and off throughout my career."

"I've kind of stage-managed my way across the country," said the 1996 Alumni Honor Roll award winner the other day from his temporary home in Warren, which provides an apartment for him and one for his mother, Mary. His father, George, is deceased. His current full-time residence is in Alexandria, Va., where he lives with his wife Holly Bonham Blackledge, who serves as director of special events for the National Breast Cancer Coalition in Washington, D.C.

His credits, to speak, include serving as stage manager and production coordinator for two World Fairs — in 1982 and 1984 — and as head of production for the Arena Stage and the Shakespeare Theatre, both in Washington, D.C.

He's taught as part of the RIC theatre adjunct faculty, "done some television along the way" and recently has written a book on "garage rock'n roll" from the mid-60s.

Called We Gotta Go Now, he's been working on it for the past five years and hopes to have it published before the end of this year.

"It's mostly a true story of an area garage band out of Providence called the Mojo Hands," he explained, adding that it's probably not a working band any longer.

Blackledge will be in Rhode Island only until the play Noises Off is over, but he will return in April to stage manage the Fell Awards program for Trinity Rep.

About Noises Off, Blackledge says, "We're having a great time (with it). I really enjoy the students who are well trained and have natural instincts."

He feels it is "for more difficult to do comedy than tragedy. You have to understand tragedy to make it funny."

Noises Off is a play within a play, a farce within a farce. Blackledge says a farce "is nothing more than a real story pushed one degree too far. It's the funny business of funny business."
A n international award win­ner in medallic art and sculpture credits her Rhode Island College education for giving her a “very good background that made my life.” Jeanne Stevens-Sollman of Bellefonte, Pa., Class of 1968, will receive the J. Sanford Saltus Award from the American Numismatic Society in New York on Feb. 13 for “the signal highest achievement in the art of the medal.”

Along with the award will be a retrospective exhibit of her art work—sculpture and medallion art—from the past 15 years or so.

Announcement of her selection came at the Federation Internationale de la Medaille (FIDEM) congress at The Hague in October where she also received the Dutch Art Medal Society Prize for Best Combination of plastic image and text for her medals exhibited at Museum Beelden aan Zee in Scheveningen, Holland.

That achievement came in compe­tition with 1,200 artists from around the world, and is the highest award they give.

The former Johnston resident had created a puzzle medallion of a dog leaping into a pond. Another medallion, named Shining Fire, featured an antlered deer (called Shining Her work is featured in the permanent collection of the Smithsonian Institution, and has been exhibited in The British Museum in London, the National Gallery in Helsinki, Finland, the National Museum in Budapest, Hungary, the Numismatic Museum in Warsaw, Poland, in two museums in Japan, and prize col­lections in the United States, Japan and Europe.

“While medallic art is not as popu­lar among collectors in the United States as it is abroad, the art medal is gaining more interest,” assured Stevens-Sollman.

Among her commissions, she designed and cast the George J. Barco Medal for Excellence for the National Cable Television Center and Museum, and the Marlowe D. Froke Award for Leadership and Effective Use of Educational Media and Learning Resources for the Allegheny Educational Broadcast Council.

“Originality is the hallmark at RIC, she discovered art” under former faculty members Edith Becker and Richard Kenyon, who pressed on for her having given her “a very sound background in clay making” and earned her degree in education with a major in art. She pointed out that this was before RIC offered a bache­lor of fine arts degree.

In subsequent years she taught art at Bellingham High School in Massachusetts and earned a masters degree in fine arts at Penn State University.

After her masters degree she went on to post-graduate work with John Cook, a renowned medalist, who, she is proud to say, also had won the Saltus Award.

“She was at RIC, I felt it was the best education I could possibly get. It’s a small school but it gave me a very good background that made my life,” she said.

Stevens-Sollman visits her parents in Florida and Virginia, and is often in Johnston frequently. As you might expect, they are very proud of their daughter.

“And Stevens-Sollman still stops in at the Paul King Foundry in Johnston and C. A. Brown, Inc. in Cranston to get her bronze work cast. A medal featuring her sculpture won an award when exhibited in Switzerland two years ago.

A peace medal she created has a pigeon in her mother’s hands with the words “Promote, Protect, Preserve Peace... For All Forever” inscribed on the front. On the back, are the words “Is Abandoned, Forgotten, Gone” along with the skeleton of the pigeon.

Star Stark images by a world-class artist.

“Today’s medallion art is more than a commemorative statement,” said Stevens-Sollman.

“It is a small, ionic treasure, filled with emotion, packed with symbol­ism, enough to be carried about as a talisman and given to another — like a valuable secret, ever ready to evoke recognition and understanding.”

RIV alumna Jeanne Stevens-Sollman —

This world-class artist specializes in medallions

by Georg LaTour

What’s News Associate Editor

The modern language department has received an $8,000 grant from the Council for International Educational Exchange (CIEE) to conduct a special Italian Workshop for Rhode Island teachers of Italian in the middle and high school grades who need graduate credit to maintain their certification.

The grant provides for full tuition and materials cost for 15 students and a stipend for three instructors. It runs from Dec. 5 to May 8.

The center is a non-profit Boston-based committee under the Consulatae Generali of Italy created with the purpose of promoting the Italian language in the public school systems in the New England area.

The course was last offered in Rhode Island three years ago at the University of Rhode Island.

The workshop addresses issues of contemporary Italian culture as well as current developments in teaching methodology.

Gigliola Bonomelli, a representa­tive from the Italian consulate, was on hand for the beginning of the workshop in Craig-Lee Hall 102.

Instructors are Dedda DeAngelis, a professor at Italian University, Santa Fortunato, who teaches at the Rhode Island School of Design and is the center’s liaison in Rhode Island, and Giulia Simone, who teaches at Classical High School.

RIV gets grant for Italian workshop for teachers

The photographs of Constance Thalken and Joseph Vitone will be on display in Rhode Island College’s Bannister Gallery Feb. 4-27 in an exhibit entitled “Harvest.”

American documentary photogra­pher Thalken records the cultivation of bananas, pineapples and orchids in Costa Rica.

“Thalken’s work looks at the har­vesting of alligators in Louisiana. Vitone records the cultivation of bananas, pineapples and orchids in Costa Rica.”

“Their images in black and white, combining aesthetics and objectivity, are both evocative and informative,” according to Dennis O’Malley, gallery director.

Photo exhibit in Bannister Gallery


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February is African American History Month

See below for a complete schedule of events. For more information, call The Unity Center, 456-8791.

1 Monday

2 Tuesday
6:30 to 8 p.m.—Free Scuba Trial in Rec. Center pool. For information, call Aquatics, 456-8227. (Classes begin Feb. 9, April 27.)

4 Thursday
6 to 9 p.m.—Lifeguard Training. Beginning on Thursday, Feb. 4 through Thursday April 29 in the Rec. Center pool. For more information, call Aquatics, 456-8227.

4-7 Mon. - Thurs.
Art: Harcest. Photographs by Constance Thalken Coul and Joseph Vitone in the Bannister Gallery. Opening at 7 p.m. on Monday.

10 Wednesday

14 Sunday
Happy Valentine’s Day!

11:30 a.m.—Valentine Brunch Bingo in DDC-free. Sponsored by Student Activities, 456-8034.

15 Monday
Deadline for nominations for the 1999 Alumni Awards and Honor Roll which will be awarded at the annual Alumni Awards Dinner Wednesday, May 12.

For more information, call the Alumni Office at 401-456-8266.

African-American History Month events scheduled

Rhode Island College will sponsor a number of activities for African-American History Month in February with the theme of “Lift Up A Standard” which calls for triumph through perseverance.

“Each nation, each generation and each person must ‘Lift Up A Standard’ by moving to that higher level of achievement, ideals and interaction,” says Jay Latimer, assistant director for Student Life for Minority Programs and Services.

“Particularly in the African-American experience, this ‘Lift Up A Standard’ theme reveals that success or victory is obtained even in overwhelming circumstances,” says Latimer.

All events are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted. The schedule follows:

Sports Events

Men’s Basketball
Feb. 6 at Eastern Connecticut State * 3 p.m.
Feb. 9 at Albertus Magnus 7 p.m.
Feb. 11 at Southern Maine * 3 p.m.

Women’s Basketball
Feb. 2 at Albertus Magnus 7 p.m.
Feb. 6 at Eastern Connecticut State * 1 p.m.
Feb. 9 at Western Connecticut State * 5:30 p.m.
Feb. 11 at Pine Manor 7 p.m.
Feb. 13 at Southern Maine * 1 p.m.

Wrestling
Feb. 6 Roger Williams University 1 p.m.
Feb. 9 at Coast Guard (tri-meet w/ Johnson & Wales) 6 p.m.
Feb. 13 at Trinity College (trip-meet w/ Bridgewater State) Noon

Men’s and Women’s Indoor Track and Field
Feb. 6 at Bates (Quad Cup) 1 p.m.
Feb. 12 at Alliance Championship (Roxbury, MA) 4:30 p.m.

Women’s Gymnastics
Feb. 7 at Springfield College (tri-meet w/ Vermont) 1 p.m.
Feb. 13 at Big Red Invitational (Cornell University) 1 p.m.

HOME GAMES IN BOLD
* Denotes Little East Conference game

Notice of Affirmative Action and Nondiscrimination
Rhode Island College is committed to equal opportunities 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 administration of the nondiscrimination laws should be addressed to the College’s director of affirmative action. Reasonable accommodation upon request.