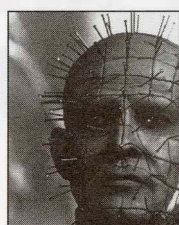
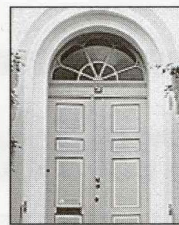


2 Speaker discusses black masculinity



2 Pinhead delivers illustrated lecture



2 SPAS Gallery opens "Man Made Land"



4 ASL class enrollment booming

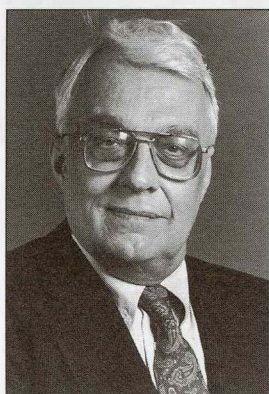
Frederick Wiedman Jr. bequeaths \$5 million to RIT

RIT will receive an estimated \$5 million from the estate of the late Frederick Wiedman Jr., according to Nathan Robfogel, vice president for university relations.

Wiedman, a Rochester native who practiced law in the city for 50 years, died April 12 at the age of 76. His association with RIT began in the early 1960s, when he helped settle the estate of RIT benefactor Grace Watson.

"At that time, RIT was contemplating building a new campus," recalls Alfred Davis, RIT vice president emeritus. "The \$3 million bequest from Mrs. Watson became the key to purchasing the land and beginning the whole process. Through Mr. Wiedman's involvement as Mrs. Watson's attorney, he met Dr. Mark Ellingson (then president of RIT) and they became great friends.

"Mr. Wiedman came to have a lot of confidence in Dr. Ellingson, and in the whole institution and the kinds of programs offered," says Davis, who also enjoyed



Frederick Wiedman Jr.

Wiedman's friendship over the years.

Wiedman's longtime law partner James Vazzana remembers that Wiedman and Ellingson met frequently for coffee at Bryant's Drug Store downtown. Vazzana notes that RIT

appealed to Wiedman because "he believed RIT contributed to the community. He saw many of the students who go there tend to stay here."

Wiedman became a member of RIT's Nathaniel Rochester Society in 1982, and in 1985 established the Frederick and Anna B. Wiedman Professorship in Imaging Science in recognition of his parents. In 1986 he joined RIT's Board of Trustees.

Under the terms of Wiedman's will, RIT receives the remainder of the estate after a number of other bequests are fulfilled. The will provides that the money first be used to fund completely the existing Wiedman Professorship in the College of Science and secondly to establish an additional chair. Wiedman's visionary support helped RIT achieve national prominence in imaging science and the funds now donated will help establish RIT as the leading university partnering with the imaging and publishing industry.

"The extent of Fred's generosity is extraordinary," says RIT President Albert Simone, who notes that Wiedman also

encouraged clients to think of RIT when preparing their wills. "What he has done for this university is truly immeasurable. Fred's gift of financial resources as well as the wisdom and perspective he brought as a member of the board will have a lasting impact on RIT."

Indeed, people who knew Wiedman well and those who only met him a few times remember his insight and intelligence.

John Schott, the Frederick and Anna B. Wiedman Professor, recalls their initial meeting, when Wiedman came prepared

with an impressive array of questions about imaging science and the field of remote sensing, in particular.

"He was aggressively curious about a wide range of interests," says Schott.

"What he has done for this university is truly immeasurable."

—RIT President Albert Simone

Wiedman, a graduate of the University of Rochester and Yale Law School, had an active interest in local politics and

continued on page 4

Congress allocates funds to RIT

Two RIT programs received good news from Washington last week: Congress has allocated funds to the National Center for Remanufacturing and Resource Recovery (NCR³) and the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science (CIS).

Thanks to the efforts of Senator Charles Schumer and Congresswoman Louise Slaughter, NCR³, part of RIT's Center for Integrated Manufacturing Studies, will receive an additional \$2 million to continue its work with the U.S. Office of Naval Research. The funds were included in the FY 2000 Defense Appropriations bill.

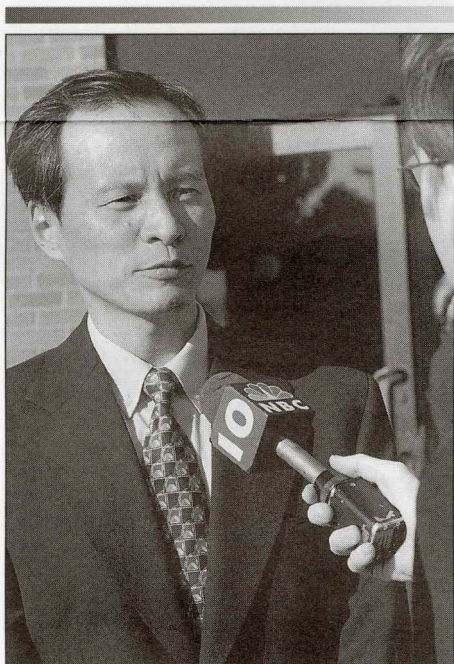
The center has been working with DOD and the Office of Naval Research to assess the remanufacturability of a decommissioned class of Navy ships. The new funding will enable NCR³ to

build upon that work and identify other opportunities for remanufacturing systems and equipment that are essential to the armed services, through the initiative, Modernization through Remanufacturing and Conversion (MTRAC).

"It's cost effective when our military can renew hardware and utilize equipment longer than its normal life expectancy," said Congresswoman Slaughter. "This work will result in considerable savings for the Navy, and ultimately for American taxpayers."

Senator Schumer further noted, "RIT's work in this area has helped to make New York a leader in meeting the strategic needs of our armed forces. As our weapons systems become increasingly older, it makes sense to conserve resources and taxpayer dollars by

continued on page 4



INTERNATIONAL EXCELLENCE... RIT recently welcomed to campus Cui Tiankai, minister counselor for the Permanent Missions of China to the United Nations. The ambassador's visit was part of the United Nations Association of Rochester Ambassadors Gala, which brought five United Nations dignitaries to town. Shown here, Tiankai is interviewed by a local news reporter.

CAST launches nation's first space tourism course

RIT students are reaching for the stars. Or at least reaching for low earth orbit.

Beginning in winter quarter, the College of Applied Science and Technology's hospitality and service management department will offer the nation's first course in space tourism.

"Space tourism is going to become a

reality," predicts Francis Domoy, department chair. "It's not a question of if it's going to happen. It's when."

And many signs indicate that tourists will be blasting off sooner rather than later, Domoy believes. Travel and entertainment were at the top of the list

of ideas in a report of NASA's New Space Industries Workshop held last year. Richard Branson, British billionaire and founder of the Virgin Group that encompasses Virgin Atlantic Airways and Virgin Cola, earlier this year announced a space-tourism venture, Virgin Galactic Airways. The *Wall Street Journal* reported in August that Las Vegas real-estate tycoon Robert Bigelow plans to build a hotel in space.

And Hilton Hotels is organizing a symposium in December to explore the feasibility of opening a hotel in space or on the moon. Hilton estimates construction costs at \$15 billion.

"Space tourism is the ultimate theme park ride," says Domoy, who served on a panel exploring the topic with Apollo 11 astronaut Buzz Aldrin and others at the



Space Frontier Foundation's Seventh Annual Conference last year. "There are people who would love to do this, high rollers who already seek out the most exotic and adventurous vacations, regardless of the cost. It is a totally irrational market in an economic sense."

In fact, the Virgin Group reportedly believes there are at least 200,000 people worldwide who are willing to pay up to \$100,000 to experience space flight.

As they float high above earth, Domoy hopes RIT graduates will be involved in meeting their hospitality needs.

The two-credit course will explore marketing issues, economics and technical considerations. Domoy plans to draw upon expertise in other departments, currently including packaging science and Air Force ROTC. The list is still under development.

Helping with development of the course is Clinton Wallington, professor, instructional technology. Wallington spent the past two summers as a Summer Faculty Fellow at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston.

For more course information, call 5-2867.

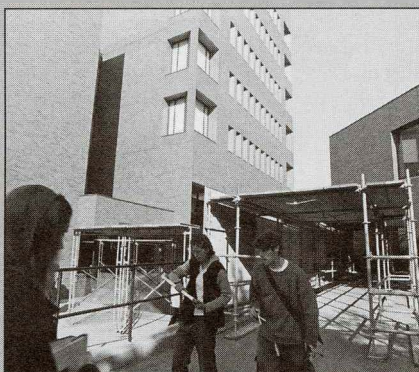
Aging Eastman Building gets a facelift

Why have walkways surrounding the George Eastman Building been covered by scaffolding?

No, it's not to protect pedestrians from falling snow. It's to keep walkers safe while the roof and windows are replaced.

The work involves replacing the 30-year-old building's original, single-pane windows with energy-efficient, double-pane, gray-tinted windows. The roof will be replaced, and new ceilings, lights and upgraded air conditioning are going in on the fifth, sixth and seventh floors. The project should be completed in January, according to Martin Becker, director of design and construction services.

Meanwhile, offices are being juggled. Seventh-floor administrative offices (the president, Commission for Promoting Pluralism, etc.) have moved into the A



Scaffolding outside the George Eastman Building

level of the Bausch and Lomb Building, with sixth-floor offices (payroll, accounting, etc.) shifted to the Gosnell Annex (building 13). All phone and fax numbers stayed the same.

For now, fifth-floor offices remain in the Eastman Building.

TIAA-CREF workshop

Wondering what lies ahead for the economy and technology as the new century approaches? Bring your questions to "Financial Strategies for a New Century: Tips from America's Experts," a free, live national teleconference on understanding challenges and opportunities ahead. Set for 1 p.m., Friday, Oct. 22, room 1125, Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science, the program is sponsored by TIAA-CREF. For more information, contact Sue Quinn at 5-2429, or spq1248@rit.edu.

Skating fundraiser

Lace up your ice skates for a good cause. RIT's second-year physician assistant students are sponsoring "Skate for SABA" (Skating Association for the Blind and Handicapped), 6-8 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 23, Frank Ritter Ice Arena. Admission for the open skate activity is \$3 for students and \$5 for the public, with free skate rental. Profits will go to SABA. Contact Mary Richards at 872-4327 or mer6581@rit.edu, for more information about the event.

Health fair, Oct. 25

RIT's Student Health Center and Counseling Center are doing their part to help everyone stay healthy during the winter months with a free health screening fair, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Monday, Oct. 25, Student Alumni Union near Fireside Lounge. Blood pressure screenings, nutrition information, depression evaluations and free flu shots for students with proper ID are all part of the winter tune-up. For more information, call the Student Health Center, 5-2255.

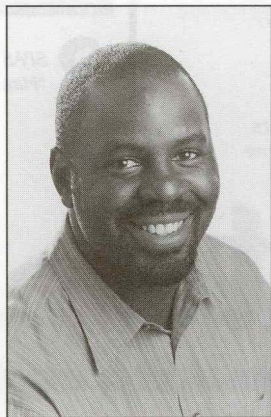
Executive breakfast

The College of Business Alumni Executive Breakfast Briefing Series continues at 7:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 27, at Oak Hill Country Club, as John Sturge, photo alumnus, and Stan Widrick present their talk, "Power Marketing." The duo will discuss commitment to quality, understanding customers, organizational leadership and the role of customer value on achieving high sales and profits. To register for the breakfast, call Donna Slavin, 5-2199.

Halloween bash, Oct. 29

RIT's Campus Connections bookstore gets into the "spirit" of the season as they host their annual Halloween Bash, Friday, Oct. 29. Shoppers can win prizes by registering or entering the customer costume contest, and can test their skills at apple fishing while munching on Halloween goodies. Select merchandise will also be on sale.

Filmmaker explores black masculinity



Byron Hurt presents his thoughts on black masculinity to the RIT community Oct. 27.

Activist filmmaker Byron Hurt is known nationally for redefining male roles in relation to women. He shares his thought-provoking remarks with the RIT community at 6 p.m., on Wednesday, Oct. 27, in the Fireside Lounge,

Student Alumni Union. As part of the free evening hosted by RIT's Women's Center, Hurt presents his film, *I Am A Man*—an exploration of the complex issues surrounding black masculinity based on interviews with men between the ages of 15 and 24.

"I wanted to do a film that would delve into the whole issue of black masculinity and analyze how black males are socially constructed in this society," says Hurt. "From my experience, many black men, including myself at one point, have skewed ideas about what being a man is."

A graduate of Northeastern University, Hurt has lectured and facilitated workshops at many conferences, universities, community events and high schools. He is

a violence prevention consultant who has worked with athletes and the United States Marine Corps and is associate director of the Mentors in Violence Prevention project at Northeastern University's Center for the Study of Sports in Society.

His presentation is co-sponsored by

RIT's Women's Center, the Women's Film Project and the AHANA (African American, Hispanic, Asian and Native American) program, and is funded by the Media Alliance of New York.

For more information about the program, contact Julie White, 5-7464.

CAB talks celebrate Halloween



KNB EFX share special effects secrets at RIT, Oct. 30.

RIT's Center for Campus Life sponsors two "spooktacular" programs this month in celebration of Halloween.

First, Doug Bradley, a.k.a. Pinhead from Clive Barker's *Hellraiser* film and sequels, speaks at 8 p.m., on Friday, Oct. 29, in the Student Alumni Union cafeteria. His illustrated lecture, "The Man in the Mask,"

has been delivered at colleges and universities in England and the United States as well as at the National Film Theatre in London and at the 1997 World Fantasy Convention.

In 1986, Barker invited Bradley to play Pinhead, and in 1988, they teamed up again in *Nightbreed*. Other film credits include *Shepherd on the Rock*, *The Big Game* and *Killer Tongue*. Bradley's first book, *Sacred Monsters*, compares his own experiences as Pinhead with those of other actors in horror films from Lon Chaney to the present, and examines the cultural and dramatic history of the mask.

At 8 p.m., on Saturday, Oct. 30, in the SAU cafeteria, KNB EFX Group, one of the most coveted special effects shops in Hollywood, dazzles the campus with a step-by-step monster-making tutorial and examples of working props and prosthetics. Robert Kurtzman, Greg Nicotero and Howard Berger, the masterminds behind KNB EFX, will also show clips from some of the films they have worked on including *Misery*, *Dances with Wolves*, *Tales from the Darkside—The Movie*, *Pulp Fiction* and *Reservoir Dogs*.

Tickets for each presentation are \$2, and are for sale at the College Activities Board office or at the door.

For more information, call the College Activities Board, 5-2509.

SAISD counselor earns RBJ kudos



Jacqueline Schertz

Jacqueline Schertz of Rochester recently became the first deaf person to be named one of Rochester's "40 Under 40" award winners by the *Rochester Business Journal*. In its fifth year, the award honors professionals under 40 years old for service to both their employers and the community at large.

As a counselor in RIT's Substance and Alcohol Intervention Services for the Deaf, Schertz provides alcohol and drug-prevention education, short-term intensive counseling and support to treatment programs for the deaf and hard-of-hearing

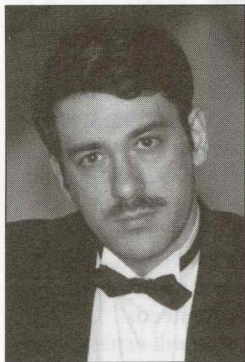
community. She was instrumental in the establishment of a halfway house accessible to recovering deaf people. A 1983 RIT social work alumnus, Schertz earned an M.S. in 1997 in career and human resource development.

Among her many extracurricular activities, she serves on the advisory boards of Deaf Community Support Services,

DePaul Embrey Road House and RIT's social work program and co-chairs the Deaf Sober House committee. She also works on the Hillside Children's Center advisory board for services to deaf children and families, United Way of Greater Rochester board, and the Task Force on Deaf and Hard of Hearing Needs of the Monroe County Office of Mental Health.

Her awards include the Partners in Quality award from East House Corp., College Teamwork award from the New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services, and the Deaf Woman of the Year award from District 17 Quota International.

Performing Artists' series welcomes Josef Verba



Pianist Josef Verba performs at RIT Nov. 12.

The second installment of RIT's Performing Artists' Concert Series continues with a performance by classical pianist, composer and writer Josef Verba at 8 p.m., on Friday, Nov. 12, in Ingle Auditorium, Student Alumni Union.

Verba will play Beethoven's Sonata No. 23 (*Appassionata*); Chopin's Polonaises, Op. 40 No. 2 and Op. 53; and *The Carnival* by Schumann, among other pieces.

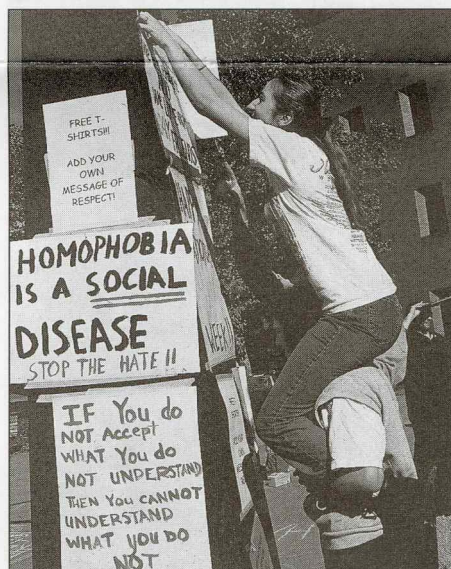
The founder of Rochester's Nightingale Studios, Verba graduated with honors from the Eastman School of Music's preparatory

department where a special exception was made for him to study at the graduate level while still in high school. He earned his undergraduate and graduate degrees from the Julliard School and has been awarded several grants, teaching assistantships and scholarships.

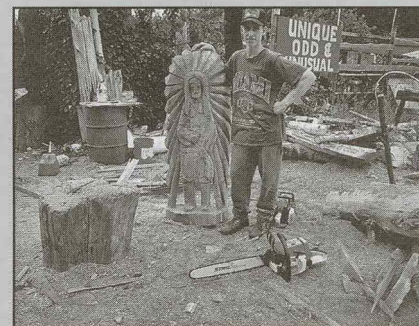
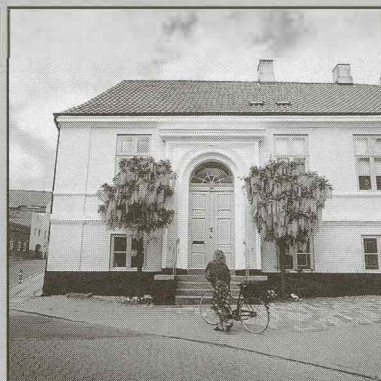
He has won the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra and the Canadian International Recording Competitions and has performed in the United States, Russia, Italy and Austria. In addition to his musical accomplishments, Verba is also a published photographer and writer.

Tickets for the concert—\$5 for students, \$10 for faculty/staff/alumni and \$15 for the public—are for sale at RIT's candy counter and game room or at the door if tickets remain. Mastercard and Visa accepted.

For more ticket information, call the game room, 5-2239.



STOP THE HATE . . . The campus celebrated National Coming Out Week, Oct. 11-15, by spreading messages of respect, peace and tolerance. Shown here, participants, both heterosexual and gay, hung posters, chalked walkways and painted t-shirts with gay pride messages. "Raising awareness will be the catalyst that allows celebrating diversity to move forward," says Julie White, RIT Women's Center coordinator.

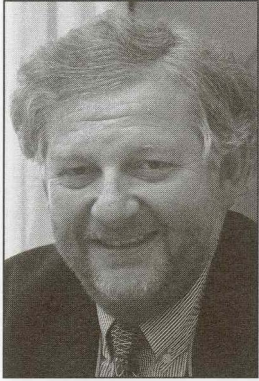


Images like these by Jim Stone and Keith Johnson highlight SPAS Gallery's next show, opening Oct. 29.

SPAS Gallery opens "Man Made Land," Oct. 29

"Man Made Land" opens at the SPAS Gallery on Friday, Oct. 29. The exhibit features photographic work by three visiting artists: Jim Stone, Keith Johnson and Stan Strembecki. A reception for the artists will be held in the gallery Friday, Nov. 5, immediately following the Charles Arnold Lecture presented that night. The exhibit runs through Nov. 12. The SPAS Gallery is located on the third floor of the Frank E. Gannett Building. Regular hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. For more information, call 5-5919.

Xerox VP Bergmans to teach for First in Class



Patrick Bergmans

RIT's First in Class imaging and publishing initiative continues to move forward with the recent addition of Patrick Bergmans to the RIT faculty. Bergmans, vice president of Xerox strategic planning and innovation, Corporate

Research and Technology, and director of Xerox Research Center Europe, will retain his corporate positions while teaching at RIT on a limited basis. He is the first of

several industry experts to be hired as part of the initiative.

"Dr. Bergmans has been responsible for a great number of technical innovations in the field of digital publishing, including pioneering work in the design of document architectures that support integrated print manufacturing systems," says Frank Cost, director of the initiative.

Bergmans, a graduate of the University of Gent, Belgium, received his doctorate in information systems from Stanford. After teaching computer science at the University of Gent, he went on to co-found and serve as consultant to Disc, a Belgian company specializing in prepress systems for forms, labels and packaging. He would later become that company's vice president of research and development.

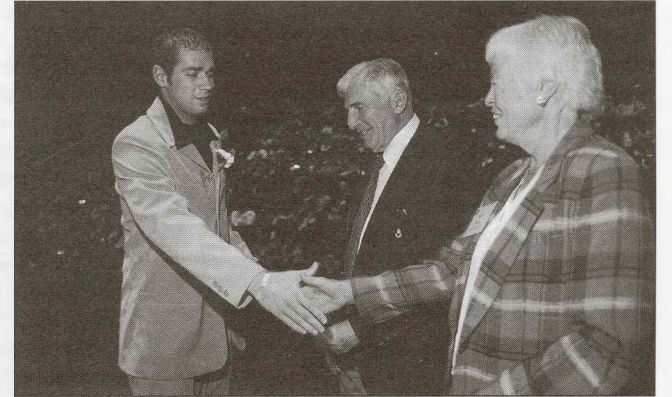
Following the acquisition of Disc and

further mergers, Bergmans was named managing director of Barco Graphics and senior vice president of the Barco Group, positions he held until he joined Xerox in 1998.

This winter quarter, Bergmans will share his expertise with RIT students when he leads a special-topics course, Document Models, Representations and Transitions. Open to graduate and undergraduate students, the course is divided into three parts: the taxonomy of documents, document evolutions and document linking.

RECOGNIZING ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AT RIT . . .

Adrian Dabkowski (left) receives hearty congratulations from Pete and Sally Merrill, Nathaniel Rochester Society scholarship chairpersons, at the annual NRS Scholarship Awards Ceremony for Academic Excellence, Saturday, Oct. 9. Dabkowski was one of 199 RIT students honored for academic merit and leadership in the community.



COB restructures for progress

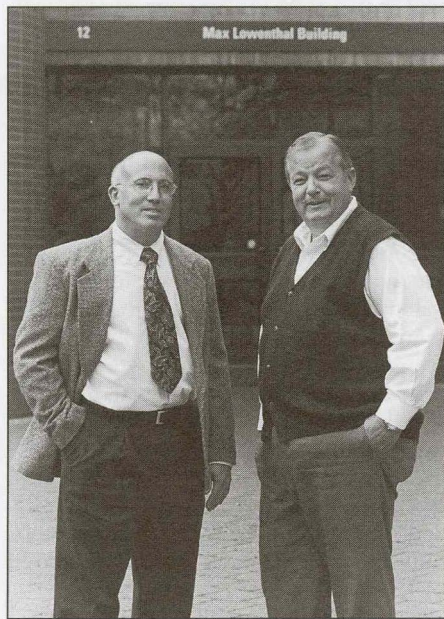
RIT's College of Business has announced a departmental restructuring, making it possible to allocate authority, resources and accountability in a new and more efficient way, according to Thomas Hopkins, dean of the college.

"This structure now in place really encourages more initiative and collaboration across disciplines and fosters progress towards achieving the college's strategic goals," he says.

As a result of the restructuring, Steven Gold, professor of finance, and Stanley Widrick, professor of marketing, have assumed new roles as department chairs.

Gold, an RIT faculty member since 1980, will head the finance, accounting and management information systems departments. In addition to his classroom duties, he has been active in the development of business and economic simulations for use in the classroom and in industry, and coordinates the advanced management program in the College of Business.

He is the past-president of the national Association of Business Simulations and Experiential Learning and is one of the associate editors of the



College of Business professors Steven Gold and Stanley Widrick

Journal of Simulation and Gaming: An International Journal of Theory, Design and Research.

Widrick, an RIT faculty member since 1977, will head the management, marketing and decision sciences departments. He also serves as director of the Center for International Business.

A former associate dean of the college, Widrick has worked as a consultant for corporations including Eastman Kodak Co., General Motors, Bausch and Lomb and Rochester Telephone Company, and has also trained international marketing managers in Latin America, southeast Asia and eastern and western Europe. His writings on marketing strategies, pricing decisions and buyer behavior have been published in a variety of journals.

"The promotion of Dr. Gold and Dr. Widrick to positions as our new department chairs gives the college respected and experienced faculty leaders who are ideally equipped to implement the new structure effectively," adds Hopkins.

E-commerce issues topic of Nov. 4 talk

E-commerce, the latest technological craze about doing business over the Internet, has raised several strategic unknowns. How will it change the way people work together? Who won't be showing up for work in the new millennium?

To help answer these questions, RIT's College of Business presents the fifth biennial J. Warren McClure Lecture, "On the E-Commerce Speedway—Who Will be Sidelined?" The presentation features a talk by Eugene Fram, the J. Warren McClure Research Professor of Marketing, and will be held 3:30–5 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 4, Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science auditorium.

Fram will discuss e-commerce issues in the sales and distribution areas where outcomes are now developing. He will conclude his talk with e-commerce predictions based on his recent analysis.

The presentation includes respondents Bal Dixit, president and CEO, Newtex Industries, and chairman of the board, Federal Reserve of New York, Buffalo branch, and Robert Boehner, RIT Distinguished Lecturer in Management and former vice president, World Wide Channel Development, Xerox Corp.

Following a question-and-answer session, RIT President Albert Simone will summarize the discussion. A reception immediately follows in the lobby.

For more information about the free lecture, contact Donna Slavin at 5-2199 or dlsbbu@rit.edu.

SAISD celebrates 20 years of drug and alcohol awareness-raising

RIT's Substance and Alcohol Intervention Services for the Deaf (SAISD) celebrates its 20th anniversary this year—and, according to retiring director Karen Steitler, the program also heralds a bright future.

Established in 1979, SAISD was originally designed to benefit the 55,000 hearing-impaired people of a nine-county segment of New York state, including Rochester. Today, SAISD is a national and international model, and is the first drug and alcohol information, prevention and referral program specifically designed for the deaf in the United States.

"We've been very fortunate to have support from RIT and the National Technical Institute for the Deaf these past 20 years," says Steitler. "The Institute has given us the resources necessary for the program to remain a leader in the addiction field. A lot of other programs depend on us to provide them with current information and research. SAISD is a vital link in the community."

SAISD provides short-term needs assessment to the deaf and hard-of-hearing community and to students at NTID. The program coordinates referrals to appropriate services, presents workshops and training to the professional community related to substance abuse and deafness.

"Educating our student population by providing drug and alcohol information proves to be an effective substance-abuse prevention strategy," says Steitler.

As she faces retirement, Steitler has a definite vision for the program.

"I've been with this program since its inception in 1979 and we've come a long way," she says. "The entire system is attempting to grapple with the client who

is deaf, chemical dependent and mentally ill. We need to continue to come up with innovative and creative approaches to helping these people."

Steitler also hopes to see SAISD contract with more treatment programs and increase visibility in terms of providing consultation services across the country.

"RIT has allowed our program to take some all-important risks—and I hope that continues over the next 20 years," adds Steitler.

Novemberfest at RIT

RIT's German Club sponsors the third annual Novemberfest, Friday, Nov. 5, Ritskeller, Student Alumni Union. Doors open at 6 p.m.; dinner served at 6:45 p.m. The evening features a German buffet dinner, folk dancing and an alphorn performance. Tickets—\$16 for faculty/staff, \$14 for students, \$7.50 for children ages five to 10 and free for children under five—are for sale through Oct. 29. To purchase tickets, contact Wilma Wierenga at 5-6829, Susan Ciriello at 5-2326 or any German Club officer. For more information, e-mail deutsch@rit.edu or visit the German Club Web page at <http://www.rit.edu/~deutsch>.

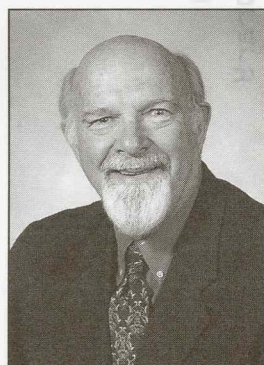
Arnold lecture, Nov. 5

Photographer Robert Parke Harrison presents the School of Photographic Arts and Sciences' first Charles Arnold Lecture of the year at 7 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 5, in the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science auditorium. Harrison's images and their construction are interdisciplinary, embodying aspects of theatre, sculpture, painting and photography. The lecture is also the keynote address at the Society for Photographic Education's Northeast Regional Conference. That event, held in Rochester Nov. 5 and 6, is presented in association with RIT and the Visual Studies Workshop. For more information, call 5-2770.

EH alumni search

Calling all Engineering House alumni! "EH is getting a face lift and we want our alumni to be a part of it," says EH member Chris Mikus. In winter quarter, EH moves into its new home in Nathaniel Rochester Hall. EH wants to hear from their alumni to update records and fill them in on activities like the open house and annual formal dance. Contact Kara Bassett at 424-8119 or kmb1545@rit.edu. To see the EH Web site, go to www.eh.rit.edu.

Workforce 2020 co-author to speak at RIT



Richard Judy

Renowned Hudson Institute economist and forecaster Richard Judy will present his projections and vision of emerging careers, jobs, employment and skills required for growing occupations at 1 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 22, in Panara Theatre, Lyndon Baines Johnson Building. All faculty, staff and students are welcome to attend.

Co-author of *Workforce 2020*, *Work and Workers in the 21st Century*, Judy will discuss the changing nature of the workplace, and the impact of changing economic and social demographics.

Judy, Hudson's chief demographic analyst, leads the Institute's research on economic and workforce development issues. His writings have appeared in the *Wall Street Journal*, *Washington Times*, and *National Review*, among others. He is a frequent commentator on local and national TV and radio programs,

consults extensively for business and governments, and lectures on various topics of information technology and electronic commerce.

"*Workforce 2020* is the essential guide to understanding what our future workforce will look like," said William Brock, former U.S. Secretary of Labor. "Business, government and the general public will profit from the authors' sharp-eyed analysis."

This event is sponsored by the National Technical Institute for the Deaf's Center for Technical Studies, professional development committee and the dean's office.

ASL classes at RIT—faculty/staff enrollment soars

Fall quarter means back to classes for students. But, this year more than 200 faculty and staff from across RIT have come back to the classroom to learn American Sign Language—the largest incoming class of faculty/staff ASL students in the university's history.

Why such overwhelming participation in ASL this year? "RIT is committed to continually improve access for its students," says Robert Davila, vice president, National Technical Institute for the Deaf. "Our efforts to be proactive and responsive to RIT staff needs is a factor in the increased participation."

Staff in Human Resources, the Office of the Bursar and the Student Affairs Division, which includes Residence Life and the Student Health Center, can take classes designed specifically for their needs.

For LaSonja Brooks, student account representative for the bursar, the classes have meant the acquisition of a skill she has wanted for some time. "I want to be

able to communicate with our deaf students," Brooks says. "In the past I've always thought about taking sign language, but never followed through on actually taking it. I am truly enjoying the class. I'm excited about learning ASL, and our teacher, Pam Pollard, is excellent."

"I would highly recommend ASL to everyone on the RIT campus. It will allow you to communicate with our deaf students, heighten your awareness about the deaf community, and enhance your job skills and your self-confidence. I plan to take additional sign classes."

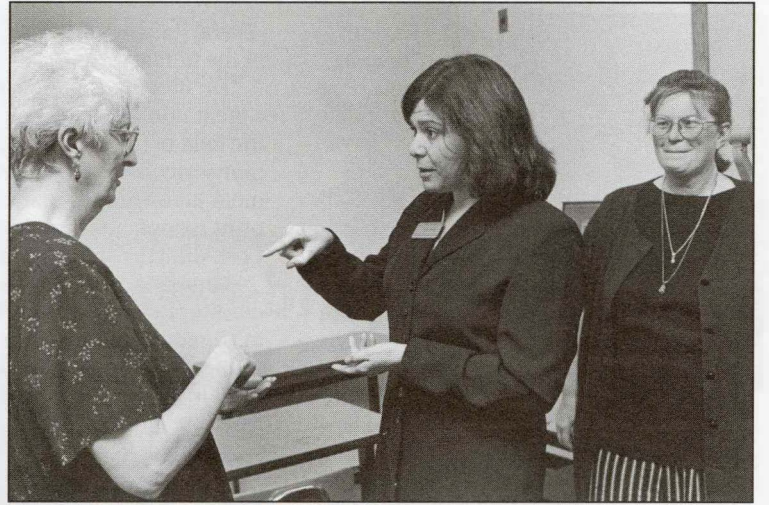
"The Student Affairs Division has made a commitment to provide quality services and programs to all students," says Linda Kuk, vice president for student affairs. "In order for us to adequately serve all students we need to have as many ASL-trained staff and faculty as possible."

Another important factor is more accessible class times. Classes at 8 a.m., noon and 4 p.m. allow people to work around their schedules to attend classes.

"We've built the improvement of sign skills into our performance evaluation program in order to give our staff and fac-

ulty credit for their efforts to improve their signed communication skills," adds Kuk. "We trust that in the long run these efforts will help to provide better services for all our students and faculty and make RIT a more caring and inclusive community."

"I believe there has been a concerted effort on the part of the administration to make RIT a model of access," believes William Newell, coordinator of the Faculty/Staff Sign Language Education program. "This positive emphasis on learning ASL to promote communication as well as for professional development is open to members of the RIT community



Sharon Mooney, left, practices American Sign Language with Sue Froh, center, and Sara Miller, right, during classtime.

who either have no sign language experience or are looking to brush up on their skills."

For more information, contact NTID's American Sign Language and interpreter education department at 5-6497 (voice or TTY) or 477DEPT@rit.edu.

Wiedman bequest

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American history. Last December, his personal collection of presidential autographs went on display at the Greater Rochester International Airport, where it remains in the concourse area. The exhibit, designed by RIT, includes signed documents and photographs of every U.S. president.

"He was very interested in education," says Sandra Volta, an attorney at Wiedman, Vazzana & Corcoran, the firm founded in 1906 by Frederick Wiedman Sr. "He believed, as had his parents, that education is the backbone of the country." Wiedman, in fact, encouraged Volta, who started at the firm as a receptionist, to become a paralegal and, ultimately, an attorney.

"He was a marvelous mentor," Volta continues, "and a true inspiration."

Congress allocates funds

from page 1

upgrading them, not destroying them."

In addition to the DOD funding, NCR³ will receive \$300,000 through the VA/HUD/Independent Agencies appropriations bill to launch a new effort with the Environmental Protection Agency.

"The advantages and benefits of remanufacturing are a natural fit with the interests of EPA," said Professor Nabil Nasr, director of NCR³. "We are elated with the opportunity to work more closely with EPA, and are most appreciative of this support."

The VA/HUD bill also includes funding through NASA for a major new initia-

tive in RIT's Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science. CIS will work with an Italian space company, Telespazio, and NASA's Regional Applications Center at Cayuga Community College, to conduct a demonstration project for the development of a global forest-fire prevention system. The project will involve use of available satellite technology to develop simulation scenarios for research and experimentation. CIS expertise in satellite imaging and sensors will be key factors in the research activity. The initial demonstration project is funded at \$2.5 million for FY 2000, which will be shared by RIT and the other two partners.

Congressman Jim Walsh of Syracuse, who chairs the VA/HUD/Independent Agencies subcommittee, championed the funding for this project.

"This is a tremendous opportunity for the center to broaden its research program, and expand its national and international reputation," said Ian Gatley, CIS director.

"We are looking forward to working with NASA, and our colleagues in Telespazio and Cayuga Community College, on this exciting research endeavor. We greatly appreciate the interest and support of Congressman Walsh which helped make this project possible."

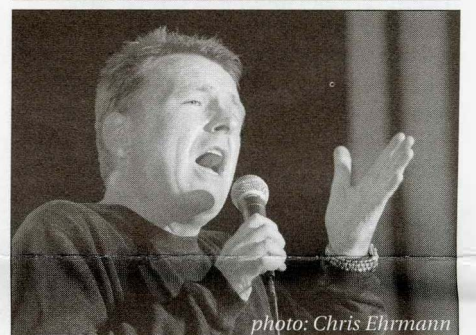


photo: Chris Ehrmann

LIVE FROM RIT, IT'S SATURDAY NIGHT... Nearly 1,800 spectators filled Clark Gymnasium, Oct. 9, to hear the comedy of Saturday Night Live's Colin Quinn, who headlined RIT's Brick City Festival.

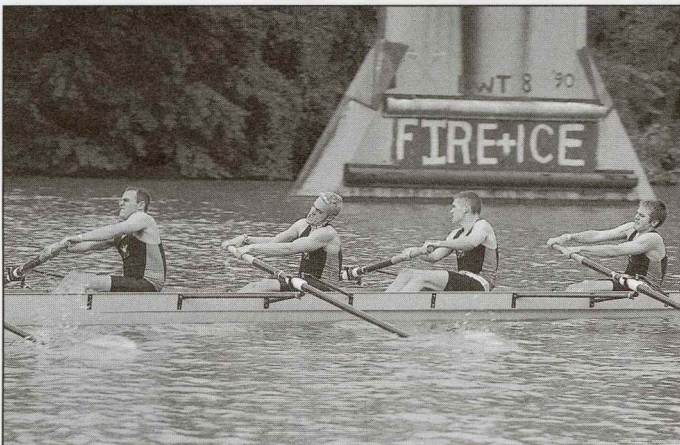
Stonehurst Regatta draws thousands

Thanks to a very fast Brown University heavyweight eight crew, Yale University failed to win the George M. Angle Cup in the Stonehurst Capital Invitational Regatta for the first time in seven years.

Over 8,000 people flooded the banks of the Genesee River to watch the nationally renowned regatta Oct. 10. Brown topped Yale by 12 seconds while Syracuse placed third.

Brock University won the collegiate division title while Rochester and Williams finished second and third.

Harvard women won the Elaine P. Wilson Cup, awarded to the fastest heavyweight eight, while Syracuse and Northeastern placed second and third respectively. Williams women captured the Kate Louis Cup as the fastest collegiate heavyweight eight crew. McGill University won the Margaret Bodendstedt Cup (awarded



The RIT men's crew team finds their rhythm at this year's Stonehurst Capital Invitational Regatta held on the Genesee River.

to the fastest women's heavyweight four) for the second consecutive year. Brown University captured their second John M. Bernfield Cup as the fastest men's heavyweight four crew at the regatta.

RIT's men's heavyweight eights and lightweight eights each finished fifth in their championship races. The women's heavyweight eights placed ninth in the title race.

ANCHORS AWEIGH...

Thomas Gosnell (right), chairman emeritus of the board of trustees, and Joseph Briggs (second from right), trustee, receive renderings of the new RIT boathouse from crew captains Ian Mack and Sarah Seely at the dedication, Saturday, Oct. 9. Over 200 people attended the dedication which concluded with the RIT men's heavyweight eight crew launching the newly christened David R. Moszak into the Genesee River.



News & Events is produced biweekly by University News Services/University Publications. Please send comments to *News & Events*, University News Services, Eastman Building, or call 475-5064 or fax 475-5097. **Editor:** Vienna Carvalho/Laurie Maynard **Layout:** Trish Boyle/Elizabeth Costello **Contributing writers:** Karen Black, Vienna Carvalho, Neil Fagenbaum, Susan Fandel, Kathy Lindsley, Laurie Maynard, Chuck Mitranio

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