

Ashok Rao appointed Saunders College dean

Ashok Rao was pleasantly surprised when he first visited the RIT campus. He was amazed at the appearance—the greenery, the wide-open spaces, the *Sentinel*, and the recent facelift to the Max Lowenthal Building.

But what really sealed his decision to accept the position as dean of the E. Philip Saunders College of Business was meeting RIT President Albert Simone, faculty and administrators.

“One of the nice things during my visit to RIT was meeting all the deans, and there were a number who were quite friendly and quite open to working with the business school, which I found very exciting,” says Rao, who begins in his new post on Feb. 1.

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“I think probably Dr. Simone has a lot to do with this,” says Rao, who is currently professor of technology operations and information management at Babson College of Business in Wellesley, Mass.

“And I was really impressed with Dr. Simone by the way he took time out during my campus interview to show me the field house. He started playing basketball with the girls’ basketball team but didn’t throw the ball



Ashok Rao

in my direction. He quickly figured out that I didn’t know how to play basketball—and he was right.”

But Rao does know how to score points in the business and academic worlds. He has worked as an engineer at Leeds & Northrup, research operations manager at Canada Packers Ltd., and director of business systems at Northern Telecom, Canada. He intermingled his business acumen with higher education posts at Northeastern University and Babson and teaching seminars and classes at Harvard University.

“Throughout his career, Ashok has maintained strong ties to business

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Buckeye fan is truly a Tiger at heart

RIT photo school scores a ‘touchdown’ for Tressel

Whitney Tressel will be skipping class Jan. 8 to attend a football game.

There isn’t anyplace else Tressel, a huge football fan, would rather be than in Glendale, Ariz., when Ohio State lines up against the University of Florida for the national championship.

Whitney Tressel is the daughter of Jim Tressel, the head coach of The Ohio State University Buckeyes. However, she had no desire to attend Ohio State—or any other football school for that matter.

She was drawn to RIT because of its top-notch photography program. But there was another reason as well. After living 18 years in the football-crazed state of Ohio, football-less Brick City offered the perfect haven in which Whitney could escape from all of the attention that had been heaped on her family—especially in the aftermath of her father coaching the Buckeyes to the 2002 national championship.

“RIT is probably the safest place in the country for me to be,” says Tressel. “We don’t even have a football team, so I don’t have to worry about a hundred guys bugging me about it.”

In fact, Tressel was able to make it through an entire football season during her first quarter at RIT

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A. Sue Weisler | photographer

Whitney Tressel is glad to be at RIT where football doesn’t dominate the college scene.

Student spotlight

Chris Schauerman has spent his college career running from one accomplishment to the next—literally.

In 2004, the Erie, Pa., native joined 17 other RIT student athletes to take part in the Coast-to-Coast relay, a 2,730-mile odyssey on foot from California to Maryland. The event was completed in a record pace of just over 12 days, which Schauerman proudly touts as a team achievement.

“If one person dropped the baton or broke the chain, the whole thing fell apart,” he reflects. “That sort of teamwork and group mentality is definitely what carried the baton the entire way across the country.”

But even as a veteran member of RIT’s track and cross country teams, Schauerman is more inclined to think of running as a personal experience with individual rewards.

“How hard do you want to work, and how much do you want to put into it? That will really determine what you get out of it.”

Other applications for this philosophy are not lost on Schauerman, and it very much drives his academic pursuits. The fifth-year physics major in the College of Science commits a lot of his “energy” to projects within RIT’s NanoPower Research Laboratories. Much of his focus centers on incorporating nanomaterials into the development of hydrogen fuel cells

Research experience powers College of Science student’s future



A. Sue Weisler | photographer

Chris Schauerman’s work in the NanoPower Research Laboratories reflects RIT’s commitment to undergraduate research.

and lithium ion batteries.

“One of the things I find really cool is two of the most prominent areas of research going on in the country and in the world right now are renewable energy and nanotechnology.” Adds Schauerman, “To be at the forefront of that—trying new things and exploring new things—is something that is very exciting to me.”

Participating in cutting-edge research at the undergraduate level is something that Schauerman feels makes the RIT experience unique,

and it’s helping to drive his success. He points to a recent opportunity to present his work at a statewide conference on alternative energy, which allowed him to interface with a range of industry executives. “Several of them gave me their business cards and told me to keep in touch,” he recalls.

Schauerman says he’s proud to be named in several research publications and presentations, and he appreciates the interdisciplinary aspects of his work, collaborating

with undergraduate and graduate students from various academic disciplines. Ryne Raffaele, professor of physics and director of RIT’s NanoPower Research Laboratories, credits Schauerman with exercising “lab citizenship,” taking responsibility for routine tasks when others are inclined to shy away from them.

“In this category I have to give Chris an A+,” explains Raffaele. “He rolls up his sleeves and gets the job done, and he can do it while still maintaining a smile. He has been a wonderful asset to our labs.”

After graduating this spring, Schauerman expects many reasons to keep running, so to speak. Yes, there’s his passion for athletics. Plus, there’s the potential of furthering his education—either in material science or business administration—and the desire to launch a career in the renewable energy industry. Schauerman cites the support of family, friends and mentors as a contributing factor, and he looks forward to handing off the baton to future student researchers.

“To be a mentor, to be part of a support network for someone else and for other students who will be going through this same thing in the future, I think would be one of the best ways to give back.” ■

Paul Stella | pbscom@rit.edu

Schumer touts tax credit



A. Sue Weisler | photographer

Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., greets members of the RIT community during a news conference in the Bausch & Lomb Center on Nov. 29. Schumer used the occasion to discuss Congress’ plan to address college affordability by renewing a tuition tax deduction. This will let families of middle-class college students deduct \$4,000 a year from their taxes. Schumer outlined a variety of other initiatives that will be on the agenda as Democrats take control of Congress early next year.

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Viewpoints

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SPAS holiday auction

Revel in the spirit of holiday giving at the annual School of Photographic Arts and Sciences Holiday Auction. The bidding starts at 5 p.m. Dec. 14 in the Neblette Lobby of the Frank E. Gannett Building.

Bidders can take home a variety of items including printers, photographic equipment and supplies, gift certificates from local merchants and faculty-donated prints. Proceeds will benefit two local organizations, The Rochester Fathers Resource Initiative Inc. and Women Helping Girls.

The winning raffle ticket for an entire collection of matted Big Shot prints will be drawn the night of the auction. The photo school is raffling off 11-by-14 prints of all past 22 Big Shots, plus a print of the 2007 Big Shot to be held in Dubrovnik, Croatia, in April. Tickets are \$10 each or three for \$25 available at 475-2863 or dms2334@rit.edu. Money raised from the Big Shot raffle will help pay for an RIT student’s trip to Croatia.

Start-up business advice

“What Makes a Business Work” is the topic of an upcoming talk featuring an RIT alumnus and entrepreneur. Bart Guerrieri ’67 (B.S. mechanical engineering), chairman and chief executive officer of DSD Laboratories Inc., in Sudbury, Mass., will discuss his philosophies in managing his company—including hiring smart people and staying out of their way, treating his employees as assets, teamwork, passion, customer satisfaction and not settling for “good.”

The talk, part of the Kate Gleason College of Engineering Dean’s Alumni Speaker Series, will be 1-2 p.m. Dec. 14 in Xerox Auditorium in the James E. Gleason Building. It is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Mary Jane Frind at 475-2146 or mjseen@rit.edu, or visit <http://www.rit.edu/coe/news>.

Viewpoints

They say the best public relations begins at home. So let me introduce you to the new University News Web site. Start by bookmarking www.rit.edu/news.

We rebuilt the University News site so that it prominently showcases academic news (e.g. research, scholarship, science, technology), while featuring new media tools such as a blog, podcasts, videocasts and RSS (online subscription) feeds.

University News’ primary responsibility is to get RIT good press. With all that is happening on campus, we are fortunate to promote many diverse newsworthy stories to the media. RIT will have more than 8,000 news placements in 2006. But with the continual erosion of traditional media (including declines in both newspaper readership and TV news viewership), University News must not sit idle. We need to have a parallel strategy where we pitch stories to the media, while at the same time attract constituents and target audiences to our own news site.

More than 50 million Americans

University News: Getting the scoop on the Web

by Bob Finnerty

received news online daily, according to a recent study by the Pew Internet and American Life Project. Many broadband users now use the Internet as their primary source of news. The study also found that 73 percent of high-speed users search for news about science and technology online. And users are looking for non-traditional media Web sites to find such information. This is an opportunity for University News to be a leader in information exchange in new ways.

Even prior to launching our new site on Dec. 6, traffic on the University News site has been growing rapidly. Through November of this year, we had more than 1.5 million sessions on the site and 3.2 million page views. By comparison, for all of 2002 the site had 336,000 sessions and 802,000 page views. We also know that the majority of this traffic comes from outside RIT. We expect this trend to continue with the new site and we encourage you to promote our site to your friends and colleagues outside RIT.

We also need your help in promoting RIT in general. The Web site features an area showcasing RIT “In the News,” which is an archive of news placements featuring RIT experts in national and local media outlets. When we receive a prominent placement, make sure you capitalize by marketing the publicity to constituents in your area.

And if you haven’t done so already, get to know the writer who covers your area and tap into University News as a reliable resource. University News is fortunate to have a diverse team with years of experience in journalism, broadcasting and public relations. Many on the team held upper-level editor, producer and reporter positions within news organizations before joining RIT. We can connect you with reporters and provide media guidance ranging from how to handle a TV interview to writing an opinion piece for a local or national newspaper.

One final plug: Get your daily dose of RIT news today. Sign up for RSS feeds, subscribe to a podcast,



bookmark www.rit.edu/news, and pass along our site to a friend.

Bob Finnerty is RIT’s chief communications officer. Feel free to send him feedback regarding the new Web site at Bob.Finnerty@rit.edu.

This column presents opinions and ideas on issues relevant to higher education. To suggest an idea for the column, e-mail newsevents@rit.edu.

Quartet to bring beautiful music to campus



Submitted by Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra

Grammy award winners will take the Ingle Auditorium stage at 8 p.m. Dec. 9. The Ying Quartet is coming to RIT as part of the Performing Artists Concert Series and will perform string quartets by Mozart and Tchaikovsky, among other pieces. Tickets are \$6 for students, \$14 for faculty, staff and alumni and \$20 for the general public. Tickets may be purchased at the RIT Student Alumni Union candy counter or at the door on concert night, if available. For Visa or MasterCard orders, call the RIT Field House and Activities Center box office at 475-4121.

Drive Project heads to New Orleans



Submitted by Bill Klingensmith

Bill Klingensmith, assistant professor of design in the School of Design, has picked up momentum with his Web site, www.driveproject.com. The above photos are just a few of the 6,000 images Klingensmith captured during his August road trip through the neighborhoods of New Orleans. Klingensmith mounted a digital camera to his car recording images every five seconds. “I wanted to let people see New Orleans with me,” Klingensmith says. “Maybe this kind of intimate visual experience will serve as a reminder that New Orleans residents are still dealing with tremendous challenges from Hurricane Katrina a year later. I hope the photographs will inspire people to help out in some way.” Klingensmith launched the Web site in 2005 after he documented his cross-country journey from Seattle to Rochester.

Natural-light color photographer visits



Submitted by Jay Maisel

Award-winning photographer Jay Maisel will give a free lecture at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 12 in the Gosnell Building’s Van Peursem Auditorium. Maisel’s images have been used for advertising, editorial and corporate communications. His awards include the ASMP Lifetime Achievement Award, ASMP Photographer of the Year and International Center of Photography’s Infinity Award. His most recent books are Jay Maisel’s New York and A Tribute, an homage to the World Trade Center. Maisel has lectured all over the world and his prints are on exhibit in private, corporate and museum collections.

Babies take center stage at Bevier show

You must’ve been a beautiful baby—’cause baby look at you now.

We all have to grow up some-time—but the transition from angelic baby and cutesy toddler, to dorky brat and punky pre-pubescent is a revelation in itself.

No more so than “You Must Have Been A Beautiful Baby,” an exhibition featuring self-portraits from 60 of America’s top illustrators, which will be on view during the holiday season at Bevier Gallery. The show opens with a reception from 5 to 7 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 8, and runs through Jan. 9.

“Illustrators tend to be the ‘regular Joes and Janes’ of the art world and most of them have a good sense of humor, even if their work is in a more serious vein,” says exhibition curator Robert Dorsey, associate professor at RIT’s School of Art in the College of Imaging Arts and Sciences.

The show, which debuted at the Society of Illustrators in New York City in October, reads like a “Who’s Who” of contemporary illustra-



This portrait of Stephen Gardner is just one of 60 on display at Bevier.

tion—and includes such legends as Bart Forbes, Jack Davis (*MAD Magazine*), C.F. Payne, Nancy Stahl and Bunny Carter. A diverse blend of talents, their styles of illustration range from painterly, digital

and photo-realism, to caricature, cartoons, drawing and collage.

“Beautiful Baby’ will reveal what these future artists may have been thinking as a toddler,” Dorsey explains. “For example, we see the impact that 1950s television had on a young Joe Ciardello with images of the Lone Ranger and Howdy Doody dancing in his head. Or James Bennett (illustrator of Jerry Seinfeld’s children’s book) who seems to be follicle-challenged even as a newborn.”

“And then there’s Vincent DiFate (*Creature of the Black Lagoon* poster fame) who appears as a young boy sitting on a rock near the water where he is visited by, who else? The Creature!” says Dorsey with a laugh.

The show will also include a self-portrait by Peter DeSeve, who designed all of the characters for Disney’s computer animated *Ice Age*.

For more information, call Bevier Gallery at 475-2646. ■ Marcia Morphy | mpmun@rit.edu

Philosophical lectures

Upcoming lectures sponsored by the Department of Philosophy in the College of Liberal Arts include a talk by scholar Carl Mitcham on “Technology and Religion: From Christianity to Buddhism” at 4 p.m. Dec. 13 in the Xerox Auditorium, James E. Gleason Building. Mitcham, a professor of liberal arts and international studies at Colorado School of Mines, also will present “New Dimensions in Science Policy” 4-5:30 p.m. in the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science auditorium as part of the Ezra A. Hale Ethics Series. Later in the month, the philosophy department will present Eric Dietrich, professor of philosophy at Binghamton University, who will explore artificial intelligence in his talk “After the Humans are Gone,” at 4 p.m. Dec. 20 in Xerox Auditorium. The lectures are free and open to the public. For more information about the philosophy lectures, call 475-2463. For information about the Hale Ethics Series, call 475-2057.

Holiday performances

RIT’s performing ensemble will join together for a holiday concert at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 16 in Ingle Auditorium in the Student Alumni Union. The RIT Singers will perform the Annual Service of Lessons and Carols at 3 p.m. Dec. 17 in the chapel of the Kilian J. and Caroline F. Schmitt Interfaith Center. For more information, contact Ed Schell at 475-6087.

Poster volunteers needed for United Way

If you or a member of your family has benefited by services provided by a United Way-funded agency, the RIT United Way Steering Committee would like to hear from you. Volunteers are needed to share their stories for the annual United Way campaign posters, a collaborative production by students, faculty and staff, which illustrate how contributions raised through the United Way of Greater Rochester help members of our own RIT community. Contact Lynn Rowoth at 475-7408 or lcrgrl@rit.edu by Dec. 20.

Viewpoints

As a member of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, RIT participates in a reaccreditation review every 10 years. Our next full review will occur in March 2007 when an external team of evaluators, assigned by the commission, visits our campus. During this visit, they will conduct interviews with various university groups and individuals, review RIT documents and data related to performance, and prepare a summary of recommendations for the commission regarding reaccreditation status for RIT.

According to the commission, accreditation is “the means of self-regulation and peer review adopted by the educational community” to ensure integrity and quality worthy of public confidence. Effective self-regulation, within the context of thoughtful standards of excellence, can limit the need for external control. Reaccreditation represents a statement of faith and confidence

RIT and reaccreditation

by the commission in the university’s ability to meet commission standards and to be true to its own mission and strategic goals. As the March 2007 visit approaches, we at RIT find ourselves on task to complete the self-study report required by the commission, and expect to satisfy fully its expectations and requirements for reaccreditation. To date, we successfully hosted a preliminary visit by the chair of the commission’s Evaluation Team in early October. The first full draft of the self-study report was also completed and distributed to all faculty, staff, and students via a recent Clipboard survey, with the opportunity to provide feedback on the draft. The remaining tasks prior to the spring visit include incorporating survey feedback into a penultimate draft (December), a second opportunity for community feedback (January) and completion of the final self-study report for approval by Dr. Simone and the Board

by Thomas Raco



that will shape its future. We look forward to your thoughts.
Thomas Raco is a professor at NTID and chair of the RIT Middle States Self-Study Process.

This column presents opinions and ideas on issues relevant to higher education. To suggest an idea for the column, e-mail newsevents@rit.edu.

Health care reform explained



A. Sue Weisler | photographer

Philosophy professors Timothy Engström, left, and Wade Robison edited the recently published book, Health Care Reform: Ethics and Politics.

When the Clinton health care reform initiative died in 1994, the problems it promised to address didn’t disappear with it; they grew worse. More than a decade later, the United States’ population has reached 300 million, a large percentage lacking adequate—or any—health care. Figures vary, but approximately 45 million Americans have no health insurance at all and another 20 to 30 million are underinsured, while many more are at risk of losing what little they have. A new collection of essays, *Health Care Reform: Ethics and Politics*, questions the ethics of having so many citizens without basic health care and proposes ways of moving beyond the standard ideological roadblocks. The anthology, edited by Timothy Engström and Wade Robison, professors of philosophy at RIT,

calls for a renewed national dialogue committed to revamping the U.S. health care model guided by moral principles in balance with political and economical realities. *Health Care Reform* grew from a conference held at RIT in 1995 and shows how little has improved since the failed Clinton initiative. Essayists include Howard Brody, a former consultant with the Clinton administration’s Health Care Reform Task Force; Norman Daniels, from Harvard School of Public Health; and Uwe Reinhardt, who sat on the National Advisory Council for Health Care Policy, among others. “The message throughout the book is that moral clarity comes first and that clear policies can and must follow,” says Robison.

The escalating costs of health care force companies to cut benefits and transfer costs to employees to remain profitable or, paradoxically, to move abroad to countries with a national health care system—all decisions that compromise individuals’ and the nation’s economic health. “What is ironic about outsourcing health care costs by moving whole industries abroad is that we are the only industrialized country that doesn’t have some kind of national health care,” Engström says. “We cling tenaciously to what doesn’t work and ignore solutions that have been shown to work well in other countries. If we would learn from the countries to whom we send our industries, we would not have a health care system in crisis.” As more companies transfer costs to employees and more workers find themselves with increased costs, diminishing benefits, or no health care benefits at all, the crisis will only deepen, the editors say. ■ Susan Gawlowicz | smguns@rit.edu

Leadership changes ahead

RIT Provost Stanley McKenzie has announced a change in deanship in the College of Liberal Arts with the resignation of Dean Andrew Moore and the creation of a new university-wide dean of graduate studies. Moore will spend winter quarter on professional development leave and return in March to define and implement the dean of graduate studies, a position he will hold for two years. “With the proliferation of graduate programs and our fairly rapid ramp up from two to five and soon six Ph.D. programs, we need a formal ‘graduate presence’ on campus to provide coordination, trouble shooting, student support and quality control,” says Katherine Mayberry, RIT vice president for academic affairs. The previous graduate dean position was eliminated in the mid-1990s when it became apparent that graduate council and its chair could manage the work, according to Mayberry. “Now, however, there is a real need for someone in this position,” she says. RIT has more than 70 graduate programs in high-growth, high-tech areas. The most recent additions



Andrew Moore

include three new specialized master of science degrees in game design and development, networking and systems administration, and software engineering in the B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences. Moore will serve as dean of graduate studies until a national search is held for his replacement. At that time, Moore will resume his research and teaching agenda as a faculty member in Liberal Arts. A national search for the new dean is expected to be completed by 2008. In the meantime, Glenn Kist, deputy dean, has assumed the role of interim dean. Kist has been a faculty member in the history department at RIT since 1970. He received a bachelor’s degree cum laude and a master’s degree in history from Xavier University, and earned his doctorate from Loyola University in Latin American history and inter-American diplomatic relations. Kist served as chairman of the Science and Humanities Division of Liberal Arts from 1981-1988. He was appointed associate dean in 1988, and became deputy dean in 2000. ■ Susan Gawlowicz | smguns@rit.edu



Glenn Kist

Principal investigators go to ‘boot camp’



David Bond, associate director of Sponsored Research Services, shares insights with Myrtle Jones, School of Print Media assistant professor, during RIT’s annual Grant Writers’ Boot Camp. More than 30 principal investigators from across campus took part in the intense three-day workshop Nov. 20-22. Sessions focused on developing research projects, approaching potential sponsors and writing grant proposals. RIT’s PIs earned more than \$35 million in sponsored funding during the 2006 fiscal year.

A. Sue Weisler | photographer

It’s elementary



Submitted by Ruth Sylvestre

Fifty-five first-year students in the College of Imaging Arts and Sciences worked during the fall quarter on the Collaborative Conflict Theme Project, under the direction of Stephanie Cole, a lecturer in Foundation Studies. Pollution by Ruth Sylvestre, is one of the sequential works on display Dec. 12 through Jan. 12 in the third-floor showcase in the James E. Booth Building. The project was part of the foundations curriculum.

Holiday wishes from President Simone



As you might expect, this year’s holiday season takes on added significance for Carolie and me. This will be our final Christmas celebration at Liberty Hill, and, while we are very excited about what lies ahead, there are certainly mixed emotions as we reflect upon what we shall soon leave behind.

RIT is a strong and dynamic community, but leadership can only achieve so much. Without the hard work and dedication of faculty, staff, students, alumni, trustees and countless supporters of this university, our journey from good to great would not be possible. Together, we have moved mountains and revealed a spectacular horizon.

There is still much to be done in the months ahead, and there will be more opportunities to extend my gratitude for the contributions that each of you make to this university. I want you to know just how proud I am to be a part of the RIT community.

Carolie and I look forward to sharing the blessings of the holidays, and we extend our warmest wishes to you and your families for peace and happiness this season. Best wishes!

Albert J. Simone

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and industry,” says RIT Provost Stan McKenzie. “His academic colleagues describe him as a smart, thoughtful leader with a quiet demeanor who is nonetheless very effective. As nice and personable as he is, Ashok can also be ‘quite tough—although never ruthless.’ This strikes me as a terrific set of personality traits for the dean of the Saunders College of Business.”

Rao was selected from more than 100 applicants in a national search that started last October, just a few months after Thomas Hopkins left the post to resume teaching. Wayne Morse has been serving as interim dean since that time.

One of Rao’s noteworthy concepts has been his study on cross-border integration—which is a form of entrepreneurship that draws upon skills which are hired in different parts of the world.

“Take Motorola for instance, a large company with many divisions,” Rao explains. “For cell phones, they can do the concept design in Japan, the aesthetics in Italy, the software in India, the phone’s ‘clamshell’ hinges are made in South Korea, and the manufacturing in China. Then Motorola brings the phones to the U.S. and sells them all over the world.”

Rao, who received degrees from the Indian Institute of Technology in Kharaghpur, India, and post graduate degrees from the University of Iowa, will be leaving Babson later this month to take a group of students to India for a study tour.

“Although college rankings are very important for undergraduates, it’s really just a number, sometimes initiated just to get hype,” Rao says. “My most important goal as dean is to improve the educational experi-

RIT train show chuggin’ along

An RIT tradition just got bigger. The Model Railroad Club, celebrating its 10th anniversary this year, is moving its annual Tiger Tracks Train Show into the Gordon Field House and Activities Center and is expanding it to a two-day event. The show, which will be held 10 a.m. -5 p.m. Dec. 9 and 10 a.m. -4 p.m. Dec. 10, will consist of approximately 150 vendor tables and eight layout stations—all of which can run multiple trains. There will also be a children’s play area and demonstration areas where various model railroading skills will be taught. Joe Nugent, club president, says RIT is one of just a handful of colleges that have active model railroading clubs. The RIT club has more than 20 active members from various backgrounds and with different skill sets.

“We’ve got students from pretty



A. Sue Weisler | photographer

RIT’s Model Railroad Club is expanding its popular show into a two-day event.

news&events

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Tressel from page 1

before anybody connected her to her famous father.

But eventually, the clues were too obvious to ignore. Not only were Ohio State’s red and gray colors splashed throughout her room, but the coach’s photo was on display as well.

“I kept it quiet mostly because I know how it is when it’s not quiet. I didn’t want my life to be tied to my dad’s. I wanted my own life and my own name in a different city. But sometimes you just can’t get around it,” she says. “People were noticing my room, and then they would hear his name on television. They started putting two and two together.”

Even now that the “secret” is out, Tressel enjoys being in an environment where football isn’t king.

“All my friends and professors know, and it’s not a big deal,” says Tressel, a third-year advertising photography major. “My professors are great. When I go home I shoot games for my dad and when I come back, I share the shots with my professors.”

Had she chosen to attend Ohio State, life would be quite different.

“New York is not a big college football area—not nearly as much as Ohio,” she says. “Ohio State fans are great, but it’s up and down. It’d be very intense going there. At times, when we win, it felt like the fans worshipped me. Other times, when we lose, they could get pretty nasty.”

ence of the RIT students and make them really attractive to corporate recruiters. Once you have better placements and better programs, the rankings will follow.”

Rao is currently house hunting in the Rochester area with his wife, Janis Gogan, who teaches at Bentley College. He has four children and two grandchildren, and in his spare time, he enjoys playing Bridge and Scrabble. Rao and his wife also are hikers and recently completed 49 hikes featured in a book, 50 Hikes of Massachusetts.

“We saved the best for last and it’s eight miles long,” Rao explains with a laugh. “But in the meantime Janis is trying to push me into biking and cross-country skiing—which I did a lot of the past couple of years. I’m very good at falling and getting up.” ■

Marcia Morphy | mpmuns@rit.edu

Cyberspace grid for NYS

RIT is joining 18 other institutions from across New York state to take part in NYSGrid, a groundbreaking cyberinfrastructure initiative.

NYSGrid provides unprecedented resources for research, education and community outreach. Its aim is to aggregate high-end computing, networking, data storage, visualization and intellectual capital from sites across the state. These resources provide researchers, teachers, students and communities with the tools needed to navigate a data-driven, knowledge-based economy, in addition to the opportunity to address previously unsolvable problems.

“The advantages to consolidating New York’s centers of expertise are significant,” states Diane Barbour, RIT’s chief information officer. “Users can more easily collect, manage, organize, analyze and visualize data without having to focus on the logistics associated with how that data is processed. This has the potential to expedite important advances in areas related to science and engineering.”

Significant progress has already been made in establishing a working grid. User groups are in the process of being identified, training sessions are being designed, middleware developers are being organized and the mission and organizational structure is being developed and refined. For information, visit www.nysgrid.org. ■

Paul Stella | pbscom@rit.edu

To the delight of shoppers



Beautiful, handcrafted gifts like these made by Trevor Fruchey, second-year graduate student, will be among the pieces sold at the annual School for American Crafts student holiday sale. The sale will be held 9 a.m. -6 p.m. Dec. 13-14 in the Student Alumni Union lobby. It’s a school tradition for student artists from all four areas—ceramics, glass, metals and wood—to sell their wares. The money helps defray costs of student projects throughout the school year. Shoppers can buy one-of-a-kind items from silver jewelry to blown-glass ornaments to wood boxes to ceramic bowls. The pieces typically range in price from \$10 to \$50.

A. Sue Weisler | photographer