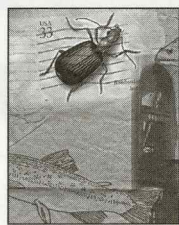




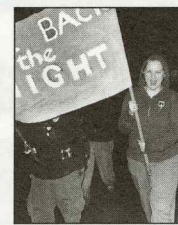
2 Medal-winning robotics projects



2 Art shown in city spaces



3 Student thanks organ donor, RIT



4 Stop violence against women

CIMS building to be named after Louise Slaughter

The RIT Board of Trustees has unanimously approved a resolution to honor Congresswoman Louise Slaughter by naming after her the building that houses the university's Center for Integrated Manufacturing Studies (CIMS). The formal naming of the Louise M. Slaughter Building will take place in the spring of 2001, the fifth anniversary of the opening of the facility.

The action to name the building for Slaughter recognizes her many efforts on behalf of RIT, and especially her support

for CIMS since its inception in 1990. The building which houses CIMS was constructed with funds from the federal government and the state of New York, and completed in 1996.

Slaughter played the key role in securing a total of \$11.25 million in federal funds to help build the facility. Since then, she has also been instrumental in securing funding for CIMS' research activities, including \$5 million for a defense-research program with the Office of Naval Research.

In addition to her efforts on behalf of CIMS, Slaughter has been instrumental in supporting federal funding for other RIT programs, including the National Technical Institute for the Deaf, a federally sponsored college of RIT, and student financial-aid programs such as Pell Grants and College Work Study, which benefit thousands of RIT students.

"It is fitting for us to recognize Louise Slaughter in this way for her extraordinary efforts on behalf of RIT," says William Buckingham, chairman of RIT's Board of Trustees. "Louise has been a key champion of CIMS since its inception. She recognized early on the value that such a facility at RIT would bring to the Rochester community and the manufacturing sector, and she continues to be a staunch advocate on our behalf in Washington, D.C."

"One of my goals, as Congresswoman, has been to prepare my district for the 21st century," says Slaughter. "I am grateful to President Simone, to Chairman Buckingham and to the Board of Trustees for recognizing my work in this way."



Congresswoman Louise Slaughter has been a long-time advocate for RIT. Shown here, she spoke at the dedication of RIT's Center for Integrated Manufacturing Studies.

"Louise Slaughter has been a great friend to RIT," says RIT President Albert Simone. "We wanted to say thank you in a way that would acknowledge her important contributions to RIT and to the community."

RIT, M&T partnership brings urban scholars to campus

A new initiative between the College of Business and M&T Bank will help some local students acquire a solid educational foundation while gaining the practical experience needed to succeed in the workforce and become advocates for their communities.

The M&T Urban Scholars Program, which begins in the fall of 2000, is made possible by a \$50,000 gift from the bank. Students selected for the program will receive a partial scholarship to study in the College of Business.



M&T representatives celebrate a recent partnership with RIT. Shown here, from left to right, are Carl Carballada, chairman, Rochester Fund, M&T Charitable Foundation and director, M&T Bank Corp.; Tom Hopkins, dean, College of Business; RIT President Albert Simone; and Brian Hickey, regional president, M&T Bank.

They will also be assured summer work and co-op opportunities at M&T, which will enrich their academic coursework and provide a real-world application for their classroom lessons. Finally, a mentoring program will link M&T Urban Scholars

with members of the M&T team who will offer encouragement, support and advice to the scholars as they hone their skills.

"This gift from M&T Bank represents the start of a true partnership, one that goes far beyond the scholarship dollars," says Thomas Hopkins, dean, College of Business. "The mentoring and work experience aspects of this partnership will help students make connections—between the classroom and the real world and within the community. Our hope is that these connections will provide them with the incentive to stay in Rochester beyond graduation."

The first Urban Scholars will be announced early this summer and arrive on campus this fall. At that time, they will immediately be assigned a mentor.

"The M&T Urban Scholars program will provide top local students with the opportunity to earn an unparalleled education at RIT—plus scholarship assistance, work-experience and mentoring from M&T," says Brian Hickey, president of M&T Bank's Rochester division. "Upon graduating, the M&T Urban Scholars will be prepared to compete anywhere in the world—although we hope many will choose to achieve their success right here in Rochester."

Representatives from both the College of Business and M&T Bank hope that this program becomes a model for other businesses and organizations. The goal is to create a consortium of complimentary partners who support educational opportunity in the region.



HORTON SERIES WELCOMES COLIN POWELL...
The former chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, Colin Powell, spoke at RIT on April 18 as part of this year's Horton Distinguished Speaker Series sponsored by RIT Student Government. Speaking to an audience of nearly 1,300 in Clark Gymnasium, the general tackled issues such as the role of today's families, and the importance of supporting the military.

First in Class Initiative director continues Q&A series

This is the third in a series of interviews with leaders of RIT's **First in Class Initiative**, continuing with Don Boyd, associate provost for outreach programs, director of RIT's **First in Class Initiative** and director of the information technology area of **FIC**. We welcome reader response; e-mail newsevents@rit.edu.

What are your thoughts on First in Class now that you've assumed responsibility for leading the three areas of the initiative?
I'm really excited—we have a strong foundation to kick-off this initiative. Business, government and academia must change to stay in tune with technology and I believe the timing is right for RIT to move to

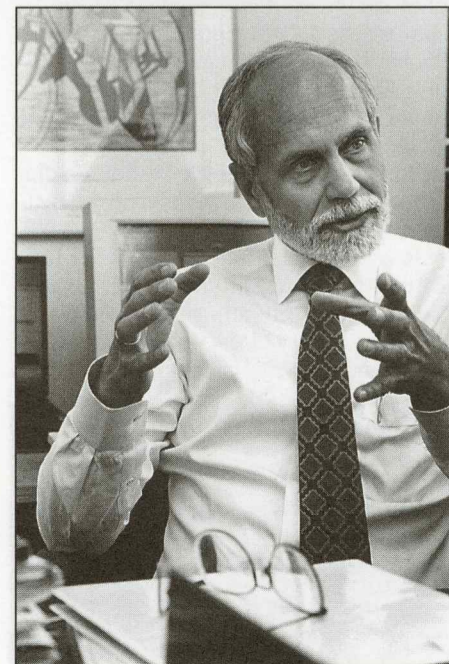
another level of being a world class technological university.

Paul Petersen, Frank Cost [other **FIC** directors] and I have been working together to further define the initiative and initiate additional programs. Major projects have already begun in all three areas. As we move forward, we'll add more people and exciting projects.

One of our most important steps is to engage more of the RIT community. New projects take off by locating 'champions'—champions with ideas for new programs and who will engage students and other faculty, teach new concepts in their classes and locate grants and research to pursue their ideas. **First in Class** is really a partnership with the university.

What industrial partnerships are planned, particularly in information technology?
The IT lab is having ongoing discussions with Cisco, Sun Microsystems, Microsoft, IBM, WXXI and other local companies. A home networking lab, where we expect to create partnerships with the telecommunications and cable industries, has been constructed.

One project is focusing on a program called global learning environments that we expect will enhance the way RIT provides distance learning to our students and the workforce of our industrial partners.



Don Boyd, associate provost for outreach programs, director of RIT's **First in Class Initiative** and director of the information technology area of **FIC**

There's a program involving NTID, the IT lab, graphic arts faculty and an industry partner aimed at applying automatic speech

Continued on page 4

It's almost here: Commencement 2000 info

Commencement 2000 is at hand. This year's festivities will feature U.S. Secretary of Education Richard Riley, who will present the commencement address during RIT's academic convocation, 7:30 p.m., Friday, May 19, in the commencement tent in U-lot. Also during the convocation Norman Jewison, one of Hollywood's most accomplished and highly regarded directors, will receive an honorary degree. Weather permitting, there will be a reception at 6:15 p.m. in U-lot.

For the first time there will be a graduation ceremony on Friday, at 3 p.m., in the Frank Ritter Ice Arena, for the departments of computer science and information technology. All other graduation ceremonies will take place on Saturday, May 20. A complete schedule of all ceremonies, plus other information on commencement, will appear in the May 18 issue of *News & Events*.

Mini-Baja racers tackle rugged terrain

Despite the familiar name on their engines, you would never find these machines cutting the lawn in someone's backyard. Rather, they're designed for more rugged terrain—though some might argue nothing compares

four-hour, 35-lap endurance race. Their 10-horsepower engines allow the cars to reach top speeds of 45 miles per hour.

Competing against more than 80 other cars, including a pair from host Kansas State University, RIT's mini-Baja cars placed fourth and 12th overall. One of the RIT cars finished first in the "dynamic scoring" category—including acceleration, hill climbing, maneuverability and endurance—and ranked third in hill climbing.



Jason Rounds goes for a spin in one of two student-built racers.

RIT's team is made up of an eclectic bunch—engineering students, of course, but also business majors, a nutritionist, a pre-med student and even a high school sophomore. And, it's not only guys—there are six females on the 39-member team.

The cars are dedicated to Mike Schmidt, project manager for RIT's mini Baja last year, who died in an automobile accident in February.

This year was the fourth straight year RIT took part in mini-Baja competition. Later this month and in June, team members might well be saying, 'We're not in Kansas anymore'—because by then they'll be off to competitions in Montreal and Milwaukee.



SEED MONEY... The College of Business annual William D. Gasser Lecture addressed "Venture Capitalism: The Fuel of Our Economy" on April 27. Featured, from left to right, were Matthew DiBiase from XINET Associates, Todd Miceli from e-STEEL Corp. and James Dugan with O'Connor Partners Investment Office. Part of the discussion focused on the lack of venture money coming to the Rochester area, where companies receive less than 0.6 percent of all the venture capital invested in the United States.

to the 'ruggedness' of their own backyards.

They're two off-road, single-seat, Briggs and Stratton-powered mini-Baja race cars. RIT students built and took them to Manhattan, Kan., April 27-29 for Manhattan Madness 2000, this year's Society of Automotive Engineers-sponsored Mini Baja West competition.

The cars—last year's rebuilt fifth-place finisher and a newly built racer—were put through the paces of acceleration, hill climbing and maneuverability tests and a grueling

Walk-through, May 15

The next Van Gogh, Michelangelo, Castle or Paley could be walking the halls of RIT's art and design schools. To scout out the next generation of artists' work as students, visit the spring "Walk-through" from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Monday, May 15, held in the James E. Booth Building. Students in the School for American Crafts' metals, wood, ceramics and glass programs will display their best work of the year, as will some students studying painting and illustration.

Micro-e conference

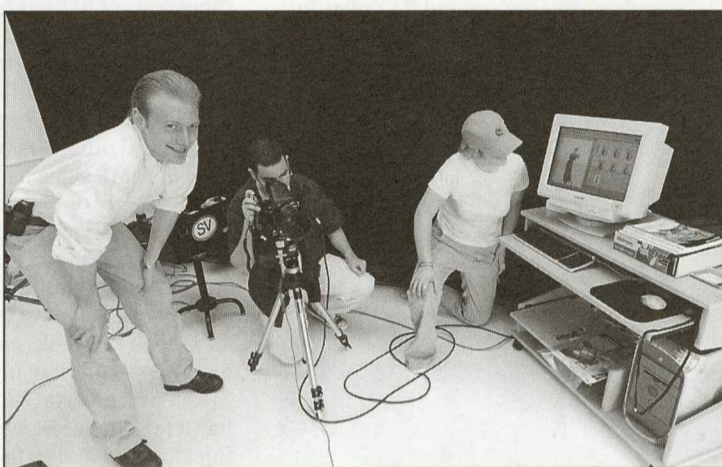
RIT will host the 18th annual Conference on Microelectronic Engineering, May 8-10. The conference for microelectronic industry representatives and other invited guests will include talks by RIT faculty on advances in chemical mechanical planarization and microlithography, technical presentations by industry representatives, senior project design demonstrations by RIT students and tours of RIT's microelectronic engineering facilities. Most events will be in the engineering auditorium in the new wing of the James E. Gleason Building. For more information, call 5-6065.

RIT photographers took full advantage of the latest technology and the finest equipment during a fashion shoot on April 25.

Students in RIT's School of Photographic Arts and Sciences fashion photography class were among the first to use the new Sinar Bron North Lights Studio, which has just undergone major renovations. Sinar Bron Imaging, a distributor of professional equipment for digital and traditional photography, contributed nearly \$160,000 in upgrades and equipment as a part of the company's effort to support photographic education.

The 1,100-square-foot-space located on the fourth floor of the Frank E. Gannett Building features new lights, a "cyc wall"—a curved wall that eliminates a visible floor to wall connection, allowing for a seamless image—a new floor, new digital camera systems and more.

The renovations and additions to the studio bring it on par with the highest quality professional, production studios.



North Lights Studio in the photography school celebrated its new state-of-the-art electronics with a fashion shoot on April 25.

RIT photo students and faculty wishing to use it for course work and projects need only reserve a time slot. "This presents a very unique opportunity for students," says Bill DuBois, chair of RIT's applied photography program. "This is a state-of-the-art, high-tech photography studio with both digital and silver halide capability."

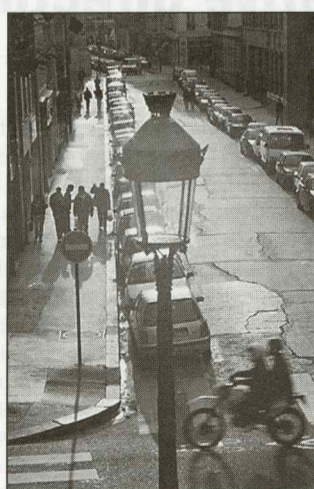
looking onto the Liberty Pole plaza. The artists range in major and year level.

"We came up with the Next Door Gallery in hopes that it would continue to exhibit in various Rochester buildings in years to come," says Shore. "The spaces selected for the first exhibit have been very supportive of this vision."

The free show runs Monday, May 1 through Sunday, May 20, with a public reception Friday, May 19 at both spaces from 5-7 p.m.

"This is a chance for art to come to untapped city spaces, and for people to come forward and keep it going," says Shore.

For additional information about the show, e-mail hks_rit@hotmail.com.



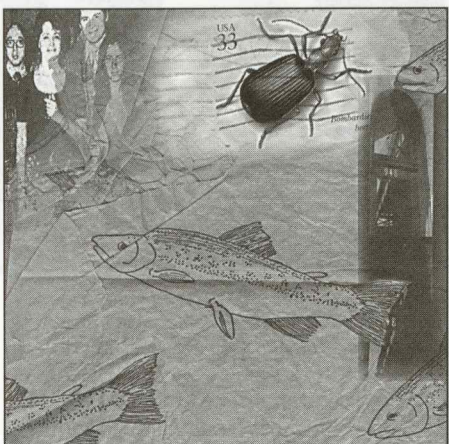
Paris, 1999 by Rose O'Neill

Photo show connects people with art

The Next Door Gallery, brainchild of RIT photography students, creates a way to connect the art being produced in Rochester with the people who live here, says Harper Shore, fine art photography senior who envisioned the "transient" art-access concept.

"RIT alone has a wealth of photographic talent, but the general public very rarely has access," she explains.

Shore organized 14 student artists to exhibit their work through the Next Door Gallery at two different sites this May—the lower gallery of the downtown public library and the Sibley building, near windows



Untitled by Harper Shore

Students revamp digital studio

Traffic study reveals need for new light

Based on a Monroe County traffic study, performed at RIT's request, work has begun to install a traffic light at the corner of River Meadow Drive and Institute Drive. The RIT-funded safety project should reach completion in the first part of 2001, says William Batcheller, director of business services.

"The amount of university traffic exiting and entering at Institute Drive has driven this project," explains Batcheller. Institute Drive belongs to RIT, whereas River Meadow Drive falls under the town and East River Road is the county's responsibility. The county determined that the majority of traffic at that juncture comes from campus, with 26 percent from town use.

Now underway, the installation process includes an engineering study, equipment ordering and hiring contractors. "It will take until December at the earliest," notes Batcheller.

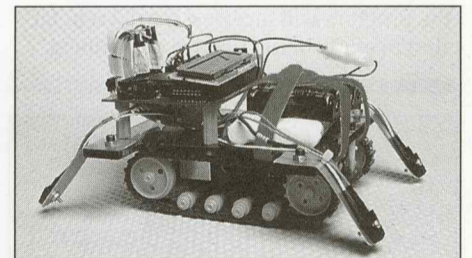
Top honors for student robotics gurus

RIT manufacturing and mechanical engineering technology students earned top honors in competition at the 14th annual Student Robotic Challenge in Pittsburgh.

Nine RIT students, led by Brian Weston, a fifth-year mechanical engineering technology student, won the gold award for their construction of a "journey robot" that uses infrared sensors to navigate an obstacle course.

Another team from RIT took the gold award in the automated work-cell category for the design of a miniature automobile factory that makes toy trucks. The device is the senior process-design project for the 23 team members.

It was the second consecutive year that a team from RIT won top honors at the Society of Manufacturing Engineers-sponsored event.



RIT's "journey robot" was just one project that won the gold award.

Two jet-setting members of the work-cell team, captain Matt Sommerfield and Mike Kraus, also recently demonstrated their project to rave reviews at the spring conference of the Unigraphics users group in Newport Beach, Calif.

The projects will be displayed during this year's E³ Engineering and Technology Fair and convocation ceremonies.

MOON BUGGY DRIVER IN TRAINING... Jacob Trapani, a sixth-grader from Seton Catholic School, was one of hundreds of students from two dozen schools who attended the E³ Engineering and Technology Fair at RIT on April 25. Gus Cost, also a sixth-grader, waits his turn to get into the driver's seat. RIT students Teresa Beer and Dan Holt look on.



Graduate student credits organ donor, RIT for success

Type-one insulin diabetes changed Scott Robinson's life dramatically when he was diagnosed with the disease at age 25. It ended his Air Force career and sent his health into a tailspin.

Robinson, now a 38-year-old graduate student in RIT's electrical engineering program, has overcome unimaginable obstacles to reclaim his life. A pancreas transplant in 1997 stabilized his uncontrolled blood sugar and promised to slow down complications of the disease.

Side effects from the medication Robinson must take to prevent his body from rejecting the pancreas caused his hands to tremble and made it impossible for him to continue working as a controls engineer. When Robinson reconsidered his career options, he decided to combine his interest in deaf culture with his love for engineering to become a teacher.

"We did a lot of research. RIT is the only place where you can get a master's in

engineering and can learn about deaf culture," Robinson says. "I think as engineers we speak in images. We draw graphs and enumerate things. Deafness shouldn't be a limitation."

With the approval of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Robinson and his family moved to Rochester in August 1999 for him to pursue a master's degree in electrical engineering at RIT. Robinson and his wife Kathy credit Gene Clark, associate director of veteran enrollment services at RIT, with

"RIT has done a lot to make it easier for me to get around. If the university hadn't kicked in, we would have had to drop out."

—Scott Robinson

helping Scott transfer from the North Carolina vocational rehabilitation program for seriously disabled veterans to New York's program.

Clark also helped the Robinsons find on-campus housing, making many calls on their behalf to admissions and the housing office, and contacting the housing

crew at the last moment to help the Robinsons move in. "Housing just bent over backwards to help," Clark says.

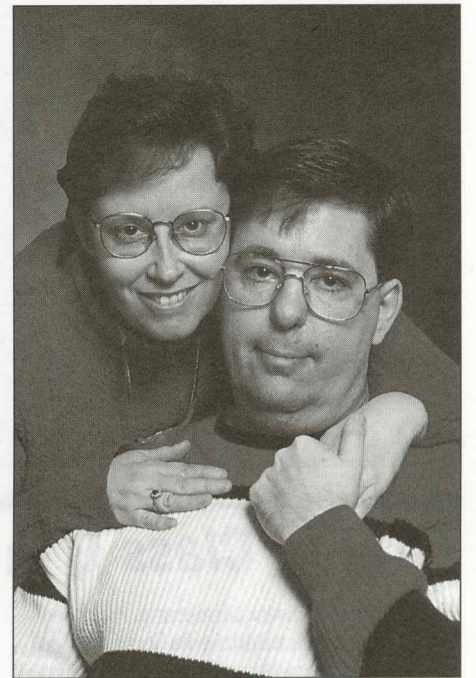
"The day we arrived to move in to RIT, Scott was hospitalized with an infection on his side that had to be opened and drained," Kathy Robinson explains. "He was in extreme pain and could not do anything. Meanwhile, all of our stuff was in a moving van on its way to Rochester."

"We've always known since we've been here if we needed something, Gene Clark would either have the answer for us or help us find it," says Kathy. "I truly believe that without his help we wouldn't have made it to RIT. He goes over and above his responsibilities to help veterans and their families."

Once settled in Rochester new physical challenges faced Robinson as nerve damage in his feet, legs and back, as well as osteoporosis, made it difficult for him to navigate the stairs of his Riverknoll townhouse and to get around campus. The Robinson family needed a three-bedroom apartment with one bedroom on the ground floor.

That's when RIT stepped in to meet the family's special needs. Two single bedroom apartments in the Riverknoll complex were combined to make one three-bedroom apartment with bigger bathrooms. In addition, the evening hours of the Institute's van for mobility-impaired students were increased to accommodate Robinson's schedule.

"RIT has done a lot to make it easier for



Scott and Kathy Robinson

me to get around," Robinson says. "If the university hadn't kicked in, we would have had to drop out."

Most of all, however, Robinson and his wife are thankful to the 21-year old man named Scott Cooper who chose to be an organ donor and his family for honoring his decision when a car accident left Scott brain dead. The Robinsons encourage young people to think about organ donation and to discuss it with their families.

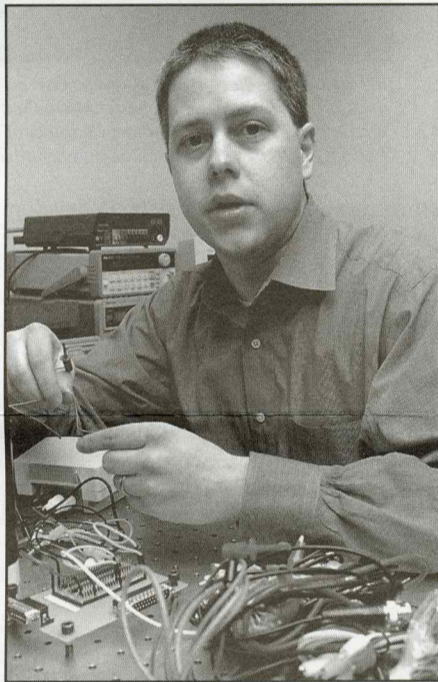
Career work earns Titus NSF award

For only the second time, an RIT faculty member has been honored with the Faculty Early Career Development Program Award from the National Science Foundation.

Albert Titus, assistant professor of electrical engineering, will receive \$200,000 over four years to study compact artificial visual systems based on biological (animal and human) visual processing. Once developed, such systems could be used in autonomous robotic exploration systems.

"This award is a great honor," Titus says. "It will allow me to do some exciting and unique research."

Titus, an RIT faculty member since 1996, is past recipient of the Douglas Harvey Research Award for microelectronics



Albert Titus

research from Texas Instruments. His wife Ann, assistant professor of industrial engineering at SUNY at Buffalo, also is a career-award recipient this year. The couple's greatest reward, though, arrived around the same time—they had their first child, Sara Catherine, on April 21.

Raman Unnikrishnan, electrical engineering department head, calls Titus "an outstanding engineering educator."

"His project will ensure the establishment of a significant research career and will move knowledge forward in this cutting edge technology," Unnikrishnan says.

"Albert has found a special calling for the noblest of all endeavors. He has proved that he is equally enthusiastic about teaching as well as research," he adds.

The only other RIT faculty member to receive the career award is Guifang Li, a former electrical engineering assistant professor, in 1996.

COB receives \$189K software donation

The College of Business recently received a donation from E/Step Software Inc. The gift, valued at \$189,588, comes on the heels of another donation made by E/Step a year ago.

The company has given the college 25 licenses for three different Finished Goods Series (FGS) software modules in addition to maintenance service. FGS is an integrated, PC-based software package designed to help companies reduce finished goods inventories and improve customer service by computing accurate inventory targets.

This gift will help students in RIT's manufacturing management and leadership graduate program comprehend the real-world applications of the theory models they learn in class.

"Our hope is that by having our software available to them, RIT students will go out into industry with a much better understanding of the close relationship between service and inventory," says John Estep, president of E/Step Software. "We feel it's very important to educate the people who are the future materials managers, vice presidents and CEOs. They need to have hands-on experience and we are providing some of the tools."



GETTING GRADUATES TO STAY IN ROCHESTER... A crowd including students, business leaders, government officials and college presidents attended a presidential colloquium in the Panara Theatre on April 25. "New York's Best and Brightest: Keeping College Graduates in Rochester" was moderated by President Simone, far right. Panelists were, from left to right, Christine Whitman, president and chief executive officer, CVC; Sandy Parker, president, Industrial Management Council; David Hunke, president and publisher, Democrat & Chronicle; and John Doyle, Monroe County executive.

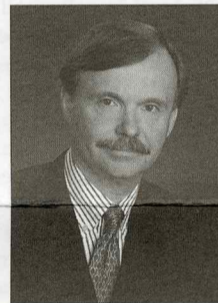
Two new trustees elected to RIT board

Two new members were elected to RIT's Board of Trustees on April 13.

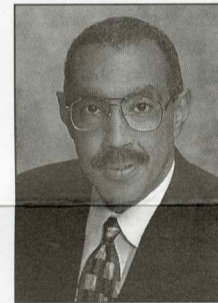
Brian Hall is president and chief executive officer of the Thomson Legal & Regulatory Group and chief executive officer of West Group, both divisions of The Thomson Corp. based in St. Paul, Minn. He is former president and chief executive officer of Thomson Legal Publishing, executive vice president with McGraw-Hill and president of Shepard's, a division of McGraw-Hill. He also worked for Rochester-based Lawyer's Cooperative Publishing, now part of West Group.

Hall received a master's in business administration from RIT in 1978. He serves on the board of directors for the Software Information Industry Association and was appointed to the Colorado Commission of Higher Education by Gov. Roy Romer in 1989.

Eric Johnson is president and chief executive officer of Baldwin Richardson



Brian Hall



Eric Johnson

Foods Co. Inc. headquartered in Chicago. He is former president of his family's business, Johnson Products, the nation's first publicly traded African-American company.

Johnson bought Baldwin Ice Cream in 1992 and

Richardson Foods Corp. in 1997. The combined company has annual sales of over \$60 million and is a major supplier to McDonald's restaurants. It has a plant in Macedon, Wayne County.

Johnson has a master's in business administration and marketing from the University of Chicago. He serves on numerous boards including Babson College, Chicago State University and Boy Scouts of America.

Summer softball league

Teams are now being formed for the RIT Faculty/ Staff Tuesday evening co-ed summer softball league. If you are interested in starting a team or would like to join an existing team, contact Edward Maruggi at maruggi@mail.rit.edu. For additional information about the league, log onto <http://www.rit.edu/~epmacc/softball/rit>.

New self-help center

The launch of RIT Human Resources' new Self-Help Center means employees now have round-the-clock online access to services at <http://finweb.rit.edu/HumanResources/>.

In addition, expanded e-mail and voice mail resources allow employees to ask questions, respond to job openings and request forms any time. All e-mail and voice mail requests for information will be responded to within 24 hours.

The center also offers walk-up access to a computer station and printed material in the human resources reception area, Eastman Building, fifth floor, open weekdays, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. For more information, call 5-2424.

News makers

- **Trish Boyle**, senior graphic designer, RIT University Publications, is co-author with Mark Witkowski of *The Adobe InDesign Guide: From Concept to Production*, which provides expert instruction and tutorials on Adobe's newest advanced page layout software.
- **Richard Budynas**, professor, mechanical engineering, is author of the textbook *Advanced Strength and Applied Stress Analysis, 2nd edition*. A member of RIT's faculty since 1971, Budynas previously authored a chapter in the book, *Interactive Graphics in CAD*, published in 1985.
- **Andrew Davidhazy**, professor, College of Imaging Arts and Sciences, published an article in the January issue of the *Journal of the Photographic Society of America*. His article,

"The Phoenix Process," is about a novel imaging scheme based on repeated use of Polaroid photoimaging materials.

- **Marvin Gruber**, professor, College of Science, presented a paper titled "Comparing the efficiency of shrinkage estimators for Zellner's balanced loss function," at the annual meeting of the American Statistical Association in Baltimore.
- **John Madison**, associate professor, NTID English department, was invited by Donna Shalala, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, to serve on the National Deafness and Other Communication Disorders Advisory Council of the National Institutes of Health for a four-year term beginning June 1. He recently chaired a

meeting for the NIH that explored the area of informed consent in genetic research as it relates to the issue of inherited deafness and hearing loss.

- **Andrew Malcolm**, NTID English department, conducted a day-long workshop for Texas teachers of the deaf in February in Houston. He presented his viewpoint on teaching traditional English grammar to prelingually deaf students, using flow chart diagrams and tables to explain sentence structure and selection of parts of speech.
- **Mark Marschark**, professor, NTID Center for Research, Teaching, and Learning, has been appointed honorary professor in the department of psychology at the University of Aberdeen in Scotland in recognition of his contributions to

teaching and research. He will conduct research on the relations of language and learning in deaf students in collaboration with investigators at the University of Aberdeen.

- **David Mathiason**, professor, College of Science, presented "Web-based delivery: The good, the bad and the ugly" and "Web as a data resource" at the third annual conference Beyond the Formula III at Monroe Community College.
- **Craig Neal**, director of residential food services, won the 15th annual Flower City Award from the Rochester Branch of International Food Service Executives Association. The award honors outstanding food service executives for their contributions to the industry, city and organization.

First in Class Q & A from page 1

recognition for direct captioning. An objective is to obtain a multimedia 'look and feel' to augment text with color and animation.

Are there any FIC partnerships with an international flavor?

In imaging and publishing, RIT has ongoing relationships with the printing and publishing industry. There have been corporate partnerships with companies like Heidelberg, Xeikon and Scitex—all European companies—and these partnerships are continuing and growing as a result of *First in Class*.

Partnerships with government have been stressed. Where do those stand?

The government will be a good partner. Government grants and contracts will do a lot to assist RIT in building an applied research agenda.

The design, development and manufacturing area is looking at government research programs in micro-, optical-, electro- and mechanical-systems. The remanufacturing and resource recovery program in CIMS is receiving major support from the U.S. Navy.

In IT, we've been involved with the Council on Excellence in Government, a non-profit organization in Washington, D.C., on a 'digital government fellows' initiative. RIT will be providing IT training related to digital government services.

In imaging and publishing there are programs in remote sensing and data pipelining that are supported by NASA, the energy department and other government agencies.

Will there be mainly problem-solving partnerships or more ongoing relationships?

The intent of *First in Class* is to generate effective, meaningful partnerships with industry. There will be many partnerships that will start with small projects and grow to a strategic relationship. Our objective is to get long-term, sustaining partnerships with industries that align with RIT's strengths. We began with three strategic areas and we'll be going after those industries that fit these areas.

Where do you see the First in Class Initiative a few years from now?

It will always be growing and changing. We're into three areas, each with its own programs and focus. Some programs will take off and some programs will come along slower.

We will be constantly looking for other areas of strength. To be 'first in class,' we've got to find areas where industry or government comes to RIT and says, 'I know I can get the best co-ops, graduates, training, technology and solutions to my problems.'

We will be on the look-out for where RIT can lead. We'll pull together solutions—when our partners succeed, we succeed.

Patel makes history

On April 24 volleyball player Ushi Patel became the first athlete in RIT history to earn the WHAM College Sportsman of the Year Award. Patel received the honor in front of nearly 800 people at the Sheraton Four Points Hotel in Rochester.

In February Patel became the first athlete in the greater Rochester area to be named College Division Academic All-American of the Year which covers over 250 Division II and III schools nationally. The senior setter was the first four-time all region selection in RIT's history and established the NCAA Division III career assist mark (7,014). She is a two-time athletic and academic All-American and was also featured in *Sports Illustrated's* "Faces in the Crowd" in December.

The annual event also recognized both the Nazareth College and RIT women's soccer teams and the Heart of Gold Foundation for contributions and fundraising efforts for Jessica Gordon, a soccer player seriously injured in a car accident this year. Gordon fund raisers also included Grinnell College and St. Lawrence University.

Trustee, alum earn civic honors

An RIT trustee and a distinguished alumnus were honored for their contributions to the community during the Greater Rochester Metro Chamber of Commerce's 35th Annual Civic Medal Awards. Thomas Judson Jr. and Donald Lehmbek were among the 10 recipients recognized by the chamber on April 18 at the Riverside Convention Center.

The chamber presented trustee Judson, president and chief executive of the Pike Co., construction managers and general contractors, with the Commerce and Industry award.

An active community member, Judson serves as a trustee or board member of several organizations, including the Business Council of New York State, the Center for Governmental Research, RIT, Strong Museum and the United Way of Rochester.

The chamber's Science and Technology Award went to Lehmbek, principal engineer of imaging sciences engineering and technology, Xerox Corp. Lehmbek, winner of RIT's 1999 Distinguished Alumni Award, was instrumental, along with other



RIT trustee Tom Judson and alumnus Don Lehmbek received civic awards from the Greater Rochester Metro Chamber of Commerce. Standing here, left to right, are Tom Mooney, Chamber of Commerce president, Judson, Al Simone, RIT president, and Lehmbek.

alumni, in developing the proposal for RIT to create the Center for Imaging Science.

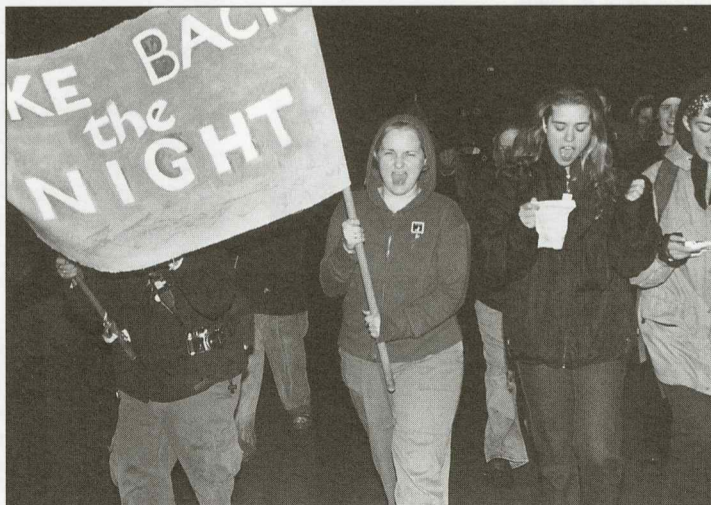
His work with RIT and Xerox has contributed to advancements in imaging and the photographic science profession. In 1975, Lehmbek was one of the first engineers at Xerox to use imaging science principles to produce quality images in digital copying systems. Since then, he has contributed to the image quality and processing of many Xerox digital products and has helped make a significant change in the world of business, personal and electronic communications.

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TAKE BACK THE NIGHT... RIT students, faculty and staff protested violence towards women during the annual Take Back the Night march and rally, April 20. The evening featured presentations from members of the RIT community and a massive march down RIT's Quarter Mile towards the residence halls. Take Back the Night was sponsored by RIT's Peers Informing and Educating RIT Students.



Obituary

Barbara Weir

Barbara Weir passed away on April 15 following a short struggle with cancer. A staff assistant in the National Technical Institute for the Deaf's interpreting services department, she had joined RIT in 1987.

"Barb was dedicated to the goal of making RIT the most accessible environment possible. We will truly miss her presence," says Peter Lalley, director of NTID's Center for Baccalaureate and Graduate Studies.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Lollypop Farm or the American Cancer Society.

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