



2 Collaborating to "stir the senses"



2 Xerox Corp. hosts student art show

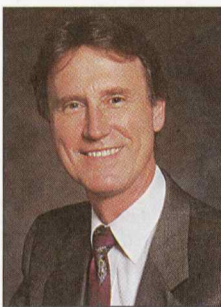


3 Career fair creates opportunities



4 CET students sink or swim

## College of Engineering under new leadership July 1



Harvey Palmer

Harvey Palmer has been named dean of RIT's Kate Gleason College of Engineering effective July 1. Most recently chair of the University of Rochester's chemical engineering department, Palmer replaces Paul Petersen, who stays

at RIT in a lead role in the *First in Class Initiative*.

Stanley McKenzie, RIT provost and vice president for academic affairs, says Palmer was the unanimous choice of the search committee and is a "perfect fit for the position."

"Harvey's professional track record, management skills and engaging personality create a leadership style that will enable the College of Engineering to reach its fullest potential in meeting and exceeding the

*"I'm a very open, straightforward person. Engineering is my passion."*

—Harvey Palmer

needs of its students, faculty and industrial and government partners," McKenzie says.

Citing Palmer's experience developing undergraduate and graduate engineering programs and strong research background, Gary Connors, former associate provost for outreach programs and head of the search committee, says, "Harvey is a wonderful

choice. He'll be a real asset to the RIT community." Connors will continue as interim dean until his retirement from RIT on June 30.

Palmer began at UR as assistant professor of chemical engineering in 1971. He was associate dean for graduate studies from 1983 to 1989, chemical engineering chair on two occasions and received the undergraduate teaching award twice.

A native of Long Island, N.Y., he earned a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from UR in 1967 and a doctorate in chemical engineering from the University of Washington in Seattle, in 1971.

Palmer held numerous positions as an industry consultant and has conducted research for Eastman Kodak Co., Rochester Gas and Electric Corp., Xerox Corp. and other companies.

For three years beginning in 1973, he consulted for RIT on interfacial phenomena. His research interests also include biochemical engineering and hydrodynamic stability.

Palmer has seven patents and has published and presented numerous technical papers. He is associate director of the

Pre-Freshman Engineering Program and sits on the board of Rochester-based Transmation Inc.

In March, about 40 people attended an open discussion with Palmer during which he spoke candidly of his positive impression of RIT based, in part, upon more industry partnerships and hands-on learning experiences for students than at UR. Speaking in the newly built engineering auditorium, Palmer described RIT's amenities as "first-rate, state-of-the-art facilities."

Describing himself, Palmer says, "I'm a very open, straightforward person." He adds, "Engineering is my passion."

Palmer is married with three children and lives in Lima, Livingston County. He is past president and vice president of the Honeoye Falls-Lima Central School District Board of Education.

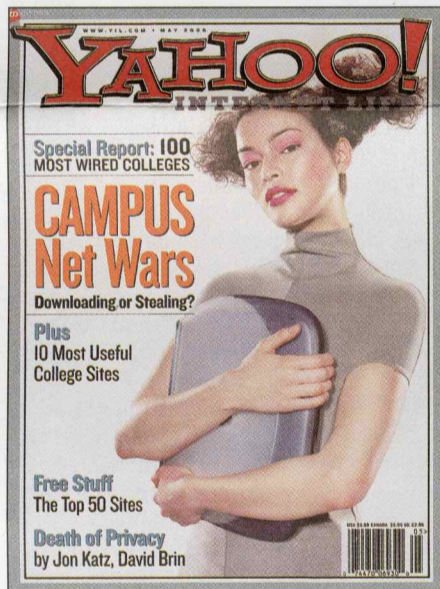
Effective April 15, Petersen became director of the design, development and manufacturing area of RIT's *First in Class Initiative* following ten years as dean of engineering.

"Paul Petersen's leadership brought the College of Engineering to a point where it is poised to achieve new levels of excellence in both undergraduate and graduate education," McKenzie says.

## RIT moves up in Yahoo! rankings

RIT has increased its national "wired" rankings—according to the May issue of *Yahoo! Internet Life*. With RIT's marked move to "wiring" more labs and over 100 classrooms, added to totally wired residence halls and new wireless Web access in Wallace Library, it may come as no surprise that the Institute now ranks among the top 15 "most wired" universities and research schools in the nation according to *Yahoo!*'s voluntary survey of 1,300 schools.

RIT moved up to 14th from 21st last year in *Yahoo! Internet Life* magazine's just-released report on "America's 100 Most Wired Colleges 2000," described in the May print edition as well as the Web version at [zdn.net.com/yil/url/0005/wired-colleges.html](http://zdn.net.com/yil/url/0005/wired-colleges.html). *Yahoo!* determined the rankings in a partnership with Peterson's from data concerning 40 factors such as online registration, course schedules, transcripts and drop/add, Web and network file space, wired status of classrooms, dorms and other facilities and e-mail access. The nation's 3,631 open-enrollment accredited undergraduate two- and four-year institutions were invited to take part in the survey, according to the story's "Key to the Ranking" chart. Scores were weighted as well, depending on school size and other factors.



"Most wired" rankings featured in the May issue

In the ranking chart's "Notes and Comments" section, *Yahoo!* wrote, "Launched in 1979, RIT's distance-learning program is one of the country's most comprehensive, with 200 online courses." RIT ranked over Georgia Institute of Technology, Drexel, Northwestern, Rutgers and Worcester Polytechnic Institute, among others.



Norman Jewison

## Jewison to receive honorary degree

RIT's Commencement 2000 has added another distinguished person to its academic convocation—Norman Jewison, one of Hollywood's most accomplished and highly regarded directors.

Jewison will receive an honorary degree during the convocation, 7:30 p.m., Friday, May 19. He is the director of films such as *The Hurricane*, *In the Heat of the Night*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Jesus Christ, Superstar*, *Rollerball*,

*A Soldier's Story*, *Agnes of God*, *Moonstruck* and . . . *And Justice for All*.

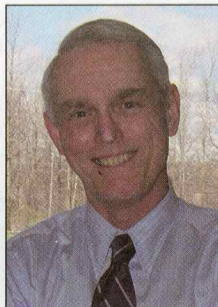
He received the prestigious Irving Thalberg Award at the 1999 Academy Awards, given to such film-making greats as Billy Wilder, Alfred Hitchcock, Ingmar Bergman, George Lucas and Steven Spielberg.

United States Secretary of Education Richard Riley will deliver the Commencement 2000 address.

**GLITTER AND GLITZ AT THE RITZ . . .** The 15th annual Puttin' on the RITZ dinner-dance drew 250 people to the Rochester Riverside Convention Center on April 8. Organized entirely by RIT hospitality and service management students, the gala featured a theme of "Gaming 2000." A silent auction of donated gifts raised \$2,000 for the department's hospitality education fund.



## Research Corp. names new president



William Trachtenberg

William Trachtenberg has been named president of RIT Research Corp., a subsidiary of RIT that partners with business, industry and government to commercialize products and services in the imaging and information

sectors. Trachtenberg replaces Don Boyd, who will become associate provost for outreach programs and director of the *First in Class Initiative*. An employee of RIT Research Corp. for nearly a year and a half, Trachtenberg was the director of research and development, and responsible for 15 to 20 projects. He also had a hand in customer service ensuring that the organization delivered the technology solutions on time and within budget to clients.

Trachtenberg believes the success of the organization is due to dedicated staff committed to satisfying and exceeding clients'

expectations, a strong marketing and sales function, and top-notch scientists and engineers directly supporting marketing and delivering technology solutions to clients.

"I am very pleased and honored to have been chosen to succeed Don Boyd and Gary Connors as president," says Trachtenberg.

*Continued on page 3*

## MSNBC broadcasts live from RIT May 3

From 7 to 8 p.m., tentatively on May 3, in Ingle Auditorium, RIT hosts MSNBC's *Hardball with Chris Matthews*—a live news talk show, part of its new College Tour segments—with guest New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani. Anyone who's seen the show knows the discussion, question-and-answer format that requires hundreds of students in the audience and seated on stage. Students are invited to take part; for the best seats, come early. Call 5-4966 for updates.

### Environmental fair today

In celebration of Earth Day, RIT environmental management students are sponsoring an Environmental Awareness Fair, 10 a.m.–2 p.m. today, April 20, Student Alumni Union. The fair features information on environmental concerns and RIT's environmental management and environmental science programs. In addition, electric-powered vehicles are on display. Earth Day is Saturday, April 22. For more information, call 5-5567.

### Take Back the Night

RIT Peers Informing and Educating Students (PIERS) announces the annual "Take Back the Night" rally and march starting at 7 p.m. today, April 20, in front of the Student Alumni Union. The event aims to help fight the abuse of women around the world. Confirmed speakers at the event include Martina Moore-Reid from the Bursar's Office and Jean Douthwright from the College of Science. Following the rally, marchers will head down the quarter mile to the residence halls. A small reception will be held after the march in the Student Life Center lobby. For more information, contact Karen Pelc, Student Health Center, 5-7081.

### Interfaith Seder meal

RIT's Center for Campus Ministry is hosting their second annual Interfaith Seder at 5:30 p.m., today, April 20, in the Skalny Room, Interfaith Center. The Seder brings together the Jewish and Christian traditions as each celebrates, respectively, Passover and Holy Thursday. The meal is free, but tickets, available in the office complex of the chapel, are required. For more information, call 5-2135.

### Bookstore honors poetry

April brings rain and . . . poetry? To celebrate April as National Poetry Month, Campus Connections offers a 20 percent discount on all poetry and literature books' list price. With Earth Day on April 22, the bookstore also has a 20 percent markdown on nature books. Take advantage of the sale before May flowers bloom; discounts end April 29.

### Senior exhibit at Gallery r

RIT's Gallery r hosts the Fine Arts Studio Senior Exhibition from today through May 14. "Conceptual Dimensions" features paintings, prints and sculpture in various media by six students. The gallery is located at 775 Park Ave. For more information, call 242-9470.

### Final graduate art show

The last of three graduate thesis exhibitions opens April 24, in Bevier Gallery. The show, which runs through May 10, features work by MFA candidates in the School of Art, School of Design and School for American Crafts. A reception for the artists will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. on Friday, April 28, in the gallery, James E. Booth Building. For more information, call 5-2646.

### Ergonomic workshops

Hands-on activities and strategies to cope with office ergonomic problems are the focus of workshops, 10–11:30 a.m., April 25 and June 15, room 2450, Ergonomic Development Lab, Center for Integrated Manufacturing Studies building.

Also, Jackie Mozrall, assistant professor of industrial and manufacturing engineering, and Phil Rogerson, graduate student in the department, will answer questions. The number of participants at each workshop is limited to 20. To register, call 5-2429 or e-mail spq1248@rit.edu.

# Train stops at RIT May 6

Train, the band behind the hit songs *Meet Virginia* and *Free*, will soon roar into Clark Gymnasium as part of RIT's Spring Festival, May 5–6. The weekend features a carnival, fireworks display and other outdoor events, as well as a performance by the popular band at 8 p.m. Saturday, May 6.

The band's self-titled debut album features the hit songs, *Free*, a radio favorite that's been heard on the hit Fox Television series *Party of Five*, and *Meet Virginia*, the eagerly awaited follow-up single on radio station playlists across the country.



Train performs at RIT May 6.

On the road since early 1998, Train has opened for Hootie and the Blowfish, the Dave Matthews Band, Collective Soul, Counting Crows, the Barenaked Ladies and the Neville Brothers, among others.

Tickets—\$5 for RIT students, \$10 for RIT faculty/staff/alumni and \$15 for the general public—are available at RIT's candy counter, game room and College Activities Board office. Visa and Mastercard are accepted in the game room. For more information, call 5-2509.

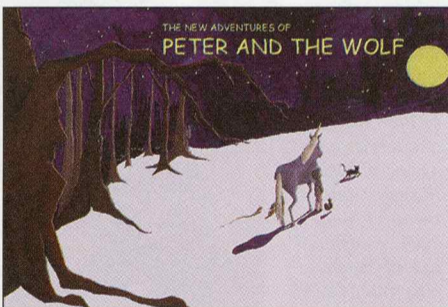
## RIT-NTID to perform Peter and the Wolf

*The New Adventures of Peter and the Wolf*, a contemporary adaptation of Sergei Prokofiev's children's symphony with story, will be performed by the RIT-NTID Dance Company at the Panara Theatre in the Lyndon Baines Johnson Building, May 4–5 at 7:30 p.m. and May 6–7 at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Narrated by world-renowned actor and Grammy-award winning musician William Warfield, the production is directed and choreographed by Thomas Warfield, director of the RIT-NTID Dance Company.

Animated character enhancements by graduate students in RIT's computer animation program and cutting-edge stage technologies have been incorporated into this classic story. The cast includes deaf, hard-of-hearing, and hearing RIT students and staff, who will dance to a variety of music styles including classical, swing and hip-hop.

Admission is \$5 for students and senior citizens, and \$7 for others. Performances are for both deaf and hearing audiences. For reservations, contact the NTID Box Office, weekdays 10 a.m.–4 p.m., at 5-6254 (V/TTY) or e-mail ntidtx@rit.edu.



RIT-NTID Dance Company performs Peter and the Wolf May 4–7.

## Xerox Corp. hosts student exhibit

For art students, the chance to exhibit work is invaluable. For the third year in a row, Xerox Corp. has given that opportunity to RIT artists. They're also giving them cash.

The company is once again hosting an exhibit featuring work by RIT School of Art students from now through April of next year. Artists receive \$100 for each piece



Sarah Struckus, left, and Lori Moyer check-out the work they and others have submitted for the Xerox 2000 juried art show. The exhibit opened April 13 and will remain on display in Xerox Building 218 through April 2001.

## Artistic efforts merge at festival

For the fourth time, three of Rochester's most prolific producers of artistic talent joined forces to present their best and brightest. On April 16, "ImageMovement-Sound 2000 Festival" united local motion picture/image makers, composers and choreographers offering an array of collaborative works to stir the senses.

This year, more than 20 faculty and students from RIT's School of Film and Animation (SOFA), the Eastman School of Music and State University of New York College at Brockport's dance department created performances which combined images, sound and dance.

Where an RIT artist used film, video and computer technology to produce a motion picture work, Eastman faculty and students composed original acoustic and computer-generated music and sound.

SUNY Brockport choreographers and dancers added the final element by creating synergistic movement and theater images in concert for the purpose of live and/or edited video performance.

The innovative works designed for this year's festival represent efforts to maximize educational opportunities and teach how cooperation can occur between artistic

disciplines. Previous festivals have been so successful in that regard that last fall, for the first time, a 10-week intercampus course was offered to help students at all three schools learn the fundamentals of each others' art forms and how to work collaboratively. Many of the students who took the class had work represented in this year's show.

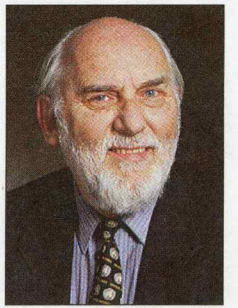
"I think this was a real eye-opener for people working out of their fields," says Stephanie Maxwell, associate professor, SOFA. "You really learn to defer to specialists. There's no one person in command, so the projects grow in very dynamic ways. We want to continue to promote collaborative relationships like these as an ongoing thing."

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## Gannett finale to tackle human rights

RIT's Distinguished Visiting Professor in Communications, Michael Prosser, will conclude the Caroline Werner Gannett Lecture Series for 1999–2000 with his free talk "The United Nations, Human Rights and the Millennium," 7:30 p.m., Thursday, April 27, in Webb Auditorium, James E. Gleason Building. The lecture is open to the public.



Michael Prosser

Prosser, the 1994–98 William A. Kern Professor in Communications, is a member of the United Nations Association of Rochester and director of the Rochester Intercultural Conference.

He is editor for the Ablex Publishing Co. series, "Civic Discourse for the Third Millennium." His most recent publications are *Civic Discourse: Intercultural, International and Global Media* (1999) and the forthcoming *Civic Discourse: Communication, Technology and Cultural Values*.

The lecture concludes with a reception. Sign interpretation will be provided.



Animated pieces by RIT artists, like the one shown here, were combined with works by Eastman School of Music composers and SUNY Brockport dancers during the ImageMovementSound Festival.

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MUSIC OF TAIWAN AT RIT . . . Yi-Yin Tai, shown here, of the Eastman School of Music will conduct the Taiwanese Choir of Rochester and the Taiwanese Youth String Orchestra 7 p.m. Saturday, April 29, Ingle Auditorium, Student Alumni Union. Also performing is internationally renowned soprano and opera singer Li-Chan Chen. A reception featuring Taiwanese delicacies follows the concerts. Tickets, available at the SAU candy counter, are \$4 for students and senior citizens and \$6 for others. For information, call 5-5210 or 424-3061.

# RIT scientist unveils color-imaging research

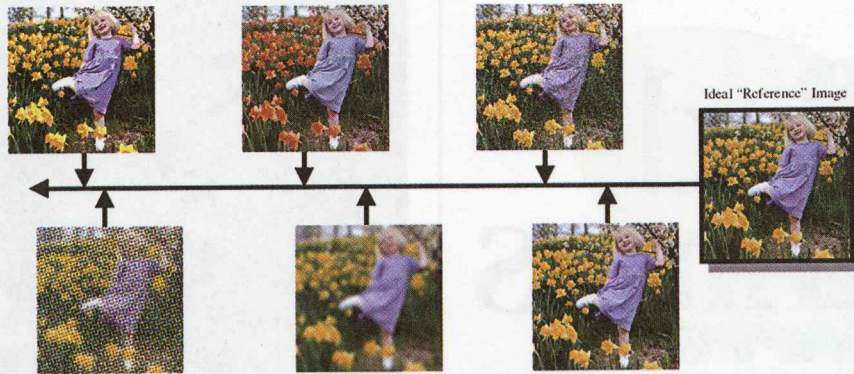
Research conducted at RIT's Center for Imaging Science will greatly improve the color reproduction of consumer imaging products such as desktop printers, digital cameras, film and computer graphics. Mark Fairchild, director of RIT's Munsell Color Laboratory, recently presented his breakthrough research at the Color Image Science 2000 conference, April 10-12, in Great Britain.

In his keynote lecture, Fairchild explained how his work synthesizes previous research—color vision modeling and spatial vision modeling—in a new application of measuring perceived image quality. His method analyzes color quality by uniting two previously disparate approaches: studying color charts, or pure color isolated on individual squares; and focusing on spatial vision, fine detail, patterns and overall image quality.

*"We're trying to take models of how we see color and models of how we see details and combine them together because that's the way the visual system works."*

—Mark Fairchild

"We're trying to take models of how we see color and models of how we see details and combine them together because that's the way the visual system works. They are not independent processes," Fairchild says. "The model accounts for the way the



These photographs represent the concept of an image-quality scale in which the quality decreases to the left of the ideal original. A goal of Fairchild's research is to create a new method of measuring and predicting image quality.

human visual system adjusts, and does so in a spatially localized manner."

Combining the two approaches of color analysis will improve calibration and

reproduction in industrial and consumer imaging products. The method also can predict differences between reproductions

and original images, which is important for developing and improving imaging systems. Scientists and engineers can also use the model to predict visual quality, replacing expensive prototype production, says Fairchild.

Fuji Photo sponsors the research project and collaboration between Fairchild and Kazu Takemura, a former visiting scientist at the Munsell Color Science Laboratory and a scientist at Fuji Photo. The research continues as a "work in progress," Fairchild says.

He looks forward to future research projects at RIT involving colleagues from the University of Derby Color and Imaging Institute and Chiba University in Japan. Formal agreements between the three universities pave the way for future exchanges of faculty and students.

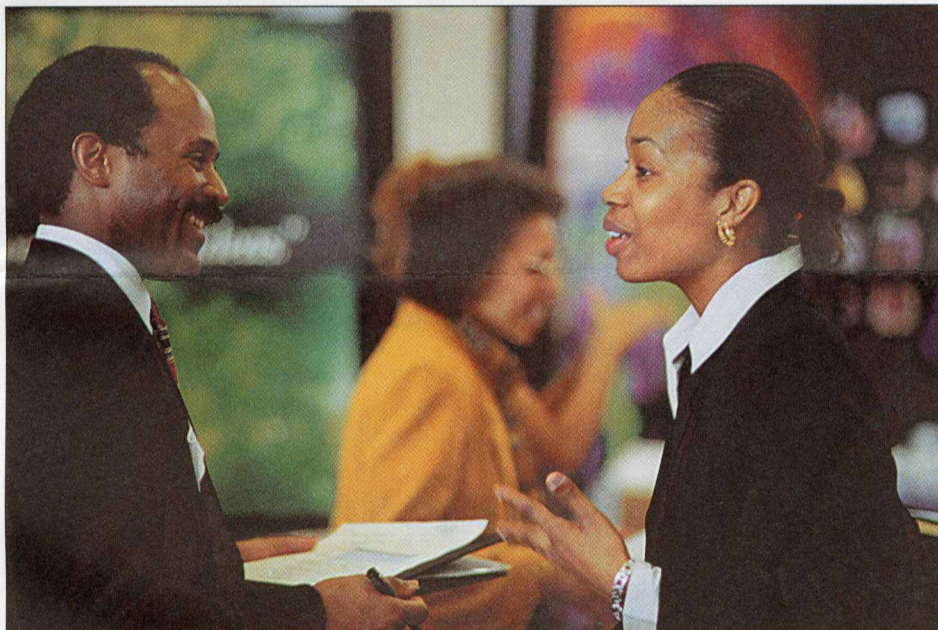
## RIT Research Corp. from page 1

"As a part of RIT, we hope to continue to provide an environment where students and faculty can work to gain practical industry experience. As a corporation, we expect to deliver strong results to our board, continue to expand our base of satisfied clients, and provide an enjoyable and challenging workplace for all our employees."

Before coming to RIT, Trachtenberg spent over 30 years at Eastman Kodak Co. involved in several aspects of imaging technology and business. He worked as a physicist in the research labs and was associated with the first Kodak copier. His other responsibilities included managing programs, running a color copier/printer line of business, marketing imaging technologies, and creating and leading technology strategy. He also has taught hundreds of courses in imaging technology and science around the world.

"Despite being 20 years old, RIT Research Corp. is in its infancy and is now prepared to grow and blossom," he adds. "We are an entrepreneurial company that has focused its mission and goals and is ready to become a world-class organization in the commercialization of imaging and information systems. We have worked hard at strengthening relations with our colleagues on campus, because we recognize there is great depth that we can draw upon whenever we need help. Because we are a part of the RIT family, we fully expect to utilize the enormous resources available to us on campus. This strength in numbers makes us unique, and allows us to offer our customers services that they can't find anywhere else."

*NOTE: Trachtenberg's e-mail address is listed incorrectly in the RIT Campus Communication Directory. The correct e-mail address is bxtcr@rc.rit.edu.*



**JOB POTENTIAL DRAWS HUNDREDS...** With the job market boom in mind, about 700 people took advantage of the RIT Minority Alumni Advisory Committee's free job fair—MAAC Career Fair 2000—held March 25. "We had a tremendous turn-out," said Aisha Holmes, fair co-organizer and MAAC member. Holmes and fellow alums Devon Christopher and Monique Wiley-Wright arranged for dozens of companies to take part including RR Donnelly & Sons, Texas Instruments, Eastman Kodak Co., Eckerd Drug Co., Hewlett Packard, IBM, Intel Corp., Lockheed Martin and Motorola. RIT's Alumni Relations office helps coordinate the annual fair and supports other MAAC efforts.

## \$526,000 grant funds NTID project

The National Science Foundation's division of undergraduate education, applied technology education program, has awarded \$526,332 to the National Technical Institute for the Deaf's applied computer technology (ACT) department to fund a three-year project—Deaf Initiative in Information Technology (DIIT). The project will provide 10 training workshops for deaf and hard-of-hearing adults in the information technology (IT) field and allow faculty to incorporate new IT material into the ACT full-time undergraduate curriculum to benefit NTID students.

Donna Lange, ACT department chairperson, is the project director; ACT professor Donald Beil is co-principal investigator. All 10 members of the ACT department will participate in the DIIT effort. NSF funding will allow each ACT faculty member release time for one academic quarter to attend IT conferences, develop curricula, and offer the IT workshops at NTID for deaf and hard-of-hearing adults nationwide.

The grant will also fund a new computer laboratory to support workshop activities. Web-based software will be installed to allow workshop attendees to remain in contact during and after the workshops; thus forming

a learning community for continued support and professional development.

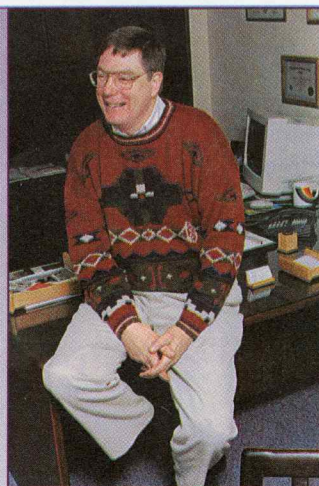
The workshops will be clustered into a certificate program and modified into undergraduate courses. After the conclusion of the project, several of the courses may be tailored for distance learning.

## SAISD names new director

Jeffrey Rubin has been appointed director of Substance and Alcohol Intervention Services for the Deaf, replacing Karen Steitler who retired after 20 years with SAISD.

SAISD is the first and longest-standing drug and alcohol information, prevention and referral service in the country designed specifically for deaf individuals. SAISD provides resources for deaf and hard-of-hearing people with substance abuse problems, their families and friends, and professionals who work with deaf substance abusers.

Rubin, a graduate of RIT's social work program, has worked in the field of addiction for more than 20 years. He completed his graduate studies at SUNY Buffalo and previously served as director of East House, a Rochester organization that provides residential, rehabilitation and support services to adults recovering from mental illness, alcoholism and substance abuse.



Jeffrey Rubin

## E<sup>3</sup> Engineering Fair

The ninth annual E<sup>3</sup> Engineering and Technology Fair is set for 10 a.m.–2 p.m. and 6–9 p.m., Tuesday, April 25, Frank Ritter Ice Arena. Competitions, demonstrations and hands-on displays will teach Rochester-area middle and high school students about engineering professions. All activities highlight "engineering, exploration and experimentation." Admission is free. For more information, call 5-6728 or 726-1408.

## Fraternity fundraiser

RIT's chapter of Tau Epsilon Phi is collecting pledges for their Root Beer Keg Roll fundraiser to benefit Mothers Against Drunk Driving, Saturday, April 29. Nearly 20 fraternity brothers will roll an empty keg along a 24-mile course from SUNY Geneseo to the RIT campus. The students also sold root beer from the keg on April 5 to raise additional funds. To make a pledge or for more information, call 758-3793.

## Davis reviews RIT history

The RIT community is invited to attend a free presentation by Alfred Davis, vice president emeritus, from 3 to 4 p.m. on Thursday, May 4, in the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science auditorium. In Davis' presentation, "Memories of Influential Men and Women in RIT History," he will discuss the impact of some of RIT's most prominent figures including George Eastman, Grace Watson, Mary Flagler Cary, Frederick Minnett and Chester Carlson. A reception in the CIS lobby immediately follows his talk. The event is sponsored by RIT Staff Council. For more information, call 5-5280.

## Luncheon with RWN

Rochester Women's Network presents a talk by Donna Shirley, former NASA manager of the Mars Exploration programs, at noon on Thursday, May 4, at the Crowne Plaza Rochester as part of the networks 22nd Annual Gala Luncheon. The luncheon costs \$50 per person. Shirley is assistant dean of engineering at the University of Oklahoma and president of a management consulting firm.

"Since RIT plays a large role in the Rochester scientific community and has long-standing NASA ties, there's no doubt that many RIT faculty and staff members would be interested in our program," says Betty Reynolds from RWN. A book signing will immediately follow the luncheon. To register, call 271-4182 by April 28.

## Presidential roundtable

RIT will present a presidential colloquium, "New York's Best and Brightest: Keeping College Graduates in Rochester," on Tuesday, April 25, from 3–4:30 p.m., in the Panara Theatre. It is free and open to the RIT community.

Moderated by President Albert Simone, the panelists will include John Doyle, Monroe County executive; David Hunke, president and publisher, *Democrat & Chronicle*; Sandy Parker, president, Industrial Management Council, and Christine Whitman, president and chief executive officer, CVC.

The colloquium is being presented in conjunction with Leadership Rochester and Rochester Student Union. Leadership Rochester provides issue education and leadership development to a diverse group of community leaders to enhance the quality of community life. The Rochester Student Union is a group of area college student government representatives who discuss campus issues and work to improve educational interests across Rochester, from the student standpoint.

# VPs, deans set fast pace

RIT's administrative and dean's councils set the pace for another successful United Way campaign. They participated in the Pacesetter Program, which began fund-raising prior to the official launch of this year's campaign. The RIT group exceeded last year's contribution by 45.1 percent, raising \$20,594, says Wanda Dansler Hill, RIT's campaign coordinator.

"I couldn't be more proud of what this group has accomplished," says Joe Lobo, United Way campaign chair, president of JML Optical Industries Inc. and member of the RIT Board of Trustees. "Pacesetter organizations were charged with generating momentum for the general campaign and that's exactly what the generous people of RIT have done."

RIT's overall goal for this year's campaign



is \$250,000. A reminder that today, Thursday, April 20, is the final day to submit pledge cards.

For more information about the RIT campaign, call 5-4968.

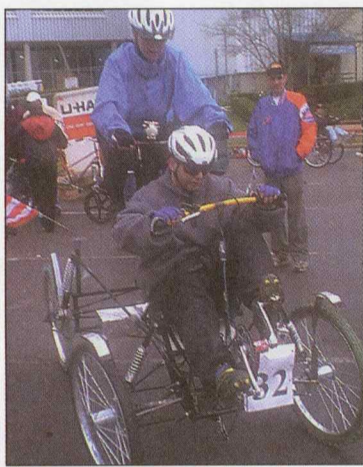
# Students shoot for the stars—and moon

Imagine navigating a surface of craters, rocks and inclines. And, no, we don't mean driving on a typical pothole-filled Rochester street in springtime.

It's actually a half-mile simulated lunar terrain course that also has "lunar" soil and "lava" ridges. It was the challenging pathway for drivers in the Great Moon Buggy Race on April 8 in Huntsville, Ala.

For the first time, a team of RIT engineering students entered the challenge, held at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center, competing against teams from more than 40 schools from across the United States and Puerto Rico.

The team of 24 students began design work on the moon buggy—which they call GOMER—last fall. Construction started in late-February. Support was provided by RIT's



Mechanical engineering students Dan Holt, front, and Teresa Beer drive GOMER, RIT's first-ever moon buggy at the Great Moon Buggy Race on April 8 in Alabama.

SAE Formula Car Team, MSC Industrial Supply Corp., Park Avenue Bike Shop and Shappiro Steel.

On the day of the competition, Teresa Beer and Dan Holt pedaled the vehicle through two runs on the simulated "moonscape" course, overcoming a dislodged wheel on one go-around.

The team's first moon buggy effort was a great learning experience, says Tom Percy, fourth-year mechanical engineering major and team leader.

Now veterans of their first moon buggy race, will RIT students compete again next year? Definitely, says Percy. "Everyone definitely wants to go again."

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# Three athletes win highest sports honors

Three athletes from the winter season have earned the highest honors in their sport. Pat Staerker, hockey, Tony Wallace, wrestling, and Joe Haydon, basketball, were named All-Americans. Staerker earned second-team All-American honors making him the first player in school history to earn the honor three times.

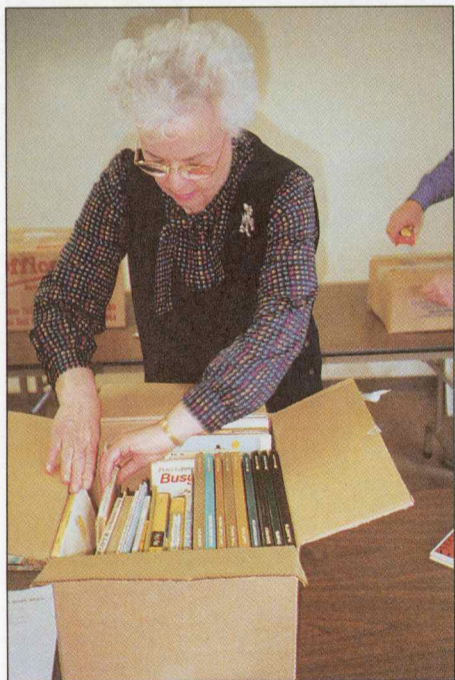
"RIT has a long history of excellence and for him to be the first player to accomplish this feat is really impressive," says head coach Wayne Wilson.

The senior center started in 28 games and led the team and ECAC West in scoring with 55 points. He was also the first player in the program's history to be ECAC West Player of the Year twice. Staerker ended the 1999-2000 campaign ranked 12th in the NCAA in scoring and fifth in assists. He played in 121 career games tallying 210 career points, which stands as third all-time in school history.

Wallace placed seventh at the NCAA Division III nationals with a 5-2 record, rounding out the season with a 19-3 overall record. This is his second All-American honor in three years.

Haydon, captain of the basketball team, received highest academic honors and was named to the GTE Academic All-American Team.

"Joe has been solid on the basketball court and in the classroom," comments head coach Bob McVean. "He is the epitome of an RIT student-athlete."



BOOK DRIVE FOR SOUTH AFRICA... Members of The Athenaeum at RIT recently collected over 500 books, National Geographic magazines and school supplies to be sent to needy South African schools. The effort was spearheaded by Athenaeum members Mary Ellen Knoblock, shown here, and Georgia DeGregorio who learned of the schools' plight from two other group members who had traveled to South Africa. Athenaeum members also contributed money for shipping.

For more information on the group, call 292-8989 or visit [www.rit.edu/~athenwww/](http://www.rit.edu/~athenwww/).

# Obituary

## Susan Barnard

Susan Barnard, academic counselor and recruiter for RIT's Higher Education Opportunity Program, passed away April 2 as a result of an automobile accident. At RIT since 1997, Barnard was the HEOP admissions liaison, tutoring services coordinator and Pre-Freshmen Summer Program instructor. "Susan brought a spirit of playfulness and intellectual stimulation that energized all who came in contact with her," says Linda Meyer, HEOP director. "In her brief stay here, she altered the course of many students' lives forever."



INSPIRING TODAY'S HISPANIC YOUTH... More than 150 Hispanic high school students from the Rochester area came to the RIT campus for the 19th annual Hispanic Youth Leadership Conference, March 30. The students participated in workshops focused on career planning, teenage depression, and drugs and alcohol, among others. Shown here, from left to right, Eddie Roque and Mari Molina, both students at Rochester's School of the Arts, talk about violence in the community with Carlos Garcia, a member of the Rochester Police Department.

# CET concrete canoe defies gravity

Concrete floats. Of course, RIT civil engineering technology students already knew that even before they put their concrete canoe to the test in competition on April 8 at Union College in Schenectady.

Seven students, led by fifth-year CET major Jeremy DeLyser, competed in the 13th annual regional event sponsored by the American Society of Civil Engineers. Judged on several criteria—"float-ability" being only one—they paddled their 150-pound craft to a seventh-place finish.

At the same event, another group of RIT civil engineering technology students entered a steel-bridge competition to build the sturdiest structure in the least amount of time.



RIT civil engineering technology students Jeremy DeLyser, captain, and Nathan Littlejohn, at right, practice for this year's concrete canoe competition.

Although the canoe team didn't win, at least they stayed dry, says RIT professor Maureen Valentine, the team's adviser, who traveled with students to Schenectady. She says some other schools' canoes flipped over and split in half. She adds, "We had a great time and the young team learned a lot. They're gung-ho for next year."

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