

INSIDE Rochester College

Liberal Arts in a Christian Setting



Volume 26, No. 2

Spring 2004

RC Grads Find Success in the Workplace

One thing you may not know about Rochester College is that we have a great job placement rate. Even better is the fact that this rate is bound to jump even higher in the years to come with the advent of a new career services department headed up by Vice President Larry Norman, which will provide internship placement and career counseling for students about to venture into the workplace.

With that being said, RC has a number of alumni who have found success in jobs they love. We decided that in this edition of *Inside RC*, we'd give you a taste of what's out there as you prepare for your exciting journey into college.

Steve Bruce grew up not far from the college, in Troy, MI. He was a member of the Metro Detroit Youth Chorus as well as several other musical and theatre groups, both at school and in the community. He came to RC in 1994, ready to pursue a Music major, but then switched to English with a Music minor. During his senior year in 1998, Steve and his soon-to-be wife Angela were offered the opportunity to be a youth ministry team at the Franklin Church of Christ in Franklin, IN. They moved there and stayed with Franklin until this past fall, when Steve took a new job as the Minister of Worship and Outreach at the North Central Church of Christ in Indianapolis, IN.

So how did this English major end up in the ministry? "Although I went into full-time ministry without being a Ministry major, I believe that my experience at RC helped mold and shape me," Steve says. "It is now obvious that the Lord was preparing me even then. RC provided the right environment to learn, grow, stumble, and fall, but be surrounded by wonderful friends and faculty to help pick me back up and move forward in my walk with Christ."

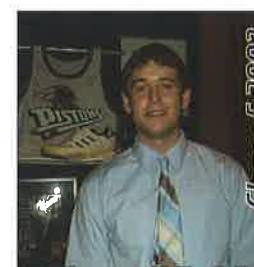
Melany Blubaugh came to RC from Grand Rapids, MI, and then graduated in 1996 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Management. Soon after graduation, she went to work for Comerica Bank in the Branch Management Training Program. Over the course of her six-year career with the bank, she worked as a Branch

Assistant Manager and a Branch Reengineering Project Manager before being promoted to her current status: Assistant Vice President and Senior Technology Project Manager.

When Melany looks back at her time as a college student, she says that she appreciates the small class sizes and accessibility of the faculty at

RC. "When I compared my college experience with co-workers who attended larger universities, I realized how fortunate I was to have professors that were concerned in more than whether or not I attended class, but were genuinely interested in my future."

Adam Sheldon grew up in Oxford, MI as an avid athlete and sports enthusiast. That's why, when he transferred to RC in January of 2001, it seemed fitting for him to pursue a major in the brand-new Sports Management program. Adam chose a degree in Interdisciplinary Studies with concentrations in Sports Management and Communication, which he completed in May 2003. Over the summer he began an internship with General Sports, Inc., a business that specializes in sports marketing, special events, and corporate consulting, in addition to owning an artificial turf company and a minor-league baseball team. The internship led to a full-time position as Executive Assistant to the company's founder and CEO,



Adam Sheldon
Executive Assistant to the CEO
General Sports, Inc.



Melany Blubaugh
Assistant Vice President
Comerica Bank

former Detroit Pistons VP Andrew Appleby.

Adam recognizes this as an incredible opportunity for a sports management graduate, and says that "RC really helped me develop a strong work ethic, which I believe played a huge role in the transition from intern to paid professional."

We're out of room—but we hope you've enjoyed this look *Inside RC!*

Rochester College

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Celebration Preview Weekend

Rochester College
Each year during Celebration, the Admissions Office hosts a special weekend just for high school juniors and seniors. The weekend starts with a pizza party kick-off on Friday night, complete with games and entertainment. On Saturday morning you'll have a campus visit, providing you with all the information you're dying to know about Rochester College, and then it's topped off with a free ticket to the Saturday matinee performance of *Celebration*. This year with a theme of *Everything 80s*, the show promises to be a huge hit. Our goal is to make this weekend as fun for you as possible, and we'll pull out all the stops to make that happen! For more information about the Celebration Preview Weekend and to register, check out the Celebration website at www.rc.edu/celebration or call the Admissions Office at 1.800.521.6010.

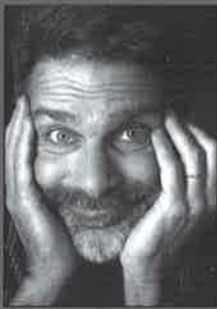
March 19, 20, 2004
Celebration: Everything 80s

Visit the Rochester College website at www.rc.edu

Email us at admissions@rc.edu

Rochester College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, age, disability, or national or ethnic origin in the execution of its educational programs, activities, employment, or admissions policies except where necessitated by specific religious tenets held by the institution and its controlling body.

Curt Cloninger Comes RC Thursday April 8



Popular Christian one-man theatre artist Curt Cloninger will come to Rochester College on Thursday, April 8, 2004 to present his dramatic acts for the community. The day will begin with two performances: first in campus Assembly for RC students, and

second in the afternoon at nearby Oakland Christian School.

In the evening, RC will host Curt at the Rochester Church of Christ, next to the college on Avon Rd. This event will go from 7:00-9:00 PM and is open to the entire community. **Please join us to see Curt's unique act, along with a performance by Autumn, praise & worship time, and free food.** For more information, call the Admissions Office, or check Curt's website www.curtcloninger.com.



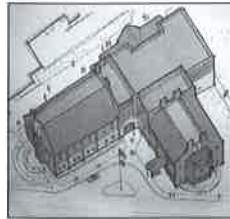
\$3M Donation Made to Academic Center

On Friday evening, December 12, 2003, just minutes before the commencement of Winter Graduation, a commitment for the largest single donation in the history of Rochester College was made—\$3 million from an alumnus couple to fund the ambitious *Catch the Vision* capital campaign. The gift takes a major bite out of the campaign's \$10.4 million total price tag.

The donors, David and Patricia Richardson of Arlington, TX, had met earlier the same day to discuss the idea of a monetary gift with interim president Mike Westerfield, but at that time they were not ready to make an official commitment. In fact,



confirmation was not expected for some time, which made the sudden announcement preceding graduation even more exciting.



"The process came together quicker than Trish and I had expected and we know it is God's plan for us," said Richardson. "We have asked God to use us in any way He chooses. We care about young people and are zealous about sharing God's Word with them. We believe He is answering our prayers in allowing us to be used to spread His Name in this way. It is imperative that we provide Christian education in today's world."

The Richardsons' donation will complete the funding for the new Academic Center, which is being built adjacent to the Ham Library. Ground broke for the new building in September, and already the site is showing significant progress toward its scheduled 2004 completion date.

Celebration 2004 Takes on New Form



Even with this year's changes to Celebration, stressful tech and production jobs such as those done in the 2003 show by students Brandon Coop and Brandi Smith will be as important as ever.

Celebration, a longstanding tradition at RC, takes a new twist this year—and heads back to the 80s in the process! That's right, changes have been made to the format of the show, but those won't be what takes it back in time—only the theme can do that, and this year it's *Everything 80s*.

In fact, if you still have those old legwarmers and parachute pants in your closet, if you still haven't figured out the Rubik's Cube, or if you're still trying to beat your high score at *Pac Man*... then this show is for you.

However, this year's *Celebration* audience will notice some changes in the actual production as well. In past years, *Celebration* has been a show mainly featuring song and dance performances from the hosts, social clubs, faculty, and ensemble. In 2002, with a new director and production staff, the decision

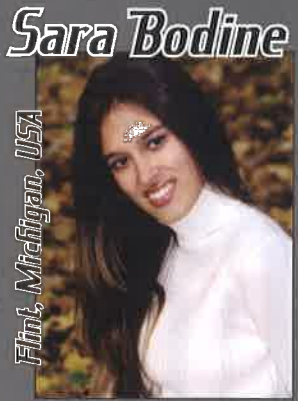
was made for the club acts to take a more theatrical approach, with more developed storylines and characters. This year, that concept will expand to encompass the hosts as well.

In the 2004 show, hosts will be involved in an act themselves, which will run from start to finish without the previously traditional song and dance routine. The singing and dancing will be left up to the ensemble. Gone are the days when the hosts were chosen from the most talented singers at RC—this year they'll be the best actors.

And *Celebration* will be a great show yet again. Make sure to come and check it out—see the Preview Weekend announcement on the back page for more details. We have a great weekend planned for high school students, and we want to see YOU there!

High School Seniors Look Forward to RC

In the fall I plan on attending RC. I've been waiting so long for the time to come and now I can hardly believe that it is here! Currently I attend Carman Aisworth High School, and my favorite class is AP English. I'm involved in drama and choir at school, and I also help out at a soup kitchen with my youth group. Going to RC is something that I have always wanted to do. I plan to further my studies in English, and Lord willing, possibly make it my major. Many of my friends have gone to the college before me and I hear so many wonderful stories, and I'm so excited to be a part of it myself. Hope to see you there!



Sara Bodine
Flint, Michigan, USA

Hey, I'm Mike Swanson. My dad works for the Marine Corps Community Services, so the military put us here in Japan. The weather is awesome—in the winter, it gets down to maybe 50 or 60 degrees at the lowest! Soon I'll be coming to Michigan for college. I'm very excited to be going to Rochester College. My sister graduated from RC, so I've been around the campus a lot. I love the weather in Michigan, and I can't wait to go see a Pistons game. I'm also excited about studying in a Christian environment.



Okinawa, Japan

Mike Swanson

I know quite a few of the professors at the college, and I respect them all. I'm excited to learn from such good, knowledgeable people. See you in the fall!

Mixed Autumn



For the first time in three years, RC returned to using a mixed-gender acapella singing group. This Autumn includes (from left to right) freshman Dan Shivener, freshman Holly Allen, sophomore Karyn Bell, freshman Jordan Wall, sophomore Jon Knutson, freshman Stephanie Knoblock, and senior Jessica Gamache. Last semester, the mixed group performed at big events in Michigan, Ohio, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and St. Louis, Missouri. This spring it will travel twice to Canada for youth functions, as well as many more throughout the Midwestern USA.

RC Performing Groups

Besides just the 18 or so members who sing or perform drama in the groups each year, there are students involved as sound people, road managers, and even as groupies. The groups spend the year traveling throughout the Midwest, performing at schools, youth events, church functions, camps, retreats, and more, meeting and building relationships with middle and high school students. Auditions and callbacks for all three groups are held in the late spring/early summer. To schedule one of the groups for an upcoming event or for more information about auditions, please call or email Casey Arnett in the Admissions Office at 248.218.2030 or carnett1@rc.edu. In the meantime—check out the groups' website and calendar at www.rc.edu and look for them in your area!

For many students, performing groups are an important part of life at Rochester College.

Company is RC's drama group, made up of six crazy college students who like to have a good time! The group's distinctive blend of both serious and humorous skits have become well known in the Midwest area, where Company travels throughout the school year. Big shows this year have been held in Michigan, Ohio, and even Iowa, and many more are still to come.



Company '03-'04 members are (from front to back) junior Paul Barbuto, sophomore Malloy Kollins, freshman Craig Stockman, junior Hannah Jensen, sophomore Abra Morgan, and junior Chase Pratt.

Company

Guys Autumn



It's been three years since the first all-male acapella singing group burst onto the scene at RC, and each year its demand grows. '03-'04 Guys Autumn (from left to right) is made up of senior Benny Lumpkins, sophomore Mark Richards, senior Steve Corp, senior Chris Shields, and sophomore Curtis Storm. Last semester the guys performed at the Summit Family Conference in Columbus, Ohio, as well as many other camps and events in Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois, and this semester will bring more of the same. Along with the mixed group, the guys have just released their latest CD, *Autumn 2004*, which may be ordered by contacting the Admissions Office.

SUMMER CAMP

JUNE 20-25 2004

ROCHESTER COLLEGE

www.rc.edu/elevate

ELEVATE

DANGEROUS

THE MARK OF A DISCIPLE

Explore Dangerous Living at ELEVATE 2004

Are you looking for adventure this summer? Do you want to do something that is totally out of the ordinary? Can you imagine being a part of something that is... dangerous?

The time has been chosen. The challenge is before you. Will you finally be a part of something that is way bigger than you could ever imagine? The decision is yours.

Join us for Elevate—a Rochester College Summer Camp—from June 20-25th as we explore what it means to be DANGEROUS. With crazy-go-nuts-games and activities that include late night swimming at Lifetime Fitness, a climbing wall, basketball, Crud Wars, crafts, and many brand new activities never before seen or done at Elevate, this is guaranteed to be a week that will change your life forever. The week will also include

incredible dramas by One Time Blind, along with personal and corporate times of worship and relevant teaching designed to stir your soul and move your heart.

Last year's Elevate campers speak for themselves when they say what keeps them coming back—things like, "Rock-climbing!" and "Two words—CRUD WARS!" or, on a more serious note, "This is the most uplifting Christian camp I've ever been to in my entire life," and "It's a time to reunite with God and get in touch with friends." Come find your place among them.

Elevate is for students entering 7th grade through 12th grade. For more information or to register, check out www.rc.edu/elevate. You can also call the Admissions Office at 248.218.2031 or email elevate@rc.edu.

keynote speaker
Tom Elmore



Tom speaks to more than 400 students a week. He has been in youth ministry for almost a decade and has a passion to lead students to Christ.

worship/drama
One Time Blind



OneTimeBlind has toured the country and ministered to a quarter million students using relevant, life-changing drama.

worship leader
Shannon Williams



Shannon is the Campus Minister at Rochester College. He has a heart to engage students in worship, and has led at events like Winterfest, Fallfest, and Summit.