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What's News At Rhode Island College

Rhode Island College

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Technology infusion grant creating new connections

by Shelly Murphy
What's News Editor

Tree frogs, Bermuda, Virgin Islands, Providence, and the National Geographic. What do these have in common? They are connected by the Virtual Professional Development School (VPDS) Consortium, a $9.9 million national "technology infusion" initiative, in which Rhode Island College and its six local partner schools participate.

Through the consortium, Rhode Island is one of nine states or territories selected for inclusion in the five-year U.S. Department of Education Technology Innovation Award project. The purpose of the grant is to "infuse" technology into teacher preparation and K-12 schools. The ultimate goal is to help teachers (from kindergarten through college) and teachers in preparation learn how to use and apply new technology in the classroom to improve students' learning results.

The grant provides funding to purchase appropriate equipment and software for the teachers' use to improve learning, and funds to support the VPDS Consortium, which provides the conduit for professional development courses for the participants. In addition to the courses, which are Internet-based to allow for flexibility in schedules and to break the distance barrier, the Consortium partners are connected by the Virtual Encyclopedia.

We are developing site-based professional development schools for the preparation of in-service teachers. The value of this federally-funded grant is it provides resources to purchase computer hardware, software, and professional development," said David Nelson, dean of the Feinstein School of Education and Human Development. "The Consortium fosters a learning community for teachers and teachers in preparation where they can learn from each other and develop laboratory, site-based experiences."

So what does the Consortium have to do with tree frogs, Bermuda, Virgin Islands, Providence, and the National Geographic?

See Technology, page 6

Keep the Flame Burning
Spotlight on 
Alumni Scholarship Recipients

Paul Rupert
Class of 2002
Recipient of: 
Andreoli Scholarship

Paul Rupert of Warwick, a sophomore computer information systems major, is this year's recipient of the Andreoli Scholarship for $1,500, named after past alumni president Noreen Andreoli '80.

After graduation from Warwick Veterans Memorial High School, Paul entered the Army for three years. "My parents and I both could not afford to pay for my schooling and decided that the Army would be a good place for me to learn discipline and get into a structured lifestyle," he says.

The Army also provided him with an introduction to personal computers, the Internet and various...
**The Way We Were...**

This popular item in What's News will continue this year in order for you to be able to revisit your alma mater with a selection of photos from the past — the College's past, whether the current one (Rhode Island College) or past eras (Rhode Island College of Education or Rhode Island State Normal School). We invite your contribution of old photos, along with sufficient information about each such as who's in the photo and what they are doing, the year it was taken and place (if possible). In the meantime, we'll continue searching our files for interesting pictures of past College life.

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**Just as new freshmen finished their orientation and begin their college careers, we look back to the staff of the orientation program, then called "Encounter," in 1970. We haven't been able to identify everyone, but the others are: First row from left: Barbara Bouffard '72, Diane Brown '73 and Lynnette Blackmore '73. Second row: Grace Abbenante '71, Fredlin Bennett '73, Holly Shadlon '73, and Jocelyn Girard '72. Third row from left: Christine Cortois '71, master's '73, Brian Cartier '72, (unidentified), and Phyllis Van Orden '74. (file photo)***

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**Focus on Faculty and Staff**

John J. Salesoses, vice president for academic affairs, gave a presentation at the 10th International Congress on the Enlightenment held at University College, Dublin, Ireland, July 29-31, of a project entitled "Does Comprehension Predict Risk for Language Delay?" which has been funded for $46,341 for the first year of a three-year renewal grant by the National Institute of Health, National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders. This research will explore the use of alternative measures of comprehension to predict language outcome at 2 years for children with and without a family history of language and learning problems.

Goldfield is also project director for a related grant of $44,850 from the Spencer Foundation for a study entitled "Parent Perception of Early Word Comprehension." It concerns studying language development in children from different socioeconomic status (SES) households, and for understanding and remediating lower language scores in children from low SES households.

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**Dialogue on Diversity Committee sponsors Promising Practices**

Educators for K-12 in Rhode Island and nearby Massachusetts who are searching for diversity-related materials and ideas to use in the classroom will find a plethora of information at Rhode Island College's Promising Practices, a multi-cultural media fair, on Saturday, Nov. 6, at Rhode Island College. This day-long program features a keynote speaker, panel discussions, diversity workshops, role plays and exhibits of classroom materials including video screenings throughout the day.

The program, which is organized by the College's Dialogue on Diversity Committee, is structured to place K-12 educators in meaningful conversation with a variety of resource individuals, exhibitors and diversity experts. Continuing Education Unit credits are expected to be offered for this program.

The keynote speaker will be Patricia Medeiros Landurand, professor of secondary education and Human Development at RIC, whose address is entitled "Making It Happen: Fostering Cultural and Linguistic Diversity in our Schools."

In addition, about 20 workshops which are offered in three groups of concurrent sessions and conducted by RIC faculty and staff and professionals in the community, are scheduled. Topics include: "Diversity on the Web," "Learning Strategies for Diverse Students: Recognizing Gifted Students of Color," "Cultural Diversity Education for Police in the Community," "Using Drama as a Tool to Explore Diversity in the Classroom," "Training Responsible Adults as Mentors for the 10th Interdisciplinary Community," "Training Responsible Adults as Mentors for the 10th Interdisciplinary Community," and "Humanizing Pedagogy: The Cape Verdean Student in the Classroom." The day-long program features a keynote speaker, panel discussions, diversity workshops, role plays and exhibits of classroom materials including video screenings throughout the day.

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An open session, "Sharing Your K-12 Strategies," will provide an opportunity for participants to share their promising practices with each other. The film "Deseperately Seeking Helen," will be screened.

Registration, opening exhibit of classroom materials and introductions start at 8 a.m. in the Student Union Ballroom. The workshops start at 9:30 in Gaige Hall. The keynote address begins at 11:15 a.m. and workshops resume after lunch with sessions scheduled at 1:30 p.m. and 3:15 p.m.

Besides the Dialogue on Diversity Committee, the event is being sponsored by the Office of the President, the Feinstein School of Education and Human Development, the African and Afro-American Studies Program and the College Lectures Committee.

Pre-registration is encouraged. The registration fee is $15 for the RIC community, $20 for the public. For more information, contact either one of the Promising Practices Committee co-chairs: Dan Scott, assistant professor of English, at 456-8679; or Ellen Bigler, associate professor of secondary education and anthropology, at 456-8856.

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**Conference rescheduled**

The conference "Women with Mental Illness: The Impact of Incarceration" originally set for Sept. 17 in the Student Union Ballroom at Rhode Island College was postponed due to the weather. The conference will be held on Oct. 8 from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

This conference will focus on the impact of incarceration on a woman's mental illness, as well as the difficulties in providing mental health treatment to this population before, during and after incarceration. Presenters include Kathryn Power, Director of MHRH; Roberta Richman, Warden of the Women's Prison; and Angela Brown, a well-respected researcher in the area of women's health.

For more information, contact Marilyn Jacobson at Women in Transition 461-8233.
The Millennium: Exploring Our Past, Present, and Future

NBC 10/RIC partnership produces 10th guide in annual multimedia project

It’s the hottest topic talked about throughout the world. No, not Y2K. Rather, the Millennium is the topic that’s popping up in the early years of this new millennium. And hotter still is the question, “Just when does the third millennium begin?” You’ll find the answer to this question — and 18 others — in the 1999 edition of the NBC 10 and Rhode Island College Curriculum Guide: Millennium, Exploring Our Past, Present, and Future.

It’s an activity guide filled with information and suggested topics of study for teachers in grades three through six, designed to help students expand their knowledge of the Millennium. The guide is available on NBC 10’s web page at www.nbc10wjar.com. For further information, call RIC’s Curriculum Coordinator, Clare Eckert, at 401-696-9222.

If you’re wondering, here’s the answer to the question: When does the third millennium begin?

Jan. 1, 2000 or Jan. 1, 2001? By decree of the Royal Greenwich Observatory in Truro, England, and supported by endorsements from such organizations as The Library of Congress, the National Bureau of Standards and Technology, U.S. Naval Observatory, Encyclopedia Britannica, and the World Almanac, the official starting point of the Third Millennium and the 21st century is Jan. 1, 2001. However, the majority of the world’s population believes that the start of the Third Millennium and 21st century is Jan. 1, 2000.

This partnership provides another opportunity for teachers to expand the borders and boundaries of learning for their students, Eckert said. That’s what this year’s guide is all about. It’s filled with the CTR program’s rich history, creative design to the published piece and received college credits for it.”

“Samantha worked closely with Tim Strong, art director at Channel 10. CTR faculty and staff who have written the guide’s year area are Tracy Caravello, assistant professor, history and physical education; Karen Castagnol, assistant professor, health and physical education; Mary Poye, professor; Henry Barnard School; Joan Glazer, professor, elementary education; Shirley Lawrence, associate professor, Henry Barnard School, Cathy Parenti, instructor of history; Donna Bennett, PhD in education candidate; and Gertrude Tobin, associate professor, Henry Barnard School.

The guide’s 18 NBC 10 personalities will contribute to the nightly vignettes, according to Churchillville. Each video broadcast is specifically targeted to one of the topics in the guide. Among the topics are inventions, where we live, teaching, medical breakthroughs, the family, and others.

This year’s corporate sponsor is KidSpeak, sponsored by Brigham’s Ice Cream. In thanking Brigham’s Ice Cream on this project, the company’s KidSpeak program, which offers an avenue for children to have a voice about pressing issues in their lives and include a scholarship component, makes the partnership with NBC 10 that much more valuable to our communities,”

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Alumni Affairs news

No one ever said it would be easy. Eleanor O'Neill said it couldn’t be done! The Alumni Association took this as a challenge when it took on reviving Homecoming at Rhode Island College in 1997. Years later the College had sponsored the Homecoming celebration.

What we have found intriguing is that the farther the alumnus or alumnna is from Rhode Island, the more contact they want with the college. The majority of our merchandise is sold to alumni out of state. The first alumni we hear from when we hosted the Class of 1950 for the 50th reunion were Rhode Islanders. Their friendships cover all years of graduation.

This makes for a truly exciting college experience. However, the challenges it poses for an alumni office when planning reunions and Homecoming is significant. Rhode Island College has four main ingredients to create a successful Homecoming experience for the entire College community. Participation has been on the increase.

Past, Present and Future.

Several years ago our current students or our younger alumni, they are astonished. Perhaps it has been years since you've been on campus. Come Back to RIC! And the dedication ceremonies on Homecoming, look forward to seeing you at Homecoming '99 - Come Back to RIC!

FUTURE ALUMNVS Allison Angers (right), a sophomore, meets members of the College's “Young Alumni” a group of graduates from '97 to '99, during Campus Activities Day, Sept. 8 in the Student Union ballroom. The alumni were on hand to promote Homecoming '99, scheduled for Oct. 1-2, and to answer questions about the Young Alumni Group. From left are: Laura Fields '99 and her daughter Amelia, Olivia Hawwa '88 and Betsy O'Roarkey '91. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley.)

The Young Alumni Group is sponsoring an evening at Trinity Brownhouse for Homecoming '99 on Friday, Oct. 1 from 5 to 9 p.m. More than 75 alumni in this group have made reservations for this event already.

Alumni News

The Young Alumni Group consists of alumni with graduation years from 1987 to the present. The Young Alumni make-up nearly one third of all RIC graduates and are employed in every sector of the community.

On Thursday, Nov. 4, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Alumni Lounge in Robert's Hall, the Young Alumni Group will be hosting RIC After Five, a social event with a networking spin.

Alumni will have an opportunity to exchange business cards and discuss careers. Olga Hawwa '88 and Lynette Lopes-Machado '90 are coordinating this effort.

Alumni awards nearly $75,000 in scholarships to 80 students

Rhode Island College Alumni Association has awarded $74,550 in scholarships to 80 students for the 1999-2000 academic year, it was announced by Ellie O'Neill, director of alumni affairs.

Another $10,000 in Alumni Financial Aid Awards was given to the office of Financial Aid to be distributed at its discretion.

Scholarship money and alumni financial aid funds come from contributions to the RIC Annual Fund.

Alumni awards have been established to honor special individuals who have made significant contributions to Rhode Island College.

The number of awards by category, the total amount awarded and the recipients' hometowns are:

- Children (of Alumni) Academic Awards, three, $9,900, Thomas P. Conlon, Cumberland; Alecia Dery, Harriville; and Jennifer Bouknight, Providence.
- Scholarship money and alumni financial aid funds come from contributions to the RIC Annual Fund.
- Alumni Freshman Awards, 35, $19,950, Amanda Chapman, Johnston; Lisa Middleton, Foster; Nicholas Pendola, Westerly; Kristen Tornado, North Kingston; Kimberly Allenson, Cumberland; Alanna Barta, Cranston; Brooke Carney, Greenville; Amanda DaPonte, Bristol; Robert Fagan, Johnston; Demetria Garney, Providence; Ian Kelly, Newport; Andrea Lopes, Portsmouth; Marissa Lytle, Warwick; Elizabeth Nault, Woonsocket; Jennifer Nott, Portsmouth; Aimee Parent, North Smithfield; Christy Stable, Cranston.
- Also, Emily Boskos, Coventry; Michael Cardin, Smithfield; Lisa DePolo, Johnston; Denelle DeSisto, Warwick; Tara Francis, Bristol; Timothy Geraghy, Providence; Mary Hunt, Warren; Brendan Kirby, Warren; Lauren Lombardi, Cranston; Ryan McNilton, Rumford; Sean McNulty, East Providence; Melissa Miaszek, Smithfield; Erin Quinlan, Warwick; Meghan Reynolds, Lincoln; Jennifer Rodrigues, East Providence; Jessica Rouds, Chaplacht; Kerri Salbany, Lincoln; Tiffiny Smith, West Warwick; Emily Thongdee, Cranston; Kristen Angers, Providence; Staci Ferris, Providence.
- Other scholarships awarded this year to Homecoming, 200 students.
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Alumnus Takes on One of Toughest Jobs in the World — NYC Policeman

by George LaTour
What's News Associate Editor

"Ever since I was a kid, I always knew what I wanted to do," says Rhode Island College alumnum James Michailides, 26, of North Kingstown.

Beginning in 1991, when he was 18, he tried more than a dozen times to join local police departments, but limited openings left him frustrated. He searched the Internet for openings on police departments throughout the United States and found information about New York City.

"When you think of a cop, where do you think of?" he asks. "You think of New York City. At least that's what I did."

This past year, he's been a rookie on the world's largest police department, a force numbering about 40,000 officers.

And he's happy as can be with the way things turned out.

A son of George and Margaret Michailides, he graduated with his twin brother, Jonathan, from North Kingstown High School and Rhode Island College in 1996.

"My father freaked out when he found out," Michailides said in a recent telephone conversation from his parents' home. Today, his parents and brothers, including Chris, who works for the City of Providence, and sister Karla, of Warwick, are among his staunchest supporters.

Michailides officially became a New York City policeman Aug. 31, 1998 when he joined some 260 other officers in the 40th Precinct in the South Bronx, which covers an area of approximately three square miles with 63 miles of streets, according to the 40th Precinct's home page on the Internet.

"The Bronx has 11 of New York City's 123 precincts plus police service areas (like housing developments of which there are 11 where many of the Bronx's 77,000 people reside) and transit districts.

The 40th Precinct shares with most other precincts in the city such programs as Holiday Robbery Reduction, Domestic Violence Prevention, Auxiliary Police, Block Watcher and Clean Halls. The latter enlists building managers and superintendents to identify trespassers for enhanced prosecution efforts.

"The sergeant tells us what to look out for and sometimes we have an inspection. Pretty routine."

With such past movies as Fort Apache The Bronx describing the rough fortress-like conditions of a Bronx precinct, Michailides was asked how it was in actuality.

"The Bronx is still a pretty tough area but not as bad as I thought it would be," he says.

He assures, "It's still a Class A precinct, meaning the busiest. Only one is worse and that's the 75th Precinct in East New York."

Nevertheless, it is a difficult time to be a New York City police officer, he agrees. After the shooting earlier this year of an unarmed immigrant sparked numerous protests, high-ranking officers told the new recruits they were coming onto the job at a very difficult time.

Michailides says the "attitude of the people" they serve and protect "is mixed."

"People aren't that bad. People are willing to help you. You give them a smile and say "hello." - James Michailides '96

Alumni Scholarship

Continued from page 1

computer systems while providing funds for the furtherance of his education.

Once at RIC, he began to work 30 to 40 hours a week as a waiter in the Warwick Country Club in addition to attending classes full-time, but after all is done, I look forward to dedicating my life to bettering myself and others in my field," he says.

Paul also says he intends to "give back to my community and the College anyway I can."

A note of interest: Paul is not the only person in his family with RIC ties. His sisters, Irene, Beth and Emily, are RIC grade or soon to be. Irene is a member of the Class of 1995; Beth, the Class of 1999, and Emily will graduate in 2001.

Investment in Education: Fidelity Investments awarded $5,000 scholarships to five college students in the state, including Rhode Island College junior John Berard, at its groundbreaking ceremony for its second office building in Smithfield on Sept. 8. Berard is studying computer information systems and marketing and is the executive vice president of RIC's chapter of the American Marketing Association. Left to right are: John Nazarian, RIC president; Berard; Diane Berard, his mother; Irene Ethier, his grandmother; and Jessica Pfansiehl, a friend.
Campus Activities Day offers a host of choices

HAMMING IT UP: Alan Salemi of the Recreation Center donned mask, snorkel and fins to call the attention of Nancy Borges, a senior, to the aquatics programs.

NO ARGUMENT HERE: Jessica Kenyon, secretary of the Debate Council, passes out a leaflet.

COLORFUL DISPLAY: One of the more eye-catching tables is that of Asian Students Organization. Hoping to attract new members are (from left) Laynging Sun, vice president; John Chen, treasurer; and Cheryl Sadeli, secretary.

Photos and text by Gordon E. Rowley

The College's annual "Campus Activities Day" was forced inside by inclement weather on Sept. 8. But the rain didn't dampen the spirits of about 40 student organizations, campus offices, and "invited guests" such as BankBoston, which set up their booths and tables in the Student Union ballroom. It was a chance for new students, as well as seasoned upperclassmen, to get involved in campus life. And if the crowd was any indication, many people did.

Here is a look at some of the opportunities available.

THOUGHTFUL MOVE: Chris Purn '95 (left), a former member of the chess club, came back to campus to challenge current members.

SPIN ART: Amanda Vetelino creates an artistic Frisbee at the "spin art" booth, sponsored by RIC Programming.

HARD SELL: Members of the College's chapter of the American Marketing Association vie for attention for their club. From left: Alaka Tripathi; Stephen Ramocki, professor of management and technology; Melissa Comerford; Sandra Ferrera; Nick Pacheco; and Paula Rich.
Networking adds up for RIC alums and state taxation division

by George LaTour
What's News Associate Editor

Three recent Rhode Island College graduates owe — in part — their career employment to the efforts and cooperation of two College administrators, a state Division of Taxation official and officials in the state Division of Taxation.

Nathan Paquet of Smithfield, Danny Saccoccio of Cranston and Margaret Kaluza of West Warwick, accounting majors and members of the Class of 1999, b e g a n a n d officials in the state Division of Taxation.

The College administrators, a staff member and officials in the state Division of Taxation.

Tom Bacon, '94, an art teacher at Henry Barnard School and RIC's coordinator for the Consortium, puts it, "The Consortium provides a window to the real world. We can bring things into the classroom we wouldn't have had access to otherwise. For instance, one teacher was planning a lesson around tree frogs. He was able to do research on the Internet and connected with a scientist who provided a lot of information. When the next issue of the National Geographic came out, the teacher saw the scientist he had been conversing with on the cover. It turned out he was the world authority on tree frogs."

Anna Saccoccio, a science teacher at Nathaniel Greene and the Consortium contact person, related how students were able to do a collaborative project with students in Rhode Island and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The teacher's access to and comfort level with the Internet: "We thought (getting information) around the clock and with such a great opportunity to get to see members of the class and why they would gather data on how it is being taught and how students are doing and then the teacher would analyze the data," said Donna Bennett, special projects coordinator and VPDS team member at RIC.

"The extra exposure is going to be very helpful. It keeps you informed. It also involves languages arts because they have to present the information to their teacher and classmates and keep it relevant."

The Consortium also provides opportunities for the K-12 teachers, college faculty, and pre-service teachers to learn together from each other. For example, the Consortium partnership is that it will not only take the Internet connections, but it also offers one course to the Consortium participants.

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**Athletics**

**From the athletic director's desk**

Homecoming is just around the corner and I want to encourage our athletic alumni to come back to campus.

If you want to see the action from this year's stars in action, the men's second annual Homecoming Tournament on Saturday at 1 p.m., the softball team will host the state's collegiate championship throughout the day. The men's baseball team will host the RIC Invitational starting at 9 a.m., and the baseball team will be playing at 12:30 p.m.

If you like to eat and participate, there will be an alumni volleyball game on Friday at 7 p.m., on Saturday there will be men's alumni baseball game at 10 a.m., and a men's alumni soccer game at 10:30 a.m.

The dedication of the Robert J. "Bob" Black track will take place at 12:45 p.m., with the unveiling of recent renovations to the Dayna Bazar Softball Field at noon and at the men's baseball field at 12:30 p.m.

It is just unbelievable how great a runner the late Mr. Black was. We were fortunate this week to see some of the medals he won in his career. Phenomenal! The medals will be on display at Homecoming.

Renovations on the Bazar Softball Field and men's baseball field continue to move along. With a Homecoming Weekend dedicated to the majority of the renovations, everyone involved with the project will be working lots of extra hours this week.

The weekend will culminate with the Hall of Fame/Athletic Hall of Fame on Saturday evening. For more information on athletic activities for Homecoming 1999, contact the athletic department at (401) 456-8007.

* * *

**Women's Soccer**

The Rhode Island College women's soccer team is off to its best season in school history this fall. RIC is currently 6-0 overall and has won both the Roger Williams and Salve Regina Invitational Tournaments. The Anchormen have scored 26 goals, while holding their opponents to a mere three goals. Of the squad's six victories, four of them have been shutouts.

Since the program's inception as a varsity sport in 1995, the Anchormen have never posted a season and never won more than eight games. With a potent offense and a solid defense, Head Coach Nic Barbee says, "This is our first year to the upcoming Little East Conference games. For us, it's playing right now, but there's still room for improvement. We've had some success so far, but our goal is to make it to the Little East Conference playoffs."

1999 marks the first year the LEC will have a post-season tournament. In the past, the winner of the regular season was the conference champion. Some teams were out of contention after only three conference games. This year, the top four teams, seeded by highest finish, will play to determine the conference champion. "The tournament format gives teams an opportunity to play against each other. One goal away, something to play for down the stretch," Barbee says. "All five of our conference losses were by one goal last year and we feel confident heading into this season's conference schedule."

Senior forward Joan Hencher has continued to rack up points this season. The Warwick resident leads the LEC in scoring with eight goals and four assists for 20 points. Hencher already has two hat tricks this fall; scoring three goals against Emmanuel and Johnson & Wales. She also leads the team with three game-winning goals.

Women's Volleyball

The women's volleyball team is currently 1-4 overall and 1-2 in the Little East Conference. Head Coach Kristen Norberg's team picked up their first win with a 3-0 shutout over the University of the District of Columbia on Saturday at 2 p.m.

Senior middle hitter Kristen Scholtes finished with 10 kills, an average of 2.6 per game. Freshman outside hitter Evan K. Vales had a very good game at the net with four points on three kills and a team-high six assists for eight points. Mathew, who has been the team's right side hitter, is one of the best defensive middlefielders in the Little East. Both were named to the Roger Williams All-Tournament Team.

Senior co-captains Lisa Scholts and Sherry Mathew have done their part to help the team. Scholts, who hails from North Kingstown, is third on the club in scoring with 14 points and a team-high six assists for eight points. Mathew, who is the team's right side hitter, is one of the best defensive middlefielders in the Little East. Both were named to the Roger Williams All-Tournament Team.

With the early success, the Anchormen have high expectations for the rest of 1999. RIC will see its first conference opponent this weekend at Emmanuel and Johnson & Wales.}

**Women's Tennis**

The women's tennis team is currently 0-2-1 overall and has yet to play a game in the Little East Conference. Head Coach Len Mercurio's team played very well at the Ramapo College Invitational in New Jersey on Sept. 4 and 5.

RIC battled Villa Julie College to a 1-1 tie in the opening game on Sept. 4. The Anchormen won in a shoot-out to decide which team would go on to championship game. RIC fell to host Ramapo, a regional power, in the championship game 3-0 on Sept. 5.

Forward Tim Brown leads RIC in scoring with one goal and a team-high six assists for 10 points.

Senior forward Joan Hencher has continued to rack up points this season. The Warwick resident leads the LEC in scoring with eight goals and four assists for 20 points. Hencher already has two hat tricks this fall; scoring three goals against Emmanuel and Johnson & Wales. She also leads the team with three game-winning goals.

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What's News, Sept. 27, 1999

- Kick off the College's annual Homecoming events Friday and Saturday.

If last year's Alumni Cabaret was a reprise of the former summer songfests — is any indication, it should be a night to remember.

Alumni like Patti Nolin, who appeared in the cabarets in 1977, '85 and '95 and who now performs regularly in Charlie Hall's Ocean State Follies; Alan Milligan, from the 1985 Cabaret, who has performed on Off-Off Broadway and in a Hollywood movie; and Susan Iacobellis from the 1986 Cabaret, who has performed in productions at NewGate Theatre, Blackfriars Summer Theatre and the Rhode Island Playwrights Festival, will be among the performers.

Other summer cabaret veterans, who performed in the first Alumni Cabaret at last year's Homecoming, include Dan Kirby, whose Kirbappeal appeared in the cabarets in 1982, '85 and '86 and who now performs in productions at NewGate Theatre, Blackfriars Summer Theatre and the Rhode Island Playwrights Festival. He will be in the cabaret-style review that will offer snacks and a cash bar. Reunion classes will be seated together. The cabaret is being sponsored by the Department of Music, Theatre and Dance, the RIC Foundation and RIC Alumni Association. Tickets are $15.

Joining them this year are a number of other performers who are RIC grads or former students, including Karen Mellor, a cabaret veteran from the '70s, '80s and '90s, and Debra Pjojian, a performer in the '70s who performs with the musical group Avenue A.

The Alumni Cabaret will be under the musical direction of Diane Gualtieri, composer and cabaret accompanist in 1977 and '80, and Karen Mellor, a cabaret veteran from the '70s who performs with the musical group Avenue A.

Another summer cabaret alumnus, who performed in the first Alumni Cabaret, is Donald Blais, and Gualtieri also performs with Mellor in Avenue A.

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RIC Alumni Cabaret to highlight Homecoming

Local treasures and emerging national artists will make their marks at Rhode Island College this fall as they augment student activities and performances.

Projects are planned for the New York-based Sean Curran Company with the Roger Williams University Dance Theatre, Rhode Island's Everett Dance Theatre and the Carriage House Youth, and the very new and unique Vessella Dance Project.

The RIC dancers, Rhode Island school children and community members will have ample opportunity to experience the eclectic range of work by this roster of outstanding dance artists in concerts, master classes, and informal presentations, says Dan DeGiulio, dance director.

Angelica Vessella is a RIC 1997 grad and presently an adjunct jazz instructor in the Department of Music, Theatre and Dance. Her specialty is theatrical styles, and her uniqueness lies in her successful adaptation of these forms to a concert dance format.

Vessella will create a new work for the RIC dancers and share a concert with her newly formed Vessella Dance Project on Friday, Oct. 8, in The Auditorium in Roberts Hall.

November will see the "exceptional and irreplaceable" Sean Curran in dual choreographic residencies at RIC and Roger Williams University. Works generated through these residencies will be premiered at 8 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 3, when members of the Sean Curran Company share an evening performance with the RIC/RWU dancers, also in The Auditorium.

Curran always has been a favorite of Rhode Island audiences, and is currently one of the most celebrated young choreographers in New York, says DeGiulio.

Providence's Everett Dance Theatre and the Carriage House Youth return in November for the New England premiere of "Somewhere in the Dream." Originally commissioned and premiered by the Dance Theatre Workshop in New York, Everett Dance Theatre once again has succeeded in creating a provocative and compelling evening-length work through their collaborative creative process that blends elements of dance and theatre.

Capturing the "real" Providence with its rich cultural diversity and sometimes stubborn class structures, "Somewhere in the Dream" gives view and voice to personal struggles and triumphs within a complex and conflicted late 20th century urban multi-cultural America, according to DeGiulio.

Performance in The Auditorium on Dec. 11 and 12 will be at 8 p.m. and 2 p.m. respectively. A program for Rhode Island school children will be offered at 10 a.m. on Dec. 12.

The RIC Dance Company will present its annual Mini-Concert Series for school children with morning performances scheduled for Oct. 6-8 in The Auditorium.

Offering an array of repertory excerpts in a lecture demonstration format, the Mini-Concert Series has been providing young Rhode Islanders with an enjoyable and informative introduction to modern dance for over 30 years.

Fall guest-artist residency activities will include open dance classes by Angelica Vessella conducted in August and Sean Curran Nov. 9-14.

BOTTROME STRING QUARTET joins the Muir String Quartet Monday, Oct. 4, for an 8 p.m. performance in Gaige Hall auditorium in the highly acclaimed and newly dubbed President's Music Series. Borrormo will perform Brahms' Quartet in F Major, Opus 15, No. 1, the two quartets, Shostakovich's Octet, Opus 77, and the Muir, Brahms' Quartet in C minor, Opus 51, No. 1. Tickets are $15; $17 for senior citizens; $14 for students and may be purchased in advance by phone via Mastercard or VISA by calling 456-8194 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. In person as we are at the box office in Roberts Hall.
Dancing at Lughnasa' portrays the ties that bind all siblings

by George LaTour
What's News Associate Editor

Irish playwright Brian Friel's Dancing at Lughnasa (proounced LEW-nah-sah), a fictionalized version of his own family living out a August in County Donegal in 1936, will be staged by Rhode Island College Theatre Sept. 30. and Oct. 1 in the Auditorium in Roberts Hall in evening performances at 8 and a Sunday matinee at 3.

In a daunting task - to portray the ties that bind all siblings - Friel tells the story of the five Mundy sisters, his mother and four aunts, in a poetic "memory" play that recalls a brief period in his and their lives.

Michael, a middle-aged autobiographical stand-in for the author, sets out to tell the audience about the "different kinds of memories" he has of the five women when he was 7 years old.

The unmarried women, although poor, embody the joys and sorrows of the Irish soul as they struggle with the forces of family allegiances, of passions past and present, of dreams and desires, and of traditional beliefs versus ancient rituals.

A red-letter event in the house is the arrival of its first wireless set, a radio of a wooden box embelished with its brand name Marconi. But the far-off music summoned by the radio, like the offstage village festival alluded to in Friel's title, is strictly enforced Christian propriety.

As the sisters go about their chores in Act I, bickering and gossiping and joking in the kitchen, they are titilated by intermittent reports of the Lughnasa celebration, in which their neighbors honor the pagan god of the harvest, Lugh, with dancing and fires and other back-hills rituals well beyond the bounds of their own strictly enforced Christian propriety.

Though the women's participation in the fun remains unlikely, an explosion of Celtic music on the radio possesses them all and leads them into a spontaneous short-lived dance in which uninhibited leaps and cries of pure animalistic hunger momentarily throw off the monotony of a drab, impoverished existence for an inaudocedent explosion of joy.

What does the dancing mean? It is not our business to know, exactly, for as Michael later says, dancing is a language "to whisper private and sacred things" - the expression of a search for an "otherness," a passion that might be spiritual or romantic or uncegetorl but that in any case is an antidote to the harsh facts of an earthbound existence.

Many of the other profoundly moving interludes in Dancing at Lughnasa grab the audience in the same way, by expressing the verbally inexpressable in music and gesture.

In the end, the sisters come to realize that what binds them together also and what forces them apart in this season opener directed by Bill Seaman.

Todd Wojcik of Wakefield plays Michael, the narrator; Melissa Silva of Fall River, his mother; Chris Mundy; Laura M. Ames and Michele L. Bourget, both of Providence, Laura C. Brittan of North Providence and Tamia M. Rocha of East Providence, the other Mundy sisters.

Others in the cast include Kevin P. Fox of Providence, who plays an old uncle missionary Father Jack, and Neil G. Santoro of Pawtucket, who portrays Michael's father. Gerry Evans, Glenn M. Zienowicz of Providence is the understudy for the Gerry Evans role.

The musical group Pendragon will perform in Roberts Hall lobby for an hour before the performance on Sept. 30. For the following performances, a CD of their music will be played and piped into the auditorium before the show.

Reserved-seat tickets are $11 with discounts for senior citizens and students. The box office hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily and anti-time of performances on performance dates.

October Series focuses on New Media

Continued from page 1

N. Y. poet laureate to read from her work Oct. 14

Seaman's work explores language, image and sound relationships through video, computer-controlled video disk, CD ROM, Virtual Reality, photography and studio-based audio compositions.

Continued from page 1

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Continued from page 1

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Paula Hunter and Dancer Perform Oct. 19.

Pendragon: (1 to r) Mary Lee Partington, Kevin Doyle, Phil Edmonds, Ron Schmitt, Bob Drouin, Russell Gusetti will perform at 7 p.m. on Sept. 30, prior to the theatre performance.

Pennsylvania Printmaker, freelance photographer and conducted research in computer-based painting/printing, intelligent personalized design tools, constraint-based and case-based graphical programming tools since 1977. His recent work focuses on seamless ultra-high resolution projection displays, knowledge-based transportation systems and tools for on-line design communities.

Discounts for senior citizens and students. The box office hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily and anti-time of performances on performance dates.

Dancing at Lughnasa’ portrays the ties that bind all siblings
RIC CALENDAR
S E P T . 2 7 - O C T . 1 1

Sundays
10 p.m. - Catholic Mass in the SU Ballroom. Conducted by Fr. Joseph Pescottello. All welcome.

Friday
Homecoming: Come Back to RIC. Friday evening Cabaret. For more information, call Alumni, 456-8086.

Homecoming: Hall of Fame and Athletic Dedication Ceremonies. Donovan Dining Center. For more information, call 401-456-8007.

Monday
8 p.m. - President’s Music Series: Muir and Borrowme String Quartets. Part of the Performing Arts Series in Gaige Auditorium. Reserved seating $18. Pre-concert buffet with the artists. Call 401-456-8144 for ticket information.

Wednesday
7 to 8:30 p.m. - Workshop: Alcohol IQ in Sweet Hall Lounge. Presented by Alex Smith. Sponsored by Counseling Center, 456-8094.

30-3
Thurs.-Sun.

Theatre: “Dancing at Lughnasa” in The Auditorium in Roberts Hall. 5 p.m. - Sept. 30-Oct. 2; 2 p.m. - Oct. 3 (matinee).

Sports Events

Men's Soccer
Tues. Sept. 28
Albany State
4 p.m.

Hartford
3 p.m.

Wed. Sept. 29
at Salve Regina
4 p.m.

Thurs. Oct. 2
Keene State
3:30 p.m.

Mon. Oct. 9
Kean University
Noon

Women’s Soccer
Thurs. Sept. 30
Southern Maine
3:30 p.m.

Sat. Oct. 2
at UMASS-Dartmouth
1 p.m.

Tues. Oct. 6
at Southern Maine
3:30 p.m.

Sat. Oct. 9
Keene State
1 p.m.

Women’s Tennis
Mon. Sept. 27
Bridgewater State
3:30 p.m.

Wed. Sept. 29
at Wentworth
3:30 p.m.

Sat. Oct. 2
at Southern Maine
1 p.m.

Tues. Oct. 6
UMASS-Dartmouth
3:30 p.m.

Thurs. Oct. 7
Roger Williams
3:30 p.m.

Sat. Oct. 9
at Plymouth State
1 p.m.

Women’s Volleyball
Wed. Sept. 20
at Endicott
7 p.m.

Sat. Oct. 2
RIC Invitational
9 a.m.

Tues. Oct. 6
Little East Round Robin at Eastern Conn.
4:30 p.m.

Fri.-Sat. Oct. 8-9
at Williams College
TBA/10 a.m.

Men & Women’s Cross Country
Sat. Oct. 2
at Tri-State Championships
10 a.m.

Sat. Oct. 9
at Keene State
10:30 a.m.

HOME GAMES IN BOLD
* Little East Conference game