

- 2 Liberal Arts interim dean announced
 - 3 Fall convocation to feature Robert F. Kennedy Jr.
 - 4 A plethora of contest results
 - 4 Upcoming Science dedications
- 3 RIT's 1998 commencement wrap-up



Gleason Foundation makes record-setting \$10 million gift



James S. and Janis Gleason presented RIT with \$10 million on behalf of the Gleason Foundation. RIT will name the Kate Gleason College of Engineering in honor of Jim Gleason's great aunt (archival photo, right). The portrait in the photo (top) is James E. Gleason, Jim's great uncle and Kate's brother, who served as an RIT trustee for more than 60 years and as chairman for 20.



A \$10 million gift from the Gleason Foundation and the naming of the College of Engineering will honor the memory of Rochester's Kate Gleason, America's first woman engineering student and the first woman to be elected a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and the Verein Deutscher Ingenieure, the German engineering society.

The Kate Gleason College of Engineering will be RIT's first named academic program. Miss Gleason, who died in 1933, was a life-long supporter of RIT, and that family tradition continues. James S. and Janis Gleason of Brighton presented the donation, which will actually provide \$12 million for College of Engineering programs as a result of the university's plan for use of the funds. James Gleason is chairman and CEO of Rochester-based Gleason Corp. and an RIT trustee.

"This is the largest single cash gift ever received by the university," says Nathan Robfogel, vice president, University Relations. "We are deeply grateful to the Gleasons for their extraordinary generosity." This gift brings the total contributions to RIT by Gleason family members, Gleason Foundation and Gleason Corp. to more than \$25 million.

"Kate Gleason was a remarkable woman and her story will be an inspiration to every student, male or female," says RIT President Albert Simone. "She is an example of the determination, hard work and creative spirit that RIT would like to instill in all of our students. We're proud to have her name for our College of Engineering, and we're honored by the support of the Gleason family, today and throughout the history of the university."

Paul Petersen, dean of the Kate Gleason College of Engineering, says it is especially meaningful for the college to be closely connected to a company with strong ties to RIT, the Rochester community and to world-class engineering. "The Gleason name has been associated with high-quality technology and engineering for more than a century," Petersen says. "It's a tremendous honor for RIT to be linked with this great Rochester family."

The Gleason gift will be used to support new initiatives aimed at recruiting more women and minority students, says Petersen. The funds also will support development of new graduate and research programs in the college. In addition, some of the money will go toward renovation of the James E. Gleason Building, which houses the College of Engineering. The \$9-million project includes improvements to the 30-year-old building such as state-of-the-art

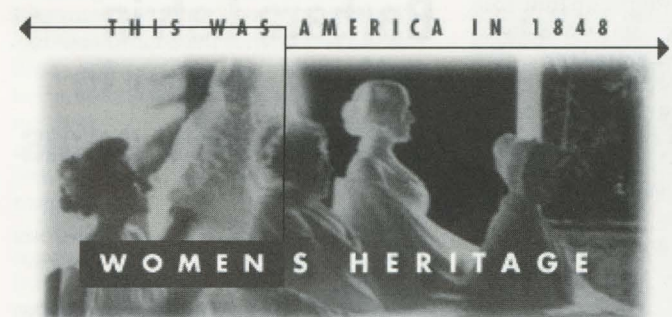
classrooms with multimedia capabilities, flexible laboratories and interactive work/study spaces, upgrades to the heating and ventilation systems, addition of air

(Continued on page 4)



FLAME ON... Tim Lazure, a 1998 graduate of the School for American Crafts, and David Stephanus, a senior in the metals program this fall, work on the torch that will glow during the New York Empire State Games, July 22-26. RIT will serve as a host site for the games where more than 6,000 athletes ranging in age from 12 to 80 will compete. Check out the next issue of News & Events for a feature story on the making of the torch.

Students design Web site for 150th anniversary of women's rights



This image, downloaded from the Web, opens a site designed by RIT students.

This summer thousands of visitors—including First Lady Hillary Clinton and Secretary of State Madeline Albright—will make the pilgrimage to Seneca Falls, Rochester and the surrounding area to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the women's rights movement.

An informative new site on the World

Wide Web offers help for people traveling to the area, as well as a virtual tour for those who can't visit. The Women's Heritage Web site, www.womensheritage.org, was created by 20 graduate students in a course given by RIT's information technology program

under the direction of Associate Professor Gordon Goodman.

A second class of 20 students (some enrolled in both classes) worked with Assistant Professor Stephen Jacobs and new IT faculty member Elizabeth Lane Lawley to create a prototype CD-ROM that offers extended high definition "tours" of the

Susan B. Anthony House and the Women's Rights Historical Park, a multimedia exploration of the Declaration of Sentiments and a "walk" along the proposed National Women's Heritage Trail.

Both projects were produced in cooperation with the Greater Rochester Visitor's Association Inc. and nonprofit historical organizations. Over the past few years, RIT students, guided by Goodman and Jacobs, have developed Web sites for area cultural organizations including the George Eastman House, Strong Museum and Genesee Country Museum.

In May, Jacobs and Goodman were honored for their work in development of CAROL: Culture and Arts for Rochester On Line. The two received the 1998 Volunteer of the Year Award from the Arts & Cultural Council for Greater Rochester. The CAROL project has been exhibited nationally at the ACM '97 conference, a prestigious computer industry show, and

has been the basis of a National Endowment for the Arts grant for the Arts & Cultural Council.

Goodman and Jacobs will present a paper at this year's ACM SIGGRAPH conference on the history of the CAROL project.



Stephen Jacobs (left) and Gordon Goodman, information technology, received the 1998 Volunteer of the Year Award from the Arts & Cultural Council for Greater Rochester.

Unique real-time videoconferencing links NTID to sister college in Japan

In the presence of Japanese royalty last month, Robert Davila, vice president, National Technical Institute for the Deaf, reaffirmed the college's sister institution relationship with Tsukuba College of Technology. Davila's video image and audio signal traveled to Japan via the Vtel digital videoconferencing system in the Sprint Visual Communications Center at NTID. His real-time messages reached Amakubo, Tsukuba, Japan, crossing 11 time zones and the International Date Line.

Princess Ayanomiya, wife of the second oldest son of Japanese Emperor Akihito, participated along with TCT President Shuichi Obata. Davila was assisted with Japanese sign and spoken language translation by Susan Fischer, a research faculty member in NTID's applied language and cognition research department. Professor Tsutomu Araki of TCT and E. William Clymer, associate professor and coordinator

of NTID's Instructional Technology Consortium, facilitated logistics for the 30-minute digital hookup.

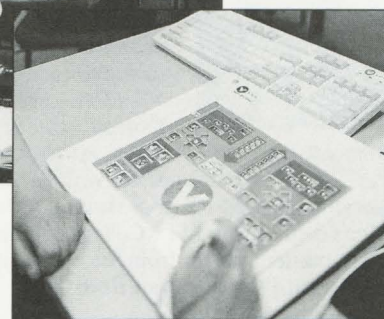
A founder of the Japanese Theatre of the Deaf, Mr. Izaki, instructed the princess in NihonSyuwa, the sign language of Japan. The princess was the royal patron for the World Federation of the Deaf when the organization convened in Tokyo in 1991.

This exchange between NTID and TCT, the only college for deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals in Japan, reinforces a bond that began in the early 1980s when NTID administrators helped set up TCT. A formal sister institution relationship began in October 1992, followed by many faculty and student exchanges.

Vtel videoconferencing technology at NTID was funded in part from a \$150,000 grant from the Sprint Foundation. Since its installation early this year, the system has been used to link NTID students to



Vice President Davila recently communicated with royalty and a sister institute in Japan using a Vtel digital videoconferencing system.



potential employers, to send educational programming to sign language interpreting students and to contact prospective NTID students and their parents.

Diane Hope chosen interim dean of RIT's College of Liberal Arts



Diane Hope

Diane Hope, an RIT faculty member since 1982, became interim dean of the College of Liberal Arts on July 1. Hope will serve as dean during a national search to replace William Daniels who stepped down to resume teaching.

"Although several strong candidates emerged from my individual interviews with more than 50 faculty and staff members of the college," said Provost Stanley McKenzie in announcing his choice, "I have concluded that Dr. Hope is the best fit for the interim position."

Hope has a B.S. degree in English/speech

from State University of New York College at Brockport and an M.S. and Ph.D. in communication/rhetoric from SUNY Buffalo. Before coming to RIT, she headed the communication department at Randolph-Macon Woman's College in Lynchburg, Va. There she designed and implemented an interdisciplinary program in communication studies funded with grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

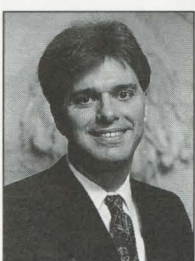
At RIT, Hope chaired the professional and technical communication program 1987-'92 and served as the Caroline Werner Gannett lecturer and director of Senior Seminar in Liberal Arts 1993-'95, initiating the community service option for students. She also chaired the Greater Rochester Coalition for Choice, a not-for-profit umbrella coalition of 25 community

organizations, 1991-'92.

Hope's earlier scholarly work focused on issues of race and gender, including the published articles, "Redefinition of Self: A Comparison of Black and Women's Liberation Rhetoric" and "Communication and

Human Rights: The Symbolic Structures of Racism and Sexism." Her recent work focuses on images of bias and propaganda with the article, "Visual Hegemony and Social Hierarchy: The Globalization of Images," currently in press.

Student Affairs announces John Weas as new assistant to the VP



John Weas

On July 1, John Weas, RIT's former director of residence life, became assistant to the vice president for student life, announced Linda Kuk, vice president for student affairs.

In his new role, Weas serves as the director of RIT's

Center for Student Transition and Support and supervises the Center for Campus Life, working to enhance campus life and support the institution's retention goals.

"I look forward to working with faculty and staff to cultivate a climate where students hear repeatedly that what matters most to us as a university is their continuous learning and development," says Weas.

With RIT since 1977, Weas has served as an area complex director, residence life specialist, campus life specialist, coordinator of off-campus and apartment life, and director of apartment life. Under his direction, Residence Life has expanded its outreach to students through a variety of programming

and development of a Faculty in Residence program, creation of new living options, installation of a high speed computer network, and development of an expanded Greek Affairs program. He has also played a key role in the design and development of the current residence hall renovation project.

Weas says he plans to devote special emphasis this year to the 30th anniversary celebration of RIT's Henrietta campus, development of a freshman convocation, a revised first-year experience course, a new student leadership program, expansion of the Women's Resource Center and activities designed to enhance cross-cultural understanding.

"This is an opportune time to make some changes in Residence Life and an opportune time for John to expand his professional skills," says Kuk. "John's extensive background will undoubtedly help foster key partnerships between several student and academic areas, while building upon what Barbara [Letvin] has done in the Center for Student Transition and Support."

A nationwide search is underway for a new Residence Life director.



NEW OFFICERS . . . New officers were elected to Staff Council's executive committee in May. They are (left to right) Peiter Poulton, communications officer; Pat Rahalewicz, vice chair; Mike Servé, chair; and Kathy Frederick, treasurer. Not pictured: at-large officers: Mary Ann Campbell, Jim Watrous, Kim Shearer and Sonja Wendt.

RIT's new CIMS director William Sheeran former VP at Otis and GE



William Sheeran

William Sheeran, who has held a number of senior leadership positions in internationally known manufacturing corporations, became the new director of RIT's Center for Integrated Manufacturing Studies on June 15.

Gary Conners, RIT associate provost for outreach programs, announced the appointment in May, saying the selection followed a comprehensive national search.

"We are extremely fortunate to find a quality candidate with Bill Sheeran's extensive manufacturing credentials," says Conners.

Sheeran adds, "there are extensive opportunities in the manufacturing world for CIMS and I look forward to assisting in building on an already well-established reputation."

Most recently Sheeran served as senior vice president, Worldwide Engineering for Otis Elevator Company/United Technologies Corp. He was responsible for moving Otis to the forefront in key new technologies through increased expenditures on advanced technology development, creation of focused core-competency areas, and cooperative activities with universities and other industrial centers. Sheeran also established virtual technology groups by linking associates through technology forums on the global Otis Engineering Intranet. He has been recognized as a leader in work force diversity in executive hiring and college recruiting.

Before joining United Technologies, Sheeran served in a number of roles with General Electric Co., including vice president of technology at General Electric Co./GE Appliances, responsible for product and manufacturing process development. The GE Appliances division is a \$6 billion major appliance manufacturer and service provider.

He also served as vice president of corporate engineering, production and sourcing for GE, general manager of technology; and manager of liaison operation for the GE Corporate Research and Development Center.

Sheeran received his bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering (aeronautical option), a master's of science in mechanical engineering and a Ph.D. in mechanical and aerospace engineering; all from Syracuse University.

He has published a number of research and professional articles and has received a range of awards for his professional and community activities.

The national search was conducted by an RIT search committee chaired by Guy Johnson, College of Applied Science and Technology.

Margaret's House new director: Roberta DiNoto

Margaret's House has a new administrative director—Roberta DiNoto—as of July 1, announced Frank Lamas, assistant vice president for student affairs.

DiNoto joined RIT's Horton Childcare Center in 1989. The center became Margaret's House where DiNoto most recently served as assistant administrative director and teacher. She takes the reins from Anne Hoenig who retired after 12 years as administrative director.

"Margaret's House is such a vital part of the RIT campus," says DiNoto. "Every time we look at the faces of the children, we see the future of our university. I am absolutely thrilled to have the opportunity to continue to enhance our programs. I look forward to seeing Margaret's House expand in many ways and will do my part to help it become the best childcare facility in the area."

"We had conducted a regional search for the new director of Margaret's House

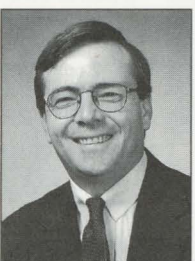


Roberta DiNoto, the new director of Margaret's House, sits among youngsters keenly listening to a caregiver's instructions. DiNoto began her new post July 1.

only to find that the best person for the job was right here at RIT," says Lamas.

As administrative director, DiNoto manages the daily activities of the 100-child daycare facility, supervises a team of staff and student employees and handles all budgetary matters for the program.

NTID names Gerard Buckley associate dean



Gerard Buckley

The National Technical Institute for the Deaf has named Gerard Buckley associate dean for student affairs. Buckley has served as director of NTID's Center for Outreach since 1993 and as assistant professor with RIT's

social work support team. He holds a bachelor's degree from RIT's College of Liberal Arts, master's degree from the University of Missouri and doctorate from the University of Kansas.

In his new role, Buckley will provide overall stewardship and leadership for counseling services at NTID and student life; coordination and liaison between NTID and RIT's Division of Student Affairs; support on behalf of the dean in resolution of student, parent and Institute issues; coordination of the development and oversight of NTID student-related policies and procedures; coordination of the development of special services for NTID students on a need basis; service as liaison between the Office of the Dean and all student orientation programs and NTID student organizations; and oversight of student financial services.

Barbara Letvin retires, eager to explore new paths



Barbara Letvin

It's been said that when one door closes another opens. For Barbara Letvin, director, Center for Student Transition and Support, that statement couldn't be more true. Letvin announced her retirement, effective this July.

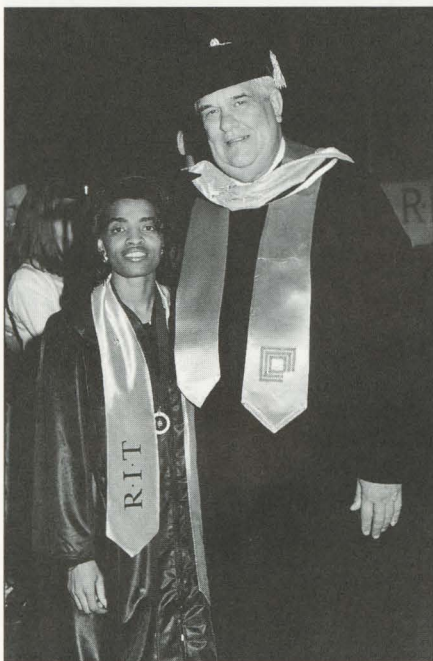
Letvin's RIT career began in 1980 when she was hired as coordinator for international student affairs in a department guiding RIT's 125 international students. In 1994, Letvin became director of the center which now serves the needs of nearly 900 international students from over 79 countries. The center also provides services to RIT's AHANA (African-American, Hispanic, Asian and Native-American) students, and coordinates Freshman Seminar, orientation and the Women's Resource Center.

Before she came to RIT, Letvin taught in Thailand as a volunteer in the Peace Corps and worked for Refugee Assistance. She was also the first female councilwoman in the town of Gates, taught in the Rochester City School District and has a long-time association with the Boys and Girls Club.

Letvin believes many people view retirement as "downsizing your life," but she insists that retirement is the opportunity to grow in other directions.

"I have done so many fulfilling things in my life and I will always cherish the wonderful and not-so-wonderful times I spent at RIT," she adds. "A new door will be opened in a few short months and it's going to lead to a new path of exploration."

Commencement: sunny skies and futures



Pamela Flemming of the College of Liberal Arts, this year's student speaker, and Bruce James, '64, the 1998 commencement speaker, shared an eventful evening at the academic convocation.

A commencement "thank you" to the RIT community

Time moves so quickly during the course of an academic year. It's hard to believe we're now in July, and the major events of the year are over. Life for me, and many others, is returning to normal.

At this time of year I reflect on the past few months at RIT and continue to appreciate the fabulous people who make up this university. Of course, there are our students—the main focus of all that we do—and faculty, who give the students an outstanding educational experience. But I want to recognize a different group of people, especially after spending a great deal of my time organizing commencement.

My thanks go to RIT's Commencement Planning Committee, who work almost year round on the academic convocation and commencement activities. While seldom in the spotlight, their work is crucial to the success of the overall event. You never see most of them—they and their coworkers are in the background of not only commencement but almost every major event on campus.

These dedicated individuals run the sound equipment and cameras, direct traffic, prepare food, make name cards and get regalia for students running late. They clean the facilities, sell film and batteries to frantic parents who left their supplies back at the motel, and help our guests feel at home on a very large campus at a very complex event. They are the people who decorate our campus so that it looks its best, who figure out how to supply the extra power and technology that each facility needs to run its ceremonies successfully, and who work endless hours writing and then checking and rechecking the Commencement Book for accuracy.

To say thank you to these wonderful people for what they do never seems quite enough each year. They work as a team without regard to division or department. President Simone has talked often of community and seamlessness, and the Commencement Planning Committee is the model for these concepts. So, hats off to a dedicated, committed group—once again you made RIT shine for thousands of parents, families, friends, graduates and the entire RIT community. You did an exceptional job. Thank you.

Susan Provenzano

Susan Provenzano
Chair of the 1998 Commencement Planning Committee

Clear, sunny weather hailed RIT's two-day commencement celebration—highlighted by a warm and inspirational speech by Bruce James, the 1998 commencement speaker.

During the academic convocation Friday evening, James told graduates, "You are now free. Free of the pressure of exams. Free to begin the next stage of your life, and free to pay back your student loans. In the years ahead, you will look back upon this ceremony and realize this was the very day you began to forget everything you learned in college." James is the retired founder, chairman and chief executive officer of Barclays Law Publishers, a 1964 alumnus of the School of Printing Management and Sciences and vice chair of RIT's Board of Trustees.

On a more serious note, James predicted that the graduates will experience more change in their lifetimes than the world has

seen altogether in the last 20,000 years. Changes, he said, driven by a cluster of technologies called the Internet. James also predicted that more than half of the graduates' work time, over their lifetime, will be spent in learning. "You are fortunate you picked RIT to earn your degree, because you now have a foundation and set of tools that will make learning easier, more efficient and more effective for you for life."

James urged graduates to lead by example. "No matter how busy you are, no matter how torn you are—and you will be—find a way to bring balance between your job, family and community service. You have a duty and a responsibility to lead your fellow citizens in ways that provide for the betterment of our society."

On Saturday, May 23, more than 3,500 students graduated during RIT's 113th annual commencement ceremonies.

RELAXED AND READY TO RUN...

The only university "CEO" in the race, President Albert Simone shared a Kodak moment with RIT's mascot before joining the 110 RIT participants and the more than 4,000 people who walked, jogged or ran in the June 11 Chase Corporate Challenge held in Highland Park. RIT's Derrick Jones captured the overall top time, part of RIT's first-string men's team that took sixth place, joined by the women's first team with a 10th-place finish. Popular opinion would have given RIT's student-designed t-shirt a win for "most colorful" and ranked the post-race barbecue "number one."



New 'welcoming' tradition begins

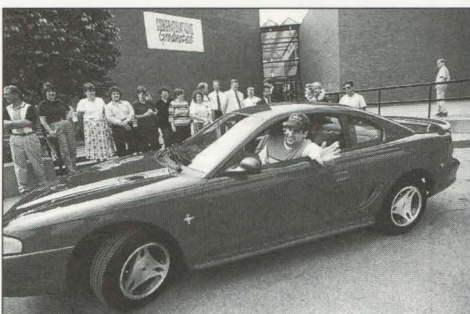
Robert F. Kennedy Jr. is expected to headline a major academic event to begin this fall—the New Student Convocation—to welcome formally all new students to campus, according to Stanley McKenzie, provost and vice president for academic affairs. The event—set for 2 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 2, in Clark Gymnasium—is open to the entire RIT community.

Kennedy, who has informally confirmed the speaking engagement at RIT, is a leading environmental lawyer, senior attorney for the Natural Resources Defense Council, chief attorney for the Hudson Riverkeeper program, and is a pioneer in the area of municipal and governmental responsibility. He was 14 when his father, New York Senator and leading Democratic presidential candidate Robert F. Kennedy Sr., was assassinated.

"The convocation offers an exciting opportunity to welcome our new students to RIT and provide them with a traditional induction into the intellectual community," explains McKenzie. The event will feature an academic procession with faculty in full regalia, a keynote speaker and welcoming remarks by President Albert Simone, Mary Sullivan, chair of Academic Senate, and Jamie Greco, president of Student Government. A reception and ice cream social will follow in the Administration Circle.



"I'VE BEEN COATED!"...
A week before RIT's commencement ceremony, the 23 members of the Physician Assistant Program Class of 1998 received the symbol that marks each as a full-fledged professional: a knee-length, white lab coat. Although this was the fourth class to complete the PA program, this was the first annual coating ceremony, an event shared with friends and family in the College of Science atrium. Here, graduating senior Eddie Glenn, right, helps third-year student Sean Hughes into the short coat he will wear during his year of clinical rotations.



GRRRRREAT GIVEAWAY... On May 20, RIT first-year student Ben Barone drove away in a brand-new, cherry-red Mustang, a gift from Kellogg Company. As part of a national promotion, Kellogg provided an opportunity for students at over 300 universities nationwide to evaluate three new breakfast cereals and enter their names in a drawing to win three 1998 Ford Mustang convertibles. Barone, along with a student from University of Eastern Connecticut and University of Illinois, received the keys from world-famous Kellogg's mascot Tony the Tiger. Barone, pictured here, takes off in his sports car as friends and family look on.

Intriguing integers

If the "Fibonacci" signs that sprouted around campus a few weeks ago sent you straight to your dictionary, you learned that Fibonacci numbers, named for a 13th-century Italian mathematician, are "a sequence of integers in which each integer is the sum of the two preceding integers." Peter Anderson, professor, computer science, says these numbers "show up everywhere in science and nature," intriguing mathematicians the world over.

The signs directed about 75 of those mathematicians to sessions of the Eighth International Conference on Fibonacci Numbers and Their Applications, held at RIT June 22–26.

Shoot for the Stars

Three RIT students starred as winners of the 1998 Canon Shoot for the Stars Photo Contest. Theo Vamvounakis took first place in the fashion category. Elizabeth Nida won second place for photo essay. And an honorable mention in the portrait category went to Christopher Lane. All three were fourth-year applied photography students when they won.

RIT folks: free ice-time

Christmas in July? No, but RIT has summer ice skating, mittens optional. Ritter Ice Arena offers free RIT community skating 4:30–5:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays through July 30. This applies to RIT faculty, staff, students and families (RIT ID required); other guests pay \$2.50 admission. Skate rental is \$2.50. The arena also has public skate sessions 8–10 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays through Aug. 14. RIT students pay \$2; all others pay \$5. To check skate dates, call the rink hotline at -2223.

IT Expo starred RIT

RIT played a major role in the June 17–18 Rochester Information Technology Expo (ITEC) at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center. RIT served as a sponsor for the event; RIT Chief Information Officer Diane Barbour hosted the CIO Roundtable, moderated by Wiley McKinzie, dean of the College of Applied Science and Technology; and a number of RIT faculty members participated. In its second year, ITEC is upstate New York's largest IT event. Manufacturers such as Microsoft, Novell and Digital, as well as hundreds of regional solution providers, showcased the latest in IT solutions, including a Microsoft Partner Pavilion and a presentation on "Rochester Business: A Year 2000 Overview."

Heart Walk tallies

Nine members (and one canine) of RIT's allied health department participated this spring in the American Heart Association's American Heart Walk, held at RIT. The allied health team collected nearly \$1,000 which contributed to the more than \$250,000 raised by the walk. To take part in next year's Heart Walk, contact Tom Richardson at -7486.

Full-time CAST officer

The first full-time development officer for the College of Applied Science and Technology, Debra Meiburg, joined the University Relations staff July 6. A native of California, Meiburg comes to RIT from Hong Kong, where she was national director for American Field Service Intercultural Exchanges for more than six years and chaired the community relations committee of the American Chamber of Commerce. Meiburg has a B.A. in business administration and a B.A. in Spanish with an emphasis in international business from Sonoma State University.

College of Engineering receives \$10 million continued from page 1

conditioning, improved facilities for women and better access for persons with disabilities.

"Our decision to make this gift at this time reflects our confidence in the College of Engineering, and in RIT itself," says James Gleason. "We believe creation of a center for excellence in engineering is a wonderful objective. If our participating can make that happen, that sounds pretty good to us."

Kate Gleason was the daughter of William Gleason, an Irish immigrant who in 1865 founded a machine shop that evolved into today's internationally known Gleason Corp. She began her career in 1877 when her half-brother, Tom, died. Kate heard her father lamenting, "What

am I going to do without Tom. If only his sister had been a boy!"

The next day, Kate, age 11, showed up at the shop—and stayed. She became bookkeeper for The Gleason Works at age 14, and in 1884 became the first woman to enter Cornell University's engineering program. She did not graduate, however, because her father, unable to manage without her, called her home.

Miss Gleason became secretary-treasurer of the company and was chief salesperson from the age of 25. In 1914, she was the first woman to be elected to full membership in the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

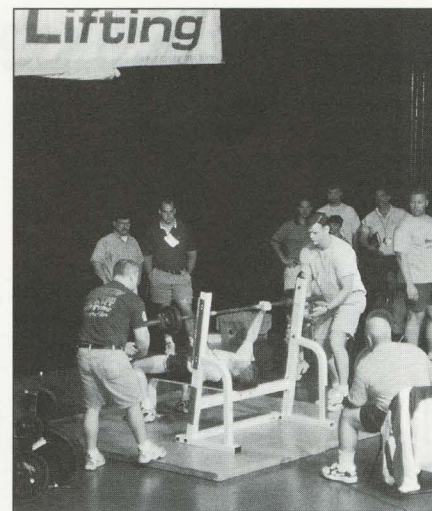
As the company's key sales representative, Miss Gleason traveled alone to

Europe by cattle steamer, opening new markets for Gleason machines in England, Scotland, France and Germany.

"Anybody who could travel to Europe, by herself, and explain a highly technical product to potential customers, is clearly a qualified engineer," says Jim Gleason.

Jan and Jim Gleason believe Kate would be pleased to have her name on RIT's College of Engineering, but mainly to the extent it encourages more women to enter the field. "Kate was a champion of women in the business world," says Jan Gleason, noting that Kate's mother was a friend of Susan B. Anthony and that William Gleason gave his daughter the greatest gift: the chance to do what she wanted to do.

Today, women remain in the minority in engineering, a fact that the Gleasons would like to help change. "Women constitute half the population," says Jim Gleason. "If the U.S. can tap that resource, it will give us a huge advantage."



HEAVE... HOLD... Dozens of special athletes tested their mettle in power lifting, swimming, basketball and tennis June 11-14 at RIT as they competed in the New York Special Olympic Summer Games. This year RIT and the University of Rochester hosted the games, which are designed for athletes with mental retardation.

Engineering contests: canoes to formula cars

RIT students teamed up to compete in several national engineering challenges this spring. Here are results of their efforts:

- Competing against 110 schools from all over the world, RIT came in fifth in the 1998 Formula SAE competition in May in Pontiac, Mich.
- RIT took 10th place overall out of 21 teams in the 1998 National Concrete Canoe Competition organized by the American Society of Civil Engineers and sponsored by Master Builders Inc. The contest took place in June in Rapid City, S.D.
- Tigerbolt, the robot built by Engineering House members and students from Edison Technical High School, finished in the top third of 166 competitors in the national FIRST competition at Walt Disney World in March.

- RIT's Mini Baja team traveled to Texas, Tennessee and Wisconsin to compete in events sponsored by the Society of Automotive Engineers. The team finished in the middle of the pack in each of the events.
- RIT civil engineering technology students built a bridge that carried a load of 2,500 pounds while deflecting 1/2 inch for the regional competition sponsored by the American Society of Civil Engineers and American Institute for Steel Construction. However, RIT was among five of nine teams disqualified due to a construction error at the contest at the University of Buffalo in May.

College of Science dedications, exhibits

Guests can get a look at the latest innovations in instructional technology on Thursday, July 16, when the College of Science celebrates the dedication of the Center for Excellence in Mathematics, Science and Technology and the naming of the Gosnell Building and the Bruce and Nora James Atrium.

Following an hour-long ceremony that begins at 5:30 p.m., demonstrations and exhibits will be set up in the building's new classrooms and laboratories.

On Friday, July 17, College of Science faculty will present a wide-ranging symposium with sessions on medicine at the end of life, molecular modeling in biochemistry, genomics—deciphering the genetic code of humans and their pathogens, statistics and the law, and a talk on the evolution of humor. And RIT imaging science faculty and a Xerox digital imaging expert will give a presentation on their research on the Dead Sea Scrolls.

Anyone interested in the symposium can contact Alumni Relations at -7416.



PARTY ON... RIT faculty and staff caught some rays, played a little volleyball and softball, feasted on barbecued hot dogs, hamburgers and chicken and relaxed with one another at the Second Annual Staff Appreciation Picnic, held May 27. Cliff Dickinson (left to right), Marie Cervantes and Sue Provenzano were among the close to 900 people who came out for the event, which is sponsored by the President's Office and Staff Council and designed to recognize the hard work and dedication RIT employees display throughout the year.

WORDS FROM THE SPEAKER...

Sheldon Silver, center, the Speaker of the New York State Assembly, shares a word with President Simone and Assembly Member Joseph Morelle during an Economic Development Roundtable held April 30 at RIT's Center for Integrated Manufacturing Studies. Silver was joined by Assembly members Joseph Robach, Susan John and David Koon to hear comments on improving the business climate in upstate New York. The session was hosted by High Technology of Rochester, a division of the Rochester Metro Chamber of Commerce.



O B I T U A R Y



Robert Tarnow

Robert Tarnow, an emeritus member of RIT's Board of Trustees and former president, chief executive officer and chairman of the board of Goulds Pumps Inc., died

Tuesday, June 2, of a heart attack just three weeks after undergoing a successful transplant of a kidney he received from his son, Rick.

Tarnow, of Seneca Falls, was elected to the Board in 1979. He was originally a member of the Board of Trustees of Eisenhower College. Active in board projects throughout the 1980s, Tarnow most recently served on the student life committee and the endowment subcommittee.

"It was good fortune to have Bob Tarnow join RIT's Board of Trustees through his involvement with Eisenhower College," says President Albert Simone. "His wise counsel, loyal support and good humor will be missed greatly. He was an excellent trustee."

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