

## Newsmakers

January 1, 1999

Colleen Daviton was recently featured as the second speaker in the NTID Alumni Speaker Series, presented by the NTID Alumni Relations Office. Daviton, 1977 medical laboratory technology and 1983 biology graduate, presented "Resolution for 1999: Aim to be the CEO," Thursday, January 14, at NTID. Daviton is clinical technologist for University of Rochester--Medical Center, Strong Memorial Hospital. She was the first female president of NTID Alumni Chapter of Rochester, 1985-1987, chairwoman of Deaf Women United 6th Biennial National Conference in 1997, and is current board member of Deaf Women United, Inc. Daviton is also RIT's 1998 NTID Distinguished Alumnus, and her presentation was open to all RIT students and faculty and staff members.

Matt Hamill, third-year electromechanical technology student and RIT's only two-time NCAA champion, recently became New York State Wrestling Champion for the third consecutive year, this year in the 197-lb weight class. To gain the title, Hamill defeated wrestlers in NCAA Division I as well as III (in which RIT competes).

Benjamin Lessig, D.O., 1992 RIT chemistry graduate who received his Doctor of Osteopathy from Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine June 1996, has accepted a two-year geriatric fellowship, starting July 1, 1999, at the University of Rochester, School of Medicine, Department of Internal Medicine, Division of Geriatric Medicine. He is completing his family practice training at Christ Hospital/University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey in Jersey City.

Marilyn Mitchell, associate professor in NTID's American Sign Language and Interpreting Education department, has taken on the directorship of a \$3.3 million, five-year commitment from New York State Education Department's Office of Vocational and Educational Services for Individuals with Disabilities to address the shortage of sign language interpreters in K-12 classrooms. This grant was awarded to NTID and Monroe #1 Board of Cooperative Education Services. For more information about the grant, contact Mitchell at [mkmnss@rit.edu](mailto:mkmnss@rit.edu) or (716) 475-6711 (Voice/TTY).