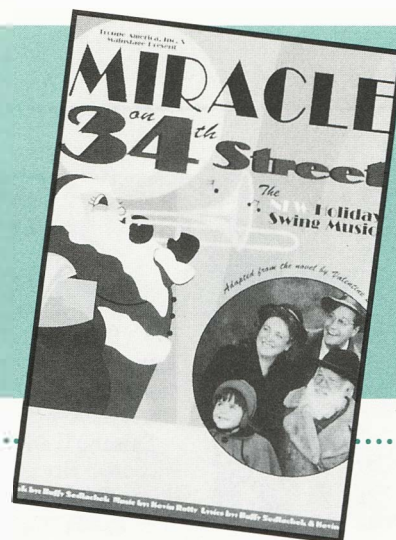


- 2 Student Government open forum scheduled
 - 3 December holiday happenings at RIT
 - 4 New A.A.S. program helps Kodak workers
 - 4 Tips for stressed caregivers during the holidays
- 3 “Swing” version of holiday favorite



Many celebrations of holidays and faiths at RIT in December

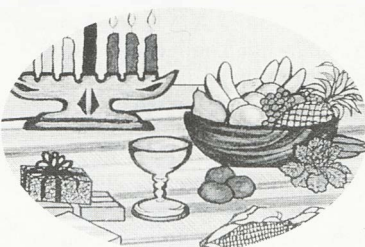
RIT's Center for Campus Ministry hosts holiday services for the campus community celebrating the joy of the holidays by followers of many faiths.

- RIT's Hillel hosts a traditional Chanukah cookie and latke baking party, 6 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 10, Hillel House (Lower level, Colby D). For more information, contact Kip Lombardo, -5171 V/TTY.
- Also for Chanukah, the Wolk Center for Jewish Cultural Enrichment for the Deaf sponsors a party, 8 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 13, Skalny Room, Interfaith Center. The party features food, dreidle games, and entertainment by Simeon Carmel, a local magician and storyteller. Rabbi Fred Friedman, one of three deaf rabbis in the United States, will discuss Chanukah and host a



question and answer session. For reservations or more information, contact the Wolk Office, -7608 V/TTY, or by e-mail, axy2363@rit.edu.

- The celebration of the African American holiday, Kwanzaa, is set for 5 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 17, Ingle Auditorium, Student Alumni Union. The ceremony reflects upon the seven principles of Kwanzaa and



explains the significance of the symbols associated with the holiday. A reception immediately follows in Fireside Lounge. David Anderson, professional writer and storyteller

and convener of The Rochester Kwanzaa Coalition, offers a Kwanzaa narrative and will answer questions about the seven-day celebration. Scholarships will also be presented to three RIT students in memory of Cheryl Bulls, Lanette Moore and Susan Willoughby, students killed last year in a car crash during Thanksgiving break. The weeks leading up to Christmas also include several celebrations in the tradition of the Catholic faith.

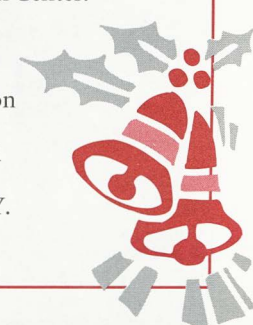
- Monday, Dec. 8—Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Masses held 12:10 p.m. and 7 p.m., Allen Memorial Chapel, Interfaith Center.
- Saturday, Dec. 13—Christmas Mass held 4:30 p.m., Allen Memorial Chapel, Interfaith Center. Dinner follows in Skalny Room.

- Sunday, Dec. 14—“Lessons and Carols”; Interfaith Service held 3 p.m., Allen Memorial Chapel, Interfaith Center.

- Monday, Dec. 15—Advent Penance Service held 12:10 p.m., and 7 p.m., Allen Memorial Chapel, Interfaith Center.

- Wednesday, Dec. 24—Christmas Mass held 4 p.m., Allen Memorial Chapel, Interfaith Center.

Reception immediately following. For more information about the schedule of events and services, call Center for Campus Ministry, -2135, V/TTY.



Holiday greetings from the president

As we get into full swing during this busy holiday time, Carolie and I feel especially privileged to be a part of RIT's richly diverse community. We are honored to have the opportunity to share in and learn from the many celebrations of the season.

Reflecting on the numerous accomplishments and hard work of RIT faculty, staff, administrators and students in 1997, I believe we have once again set new heights of achievements and goals for the future. As we welcome Bill Buckingham as our new Board of Trustees' chairman, we look forward to strengthening the strategic plan and setting our sights on preparation for the new millennium. Our primary mission—to offer students the best education for a productive and rewarding life—will drive our efforts to be ‘first in class’ in this New Year and beyond.

Carolie and I wish you and your families a wonderful holiday season and a fruitful 1998. Enjoy your holiday break!

Albert J. Simon

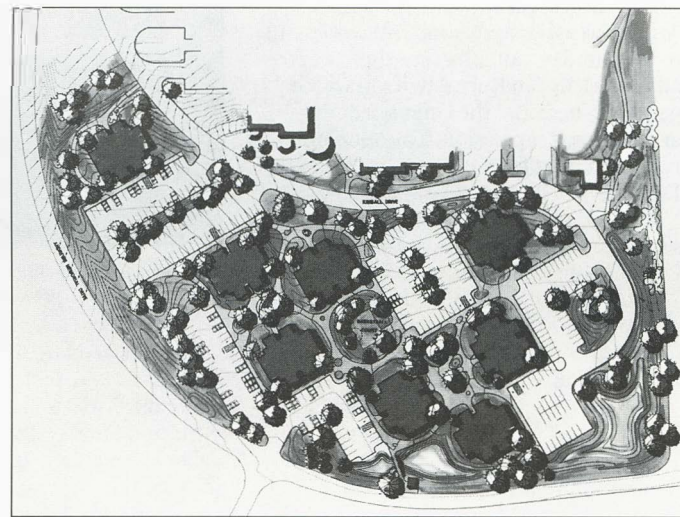
RIT accepts plans and contractor for new apartments; phase I begins

Capstone Development Corporation, Birmingham, Alabama, has been selected as the phase one developer for an \$8 million apartment project on campus. According to James Watters, vice president, Finance and Administration, the first phase consists of eight apartment buildings providing 288 bed spaces.

The project is the first part of a new housing initiative that will eventually replace 1,600 apartment-style bed spaces at both the current Riverknoll apartment complex and all of the town house bed space at Racquet Club.

Watters says the plan differs significantly from other RIT construction projects in that the developer will finance, design, build and manage the new complex to be built on the RIT campus. “We have been able to create a funding strategy that allows us to provide for the needs of our academic community while enhancing the living environment of our students,” explains Watters. RIT also began a \$50 million residence hall renovation project this past summer.

The plans for the new housing are based on significant national research on the needs



Riverknoll apartments will see new additions of units centered around a common living area. Phase I has begun; future phases are in the planning stages.

of students, says Watters, and “will provide four single-bedroom apartments grouped around a common area, kitchen, living room and two bathrooms. The apartments will be fully furnished and carpeted.”

The first phase of construction will be built as an addition to Riverknoll and is scheduled for completion by fall 1998. Future phases, in the planning stages, will require the replacement of existing units at Riverknoll and Racquet Club townhouses.

“We’re excited about the opportunity to provide our students with high quality housing that is not only more accessible to campus activities but also provides students with better quality living experiences,” adds Watters.

Calling all “flashers” Dec. 8—Big Shot ’97 set for nighttime photo at Brown’s Race

So your mother told you “flashing” can land you in jail. Well, you’re not only allowed to “flash” on Monday night, Dec. 8, you’re encouraged to do so. It’s all part of Big Shot ’97, the 12th time that RIT professors and students, along with volunteers from the community, make a nighttime photograph lit solely by hundreds of

handheld electronic camera flashes.

Brown’s Race, where it meets Platt Street, stars as this year’s Big Shot subject. Michael Peres, chair, Biomedical Photographic Communication, and Big Shot co-coordinator, will direct action down on the street—instructing participants where to stand and when to flash.

Meanwhile, up in the Executive Office Building facing south on Brown’s Race, Professor Bill DuBois, who originated and coordinates the yearly event with Peres, will operate the large-format cameras used to document the event along with Dawn Tower DuBois, faculty member, National Technical Institute for the Deaf.

Big Shot needs as many people as possible to make it a success, says Peres. “It’s such a large space that we’re attempting to shoot. There are all of these nooks and crannies and side streets. This is a case in which there can’t be too many people.”

Following the shoot, the student

(Continued on page 2)

RIT's Board of Trustees welcomes two new members



Carl Sassano

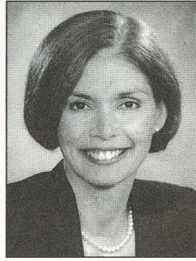
Two new members have been elected to RIT's Board of Trustees—Carl Sassano and Christine Whitman.

Sassano is an executive vice president of Bausch & Lomb and president, Vision Care. He joined Bausch & Lomb's former Soflens Division in 1973 and held a variety of management positions before being named president of the company's former Polymer Technology Corporation subsidiary in 1983. In 1986,

Sassano became a corporate vice president of Bausch & Lomb and a senior vice president in 1992. In September 1994, he became senior vice president and global business manager, Vision Care. He was named to his current position in December 1996.

Born in Syracuse, Sassano earned a B.A. in political science from Eisenhower College and an M.B.A. in marketing from the University of Rochester. He is a member of the Eastman Dental Center Foundation Board and the board of directors of the U of R Medical Center.

Whitman is chairman, president and chief executive officer of CVC, a Rochester company who specializes in the use of



Christine Whitman

vacuum deposition to make thin films, a key technology in the semiconductor industry. She earned a B.A. from Syracuse University and joined CVC in 1978 as a product manager within the marketing organization, progressing to vice president of marketing and research. In 1990, she formed an investment group which purchased that company and was appointed to her current position. Prior to joining CVC, Whitman spent five years in U of R's biochemistry department. She is a member of the strategic planning advisory board for RIT's College of Engineering.

A Fairport native active in industry and community groups, Whitman is a member and secretary of the board of directors of SEMI/SEMATECH, a group of United States semiconductor equipment manufacturers working toward improving the competitiveness of the U.S. semiconductor industry. She also is past president of the Association of Vacuum Equipment Manufacturers. Locally, Whitman's efforts focus on economic development and expanding high technology within the Rochester area. She serves as a member of many boards including the board of directors of Rochester Telephone Corporation, the executive committee of the board of directors of the Industrial Management Council and the board of trustees of the Greater Rochester Chamber of Commerce.



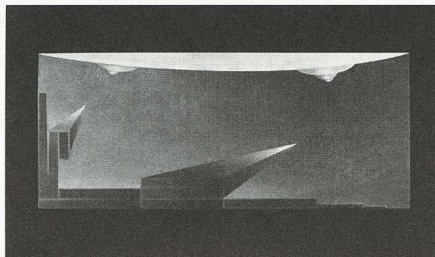
TRUSTEES HELP WITH CLEAN-UP . . . Board of Trustees' member Jane Ratcliffe Pulver assisted in the clean-up of a simulated hazardous waste site. Pulver worked with Assistant Professor of environmental management Josh Goldowitz, dressed in level-A protective equipment, by taking a liquid sample from one of the abandoned drums found in the "contaminated field." Trustees saw demonstrations from various areas of the College of Applied Science and Technology as part of their Nov. 13 board meeting. RIT offers an undergraduate program in environmental management and technology and a master's program in environmental, health and safety management.

Bevier exhibit presents geometry as art

RIT's Bevier Gallery presents "Design is Art . . . Art is Design" from Friday, Dec. 12 to Wednesday, Jan. 21—an exhibit of creative work by Jan Kubasiewicz in which geometry becomes the language of the artist's visual expression. The opening reception is set for 5 to 7 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 12.

On Jan. 14, Kubasiewicz will also present a lecture, "A Look into Polish Avant Garde Typography and Its Influences." The lecture will run from 10 a.m. to noon in the auditorium of the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science. Kubasiewicz will then lead a gallery walk, also called "Design is Art . . . Art is Design," from 2 to 3 p.m.

Hours for the Bevier Gallery, James E. Booth Building, are: Dec. 12 to Jan. 21



Geometry and art mesh in "Design is Art . . . Art is Design," Bevier Gallery's exhibit set to open Dec. 12.

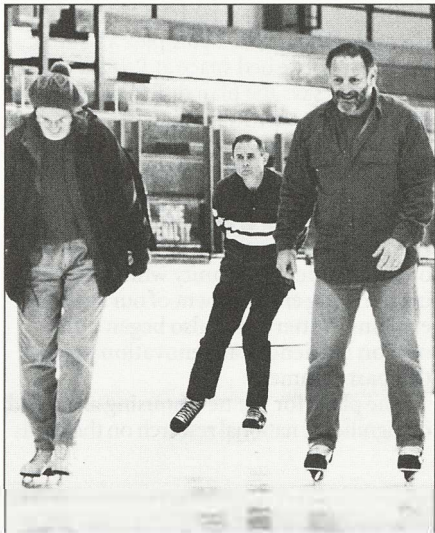
(gallery closed Dec. 20 to Jan. 4), Monday to Friday 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Thursday 7 to 9 p.m., Saturday 1 to 4:30 p.m., and Sunday 2 to 4:30 p.m. The gallery is free; call -7680 or -2646 for more information.

Free lunchtime skating at Ritter ice arena

Anyone looking for winter fun or exercise to work off holiday calories should dig those ice skates out of the closet and spend lunch at the Frank Ritter ice arena adjacent to the Student Alumni Union. From 12:15 to 1:45 p.m., Mondays through Fridays, RIT staff, faculty and students can skate for free with I.D. (except during holiday break when it costs \$5). And it's always free for the RIT community on Sundays from 12:15 to 2 p.m., though not for dependents, unless they have a paid membership with the Hale-Andrews Student Life Center.

The Center for Intercollegiate Athletics, which runs the arena and skate rentals (\$2.50 a pair), also offers two holiday specials: \$5 "cold cash" gift certificates good for any public skate, and weekday, non-alcoholic "holiday lunch and skate parties" for RIT departments, centers and offices, Nov. 17 through Dec. 24. For a lunch party, folks can choose the skating music and have it catered or bring their own food.

"This is our way of saying thanks and happy holidays," says coordinator Beverly Bartlett, a secretary for athletics. "We'll also give everyone at the party a free pass for another public skating session. And if you call us before break, Santa and the RIT



RIT skaters pirouette their way through lunch-time in the ice rink.

Tiger might skate in, if they're 'in town,' she adds. Party goers can also learn a few pointers on the ice from the center's skating instructor, Melissa McGrain, available by request.

To reserve a skate party lunch or to check for public skating hours, call -2223.

Student Government hosts open forum to talk about "social atmosphere" on campus

RIT's Student Government will host a second open forum—6:30 p.m., Monday, Dec. 8, Fireside Lounge—to discuss RIT's social atmosphere.

A previously held open forum resulting from President Simone's Oct. 23 announcement banning alcohol consumption in all RIT residence halls resurrected discussions of an alleged decline in social activities on campus, a primary reason students believe drinking in residence halls has become so popular.

Kevin DiVico, Student Government vice president, hopes the Dec. 8 forum will develop strategies ultimately enhancing the campus environment. Suggestions to be discussed include creating a coffee house, café, entertainment complex and skywalk; CLAW renovations; bus service to local malls and movie theaters; a 35mm projection system for the College Activities Board; a cultural arts festival; winter carnival; and a campus-wide formal dance.

"Any of these things will help build university spirit," adds DiVico. "These are just

some of the things that people want. Everyone, whether they are students, faculty or staff, needs down-time, and a good place to relax and enjoy their surroundings."

DiVico encourages the campus community to bring their ideas and come with an open mind. "I believe student discussion, combined with administration and faculty input, is necessary on the important issues facing this campus," says DiVico. "My hope is that the information presented by the students will be taken seriously in formulating policy here at RIT."

A round table with other area universities is being organized to discuss alcohol policies on other campuses, adds DiVico.

RIT's proposed alcohol policy is available in the Student Affairs office, Campus Life office, OCASA office and offices of major student organizations including Student Government.

For more information about the open forum, call the Student Government office, -2203 VTTY.

Big shot *continued from page 1*

production team develops the film and makes copies of the photograph. They also typeset the caption, noting the film types, weather and setting. Participants receive a print of the shot.

Anyone interested in "flashing" should be at Brown's Race 15 minutes prior to the shoot—7 p.m.—or can take advantage of shuttle service provided by RIT. Courtesy of Tiger Spirit, a Student Affairs fund

endowed by parents and alumni, two buses will depart from the circle in front of RIT's Student Alumni Union at 6:15 p.m. The shot will go off promptly at 7:15 p.m.

Prior Big Shot subjects include Silver Stadium, Rochester Museum and Science Center and George Eastman House.

For more information on Big Shot '97, call Michael Peres at -2775 or Bill DuBois at -2752.

Photography exhibit "straddles the ocean"

A native of Czechoslovakia living in the United States, Miso Suchy describes "When I Was and Was Not At Home," an exhibit of black and white and color photographs set to open in the SPAS Photography Gallery this month, as a personal account of the immigrant experience.

The exhibit, based on his recently published book of the same name, represents a search for balance in the precarious position of straddling the ocean with one foot in Eastern Europe and the other one in America, says Suchy. The show premiered in Bratislava, Slovakia, Suchy's hometown overseas.

His work has been exhibited in Great Britain, France, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Italy, Germany and the U.S. and his films have been shown at George Eastman House in a visiting artist screening. Among his awards, Suchy has won the East-West Grant from the Pro-Helvetia Foundation, a Pro-Slovakia Grant, a Lightwork Residency, a Boston Film and Video Fellowship and a 1997 Artist Fellowship from the New York Foundation for the Arts.

The exhibit runs from Dec. 5 to 19 in the gallery, third floor, Frank E. Gannett Building. Gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays. The opening reception takes place from 6 to 8 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 5. Suchy will give an artist talk in the gallery at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 10.



Images representing photographer Miso Suchy's immigrant experience will be exhibited in the SPAS Photo Gallery Dec. 5 to 19.

Holiday Events

Miracle on 34th Street comes to RIT

Rediscover the magic of believing that miracles still happen in the new holiday swing musical, *Miracle on 34th Street*, coming to RIT's campus, 7 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 10, Ingle Auditorium, Student Alumni Union. Tickets—\$5 for children of RIT faculty, staff and alumni; \$6 for RIT students; \$10 for RIT faculty, staff and alumni; \$13 for general public—are for sale in the game room, lower level, SAU. Tickets must be purchased in cash.

This heartwarming story follows the adventures of an elderly gentleman named Kris Kringle, who is forced out of

his life at the Maplewood Retirement Home because he continues to claim that he is Santa Claus. Is he? During the course of the adventure, Kris alters the lives of everyone he encounters, especially a young girl named Susan who discovers the most important gift of all—the gift of believing.

The production features an imaginative set, stylish costumes and choreography of the period and music from America's Golden Age of Swing.

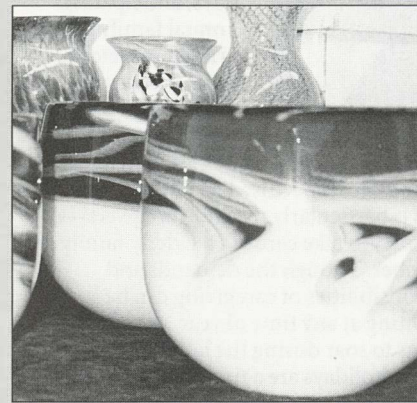
For more information, call the game room, -2239 V/TTY.

Student artists' annual holiday sale

Forget sending the same old socks, ties and fruitcake this holiday season. Check out the annual School for American Crafts student holiday sale, 10 a.m.–3 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 11, and Friday, Dec. 12, Student Alumni Union lobby.

This year, among the selection of one-of-a-kind gifts—like silver-wrought earrings, handknit hats and woven scarves, dazzling blown glass ornaments and ceramic and wood creations—shoppers can also purchase illustrations and paintings from students in the School of Art and Design. Their combined efforts will bring more than 30 student artists and their varied work to the sale tables.

Prices tend to run from \$10 to \$100.



Crafty holiday shopping... One-of-a-kind blown glass vessels are among the many crafts available at the annual student sale, Dec. 11–12.

Tree of Angels lit for East House youngsters

This holiday season, RIT's Office of Greek Affairs is living by the motto, "It's better to give than to receive," as they bring a bit of Christmas to youngsters of East House residents. East House, a mental health agency providing residential, rehabilitation and support services to individuals recovering from mental illness, alcoholism and other substance abuse, has partnered with RIT in the past when a summer enrichment program brought 30 residents to campus.

To kick off their holiday service project, Greek Affairs invites the campus community to the lighting of the Tree of Angels, 5 p.m., Friday, Dec. 5, Grace Watson lobby. This year's Christmas tree will bear ornaments with names of children receiving gifts purchased by Greek

community members.

The service project continues as participating Greeks buy and wrap gifts for their "adopted" children, Dec. 15–19 at East House, in preparation for gift delivery on Christmas morning.

"The holidays are tough for many East House parents and grandparents who aren't able to give their children gifts," says Tom Golinski, graduate assistant for Greek Affairs and project co-coordinator. "This is a great opportunity for the Greek community to play Santa and make the holidays a little more enjoyable."

For more information about the East House service project or tree lighting ceremony, contact Golinski or Kerensa Wingard, -7220 V/TTY.

A scintillating mystery à la dessert at RIT

If your mystery solving talents rival those of Sherlock Holmes and Miss Marple, you're sure to enjoy RIT's Murder Mystery Dessert Theatre, a live, interactive "Whodunit?," 7 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 11, The Commons. The production, *Murder 101: What Happens When A Student Learns Too Much*, presents a chilling tale of a curious young scholar facing deadly consequences.

Professional actors from Mystery Game Productions will sit among the audience and help guests review evidence and question suspects in an attempt to uncover the guilty party.

Tickets—\$1, which includes a free dessert up to a \$3 value—are limited and are available in the Student Alumni Union game room.

For more information about the murder mystery, call the SAU game room, -2239.



Bring your magnifying glasses and keen crime-solving skills to a murder mystery dessert theatre, live on campus, Dec. 11.

Toys for Tots seeks new toys for the needy

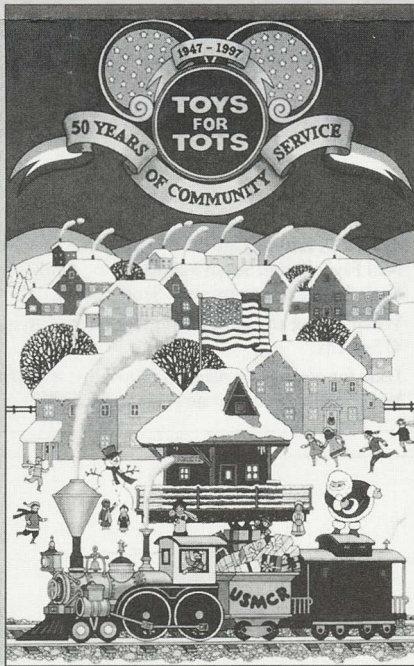
Each year, RIT's Center for Campus Life brings joy to impoverished children in the Rochester area by participating in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots program.

The center asks faculty, staff and students to donate new, unwrapped toys and deposit them in boxes located in Wallace Library, Student Alumni Union lobby and Center for Campus Life office.

"Each year we collect more toys and help more children," says Jean Griffin, coordinator of club administration and student learning and Toys for Tots project organizer. "It's such a great feeling to be able to bring a little holiday spirit to poor children who would otherwise have nothing."

The U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots program, begun in 1948, today distributes an average of 7,000,000 toys annually, bringing the joy of Christmas to nearly 3,500,000 needy children.

RIT's toy collection continues through Dec. 19. For more information, contact Griffin, -7685.



Toys for Tots has collected and given millions of toys to needy children over the years.

Holiday Auction benefits McDonald House

Help a worthy cause and spread holiday cheer and generosity at the annual School of Photographic Arts and Sciences Holiday Auction at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 11, in the Neblette Lobby of the Frank E. Gannett Building.

Bidders can take home a variety of artistic and useful items including faculty photographic prints, gift certificates from

local merchants and photographic supplies, such as two point-and-shoot cameras donated by Rollei Fototechnic.

This year, the Rochester Ronald McDonald House will receive much of the proceeds, shared in part with the Biomedical Photography Student Association, the 1997 event sponsor.

12th annual Appreciation Day at bookstore

Santa's elves should shop for deals and fun at Campus Connections, RIT's bookstore, during the 12th annual RIT Appreciation Day slated 8:30 a.m.–8 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 11. In celebration of the season and to thank RIT patrons, the store makes a gala event each year, complete with specialty food tastings, varied door prizes, live entertainment and, of course, a sale.

The store gives a 10 percent markdown, with RIT I.D., for the day on most merchandise, excluding computers, textbooks, photography equipment, special orders and Institute purchases. (Faculty

and staff get the sale plus their regular discount.) "We want to thank the RIT community for honoring their campus store all year," says John Roman, director, Campus Connections.

"This year, we also have a wholesale jewelry sale, like a trunk sale, in front of the store," explains Roman. Among the day's offerings, shoppers can taste gourmet candy, hear caroling and partake in Food Services' complimentary popcorn and punch. "Don't forget the door prizes," says Roman. "Our vendors contribute quite a variety of items." Call Campus Connections at -2501 for more information.

An international night of music and dancing

RIT's Global Union, together with the Commission for Promoting Pluralism, brings international flavor and color to campus Wednesday, Dec. 10, with Unification '97. The program begins with a table display, 11 a.m.–2 p.m., Student Alumni Union lobby, and wraps up with a multicultural extravaganza, 7 p.m., Webb Auditorium, James E. Booth Building.

The free program, open to the entire RIT community, provides an evening of multicultural music and dancing by

Rochester-area organizations, and the opportunity to share customs and culture of RIT's international students representing over 86 countries from around the globe.

"Global Union is committed to the challenge of uniting RIT's campus and understanding the diversity that makes us so unique," says Nicolas Rubio, third-year international business student and Global Union founder and president.

For more information about Unification '97, e-mail Rubio at globalun@rit.edu.

Native American cultural heritage event celebrates RIT's diverse students

In the spirit of celebrating RIT's diverse cultural atmosphere, the National Technical Institute for the Deaf sponsors the Native American Cultural Heritage Celebration, 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 11, Ingle Auditorium, Student Alumni Union.

Deaf Native American researcher

Melaine Macky-Cody presents the keynote address on the college environment for Native American students.

The ceremony "promises to be rich in tradition" and includes raising a flag of the Six Nations, performances by native drummers and dancers, and a presenta-

tion honoring an elder from the Native American community, explains William Olubodon, coordinator, Multicultural Student Programs.

"This program began three years ago as a way of promoting the diverse culture of our student body and increasing the

self-esteem of our students and their feeling of belonging," says Olubodon.

For more information about these programs, contact Olubodon, -6200 V/TTY or e-mail, woonsl@rit.edu or Karen Pelc, -7081 or e-mail, kmpshc@rit.edu.

Advice for the stresses of caregiving during the holidays



Debra Fromm Faria

Many of us at RIT—from students to faculty, administrators and staff—look forward to the holidays, anticipating annual family gatherings and celebrations. However, behind the “holiday glow,” multiple demands of family life can cause increased feelings of stress. This is particularly true for caregivers—adults who take care of an elderly family member. Though the demands and responsibilities of caregiving can be daunting at any time of year, the stress seems to soar during the holiday season.

The holidays are a time when many of us reflect on past memories. For families

caring for an elderly parent, these reflections often remind them of the losses the older person is experiencing. This may include memory loss such as the case of people with Alzheimer’s disease and other related dementias. Functional losses which require assistance with daily activities like walking and toileting also occur with some frail, elderly individuals. And older people who have increased dependency on others tend to become self-absorbed and less engaged in the needs and wants of others. Reminiscing also reminds caregivers of the loss they may be facing in the quality of their personal relationship with the older person. These losses only heighten the stress that family caregivers experience during holidays.

Increased family tensions among adult siblings who come together for holidays can also add stress to the family caregiver.

Often, long-forgotten conflicts resurface. Conflicts in family expectations of who should do what is common for many families. If these conflicts are left to fester, resentments build. Families tend to avoid discussing or resolving these conflicts, which adds to the stress caregivers report feeling during the holidays.

Another point to consider, family caregivers are typically women who find themselves balancing their lives between work demands and family responsibilities. Serving as family caregiver to an elderly parent or in-law can easily upset this balance if the stress involved is not recognized.

We may see ourselves or those dear to us in holiday stress as caregivers. To help reduce the stress, here are a few tips to consider.

- Set realistic limits for yourself; what is your “yes” worth if you never say “no.”

- If the elderly person has a dementia, it helps to avoid overly stimulated environments, which add to their anxiety and your stress level.
- Let other family members know how they can be helpful; it’s important not to assume that they know what help you need.
- If including the elderly person in large family gatherings creates additional work and stress for you, consider other alternatives such as suggesting each family spend quality individual time with the parent or grandparent.
- Support groups are available to family caregivers of elderly persons. For information about meeting times and locations, contact the Mental Health Association of Monroe County, 325-3145, or the Alzheimer’s Association, 442-3820.

~ by Debra Fromm Faria, Social Work ~

RIT’s customized associate degree a success for Kodak workers

In the midst of Eastman Kodak Company’s well-publicized economic struggles, there’s an upbeat story unfolding within the firm’s Consumer Film Finishing Business.

More than 100 CFFB employees are enrolled in a customized associate of applied science degree program offered through RIT’s Center for Multidisciplinary Studies. At a recent graduation ceremony, 31 students received certificates in basic quality, 16 received the diploma in management development, and one earned the A.A.S. in applied arts and science.

And the program, now in its third year, just won the Award of Excellence for programs serving business and industry from the University Continuing Education Association.

George Williams, employee development coordinator for consumer film finishing at Kodak, says the company has been extremely pleased with the program because it serves the employees as well as the employer.

“We wanted our employees to know that we were committed to them,” says Williams, “and at the same time, we wanted to insure that we received some return in terms of skills. They are learning things they can take back to the work floor immediately.”

The program, designed by Kodak and RIT, focuses on quality and management, says Richard Thomas of RIT’s Corporate Education and Training department. “The entire program was put together to match Kodak’s strategic initiative.” Kodak employees are already putting to work concepts they learned in math and statistical quality control courses, he notes.

The A.A.S. program faced a big challenge to its success: scheduling. Kodak’s CFFB division—which makes 25 percent of the world’s 35mm film—runs round the clock, three shifts a day, with workers rotating to different shifts each week. So, RIT came up with a plan to offer courses twice a day, before B-shift and after A-shift. Workers do not attend classes during the week they’re on the “graveyard” C-shift. Typically, they take one course per quarter. Kodak pays virtually all of the expenses.

Although RIT conducts classes in the workplace, “students are treated just as if they were on campus,” says Thomas. They have access to the Wallace Library, Hale-Andrews Student Life Center and other facilities; they have RIT advisors; and the courses are just as tough, with homework, projects and exams.

“They work hard,” says Williams. “For some, it’s a struggle.” Most have had no prior college experience. Students earn certificates as they successfully complete certain requirements; it will take an average of six years for students with no previous college credits to earn the A.A.S. degree.

One side benefit for the students and for Kodak, says Williams, is stronger relationships between employees, a real plus in a Kodak department organized in teams. Individuals are also gaining communication skills and self-esteem, Williams notes.

For RIT, the program reaches people who could not fit college into their lives, says Lynda Rummel, director, Center for Multidisciplinary Studies. “These are people who could never come to RIT unless we went to them.”

Gannett lecture

RIT’s Caroline Werner Gannett Lecture Series opens its winter segment with past series director Diane Hope presenting “Pristine Views and Natural Spectacles: Environment as Icon in Consumer Fantasy”, 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 11, Webb Auditorium, James E. Booth Building. Hope, professor, Professional and Technical Communication, will share her work in verbal and visual persuasion as it relates to social change and human rights.

Intercultural talk

“Talking the Talk, Walking the Walk: The World’s People of Color in Transition” begins the winter section, Interracial Communication, of RIT’s Kern Lectures/ Roundtable Series. Michael Prosser, Kern Professor in Communications and former Fulbright scholar to Swaziland, presents the talk, 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 11, Skalny Room, Interfaith Center. He will discuss the status of people of emerging nations and how multinational organizations affect them.

Películas y pizza

Total immersion, even for a few hours, helps embed a culture and its language in our thinking, says Diane Forbes, assistant professor, College of Liberal Arts. Forbes has begun “Películas y Pizza,” a series of captioned, international videos, shown with free pizza and soft drinks, 5 to 7 p.m., weeknights.

December features the eight-part documentary produced by Kevin Costner, *500 Nations*, about the native Indian civilizations of the Americas covering the Anasazi, Cahokia, Aztecs, Tainos, Iroquois, Cherokee and the Trail of Tears. Held in the Liberal Arts building, the series run as follows:

- Dec. 9, No. 1 “The Ancestors” and No. 2 “Mexico”
- Dec. 11, No. 3 “Clash of Cultures” and No. 4 “Invasion of the Coast”
- Dec. 16, No. 5 “Cauldron of War” and No. 6 “Removal”
- Dec. 17, No. 7 “Roads Across the Plains” and No. 8 “Attack on Culture”

For more information, check the schedule posted at Liberal Arts A303 or call -6765 or e-mail djfsl@rit.edu.

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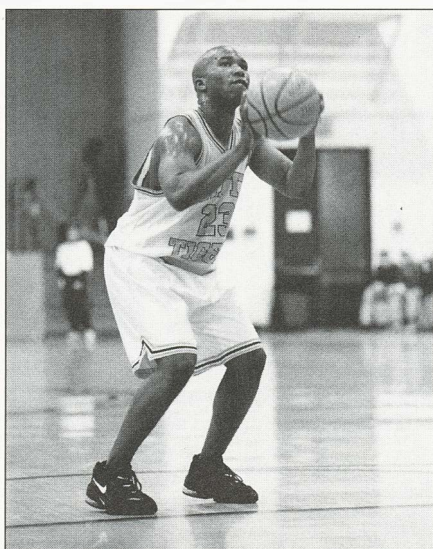
Tigers predict another great basketball season

Last year the RIT men’s basketball team climbed to new heights. The Tigers participated in the Sweet 16 of the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division III Tournament and posted 24 wins, both tops in RIT history.

But with the graduation of two All-Americans and the Tigers’ all-time leading scorer, many people would expect the 1997-98 campaign to be one of growing pains for RIT—apparently no one told that to the Tigers.

“Our expectations have not changed from what we’ve had in the past,” says head coach Bob McVean, the “winningest” coach in the program’s history with 209 wins. “We have a lot of talent on this team and now it’s their chance to prove it.” Basketball fans can expect to see a high-flying, up-tempo RIT squad this year as opposed to a more calculated and pace-controlled team of the past, he believes.

The Tigers’ aggressive high pressure defense will complement their run-and-gun style of play, led by co-captains Paul Blake and Matt Whann. “We have always been a team of consistency,” comments McVean, who has coached RIT to three consecutive number one seeds in the NCAA East region. “Matt and Paul are perfect examples of that consistency. They do what’s needed to be done in order to succeed.”



RIT basketball co-captain Paul Blake focuses on the rim during last year’s record-setting season.

You can catch the Tigers’ new style of play at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 9, when they host the State University of New York, Oswego. RIT also hosts the Harold Brodie Tournament on Dec. 12 when they tip-off against York College at 8 p.m. The championship takes place at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 13.

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