



**2** Student artists design for CASA



**3** Bevier Gallery launches season



**3** Hispanic Month: dance and music



**4** Frat brothers sit the pole for charity

## Goals: Reach First-in-Class, nurture diversity and student integrity

Opening ceremonies on Sept. 2 brought 600 faculty and staff to share coffee, greet friends missed over summer and hear talks from RIT's leaders. Here are summations of the five speeches.

**President Albert Simone.** The Institute will focus its direction and efforts for 1998-99 on launching the First-in-Class initiative and the related capital campaign, said Simone, emphasizing that RIT must seek a new level as a leading university.

*To move the university forward and achieve First-in-Class stature, RIT must continue to "think out of the box"...*

"RIT can not complacently remain in its current comfort zone. Today's success will not persist if we stand still. RIT must recognize and seize the opportunity; we must move forward." Simone stressed that RIT's historical differentiation as a career-oriented university that works closely with industry will fuel its competitive advantage.

To move the university forward and achieve First-in-Class stature, RIT must continue to "think out of the box" and vigorously pursue industry and government partnerships, Simone stated. He outlined two dimensions to that effort: curricular and problem solving. Curricular work includes designing programs "in concert with industry partners" and sending RIT faculty to learn and observe at industry

sites while industry personnel come to campus as visiting faculty.

Problem solving will involve applied research and development on industry problems. Some projects will require a short term effort while others will need years of a "continuous stream of research" with integrated work by student teams and faculty.

While these efforts can help companies with shortages caused by downsizing, RIT can benefit by using industry intellect and facilities as well as knowing about timely problems that drive the nation's "innovation and global competitiveness," explained Simone.

RIT must also strengthen academic areas of excellence to bring the First-in-Class initiative to fruition. "The challenge is to match RIT's areas of excellence with the strategic needs of appropriate industries and business firms," said Simone. To address that, RIT will create five centers built on a "network-based organizational concept." The five interdisciplinary, cross-college centers will be: Publishing and Imaging, the Information Technology Lab, Product Development, Semiconductors and Electronics Manufacturing.

The work ahead calls for each of the centers to develop mission statements and assess needs including possible new degree programs and potential industry partners. The provost will appoint a First-in-Class implementation planning committee to coordinate the work—already underway—of each center's task force.

In terms of funding the initiative, Simone emphasized that "The existing



Above: Among many who mingled over coffee before RIT's Sept. 2 opening talks were, right to left, presenters Jamie Greco, Student Government president, Mary Sullivan, Academic Senate chair, Mike Serué, Staff Council chair, and Albert Simone, RIT president.



Left: Time to post fresh colors—7:30 a.m., Sept. 2, RIT leaders joined an ROTC colorguard to raise a new RIT flag and American flag at the Lomb Memorial Drive flagpole.

core programs of RIT will not subsidize the First-in-Class initiative"; funding must come separately and independently. But that does not prevent RIT's traditional programs from using First-in-Class resources, he said, stressing that "The strength of the

existing core programs provides the platform" for the initiative and that, in turn, the initiative "provides the opportunity over the next decade for the core programs to continue to improve and grow in the face

(Continued on page 4)

## Freshman class—most diverse ever—beats last year's all-time-high numbers



Throngs of RIT freshmen piled into Clark Gymnasium for the university's inaugural Convocation for New Students, Sept. 2. Nearly 3,000 people attended the event marking the year's first faculty and student gathering.

students with a 45-percent increase. Freshman international students rose 15 percent and 6 percent more first-year women enrolled, notes Miller.

"We also saw strong growth in freshmen from out-of-state," he says. States with highest percentage growth include California, Florida, Maryland, Michigan, New Hampshire, Virginia, Vermont, Washington, Rhode Island and the District of Columbia. In terms of overall freshman percentages, Pennsylvania

remains second to New York, followed by New Jersey, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Ohio. Enrollment grew 8 percent both in New York state and out of state. Rochester, Buffalo and Syracuse remain the highest regions within the state, while the state's highest growth percentage occurred in New York City, the Southern Tier and Buffalo.

Overall, freshman applications for fall 1998 rose 9 percent, with an 8 percent hike in paid deposits (paid deposits indicate intent to enroll), says Miller, adding that final enrollment numbers will appear later as part of RIT's 21-day report.

This year's freshman class brings record-breaking numbers with strong growth in key areas, says James Miller, vice president, Enrollment Management and Career Services. "The demand for entrance was the greatest ever, the size of this class breaks last year's all-time record, and the class is the most diverse we've ever seen," says Miller, adding that these exciting statistics came with no sacrifice of student quality.

With expectations of final freshman numbers to come in at over 2,000, this class also presents a dramatic, largest-ever hike in AAHANA (African American, Hispanic American and Native American)

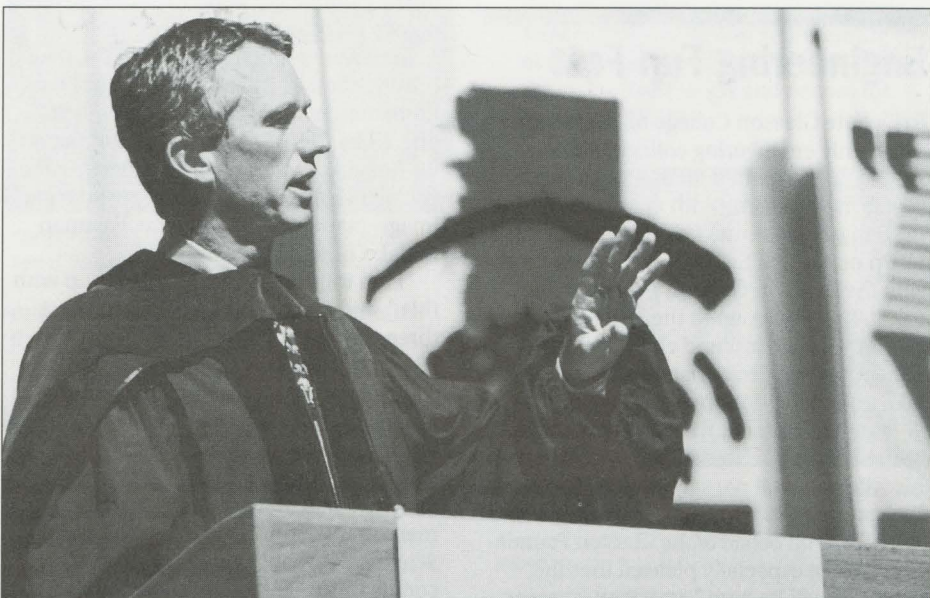
## "Batter up!" for Oct. 3 Softball Saturday

"Everyone bats!" That's one of the no-one-gets-benched rules for President Simone's annual Softball Saturday, set this year for 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 3.

The RIT co-ed teams come from divisions, departments, programs or colleges across campus, says Daryl Sullivan, associate director, Center for Physical Education, noting four teams played last year. Comprised of staff, faculty and students, with some alumni, trustees and friends of the Institute, each team must have at least three women. "This is a friendly competition, with the idea that you have some fun with people from other areas of campus," explains Sullivan. "We basically follow slo-pitch softball rules, but we're pretty flexible."

As in past years, players, their families and friends can feast for free at a food tent offering breakfast first, then picnic lunch food as the day progresses. The tent will be near the two playing fields which are north of Andrews Drive and east of the track/west of parking lot 'M.'

To sign up or for more information, contact Sullivan at -5596 or dcsped@rit.edu.



"YOU MUST MAKE SMART CHOICES"... During his speech at RIT's first Convocation for New Students Sept. 2, Robert F. Kennedy Jr., environmental lawyer, urged students to be actively involved with the planet's future. "We didn't inherit this land from our ancestors, we borrowed it from our children... if we don't take care of our environment, our children will not be able to afford the clean-up" from our abuse.



# CIAS makes structural changes to improve work processes and communication

Recent changes within the College of Imaging Arts and Sciences represent an effort to remove a level of administration to create a closer working relationship between the dean and both faculty and students. "The new organization should improve academic processes and make it easier and quicker for student concerns to reach the dean's office," says Interim Dean Joan Stone.

To that end, Nancy Stuart, formerly director of the School of Photographic Arts and Sciences, has been named interim associate dean of the College of Imaging Arts and Sciences. Stuart joins Frank Cost, also interim associate dean and chair of the printRIT initiative, in assisting Stone in the running of the college.

Other administrative changes within the college include the creation of a new leader-

*"The new organization should improve academic processes and make it easier and quicker for student concerns to reach the dean's office."*

ship team. Eight administrative chairs will now report directly to Stone as opposed to three directors. Making up the team are Howard Lester, film/video/animation; William DuBois, overseeing both fine art

photography and applied photography; Andrew Davidhazy, overseeing imaging and photographic technology, biomedical communications and imaging systems management; C. Harold Gaffin, School of Printing

Management and Sciences; Tom Lightfoot, School of Art; Nancy Ciolek, School of Design; Robert Schmitz, School for American Crafts; and Joyce Hertzson, Foundations. Program chairs and graduate program coordinators will retain responsibility for specific programs.

"Having been a department chair for SPAS, I am excited by the potential for a positive impact due to moving the resources closer to the students and faculty," says Stuart. "Each department now has direct communication with the dean's office, a dedicated staff assistant and an increased budget. There is an improved attitude toward collaboration between the academic departments which can lead toward new curricular initiatives for the college."

## Tom Hopkins appointed interim business dean



Thomas Hopkins

Tom Hopkins, the Arthur J. Gosnell Professor of Economics in the College of Liberal Arts, has been appointed interim dean of the College of Business effective Sept. 1, announces Stanley McKenzie, provost

and vice president for academic affairs. Hopkins, who will serve an anticipated two-year term, replaces Lyn Pankoff who has resigned.

An RIT faculty member since 1988, Hopkins is also an adjunct fellow at the Center for the Study of American Business, Washington University, and teaches in the M.B.A. program for the U.S. Business School in Prague, Czech Republic.

Before coming to RIT, Hopkins held senior management positions in two White House agencies during the Ford, Carter and Reagan administrations, and in 1979 was named a charter member of the federal government's Senior Executive Service. In the early 1980s, he served as deputy administration officer of Information and Regulatory Affairs, a division of the Office of Management and Budget.

His work on business burdens of government regulation led to recent consulting assignments with the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development in Paris and the U.S. Small Business Administration. His research findings have appeared in numerous journals, policy reports, the *Wall Street Journal* and *Christian Science Monitor*.

Hopkins has served on the faculties of American University, University of Maryland and Bowdoin College. He earned a B.A. from Oberlin College and a Ph.D. in economics from Yale University.

"Tom's record of scholarship, teaching effectiveness and administrative experience in both government and academia make him especially well qualified to lead the College of Business in this interim role," says McKenzie.

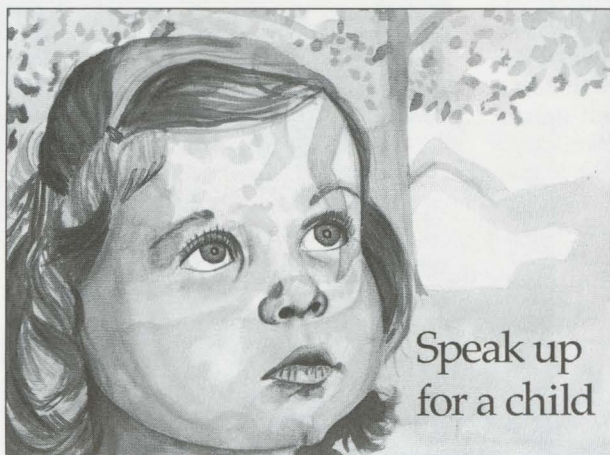
## Engineering Fun Fest

RIT's Kate Gleason College of Engineering—the only engineering college in the United States named for a woman—celebrates its new name with an expanded version of the annual freshman Fun Fest, 5 to 7 p.m., Friday, Sept. 18, in the quad outside the James E. Gleason Building. The event, free and open to the RIT community, offers a pig roast and chicken feast, the band Atlas, a caricaturist, juggler, magician and many door prizes.

James S. Gleason, RIT trustee and CEO of the Rochester-based Gleason Corp., and his wife, Jan, will participate. The Gleasons last month presented a \$10-million gift to the college on behalf of the Gleason Foundation. "We're especially pleased that the Gleasons will be here," says Paul Petersen, dean. "This will be a chance for students, faculty and staff to celebrate a new school year as well as a new era for the college."

## Student artists take on designs for regional children's rights organizations

RIT illustration students turned the experiences of children and child advocates into emotive images which will grace posters and cards nationwide. Inspired by meetings with representatives from the sponsoring organization—CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) of Monroe and Genesee Counties—a CASA video and case studies, students in Alan Singer's junior illustration class created artwork to convey the group's mission.



RIT illustration student Katie Sullivan created this image which now graces notecards used by Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Monroe and Genesee Counties. Sullivan and others in her junior illustration class were challenged by CASA to come up with images that conveyed the group's mission.

One image, by Arielle Walrath, was selected by members of CASA's Board of Directors as well as family court judges, lawyers and staff. Featuring the faces of five children and an infant reaching for a starfish, the haunting image conveys challenges and trauma in these little ones' lives. The national CASA motto—"Speak Up for a Child"—appears above the image.

Another student work so well matched a poem used by CASA that the organization

will print both pieces on note cards sent to benefactors. RIT student Katie Sullivan's image of a little girl gazing at a tree perfectly captured the words and feel of an 11-year-old girl's poem describing her life. The coincidence was just that; Sullivan had never seen the poem before nor had anyone from CASA alluded to it in their meetings with students. Two more images, one by Kelly Halligan and the other by Bryan Shutt, have been singled out by CASA representatives as potential notecards.

"The students are very responsive and they obviously listen well," says CASA Director Laurie Holmes. "They are able to capture what we want. You need somebody different sometimes to express things in a new way and they do that. It's refreshing." Holmes took all 22 student images to the organization's national meeting in Houston. There, about 300 of Walrath's posters sold and a number of state and city CASA chapters expressed an interest in purchasing other students' work.

The success of the RIT/CASA partnership has grown from successful past endeavors. In 1993, Singer's students painted a mural for CASA in the Civic Center garage downtown. His classes have also created images encouraging people to participate in jury duty and to vote.

Getting students involved in community-minded endeavors is important to Singer. "It gives students an opportunity to exercise their minds, eyes and hands in service to their community. They can't be complacent," he says.

## Fuji scientist chosen for RIT Xerox professorship



Noboru Ohta

Following a lengthy international search, Noboru Ohta of Fuji Photo Film Co. Ltd. is the new Xerox Visiting Professor in Digital Color Imaging Systems at RIT's Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science. The profes-

sorship was established by an endowment from Xerox Corp.

Ohta, who began his duties at RIT Sept. 1, received a B.S. in chemistry, an M.S. in physical chemistry and Ph.D. in engineering in applied physics, all from Tokyo University. Since 1968, Ohta has been a research scientist with Fuji's Ashigara Research Laboratories. Between 1973 and 1976 he was a research associate at the National Research Council of Canada.

Ohta has been active in the International Commission on Illumination, the Color Science Association of Japan, the International Association of Colour and the American National Standards Institute. He has authored more than 80 technical publications in various aspects of color engineering and two textbooks.

At RIT, Ohta will teach, conduct research and work with industry to further research relationships with the Center for Imaging Science. His goals include developing a color engineering laboratory, initiating a research program in color optimization of digital imaging systems, creating a graduate laboratory course in color systems engineering and participating on international standards committees.

## New forensic digital photography class attracts law enforcers

Carole Ann Kirch, who sells equipment to law enforcement agencies for National Graphic Supply, says digital photography has jumped from 20 percent of her business last year to 80 percent this year.

Scott Youngblood of the New York State Police Forensic Investigation Center in Albany says his organization is evaluating digital photography and believes the technology holds great potential.

Both were enthusiastic about the new Introduction to Digital Imaging for Law Enforcement and Public Safety course offered by RIT's Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science. Participants learn to use digital cameras, scanners, printers and image-management software. Eastman Kodak Co. supplied cameras.

"I am impressed that RIT came up with this," said Kirch, who attended the first three-day session last month. "People in law enforcement really need this."

That's exactly what Ronald Martino thought. "Digital photography offers several significant advantages over conventional silver halide photography for some applications," said Martino, program development manager for the Center for Imaging Science. "Perhaps one of the most significant is the ability to see immediately that you've captured the desired information. Digital photography equipment and techniques are rapidly integrating into the

world of law enforcement and forensics. The result is a hybrid system utilizing the high-resolution capabilities of film and the

and next August. Students who complete the course receive one RIT course credit and a certificate of achievement.

In the August classes, Capt. Michael Melton of the Amherst Police Department staged a mock crime scene and Leonard Pratt, segment manager for law enforcement and public safety of Kodak Professional Division, gave a lecture on legal issues related to courtroom use of digitally collected information.

The course seems to be drawing interest: Martino has had inquiries from all over the country, with some agencies sending personnel to

Rochester and others requesting that RIT send teachers to give the course in other locations.

"The potential market is literally thousands of students," he says. "We're excited about this."



While Jeff Pelz, assistant professor (left) looks on, Scott Youngblood of the New York State Police Forensic Investigation Center in Albany and Carole Ann Kirch, law enforcement specialist with National Graphic Supply, practice their digital photo techniques at a mock crime scene.

lower-cost processing, storage, retrieval and display of digital information."

Roger Easton, associate professor, and Jeff Pelz, assistant professor, developed and teach the three-day, hands-on course, which was offered twice in August and is scheduled for November, January, May



## RIT hosts variety of cultural, educational events for Hispanic Heritage Month



Photo by Lori Farr

Borinquen dancer Mirna Martinez will teach folk dancing as well as demonstrate and entertain viewers at Hispanic events on campus Sept. 15–Oct. 15.

This year, several RIT student groups have come together to help the campus celebrate and recognize Latino/Latina culture through a variety of activities planned for Hispanic Heritage Month, Sept. 15–Oct. 15.

"What makes this so exciting is that this is the first time there is a coordinated effort by a variety of student groups, faculty and administration," says Javier Orellana, student coordinator of the celebration. "And these events are not limited to the RIT community; we're opening the doors to the Hispanic community in Rochester with help from the City School District and minority leaders."

Some events the groups have planned not only celebrate Hispanic heritage but serve another purpose. For example, an ice breaker for incoming students hopes to help ease the transition from high school to college. And a job fair planned for Sept. 26 aims to extend ties between RIT and the Rochester Hispanic community by helping students meet potential employers.

"This is a time set aside to make our campus aware of our culture and to educate them using history, literature, music and dance," adds Orellana.

- The schedule of events includes:
- Opening ceremony featuring music by Bobby Sanabria and Ascension; roots and rhythm of Afro-Cuban music; 8 p.m., Sept. 18, Ingle Auditorium, Student Alumni Union;
  - Folk Dance Lessons, Sept. 22, dance room, Student Life Center;
  - Community Service Day, 10 a.m.–3 p.m., Sept. 25, Clark, SAU;
  - Dinner/dance, Sept. 25, Skalny Room, Interfaith Center;
  - Hispanic job fair, noon–4 p.m., Sept. 26, Clark, SAU;
  - Workshop and panel discussion presented by Margaret Sanchez, Sanchez and Associates, 2 p.m., Oct. 2, 1829 Room, SAU;
  - Lambda Alpha Upsilon Ritmo Latino Party, Oct. 3, Fireside Lounge, SAU.



Photo by Martin Cohen

Bobby Sanabria and Ascension will play roots and rhythm of Afro-Cuban music during Hispanic Heritage Month at RIT.

RIT's celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month is sponsored by: Latin American Student Association, Global Union, Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, Hispanic Deaf Club, AHANA, Phi Iota Alpha fraternity and Lambda Alpha Upsilon fraternity.

For more information, call RIT's Center for Student Transition and Support, -6943, or send e-mail to Orellana, JLO9420@rit.edu.

## Jewish High Holidays celebrated on campus

RIT will observe the Jewish High Holidays of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, featuring the return of David Kay, a rabbinical student at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York City. Hillel will also host a New Year's Eve dessert reception, free of charge, after Erev Rosh Hashanah services. All services are open to RIT faculty, staff and students, and take place in Allen Chapel, Interfaith Center. The holiday schedule includes:

- Rosh Hashanah:**
- Sunday, Sept. 20—Erev services, 8 p.m.; New Year's Eve dessert reception, Skalny Room, Interfaith Center.
  - Monday, Sept. 21—morning services, 10 a.m.; Tashlich, 1 p.m.; Mincha, 5 p.m.
  - Tuesday, Sept. 22—morning services, 10 a.m.; Mincha, 5 p.m.

**Greek Shabbat Dinner—  
6 p.m., Friday, Sept. 11,  
Interfaith Center—features a  
Greek menu, special songs and  
comedian Ellen Steigman at  
8 p.m. The program is free,  
all welcome.**

- Yom Kippur:**
- Tuesday, Sept. 29—Kol Nidre, 6 p.m.
  - Wednesday, Sept. 30—morning services, 10 a.m.; Mincha, 5 p.m.; Nielah, 6 p.m.
- Erev Rosh Hashanah dinner and Break the Fast are also available. For more information, contact Kip Lombardo, Hillel program director, -5171 or MCLCPM@rit.edu.

## Get swinging, golfers: RIT/United Way golf tournament

Greystone Golf Club in Walworth will once again host the annual RIT/United Way tournament, 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 26. The four-person, scramble format event will include men's, women's and mixed divisions. The fee, \$65 per person, covers greens fee, cart and dinner. All proceeds benefit the United Way. To register, call Ed Lincoln, -7412. The deadline is Sept. 18.

## Barrows moves into presidential assistant position

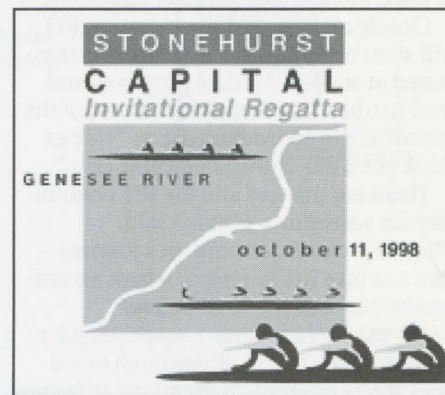
Karen Barrows became President Simone's assistant in August following nine years as an administrative assistant to the dean and associate deans at RIT's National Technical Institute for the Deaf. Along with bringing sign language skills to the job, Barrows has served as an adjunct professor and as a mentor at NTID. She has been actively involved as a member of RIT's Judicial Hearing and Appeals Board, Staff Council, Support Staff Advisory Board and as secretary and vice president of RIT's credit union.

## Rowers ready for 1998 Regatta

Regatta '98 sets oar on the Genesee River Sunday, Oct. 11. The 1998 Stonehurst Capital Invitational Regatta, hosted by RIT and the University of Rochester, features crews from more than 30 universities including Harvard, Yale, Syracuse and others competing in what has become a major stop on the fall rowing schedule.

As part of the Brick City Festival Weekend, RIT will host a hospitality tent at the race site in Genesee Valley Park. The rowing begins at 9:30 a.m. and entertainment will be available throughout the day.

The 1998 Stonehurst Regatta t-shirt was designed by third-year graphic design student Clint Niedzwiecki of Syracuse, N.Y. This shirt can be purchased from any crew



member or by contacting the crew office at -7360.

## Media's effects on democracy; first Gannett talk

Environmental racism, balancing technology with sustaining nature and the planet, cultural survival of indigenous peoples, and media's effects on democracy—all star as topics in the Autumn Series, first of three sections in the 1998–99 Caroline Werner Gannett Lecture Series at RIT, sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts.

"Media and Democracy in the 21st Century" by cultural environmentalist George Gerbner launches the year's talks, 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 24, Webb Auditorium, James E. Booth Building. Former dean of the Annenberg School for Communications at the University of Pennsylvania, a position he held for 30 years, Gerbner is a leading researcher on the social effects of television.

Also known for launching the cultural environment movement in 1996, Gerbner brought together a broad-based coalition of citizens—parents, scholars, activists, media producers and artists—which focuses on media and democracy. His Gannett lecture is cosponsored by the professional and technical communication department.

Next month's Gannett speakers—Robert Bullard on "Environmental Justice:

Strategies for Building Healthy and Sustainable Communities" on Oct. 1, "Values and Sustainability" by Gannett Professor and series coordinator James Buchanan on Oct. 8, and David Maybury-Lewis on "Cultural Survival in the Next Millennium" on Oct. 15—will be featured in the next two *News & Events*.

The other distinguished speakers in the 1998–99 series are: winter, Nabil Nasr/John Elter, Tim Beatley, Jeremy Rifkin, Lewis "Buster" Simpson; spring, Sandra Steingraber, Roger Ames and Dougie Maclean. Topics include public art and ecology, global ecology through music, and Chinese views of nature.

The 12 Gannett lectures—free and open to the public—continue to explore the theme, Issues in the Environment and Citizenship. Part of RIT's mandatory Senior Seminar in the Liberal Arts, the series stresses connection to the human community and global planetary survival.

Each lecture, held at 7:30 p.m. in Webb or Ingle auditorium with interpreting for deaf and hearing-impaired audiences, concludes with a reception. Call -2929 for more information.

## Bevier Gallery opens 1998–99 season with mixed media of "What Remains"

Bevier Gallery kicks off the 1998–99 season on Sept. 11 with "What Remains," an exhibition of paintings, sculptures and installation pieces presented by four artists who transform the visual landscape with what



"Drifter Among the Discarded II", by Tom Berding, one of four artists featured in "What Remains"

remains, if anything, of the traditional forms of expression.

Painters Tom Berding and Alisa Henriquez and sculptors Steven Bickley and Katherine Ross offer monument and mound, object and vessel, and animated surfaces of canvas and tile as cultural iconography. Bickley will give a lecture from 4–5 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 11, in the auditorium, room 1125, Chester F. Carlson Building. A reception follows from 5–7 p.m. in Bevier Gallery, second floor of the James E. Booth Building.

The schedule for the remainder of the year follows:

- "30th Anniversary Invitational Alumni Exhibition"; Oct. 9–Nov. 11; 30 artists representing the School of Art, the School of Design and the School for American Crafts present a wide range of works.
- "Faculty Exhibition"; Dec. 11–Jan. 20, 1999; faculty from those same three schools present recent pieces.
- "Faculty Exhibition"; Jan. 29–Feb. 24; a chance for professors from the School of Photographic Arts and Sciences to strut their stuff.
- "Graduate Thesis Exhibitions"; March 15–May 12; three separate shows run at the gallery.
- "Undergraduate Student Honors Show"; May 22 through the summer; an exhibition showcasing undergraduate work selected by faculty and representing all of the programs within the School of Art, School of Design and School for American Crafts.



The season opener at Bevier Gallery includes "Water Cure" by Katherine Ross. The exhibit presents mixed media art in the form of sculpture, installation and paintings.

For more information on any of the exhibits or for gallery hours, call -2646.



## Opening day speeches (continued from page 1)

of uncertainties facing higher education."

Closely aligned with the initiative, RIT will soon begin a major capital campaign aimed at support for core programs and the First-in-Class initiative. Because of the initiative, the president believes "we can think of a \$400-500 million campaign."

Thanking trustees and the RIT community for past efforts, Simone said, "Together we can embark on a journey that can take RIT to a place where no university has ever ventured before."

**Alfreda Brooks**, chair, Commission for Promoting Pluralism. Brooks welcomed back the community by focusing on issues that faculty, staff and students may face regarding the complexities of race differences and similarities and how to work more effectively in multi-ethnic and pluralistic environments.

In response to the diversity initiative and plan to become a First-in-Class institution, Brooks called upon her audience to think about how issues of affirmative action and discrimination are addressed.

"Discrimination can't just be talked about in a Q&A session," explained Brooks. "It requires relentless teaching to explain to the American public what they don't perceive, what they don't understand and what they don't want to believe. Unfortunately, we don't have a strategy to do this. All too often color gets in the way of our choices."

The infamous O.J. Simpson epic proves the existence of discrimination in our society, said Brooks. "Two-thirds of the Anglo-L.A. residents believe that police officer Mark Furman is an exception to the rule, a rare occurrence. Two-thirds of the black and Latino population believe that Furman is just the tip of the iceberg and there are a lot more like him on the police

force. These are two radically different perceptions about the way the world is."

Brooks believes, in part, that these varying perceptions are the result of separated communities and urged her listeners to look beyond the boundaries.

"It's evident that there is a distance between communities in America and we tend to bring this distance into our workplaces," she said. "We need to look at how we stand apart racially and how this separation impacts how we are looked upon as a first-class institution."

"Let's try even harder than we have in the past to see beyond our own perceptions and invite new ideas to help resolve our differences. A conscious effort in this area will help us reach our goal to become a first class, First-in-Class institution."

**Mary Sullivan**, chair, Academic Senate. As a new school year gets underway, members of the Academic Senate certainly have a clear set of tasks before them, said Sullivan, professor, College of Liberal Arts. These tasks include: further revisions of the "Policy Prohibiting Discrimination and Harassment"; fine tuning of the RIT "grades policy"; discussion of RIT's international strategy; and work on aspects of the "First-In-Class" initiatives.

Sullivan also spoke of the need to help students develop strong ethics and integrity, a task "which cannot really be on the Senate's agenda as such—because it is too important, too profound, too personal and too diffuse to be ever fully captured by the sort of discussions and documentation we are generally able to have in the Senate."

She cited the reference by RIT's "Educational and Access Goals" to excellence: "The RIT community and curriculum provide students with concepts and examples of professional excellence,

personal integrity and ethical behavior."

The RIT community as a whole, said Sullivan, is charged with setting a strong example for students. "Even with the best of will, we won't be perfect—and thereby remove all the spice from our academic life. But maybe 1998-99 is the year in which we, as RIT faculty and staff, will become even more famous for our courtesy, kindness, justice, honesty, charity, generosity and sympathy toward one another and toward our students."

"Let us have a ground swell of these virtues on our campus this year, and let us help one another to provide this most fundamental instruction to our students by the example of our daily life and work."

**Michael Servé**, chair, Staff Council. Servé gave his opening day speech with "What We Did on our Summer Vacation," a computer presentation with impressive numbers about projects completed over the summer by RIT staff.

Among the projects, to list but a few: 11,000 student bills processed; 5,000 insurance waivers; 94,000 meals; 75 construction projects costing over \$12 million; installation of data hubs and ethernet lines; hundreds of athletes housed and fed while hosting 10,000 visitors attending Empire State Games; 7,900 hours of interpreting services; over 600 purchase orders processed; 15,000 student recruitment packets and 40,000 copies of RIT prospectus produced. Servé closed with the rhetorical question, "how about that?"

**Jamie Greco**, Student Government president. Greco urged students to make the most of their time at RIT by getting involved in activities outside the classroom.

"Only about half of what you will learn here will come from your classes," said Greco, a fourth-year industrial design student. "The rest will come from your everyday adventures."

Greco urged students to be "vocal and honest about what you want" from Student Government. He announced that in an ongoing effort to close the gap

between students and administration, there will be more open forums on issues of importance to students, and that a retreat with all governance groups and RIT administration is being arranged.

"Remember that any one of you can make a huge difference on campus," Greco said. "If you want to see something happen, make it happen. If you can't make it happen, then come see us."



**POLE SITTING FOR A GOOD CAUSE . . .** Students in Sigma Alpha Mu fraternity rose to new heights, literally, during their Pole Sit fundraiser Sept. 2-5 on RIT's Quarter Mile. They raised over \$5,000 in donations to make Katie DeChalais' dream of meeting actress Helen Hunt come true. The 17-year-old Fairport resident has Down's Syndrome and suffers from congenital heart disease. Pole Sit '98 was coordinated with Rochester Gas and Electric and Make-A-Wish Foundation, an organization dedicated to granting wishes to terminally ill children.

### ENRICHING THE COMMUNITY . . .

RIT's Women's Council lends support to scholarships, Margaret's House, books for Wallace Library and projects that stimulate interest and promote understanding of RIT.

Pictured are executive board members for 1998-99: front row left to right, Barbara Elliott/hospitality co-chair, Betty Altier/nominating committee chair, Carolle Simone/president, Helen Rockwell/member at large, Louise Carrese/



communications chair; second row, Norma Snyder/treasurer, Ann Marie Leonardi/special events co-chair, Nancy Staples/hospitality co-chair, Phyllis McKinzie/assistant treasurer; third row, Belinda Pankoff/special events co-chair, Nancy Burke/vice president and membership chair; top, Betsy Clark, recording secretary. Absent members: Mary Kay Matteson, Carol Mulford, Marisa Psaila, Barbara Riethmeier and Barb Stalker.

## RIT's sports season preview—a challenging 1998-99

As classes begin, RIT's athletic teams get ready to teach their opponents lessons on the field. Here is a quick overview of what to expect from the Tigers this fall.

**Volleyball:** Last season the spikers went 33-10 and advanced to the second round of the NCAA tournament. Expect more of the same from head coach Tim Cowie and his squad. RIT returns five of its six starters including All-American Tracy Wilt and All-Northeast picks Ushi Patel and Krissey Caton. The Tigers have a difficult road to travel with just two home matches the entire season. They will face the defending national champion, UC-San Diego, in California on Sept. 16 and play in the Pomona-Pitzer Tournament in California Sept. 18-19.

**Men's Soccer:** After an appearance in the ECAC semi-finals and a 10-7-1 record a year ago, head coach Bill Garno is poised to guide the Tigers to victory this fall. The squad returns All-State goalkeeper Adam Lehmann, who collected six shutouts last season, and midfielder Rob Galinski, also an All-State pick, who led the team with 19 points. The team's defense took a hit due to graduation; senior Brian Watson will be expected to lead the inexperienced crew.

**Women's Tennis:** Long-time head coach Ann Nealon looks to record her 24th con-

secutive season with a .500 record or better and she has the team to do it. All-State player Becky Galinski returns after a strong showing last fall. She is rejoined by Emy Zapiec, Becky Shipe and Marla Young who should be standouts again this year.

**Cross Country:** RIT looks forward to another competitive season as its runners have dedicated themselves to winning in the off season. Russ Warren and Rich Neily will lead this impressive crew and have a solid supporting cast for the fall campaign.

**Women's Soccer:** The Tigers return 19 of 22 players from a competitive squad last year which speaks well for this year's team. Last fall the Tigers won two of their last three games; they hope that win streak will carry over into the start of the 1998 campaign.

**Crew:** Head coach Jim Bodendstedt, last year's New York State Coach of the Year, is excited about his team this season. Last fall the men rowed their way to a 5th place finish in the Stonehurst Capital Regatta while the women finished 7th in the meet co-sponsored by RIT. Be sure to catch the Regatta this year on Sunday, Oct. 11, on the Genesee River.

For a complete team-by-team schedule for the fall season, call Sports Information Director Chuck Mitrano at -6154.

### Correction to the Aug. 27, Oracle preview-meeting schedule:

- noon-1 p.m., Monday, **Sept. 14**

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