



# north star

NEWS BULLETIN OF ROCHESTER COLLEGE

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## Barbara Bush scheduled for dinner

Barbara Bush, wife of former President George Bush, will be the featured speaker at the 28th annual Partnership Dinner on May 8, 1999, in Detroit.

"Partnership Dinner will be a mixture of the old and the new," stated Dr. Ken Johnson, president of the college. "We will continue to enjoy the great fellowship the dinner has fostered, but will also experience the excitement of having a key public figure with us for the event."

Since leaving the White House, Mrs. Bush has continued to serve others with the same tireless energy, good will, and humor that endeared her to millions around the world. Throughout her years in public life, she has supported hundreds of charitable and humanitarian causes, often volunteering her time and energy.

In her bestselling autobiography, *Barbara Bush: A Memoir*, the former first lady defined the key to her successful life. "When all the dust is settled and all the

crowds are gone, the things that matter are faith, family, and friends," she wrote in her memoir. "We have been inordinately blessed, and we know that."

"Mrs. Bush is a strong proponent for family values," stated Doug Edwards, vice president for development. "Since proceeds from the dinner provide scholarships, those attending the dinner will be helping us instill the same values in our students."

"I only wish we had an appropriate place on our campus where we could host a significant public figure like Barbara Bush," stated Dr. Johnson. "At the dinner, we plan to reveal a campaign that will provide the college with such a facility. The presence of Mrs. Bush will add to the significance of the evening."

For some time, organizers have been looking for ways to invigorate the Partnership Dinner. Elton Albright, coordinator of the event, stated "We are confident that a well-known speaker like

Mrs. Bush will result in major attendance increases."

The Partnership Dinner originated in 1972, when Dr. Don Gardner, third president of the college, organized the campaign to meet annual payments on the Alma Gatewood Residence Hall. Attendance peaked in 1978, when participants gathered on the main floor of the Pontiac Silverdome for the annual event.

In the years that followed, the dinner moved back to Cobo Civic Center in Detroit, and friends of the college organized similar dinners in Chicago, Western Michigan, and Northern Michigan. In all of those years, the Partnership Dinner has provided an important time of fellowship for friends of the college.

Tickets for the 28th annual Partnership Dinner may be purchased through congregational chairpersons or from the Development Office at \$100 for adults and \$50 for students. In addition, the college will be offering sponsorships for the first time this year. "Those funding sponsorships will be invited to a pre-dinner reception with Mrs. Bush," Mr. Albright added.

"The presence of Mrs. Bush at the Partnership Dinner will be a momentous occasion for those attending the dinner as well as the college," stated Dr. Johnson. "Her presence at Cobo Civic Center marks a significant step in a transition of the public image of Rochester College."



Barbara Bush, First Lady of the United States (1989-1993)

## Making Headlines

### NEW MAJORS

Degree options include innovative programs. Page 2.

### ADULT PROGRAM

College of Extended Learning expands staff and outreach efforts. Page 3.

### TEEN PROGRAMS

College projects additional summer programs. Page 4.

### PIANOS PROVIDED

Baldwin and Evola Music provide pianos. Page 5.

### SPIRITUAL LIFE

New employee focuses on spiritual life of the campus community. Page 6.

### ALUMNI AWARDS

College honors three outstanding alumni. Page 7.

### REUNION CONCERT

Autumn celebrates twenty-five years of music with upcoming concert. Page 9.

### NEW BOARD

College forms National Advancement Board. Page 10.

## College strengthened by record gifts

Friends of Rochester College bestowed an estimated \$1.3 million in special gifts upon the college during the summer months. One of the gifts came in the form of stock and the remaining four through estates.

"The donors of these generous gifts recognized the critical importance of increasing the financial strength of Rochester College," stated Dr. Ken Johnson, president of the college. "These individuals realized that such gifts are necessary for the college to achieve its full potential."

Early in the summer, a couple that has been deeply involved with the college for many years donated a stock gift valued at nearly \$300,000. "Wishing to remain anonymous, these individuals are quiet, humble servants of God who simply want to help build a strong Christian college in this region," stated Dr. Johnson.

As the summer progressed, college officials received notification of four significant estate gifts, which will total about \$1 million. "Funds from these estates will come to the college over the next two years and are critically important to advance the college," stated Doug Edwards, vice president for development.

The estate gifts included proceeds from the estates of Mary

Moore of Livonia, Michigan; William O'Neal of Livonia, Michigan, in memory of his parents, Joe and Elsie O'Neal; Harry Riemenschneider of Mt. Clemens, Michigan; and Ernest and Mary Taylor of Madison, Tennessee.

"The stock gift and one of the estate gifts are particularly noteworthy since they represent the largest and second largest single gifts in the history of the college," noted Mr. Edwards. "One of the other estate gifts is expected to rank in the top six."

"Some of the funds from the estate gifts will go toward endowment and our next campaign," Mr. Edwards continued. "Another portion will be used to fund improvements that will make existing facilities more functional as the college serves increasing numbers of students in a more varied academic environment."

"The key to the operating strength of Rochester College is our level of endowment investments," stated Dr. Johnson. "No college achieves its potential without a significant financial base. These recent gifts help start us in the direction we must go to build the financial base necessary to assure the strength of the college for generations to come."

"Since the college is now in its fortieth year, we are entering a

stage when we will receive more estate gifts," noted Dr. Johnson. "While many who have built the college over these years have been unable to make major gifts during their lifetimes, they will be able to do so through estate planning. In that way, they will play a major role in fulfilling their long-term dreams for the college."



Beautiful fall weather complemented the opening of Rochester College's fortieth academic year. Students continued to benefit from new facilities and the availability of additional majors.

## Strategic plan will require both new and old friends



Dear Friends,

There are no shortcuts to building a strong Christian college. It requires time. It requires generations of committed friends. It requires deeply committed employees. It requires large financial resources. It requires wise leadership. It requires continual adjustment to a changing world. It requires careful planning.

College trustees are now reviewing our Strategic Plan for the next ten years. The plan involves more than can be accomplished with the resources we could reasonably hope to receive from our friends. Therefore, for the needs of the college to be met over the next decade, we must find new friends to step up to the plate and old friends who will take on greater weight in the financial burden for new facilities.

God has blessed us with a doubling of enrollment in the last seven years. Whether that can happen again in the next seven years, we do not know. However, we do believe that we are just one building away from significant enrollment increase. If that one new facility, an athletic complex supplemented by essential classroom space, can be funded and built within seven years, we will have the space for enrollment to double once more.

Meanwhile, with God as our helper, we also shall continue to work on four goals that are more important than growth, namely; strengthening spiritual emphasis on the campus, providing high quality academic programs, operating in the black, and raising the college endowment. These are the keys to a strong Rochester College, regardless of the size of enrollment, and God is blessing in all four areas.

Thank you for your friendship, your many encouragements by card and letter, and your financial involvement in making Rochester College a place for our children to prepare for careers while also preparing to be Christian leaders.

Yours for His sake,

*Kenneth L. Johnson*

Kenneth L. Johnson  
President

## Faculty Openings

As Rochester College continues to meet the needs of a growing student body, additional faculty members will be needed.

Applications for faculty positions in business and religion (Old Testament emphasis preferred) are now being accepted for the fall semester. A doctoral degree is preferred for both positions, and a minimum of a master's degree is required.

For an application or more information, please contact Dr. Michael Westerfield, provost, at 248.218.2100 or mwesterfield@rc.edu.



Junior accounting major Melissa Bruce prepares for class in her room.

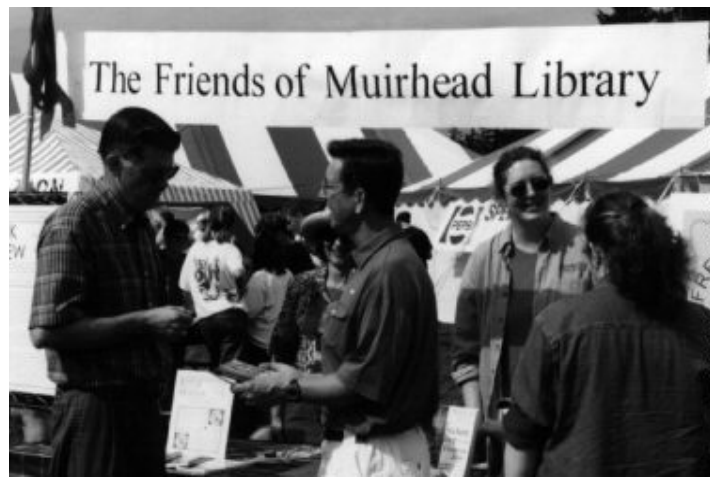
## Library growth targeted by Friends

Designed to enhance the academic services of Rochester College, Friends of the Muirhead Library recently organized. The group launched their efforts with a membership drive as the academic year opened.

"Through this organization, we hope to increase visibility of the library and foster a number of projects that will benefit the college and surrounding community," stated Sheila Owen, director of the library.

"The Muirhead Library has a lot to offer," she continued. "We have exceptionally good holdings in many areas, but there are so many needs and services that can be provided by the donations and efforts of such a group."

Since forming, the Friends have hosted two book reviews. Carole Eberly, author of *Michigan Summers: Tales and Recipes* and *Our Michigan: Ethnic Tales and Recipes*, visited the library in September. The Friends hosted Rick



Friends of the Muirhead Library visit with Fall Festival participants.

Atchley, author of *Sinai Summit*, at the college lectureship.

"Ray and Sherry Stewart, members of the Development Council, have been of great assistance in getting our group started. We always have library projects that can use volunteer assistance," Ms.

Owen noted. "Even those who live far from the college can help us purchase materials through membership donations."

For more information about becoming a member of the Friends of the Muirhead Library, phone Sheila Owen at 248.218.2106.

## Innovative degree options finalized

Officials of Rochester College recently finalized a collaborative agreement with Baker College. Through the arrangement, students will be able to complete majors in accounting or computer systems management through Rochester College.

"While most of our new programs at the bachelor's degree level are offered in their entirety on our campus, by our faculty, collaborative agreements with local colleges have allowed us to offer some innovative programs for our students," stated Dr. Ken Johnson, president of the college. "Our arrangement with Baker adds to those opportunities."

Two years ago, the college finalized collaborative agreements with Oakland Community College and Macomb Community College. Through those arrange-

ments, students may complete highly specialized tracks in such fields as vehicle design, graphic and commercial art, criminal justice, and health care administration, while obtaining most of their class work and the bachelor's degree from Rochester College.

"We began discussions about an arrangement with Baker College in conversations with Dr. Joe Reddick, chairman of the accounting department at Baker," stated Dr. Michael Westerfield, provost. "Dr. Reddick teaches accounting for us on a part-time basis, so he knows our institution. As a result, we ended up with the best agreement yet."

"Our arrangement with Baker allows our students to register and pay for their specialized Baker classes as a part of our registration process," Dr. Westerfield continued. "They only attend class at Baker, which is only ten minutes from our campus."

College officials consider collaborative programs as a means of providing additional opportunities for students until similar programs can be developed by the college. Students find that such arrangements allow them to benefit from the unique atmosphere of Rochester College while completing specialized majors.

"As some of these programs grow, we eventually will hire faculty and teach the specialized courses ourselves," stated Dr. Westerfield. "In the meantime, this is an ideal way to serve students until such majors surface on the priority list of programs that we want to add."

"In the last year, we have had several colleges and universities approach us about collaborative agreements and even offering graduate work on our campus," noted Dr. Westerfield. "Our recent name change has caused sev-

eral institutions to take a second look at Rochester College and they are impressed with what they see. We are located in an ideal setting with a strong student body, so many of them are extremely interested in working with us."

## Four-year Programs

### Bachelor of Science

Behavioral Science  
Counseling  
Early Childhood Ed.  
Social Work  
English  
Literature  
Professional Writing  
Music  
Music Education  
Music Ministry  
Vocal Performance  
Psychology

### Bachelor of Business Administration

Accounting  
Computer Systems Mgt.  
Management  
Marketing (spring 99)

### Bachelor of Religious Education

Biblical Studies  
Christian Ministry  
Preaching  
Youth & Family Ministry

### Cooperative Programs

Elementary Education  
Secondary Education  
Technical Fields

*Indented fields are tracks. Accounting and computer systems management are offered in cooperation with Baker College.*



## Employee Highlights

Members of the Michigan College Counseling Association elected **Dr. Ben Noah**, associate professor of counseling, as treasurer of their organization. He also serves as chairman of the Public Policy and Legislation Committee of the Michigan Counseling Association.

Assisting in the establishment of a congregation, **Dr. David Fleer**, professor of religion and communication, preached for the Northpointe Community Church of Christ during the summer. In September, he spoke at a fifty-year celebration for the Sunset Church of Christ in Taylor.

Members of the American Psychological Association attended a presentation by **Dr. Brian Stogner**, professor of psychology, at their Annual Convention in San Francisco in August.

Assisting the Holmes Road Church of Christ in Lansing, Michigan, while they search for a new minister, **Dr. Michael Westerfield**, provost, presented a series of sermons this fall. **Elton Albright**, church relations director, began preaching for the Madison Heights Church of Christ in June.

Completing twelve years of service to the college, **Bob Rathbun** recently retired. As plant superintendent, Bob coordinated all maintenance activities.



Career personnel from various Christian colleges gather on campus.

# College of Extended Learning expands influence

Growing to nearly 100 students in its first year of operation, the College of Extended Learning recently announced personnel additions and expansion plans.

"We began our efforts last year with a weekend degree completion program for working adults," stated Mark Davis, vice president for academic development. "The program has been so successful that we have decided to diversify and enter some additional educational markets."

To meet the new challenges, Dr. Ken Johnson recently named Mark Davis to his new role in the College of Extended Learning, and Phil Conner to a position as dean of accelerated enrollment. Kurt Fleischhut joined the staff as associate transfer coordinator. Angela Hazel continues as director of academics.

In the process of refining the weekend program, the College of Extended Learning chose *Accelerated Student Advancement Program (ASAP)* as their new program name. Currently, working adults may complete a bachelor's degree in either management or behavioral science in as little as seventeen months through the accelerated weekend program.

"CEL personnel also are pre-

paring to contact businesses and governmental agencies in the Detroit metropolitan area to establish ASAP courses at business locations," stated Mr. Davis. "Understanding today's hectic lifestyle, we realize that on-site classes provide students with the convenience they need."

"To utilize the tremendous capability of the college's Internet site, we also are planning to develop a number of on-line academic courses," Mr. Davis continued. "These courses will provide an opportunity for computer-knowledgeable individuals to take classes in a virtual classroom with greater flexibility and additional convenience."

During the past year, the College of Extended Learning introduced pilot courses on-line for students enrolled in the accelerated program. "Currently, we offer two ethics courses on-line, but we hope to add several others within the coming year," noted Mr. Davis.

"The services being planned by the College of Extended Learning reflect the commitment of Rochester College to education in the 21st century," Mr. Davis commented. "They also demonstrate our commitment to using new



Members of the first ASAP cohort listen attentively to a presentation.

educational methods and technologies to serve students in a flexible and credible manner."

For more information about any of the programs or services offered by the College of Extended Learning, call 1.800.521.6010, or visit the Rochester College web site at [www.rc.edu](http://www.rc.edu).



## Earn your degree ASAP!

- Attend weekend classes 1-4 times per month
- Complete the program in as little as 17 months

**College of Extended Learning**

**1.800.521.6010**

## Job placement rate exceeds average

Exceeding national averages by the close of summer, Rochester College posted a 100% placement rate for the class of 1998. Over the past six years, the college has maintained a 96% average for placement of bachelor's degree recipients within six months of graduation, compared to a national rate of 89%.

"Career placement is a major issue for most prospective students," stated Dr. Ken Johnson, president of the college. "Students want to know that their education will someday translate into a successful career, and our track record is outstanding."

"We are situated in an ideal location for job placement," stated Dr. Ben Noah, director of career

guidance and assessment. "We are surrounded by major businesses, corporate headquarters, and even Fortune 500 companies. It is not unusual for one of our students to obtain an internship with one of these places and then be hired upon graduation."

While 15% of the class of 1998 decided to pursue full-time graduate studies upon completion of their degrees at Rochester College, the remainder opted for immediate employment. Graduates accepted positions with such firms as EDS, General Motors, Life of Virginia, ExecuTrain, and Apartment Search.

"The Michigan Collegiate Job Fair continues to be one of our best sources for job leads," stated Dr. Noah. "We pay the registration fee for our seniors to attend and then take them to the fair. Normally, our business majors leave the program with at least five interviews."

"Last week, we had calls from two contract companies who plan to visit our campus after midterm examinations," Dr. Noah continued. "The big three automakers hire most of their entry-level management, marketing, computer, and engineering positions through these companies."

"We receive far more inquiries for job placement from businesses, churches, schools, and agencies than we can even begin to fill," stated Dr. Noah. "Employers like our graduates and continue to return to us for more."

During the late summer, career center directors from six

Christian colleges gathered on the campus of Rochester College for their annual conference. Dr. Noah commented, "The conference participants were very impressed with the resources available to us. Fortunately, those same resources are available to our students on a regular basis!"



**Rochester College**  
Building the Infrastructure  
of the Kingdom

knowledge ~ jobs  
homes ~ relationships

The Kingdom of God always needs leaders. In every culture and every community, the Body of Christ waxes and wanes based on the strength of its leadership. *Good leaders* in one culture and time can easily *fail* or be ineffective in a culture and time they do not know or understand. At this time, I am not thinking about rural Africa. I am thinking about urban and suburban America in 1998.

Forty years ago young urban church families who came straight from the farm brought the religious customs and traditions of their family to the city. They started city churches which took on the traits of their rural counterparts. Now, a generation later, with leadership born, raised, and highly educated, knowing only urban or suburban life, a much different cultural preference is emerging.

If our training of a new generation of urbanites is to be effective, we must learn how to phrase the *old, old story* in a way that fits today's youth and young families. Urban and suburban leaders locked into a former time and culture must adapt their style or release to new leaders who understand today's youth and young families. Otherwise the Kingdom suffers.

Dr. J.

## Technology Progress

### NETWORK

College personnel recently completed installation of a new local area network in the residence halls. The system allows students to connect personal computers to the campus system and provides them with direct access to the Internet, e-mail, web directories, and their individual file space. While students previously had access to the system by modem from their individual rooms in the residence halls, the new connection provides access at a much higher rate of speed.

### RESOURCES

Supporting the new major in music, the Muirhead Library opened two listening stations and began a collection of compact discs at the beginning of the semester. The library also added four computer stations to provide word processing capabilities and additional access to the Internet.

## Administrative changes improve outreach effort

Strengthening the infrastructure of Rochester College, Dr. Ken Johnson recently announced a realignment of administrative duties. "With the addition of two talented individuals, we are now able to direct more attention to our outreach into student markets," stated Dr. Johnson.

"By adding Mark VanRheenen to the administrative team as vice president for finance, and Debi Rutledge to the admissions staff as dean of enrollment services, we were able to move two key individuals to the College of Extended Learning," Dr. Johnson added. "The college is committed to building a strong nontraditional program that will help support our primary mission."

As part of the realignment, Mark Davis, former vice president for operations, accepted a new role as vice president for academic development in the College of Extended Learning. Phil Conner, former dean of enrollment services, moved to a new position as dean of accelerated enrollment.

Mr. VanRheenen taught accounting at Harding University from 1976 to 1986. In 1986, he began an accounting firm and continued as CEO of that firm until



Mark VanRheenen, Michael Westerfield, Mark Davis, Debi Rutledge, and Phil Conner accept new roles.

1997. Mrs. Rutledge, who previously worked with the Admissions Office and served as director of financial aid, recently returned to the college after completing graduate studies.

"In keeping with the breadth of duties covered by Dr. Michael Westerfield in both academic and student services, we also decided to name Dr. Westerfield as provost of the college," stated Dr. Johnson. Dr. Westerfield previ-

ously served as vice president for academic affairs.

In addition to those involved in the administrative realignment, other individuals assumed new roles with Rochester College. Pam Light, assistant professor of English; Dr. Tony Mowrer, professor of music; Vivian Turner, instructor of mathematics; and Beth VanRheenen, assistant professor of English, joined the full-time faculty for the fall semester.

Individuals joining the full-time staff in the fall included Tannon Davis, student services clerk; Kurt Fleischhut, associate transfer coordinator and soccer coach; Shannon Flores, preschool instructor; Nathan Gurganus, admissions counselor; Jamie Nelson, administrative assistant; Burt Rutledge, associate dean of students; Shaun Westaway, admissions counselor; and Shannon Williams, director of spiritual life.

## Additional summer programs for teens projected

Hundreds of teens and younger students gathered on the campus of Rochester College during the summer months for a series of camp programs. Based upon a positive response to the various activities, organizers plan to develop additional programs over the next few years.

"We are committed to full use of our facilities on a year-around basis," stated Dr. Ken Johnson, president of the college. "Summer programs are an effective means of introducing the college to teens. Consequently, they are extremely beneficial to both the participants and the college."

Early in the summer, the Admissions Office hosted their sev-

enth annual Summer Jam, a program focused on the development of spiritual leadership skills. For the third year, home school students participated in a camp designed to provide laboratory experiences in science.

As the summer progressed, over 600 campers enrolled in one of four sessions of a popular basketball camp directed by Coach Garth Pleasant. Since 1980, over 5,000 campers have participated in this day program. Many individuals in the community know the college through Lake Norcentra Basketball Camp, and several students have enrolled at Rochester College as a result.

"This summer, we introduced



Cross country runners receive instructions from director Dave Hutson.

cross country and soccer camps," stated David Hutson, director of summer programs. "By next summer, we plan to split the soccer camp into two sessions and add a basketball team camp."

"Since we experienced a wide age-span among those attending soccer camp, we decided to add a boarding option for the older players," Coach Hutson continued. "The basketball camp will be designed for teams, which will play in a tournament format during a one-week session."

In addition to the camps hosted by the college and Coach Pleasant, Cheer America rented campus facilities in July for a cheerleader camp. "Even though we did not sponsor the cheerleading camp, it still introduced Rochester College to almost 350 high school students and coaches," noted Dr. Johnson.

"Once we are able to build an athletic complex, we will be able

to offer even more summer programs," stated Coach Hutson. "At that point, we will be able to add volleyball camps, a basketball camp for boarding students, and possibly even choices in softball and baseball."

At the conclusion of one camp session, a parent wrote to Dr. Johnson, stating, "My son Brad and his friend Paul were participants in the soccer camp. They had a lot of great things to say about the campus, the coaches, and the soccer activities. Both came home expressing a strong interest in attending Rochester College in the future."

"Brad and Paul are already telling their soccer friends of the awesome soccer camp they attended at Rochester College and are proudly wearing their camp shirts," the parent continued. "My guess is that there will be others joining them when they return for camp next year."

## Why RC?



Why does Rochester College exist? Because of students like Moses Velasco, a senior psychology major from Scarborough, Ontario.

"Rochester College has found a dear place in my heart," stated Moses. "Over the course of the last four years, I have learned so much about my mind, my heart, and my God."

Since entering Rochester College, Moses has performed with Autumn, the A Cappella Chorus, and Spectrum. He has hosted Celebration, played roles in the annual fall play, and worked in the preschool, Admissions Office, and Academic Services Office.

Moses noted, "The college has taught me many lessons. God has truly smiled on me through the blessings I have experienced through this institution."



Senior citizens enjoy visiting with Summer Jam campers and workers.

## Molding Futures ...



David Fleer, Gary Turner, and Vikki Bentley

Good instructors are the heart of a quality academic program. The lives of students at Rochester College are molded not only through strong experiences in the classroom, but by individual attention and personal relationships with instructors. Some of the outstanding faculty members that serve the students of Rochester College are introduced below.

Enthusiasm radiates from **Dr. David Fleer**, professor of religion and communication, when he enters the classroom. After preaching for eighteen years, Dr. Fleer began teaching at Rochester College in 1995. He holds a diploma from Sunset International Bible Institute, a bachelor's degree from Washington State University, master's degrees from Abilene Christian University and Portland State University, and doctoral degrees from Fuller Theological University and the University of Washington. He has written for a variety of scholarly journals and occasionally teaches graduate courses for Pepperdine University and the Harding Graduate School of Religion.

Known for his perseverance with students attempting to learn both basic and complex numerical concepts, **Gary Turner**, assistant professor of mathematics, holds a bachelor's degree from Harding University and a master's degree from Oakland University. Prior to joining the faculty in 1991, Mr. Turner worked as an associate engineer for Lockheed-Martin and as an operations research analyst for the United States Army.

Serving also as assistant to the provost, **Vikki Bentley**, associate professor of English, provides academic advising services to a large percentage of students at Rochester College. Before joining the Rochester College faculty in 1986, Mrs. Bentley taught at Christian schools in Florida, Louisiana, and Tennessee, and a public school in Louisiana. She holds a bachelor's degree from Harding University and a master's degree from Northeast Louisiana University.

## Pianos provided through local store

Baldwin Piano Company of Cincinnati, Ohio, recently agreed to provide seven pianos for the Music Department of Rochester College. Baldwin selected Evola Music Center, which operates four stores in southeast Michigan, as the local representative to handle arrangements.

"The timing for this agreement could not be better," stated Joe Bentley, director of music activities. "It provides one more indication to our current students that we are committed to our new major in music. It will also help recruiting when prospective students see the quality of instruments we are using."

"Many academic institutions participate in similar programs nationwide," stated Dr. Tony Mowrer, professor of music. "We will have use of quality new instruments for a year, after which time Evola Music will host a piano sale on our campus. If everything goes well, we will then receive another set of new instruments for the next year. This is a great arrangement for both the company and the college."

Initially, the college will receive three studio acoustic pianos, and four digital pianos. The acoustic pianos will be used in practice rooms and the music rehearsal



Music faculty members listen to the quality of a piano with Jim Evola.

room, while the digital pianos will be used in faculty offices and a specialty classroom.

"When we expanded our music program to the bachelor's degree level, the department secured primary use of an additional classroom," stated Mr. Bentley. "Since the digital units are MIDI compatible, one will be placed in this room and connected to a computer audiovisual system."

"As an instructor plays the digital piano, the computer will trans-

late the music to a staff and then project it on a screen," Mr. Bentley continued. "The entire process is very impressive and functions as a great teaching tool."

"Once again, the college's location has enhanced our teaching capabilities," noted Dr. Mowrer. "This arrangement might not have been possible if the end market in this area were not so strong. We look forward to a very positive relationship with both Baldwin and Evola Music."

## National finals planned for campus

Cross country, soccer, and volleyball teams from across the nation will once again converge on the campus of Rochester College at the end of their regular seasons for national competition.

"We have hosted tournaments for the National Small College Association in four out of the last six years," stated Barry Wheeler, the Rochester College volleyball coach. "Teams like coming here because of the abundance of accommodations and availability of professional sports."

Teams from Rochester College

will compete in all three tournaments. With regular season play in progress, each team looks forward to their respective national tournament.

"Even though both our men's and women's teams are young, we have competed with schools as large as Michigan State University," stated David Hutson, coach of the cross country teams. "We are pleased that we have been able to run competitively against several teams that are members of the NAIA conference that we eventually hope to join."

"All but three of our current runners are freshmen, but they are making good progress," Coach Hutson continued. "The adjustment to college level competition is particularly challenging for the men since they run five miles for college competition instead of the five kilometers they previously ran in high school."

The soccer team opened their season before a good crowd on Fall Festival day with a victory over Lawrence Technological University. Since that game, the Warriors have posted wins over such institutions as Northwood University and Calvin College.

"We have a very good team and they are playing well," stated Kurt Fleischhut, first-year coach of the Rochester College soccer team. "If we play at the level of our ability, we should do well in the national tournament."

Beginning their season with a 11-5 record, the women's volleyball team also has achieved victo-

ries over colleges that may provide NAIA competition for Rochester College in the future. "We are confident that the team we have put together can effectively compete for the national championship this year," stated Coach Wheeler.

Over the past several years, teams from Rochester College have stepped up their level of competition in preparation for a move to the NAIA. That move is anticipated once the college can provide a consistent home court in a new athletic center.



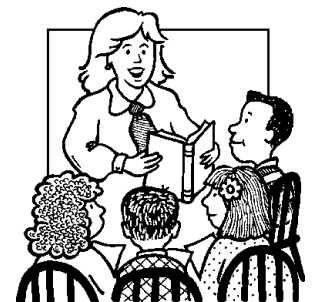
Soccer fans watch the Warriors post a win in their opening game with Lawrence Technological University.

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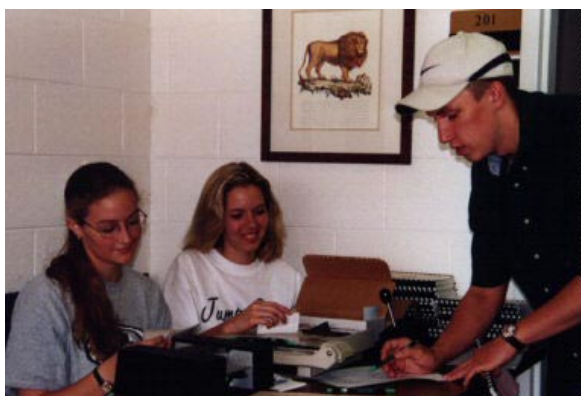
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Bookstore

1.800.521.6010



## Opening of 40th academic year

Jump Start, a week-long program designed to welcome new students to the campus of Rochester College, provided opportunities for students to interact as they became acquainted with the campus and college life. Informational sessions, social and athletic activities, small group discussions, and devotionals filled each day from early in the morning until late at night. Returning students hosted the program.



Ukrainian student Alex Safonov completes the last step of registration at the identification card table.



Senior behavioral science major Nakita Bass reviews a class schedule with Lynne Stewart before finalizing her schedule for the fall semester.

Participants in Jump Start listen attentively to devotional comments by sophomore Nate Oliver as they begin the activities of another day.

## Director of Spiritual Life employed

Enhancing an important emphasis of the campus community, Rochester College welcomed a director of spiritual life at the beginning of the fall semester.

"For quite some time, we have wanted to bring a person to the campus who would devote their

entire effort to the spiritual development of our student body," stated Dr. Ken Johnson. "When we learned that Shannon Williams, a talented youth minister from Ohio, was planning to relocate, we seized the opportunity."

In his new position, Mr. Williams

plans daily assembly, campus devotionals, and Peak-of-the-Week. He leads a new spiritual life committee and interacts daily with the students.

"About thirty students immediately volunteered for the spiritual life committee," stated Mr. Williams. "While the committee has been a great sounding board on the effectiveness of activities, it also has provided a nucleus of leaders who are helping us stress the importance of daily life-style and interaction."

"Devotionals have been uplifting, with more people involved," noted Jonathan Woodall, a sophomore from Cherry Tree, Pennsylvania. Yolanda Crites, a junior from Elida, Ohio, commented, "I have already seen the lives of many being changed."

"I look forward to assembly," stated Ryan Hoggatt, a freshman from Cedar Rapids, Iowa. "I like the singing and often hear conversations about the messages throughout the day."

"We are trying to foster a spiritual community that is conducive to helping Christians mature and grow closer to the Lord," stated Mr. Williams. "It is also important to us that the campus atmosphere is inviting and encourages unbelievers to develop faith."



Campus announcements follow a period of worship in daily assembly.

## Worth Repeating

Kind words can make a person's day. As the new academic year opened, Dr. Ken Johnson, president of the college, received the following unsolicited letter from a newly-enrolled student. Her enthusiasm for what she is experiencing at Rochester College emphasizes the importance of providing a strong liberal arts program in a Christian setting. The efforts of every employee and every friend of the college are making a difference in the lives of countless individuals!

Dear President Johnson,

Although life in the college realm is tremendously hectic, I wanted to pause for a moment to thank you for allowing me the opportunity to attend Rochester College. Words are unable to express my gratefulness to you for this adventure. Rochester is a truly wonderful place to be, and I thank God immensely for sending me here. What a truly incredible honor and privilege!

Many of the students have been so kind and helpful. I have been here only a week and have already made several good friendships. However, my greatest admiration, by far, is for my teachers. They are amazing! Each one has such a creative approach to teaching what they love, and they are dedicated to having you understand their subject. That commitment is invaluable. Never have I been to an educational institution that has had teachers like Rochester does. It is incredible. I am overwhelmed with appreciation for them!

Again, I thank you from the bottom of my heart, and I pray that God will reward you richly for being such a blessing in my life and the lives of so many others.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Blankenship

## IT'S HAPPENING HERE!

Exciting things are happening on the campus of Rochester College! Help us inform the high school students in your congregation about the unique opportunities available to them at Rochester College. The results are often eternal!

**Talk to your teens  
about the college.**

**Send us the names of  
your teens.**

**Bring your teens to the  
campus.**

**Call us about your  
special prospects.**

**Office of Admissions  
Rochester College  
1.800.521.6010  
www.rc.edu**

## Three outstanding alumni recognized for service

Recognizing exceptional service to others, Rochester College recently recognized three outstanding alumni for 1998. The college named Dean Oliver as *Alumnus of the Year*, Nola Cucheran as *Outstanding Alumna in Christian Service*, and Dean Moore as *Outstanding Alumnus in Community Service*.

"Rochester College is very blessed with hundreds of talented alumni," stated Dr. Ken Johnson, president of the college. "Narrowing the list to three was a difficult task. However, we are very proud of the three receiving the awards this year."

Dean Oliver, a member of the class of 1973, has played an integral role in the development of Christian education in the state of Michigan. After working with the college's Admissions Office in the early 1970's, he began a successful career as a life insurance representative.

In 1977, Mr. Oliver was a motivating force behind the establishment of Luckett Christian Academy. On two occasions, he served Luckett as director of development, and again assisted the col-

lege as an admissions representative in the mid-1980's.

Mr. Oliver served as director of development for Valley Christian Academy for six years, beginning in 1989, and expanded his insurance business to financial planning in 1994. During all of these years, he has remained a faithful supporter of Rochester College.

Mr. Oliver and his wife, Zan (Eubank), a member of the class of 1975, have four children. Their oldest son, Nathan, is a sophomore at Rochester College.

While many serve the church in a public role, Nola Cucheran, a member of the class of 1965, has quietly influenced the lives of hundreds in her own special way. Countless individuals have received notes of encouragement from Mrs. Cucheran, and even strangers have been touched by her vibrant spirit.

Mrs. Cucheran, and her husband Bob, also a former student, have adopted dozens of students from Rochester College. They have played a significant role in the lives of two of those adopted students, Vic Bliss and Ann (Bliss) Sparks, who lost their parents in



Dean Moore, Dean Oliver, and Nola Cucheran display their awards.

a tragic automobile accident while enrolled at the college.

A lifetime member of the Associates, Mrs. Cucheran, also has served on alumni committees and the Development Council. She is a regular teacher in Bible classes and speaker for Ladies Day programs.

A member of the class of 1962, Dean Moore has served as president of the United Way of Porter County, Indiana, since 1974. Since that time, income from the organization's annual campaign has grown from \$385,000 to \$2.5 million, and the United Way of Porter County has developed a reputation among professionals as a leader in the nation.

In recognition of his work, the governor of Indiana presented Mr. Moore with the *Sagamore of the Wabash Award* in 1995, the highest civic award in that state. Prior to his work with the United Way, Mr. Moore, and his wife, Mary (Branstetter), also a 1962 graduate of the college, served as houseparents at both Shults-Lewis and Midwestern Children's Homes. Both serve on the college's Development Council.

## Reunions

Summer provides an ideal time for classes to gather on campus for reunions. Such events are particularly effective at ten-year increments. Thus far, a twenty-year reunion is planned for next summer.

**Class of 1979  
July 30-31, 1999**

While the Alumni Office can provide guidance and suggestions for reunion planners, volunteers are needed to assist with coordination of a ten-year and a thirty-year reunion.

**Class of 1969  
Class of 1989**

To assist in planning or for questions about reunions, contact Larry Stewart at 1.800.521.6010 (option 4) or [lstewart@rc.edu](mailto:lstewart@rc.edu).

## Accelerated programs serve alumni

Since the inception of the College of Extended Learning in July of 1997, a number of former students of the college have reenrolled in accelerated programs to complete bachelor's degrees.

"Former students of Rochester College make up about one-fourth of our first ASAP class, which will graduate in December," stated Angela Hazel, director of academics in the College of Extended Learning. "It is exciting to see such people achieve this important goal in their lives."

"Many completed associate degrees a number of years ago and immediately began careers," Mrs. Hazel noted. "When we started our accelerated program, they seized the opportunity of earning their bachelor's degrees from a place they know and trust."

"The thought of going back to school at fifty-five years old scared me to death," stated Jim Dillinger, a minister from Noblesville, Indi-

ana, and student in the Professional Ministry Program. "However, Dr. Fleer convinced me that I could do it."

"For years I have had a dream of getting my degree," he continued. "I first came to Rochester College in 1961. I was nineteen years old and single. Lord willing, that dream will be fulfilled thirty-seven years later."

Currently, the College of Extended Learning offers bachelor's degrees in management and behavioral science through the Accelerated Student Advancement Program (ASAP), and a bachelor's degree in professional ministry through the College of Religion. The CEL plans to introduce a slate of on-line courses within the next year.

"For years, working adults expressed an interest in completing a bachelor's degree on our campus while remaining employed," stated Dr. Mike Westerfield, pro-

vost. "Our new accelerated programs meet that need."

"The Professional Ministry Program is a great blessing to me personally and to my work," Mr. Dillinger commented. "It will enable me to be more effective in my ministry, and eventually will impact the church as a whole."

"I met my wife at Rochester College. We have three children now, and five grandchildren," he continued. "Both of our sons are preachers and our daughter is married to a youth minister. Rochester College was a great blessing to us back in 1961. I believe that by coming back, Rochester College will bless us again."



Jim Dillinger enjoys a break with students from Norway and France.



Two alumni, Fonda (Waller) Robinson, class of 1980, and Shirley (Allen) Funston, class of 1961, played an integral role in the Associates Fall Festival. Throughout the summer, the Associates raised \$22,400 on behalf of Fonda and Shirley through the annual Queen Contest. Fonda represented the Echo Meadows chapter, and Shirley the Parkside chapter. At the festival, Chairperson Barbara Williams, assisted by former Queen Jeannette Schiele, crowned Fonda as the 1998 Festival Queen.

## Second Generation

Over forty sons and daughters of former students enrolled at Rochester College for the fall semester. Some even traveled from places like Maryland, Iowa, and West Virginia to carry on a family tradition. Many are developing friendships with one another as their parents did a generation ago.

If you recently welcomed a new child to your family, be sure to submit that information for publication in the *North Star*. You will receive a great keepsake in the form of a Gold and White Award certificate.

If you have sons or daughters in high school, be sure to pass their names on to the Admissions Office at 1.800.521.6010. Make sure the next generation hears about the new opportunities available to them at Rochester College.

## Alumni News and Notes

1959

**Ed Monroe**, and his wife Gerri, are living at 4 Grayburn Drive, Marlton, NJ 08053. Ed is a carpenter and does volunteer work in a Philadelphia children's hospital. Gerri is a teacher's aide. The couple has two living children and six grandchildren. Ed is the son of Mary Monroe, long-time treasurer of the Associates.

1962

Dieter and **Marlyn (Hopkins) Balzat** moved to 33160 Church Road, Warren, OR 97053 in 1998. Dieter is a purchasing manager for Wacker Siltronics.

**Tom Martin** recently returned from mission efforts in Kiev, Ukraine. He is now preaching for the Alpena Church of Christ and can be contacted at 510 Saginaw, Alpena, MI 49707.

1968

**Karen (Wise) Smith** is teaching second grade at Lamar Elementary School, and Sunday School classes for the Denison

Church of Christ. Karen and her husband, Lloyd, have two children, Starlyn and Rick. The family can be contacted at Route 4, Box 886, Denison, TX 75021.

1977

**Randy Wise** was recently promoted to vice president of sales for Prime Response, a computer software company. He also serves as a deacon of the Metro Church of Christ. Randy and his wife, Kim, have three children, Katie, Brandon, and Chelsea. The family lives at 7854 South Locust Court, Englewood, CO 80112.

1978

Nathan joined Elissa in the home of **Tom and Joanne (Nation) Longfellow** on October 8, 1997. Tom is a courier for Federal Express, and Joanne is a computer programmer/analyst at Tennessee Technological University. The family lives at 881 Spring Valley Road, Cookeville, TN 38501.

1979

**Mark Taylor** recently accepted

## Have You Registered?

Alumni, have you registered your e-mail address on the college web site or left a note for everyone to read? If not, please do so today!

### Now on the alumni page:

North Star Information Form  
E-Mail Directory  
Alumni Guestbook  
Reunions and Alumni Events  
Address Change Form  
Campus News for Alumni  
Missing Alumni Listing

[www.rc.edu](http://www.rc.edu)



1982

a position as assistant professor of English at Berry College. He can be contacted at 495010 Berry College, Mt. Berry, GA 30149.

1981

**Shelley Boyd** is currently employed as program coordinator for the Easter Seal Society of Hawaii. She can be contacted at 1965 Ala Wai Boulevard #6, Honolulu, HI 96815.

**Deland Guthrie** owns a professional photography studio in Valdosta, Georgia. He is a deacon at the Airport Church of Christ and preaches part-time for area congregations. Deland and his wife, Bonnie, have two sons, Austin and Adam. The family can be reached at 500 East Alden Avenue, Valdosta, GA 31602.

**Glenn Montgomery** is working as a general foreman for the Lear Corporation. He can be contacted at 9000 East Jefferson #17-1, Detroit, MI 48214.

Along with their children, Brandon, Beth, and Phillip, **Barry and Becky (Morrell) Thompson** are living at 1204 Harding Place, Nashville, TN 37215. Barry is a landscape management specialist with Sunrise of Nashville, and Becky is an interlibrary loan assistant at Lipscomb University.

1984

**Randy and Pam (Pierson-81) Dill** are living at 1500 Eastwood Drive, Muskegon, MI 49442. Randy is a business process consultant with Haworth, Inc., and Pam is an office clerk for Drs. Karnes and McDonald.

David and **Rita (Lutes) Pulley** welcomed Larisa Marie on April 21. David currently is employed as a telecommunication analyst, and Rita works as a marriage and family therapist. The family resides at 826 South LaSalle Drive, Abilene, TX 79605.

1985

**Rob Losher** recently began a position as manager of accounting and advisory services for Kentner Sellers, LLP. His wife, Karen, is a homemaker and consultant for Longaberger. The couple has one daughter, Ashley. The family lives at 85 Eleanor Drive, Springboro, OH 45066.

## Count of alumni ministers increases

May 9, 1981, marked a momentous occasion in the history of Rochester College. On that date, Doug Allen received the first bachelor's degree awarded by the college, the Bachelor of Religious Education degree, with a major in Christian ministry.

Prior to 1981, Rochester College offered only associate degrees and alumni of the college served as ministers in only a very small number of Michigan Churches of Christ. Today, Rochester College offers bachelor's degrees in a wide spectrum of academic majors and alumni of the college serve as ministers in 21% of the state's congregations.

"As our number of academic majors has increased, the number of former students serving in churches throughout this region has continued to rise as well," stated Dr. Ken Johnson, president of the college. Throughout the state, alumni serve in a variety of ministerial roles, including preaching, family ministry, and youth work.

"For years, we have maintained that more students would settle in this region if they could obtain bachelor's as well as associate degrees on our campus," noted Dr. Johnson. "Already, more than 70% of our alumni live in this region, and that percentage should increase as more students complete bachelor's degrees with us. This trend should have a major impact upon the church in the years ahead."

"Our department experienced a new twist when Doug Allen, our first bachelor's degree graduate, began teaching a freshman Bible



Students visit with Doug Allen on the sidewalk before entering class.

course for us this fall on a part-time basis," stated Dr. Mel Storm, director of the College of Religion. "Doug recently accepted a role as family minister for the Allen Park Church of Christ, and the congregation agreed to allow him to teach a Bible course for us two days each week. Dr. Gordon MacKinnon, another member of that first class, also teaches psychology courses for us on a part-time basis."

"Churches trust our program and the quality of students that are coming out of it," noted Dr. Storm. "Most of those students are from this region, so they plan to serve in this part of the country as well. This is important to most churches, since they want to hire people who will stay for an extended period of time. They are seeking ministers who, like the college, are committed to building the church in the North."

## We want to hear from you!

Share your news! Clip and return this form to Larry Stewart, Director of Public Relations, Rochester College, 800 West Avon Road, Rochester Hills, MI 48307.

Name (maiden if appl.) \_\_\_\_\_

Years \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Name (maiden if appl.) \_\_\_\_\_

Years \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (area code \_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Please note children's names, recent births, job changes, marriages, promotions, etc. on a separate sheet of paper and send it to the college with this form.



Chandler Kevin joined Jeffrey and Sarah in the home of **Kevin and Trula (Potter-84) Muir** on December 2, 1997. Kevin is a behavior interventionist for the Fort Osage Schools, and Trula is now a full-time homemaker. The family lives at 820 North Delaware, Independence, MO 64050.

**Tim Pittman** has been promoted to vice president and group manager over the Commercial Banking Division of KeyBank in Dayton. His wife, **Laura (Sandlin-82) Pittman**, is an automation specialist for National City Mortgage. Tim and Laura have two sons, Jared and Caleb. The family resides at 275 Parker Drive, Springboro, OH 45066.

1986

On February 8, 1998, Dave and **Bonnie (Clayton) Daniel** welcomed their first child, Rachael Marie. Bonnie works as an office administrator for American Express Travel, and Dave is an electrician and locksmith at Duke Realty Investments. The family lives at 9974 West Fork Road, Georgetown, OH 45121.

1987

Makenna Clare joined her sister, Alyssa, in the home of **Jim and Lori (Truex) Calkin** on February 3. Jim accepted a position as youth minister of the Plymouth Church of Christ after eleven years with Rochester College. Lori teaches early childhood education courses for the college. The family lives at 2852 Weaverton, Rochester Hills, MI 48307.

1988

**Amy (Herren) Draffen** is employed as a legal assistant. Amy and her husband, Todd, are now living at 5404 Harbin Place, Westerville, OH 43081.

On November 19, 1997, Steve and **Laura (Bologna) Elmore** welcomed their second son, Ryan Timothy. Steve is a support technician for Ajilon, and Laura is a homemaker. The family lives at 19854 Stafford Street, Clinton Township, MI 48035.

1989

Nicholas Stephen joined Justin in the home of Gary and **Lisa (King) Collins** on December 22, 1997. Gary is an engineer and Lisa is a homemaker. The family lives at 22582 Sylvan Drive, Brownstown, MI 48134.

**Beth (Morton) Smith** has accepted a position teaching second grade in the Hart Public Schools. Her husband, **Mark Smith**, is a construction worker. The couple has two children, Tori and Erica, and can be contacted at P.O. Box 161, Hart, MI 49420.

Madison Leigh joined Raegan in the home of Curt and **Shawn (Winksi) Whitsett** on April 3.

The family lives at 4870 Lum Road, Attica, MI 48412.

1991

Claudia Elizabeth was born on August 28 to David and **Melissa (Cooney) Boling**. Melissa is a quality analyst. The family can be contacted at 1611 Cooper Avenue, Lansing, MI 48910.

On March 7, Sean Wesley joined his brother Brett in the home of **John and Kristy (Bentley) Lewis**. John is a shear operator at Michigan Electrical Steel, and Kristy is a legal assistant for the UAW Legal Services Plan. The family lives at 1560 Lindbergh, Wyandotte, MI 48192.

1995

Andrew Bryan was born to Bill and **Becky (Stutts) Langlois** on February 5. Bill is a communications technician for Ameritech, and Becky is a homemaker. The family lives at 1902 Joseph Street, Northwood, OH 43619.

**Debra Schroeder** recently married Brian Murray. Debra is the athletic director and a teacher at Dominion Christian School. The couple lives at 8600 Schweiger Court #605, Lenexa, KS 66219.

**Chris and Deanna (Jessee) Stampfly** welcomed Timothy Daniel on October 30, 1997. Chris is a student. The family can be contacted at FHU Box 223, Henderson, TN 38340.

1996

**Jesse and Deborah (Greene) Phalen** recently moved to 4010 Via Estrella, Martinez, CA 94553. Jesse is a customer service representative at Bank of America and Deborah is a homemaker. They are expecting a child in October.

## Remembering When . . .



Autumn has delighted audiences for twenty-five years. To celebrate the occasion, the entire original group, pictured above at the third annual Partnership Dinner in 1974, will return to campus on February 6 to perform for a special anniversary concert. In addition, former members spanning the entire twenty-five years will perform together during the program. Anyone who has enjoyed listening to Autumn over the years will not want to miss this unique anniversary concert!

## Autumn celebrates twenty-five years

Members of Autumn will celebrate twenty-five years of singing at a unique reunion performance on February 6, 1999. Both former and current members of the popular performing group will participate in the program.

"For over two years, we have discussed with Randy Gill, Joe Bentley, and Frank Pitts the concept of this event," stated Larry Stewart, director of alumni activities. "All three played an integral role in the development of Autumn and will be on hand for the event."

A feature of the program will be a performance by the original group from 1973-74. All five mem-

bers plan to participate, including Randy Gill, Nashville, Tennessee; Mark Smith, Montgomery, Alabama; Lynne (Yoakum) Stewart, Shelby Township, Michigan; Kathryn (Boggs) Ahart, Los Angeles, California; and Holly (Wiser) Rademaker, The Colony, Texas.

In addition, members from all past groups have been invited to participate in the day and sing together in a big Anniversary Autumn. A total of 119 individuals have performed with Autumn since its inception.

"Even though we have not yet asked for reservations, we have heard from several former members who plan to participate," stated Mr. Stewart. "A former chorus member from Washington state even indicated that she might come just to see friends who sang with the group."

Since the concept of a small traveling ensemble with popular

music was fairly new among Christian colleges in 1973, half of Autumn's original membership had to be recruited. "Now, it is not unusual to have as many as forty audition for the group," stated Frank Pitts, current director of Autumn.

Members of the first group selected the name *Autumn* to reflect the easy-listening style of their music, and to honor the beautiful season that they all enjoyed on the campus. In their first summer tour, the original group logged 12,000 miles, performing for eighty-four audiences over a six-state area.

"The first group set a standard of excellence that has characterized the group since," noted Mr. Stewart. "As contemporary Christian music became popular, the group switched its style of music in 1981, but continued upholding a tradition that has honored the college for twenty-five years."

## Air Force utilizes talent

Following his graduation from Rochester College in 1995, Benny Lumpkins decided to pursue a career with the United States Air Force. In addition to working as a firefighter, he has been able to use his talents on the stage.

"At Rochester College, I was allowed ample opportunity to be in leadership positions," stated Mr. Lumpkins. "These opportunities allowed me to succeed and be way ahead of my peers once I joined the Air Force."

While enrolled at Rochester College, Mr. Lumpkins performed with the A Cappella Chorus and competed in soccer and track. He also assisted with production of a video yearbook.

Since starting his career with

the military, Mr. Lumpkins has earned an achievement medal, a distinguished unit award, and a second place position in a specialty category of the Air Force Worldwide Talent Content. Most recently, he earned a position in Tops in Blue, the premier entertainment showcase of the United States Air Force.

"I have been to Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Germany, Spain, Ireland, Italy, and over twenty-five states," Mr. Lumpkins noted. "We have fought fires in a variety of places from the desert to a dumpster! In one incident, my crew chief became injured and I immediately had to take over. Fortunately, we extinguished the flames and managed to save the structure."

Everyone is invited!

## 25th Anniversary Autumn Concert

February 6, 1999

7:30 p.m.

Rochester Church of Christ

featuring

Original Autumn

(Randy Gill, Mark Smith, Lynne (Yoakum) Stewart, Kathryn (Boggs) Ahart, Holly (Wiser) Rademaker)

Anniversary Autumn

(former members spanning 25 years of outstanding talent)

1998-99 Autumn

for concert or reunion information contact Larry Stewart  
at 248.218.2023 or lstewart@rc.edu



John Benedict



Phillip Malone



Robert Martin



Jim Randolph



Richard Westlund

## Five selected to serve with Trustees

Continuing to build leadership for the next century, the Board of Trustees recently added five new members to its ranks.

John Benedict of Auburn Hills, Michigan, is the human resources director for EDS Corporation. From 1986 to 1998, he led twelve campaigns for the United Way, raising over \$8.8 million. Since joining the Development Council, he has secured several donations of computer equipment for the college. Mr. Benedict and his wife, Joanne, are members of the Rochester Church of Christ

"In the current global marketplace, the ability to use knowledge, insight, and wisdom is a key to making graduates more successful career people, as well as Christian advocates and evangelists," stated Mr. Benedict. "I want to help in that effort!"

A regular supporter of the college for many years, Phillip Malone of Toledo, Ohio, works as a transportation broker. He serves as an elder and junior high youth director for the Flanders Road Church of Christ, where he and his wife, Peggy, are members.

"I view Rochester College as a necessity in helping to build Christian principles, values, and relationships in young adults," stated Mr. Malone. "Geographically, the church needs the college's strong presence and the college needs the church's support."

A member of the Development Council, Robert Martin teaches

vocal music at Southfield Lathrup High School. He has served as an administrator of Lockett Christian Academy, a board member of Michigan Christian Youth Camp, and as director of the Metropolitan Detroit Youth Chorus. He is a deacon of the Rochester Church of Christ, where he and his wife, Kim, attend.

Mr. Martin commented, "Beyond the tremendous honor of serving Rochester College and its students, I am thrilled to be a part of the impact and deep-rooted influence the college will have on the Churches of Christ of this region and people of the local community in the 21st century."

Jim Randolph, a global finance information officer for the General Motors Corporation, most recently assisted the college with development of a new strategic plan. Jim and his wife, Caye, are members of the Rochester Church of Christ, where Mr. Randolph serves as an elder.

"I believe that a strong college curriculum delivered with an emphasis on Christian values is critical not only to the health of the church body, but also to our national moral fiber," stated Mr. Randolph. "This is why I support Christian education financially and with my personal time."

A production control manager for the Ingersoll-Rand Company, Richard Westlund has served Rochester College as a member of the Development Council and as

a Partnership Dinner chairperson. Mr. Westlund and his wife, Sherry, are members of the Plymouth Church of Christ, where he serves as an elder.

"I am very pleased to be a working part of a great institution like the college," noted Mr. Westlund. "While I hope to contribute to the growth and development of the college, I am also confident that my work with the board will provide personal enrichment and spiritual growth in my life."

## National Advancement Board forms

Fall Festival weekend provided an ideal opportunity for Rochester College to host its newest volunteer organization, the National Advancement Board. Designed to provide feedback and assistance with key issues and goals of the college, the board spent part of their time during the weekend discussing the institution's next strategic plan.

"We envision the National Advancement Board as a key group of influential people who will help us move the institution forward," stated Doug Edwards, vice president for development. "Generally, members will be people who are prominent in their companies and who are able to provide key leadership for the college."

Members arrived on Friday evening for a reception, hosted by Pat Kirby, a member of the Board



Faculty and staff opted for a change of pace on three occasions during the summer months as the college continued to renovate facilities and improve the campus grounds. Several assisted with the removal of dead trees, while others worked in the Chinese Gardens and assisted with renovation of the first floor in the Associates Campus Center. By the opening of the academic year, the Academic Services Office, College of Extended Learning, and additional faculty members moved to the first floor, completing a two-year project that has converted both floors of the Associates Campus Center into office space.

of Trustees. On Saturday, they met with Dr. Ken Johnson, president of the college, and Doug Edwards to discuss strategic planning. They then participated in a joint meeting with the Development Council.

"We are inviting husbands and wives to serve together on this board," stated Mr. Edwards. "To date, thirteen couples have agreed to serve, and we plan to add eight to ten more during the course of the year. Eventually, we would like to have about sixty members on the board."

"While most of the members of our Board of Trustees and Development Council live in this region of the country, the National Advancement Board will be more national in scope," Mr. Edwards continued. "Already, we have representation in several states and anticipate adding members from coast to coast."

Gerald Isom, president of the Property and Casualty Division of CIGNA, a major insurance company headquartered in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, serves as

chairman of the advancement board. "I had the pleasure of getting to know Gerald Isom during my tenure at International Christian University, and look forward to his leadership with this group," noted Mr. Edwards.

Current membership of the National Advancement Board includes, Donald and Joan Barton, Corbin, Kentucky; Gary and Rosemary Carson, Clarkston, Michigan; Donald and Shane Carter, Montgomery, Texas; Bob and Jan Chaffin, Rochester Hills, Michigan; and Harrison and Robbie Davis, Nashville, Tennessee.

Other members include Carl and Linda DeCaspers, Holidaysburg, Pennsylvania; Michael and Lynn Dreimiller, Reisterstown, Maryland; Kerry and Charlotte Given, Aurora, Illinois; Gail and Caroline Hopkins, Hinsdale, Illinois; Gerald and Lucille Isom, Penn Valley, Pennsylvania; Bob and Jane Jackson, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan; Mark and Leslie Stowe, Bel Air, Maryland; and Gordon and Carole Wright, Plymouth, Michigan.



### 41st Annual Bible Lectureship Awards

LEFT: Dr. Ken Johnson presents the first annual *Christian Workmanship Award* to John and Phyllis Clayton for their exceptional efforts with *Does God Exist?* BELOW: Individuals recognized at the annual lectureship for long-term service to the church in the North include Gary and Jane Vaught, Ypsilanti, Michigan; Stephen and Joy Ennis, Lapeer, Michigan; John and Carlene Brown, South Haven, Michigan; Don and Nell Bone, Woodhaven, Michigan; Orum and Christine Trone, Detroit, Michigan; Wayne and Faye Porter, Dearborn, Michigan; and Zebedee and Madora Bishop, St. Petersburg, Florida (not pictured).



Gerald Isom visits with Dr. Ken Johnson at the annual Fall Festival.

## Memorial and Honor Gifts

April 1 through October 12, 1998

### MEMORIAL GIFTS

#### EVERETTE ALEXANDER

Eleanor Davis

#### ANN ANTHONY

L.L. Anthony, Jr.

#### FRANK BAKER

Nan Alexander

#### DON BARBIER

Christine Barbier

#### DONALD BENN

Gary & Dana Davis

#### MARIE BLACKWELL

Nancy Alexander

#### BERNICE BOUDEMAN

Roger & Kathy Anspach

Joe & Sarah Reddick

#### MILLIE BYRD

Bill & Billie Verkler

#### LAREITA CAMPBELL

Glenn & Joan Berry

David & Alisa Brackney

William & Sandra Brackney

Kay Brzak

David & Linda DeSimone

Betty Dickinson

Ed & Delores Dickinson

Royce & Terri Dickinson

Fritz & Kathy Duesel

Mike & Diana Folkerts

Steve & Julie Harper

Kent & Debi Hoggatt

Ron & Nina Hyder

David & Niki Kirkpatrick

Dan & Lora Isenberg

Bill Martin

Doug & Diana McArthur

Jim & Bertha O'Rourke

Ramie & Michelle Phillips

Cathy, Kelly, & Tina Ries

Bill & Joanne Shinsky

Larry & Lynne Stewart

Trenton Church of Christ

Enoch & Clara Whitehead

Jesse & Sarah Yoakum

#### DENNIS CARTER, JR.

Herman & Carol Hendon

#### DON & MARIE CARTER

Donald Carter, Jr.

#### ASHTON ALEXANDER COX

Rick & Judy Cox

#### LEONARD DICKINSON

Betty Dickinson

Ed & Delores Dickinson

Ron & Nina Hyder Family

Enoch & Clara Whitehead

#### ROYCE DICKINSON

Betty Dickinson

Ed & Delores Dickinson

Fritz & Kathy Duesel

Gary & Emily Isleib

#### BETTY DRUMMOND

Bob & Jan Chaffin

#### MARTIE DUNN

Donald Dunn

#### CHARLES DYER

Marlene Dyer

#### MARY ANN FERGUSON

Annette Riley

#### LILLIAN FONVILLE

Pauline Montgomery

#### CHARLOTTE FRANCIS

Larry & Lynne Stewart

Jesse & Sarah Yoakum

#### JACKIE LEE GIBSON

Walter & JoEllen Forster

### COREY & EVAN

#### GRANTHAM

Roger & Kathy Anspach

#### SANDRA GRANTHAM

Keith & Wilma Kennedy

Bill & Joanne Shinsky

#### DETHA GROB

Mildred Bell

#### RALPH HALE

Howard & Elva Hale

#### CHARLES HANLIN

John & Beth Fisher

Rochester Church of Christ

#### PAT HEATON

Helen Baither

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Guilford & Pat Rice

#### KIM SPECK

Michael & Marilyn Canterbury

#### BOB & MARY UTLEY

Hugh & Joy Mingle

#### LEROY & DORA WOOD

Rick & Shirley Wood



Chairperson Barbara Williams honored Helen Slater and Benita Ward for their longtime leadership of the Associates Fall Festival at the 39th annual event. Over half of the festivals have been chaired or co-chaired by one or both of these two amazing ladies!

## Advisory board expands

Members of the Estate Planning Advisory Board held their first regular meeting on the campus of Rochester College on September 3. Growing from an initial membership of four, the group now includes twelve people.

"Enthusiasm ran high at our opening meeting," stated Doug Edwards, vice president for development. "While we originally planned to hold only one meeting per year, the group wanted to meet at least three times!"

"Initially, we formed the board as a resource to aid our staff as we work with individuals who are interested in estate planning," Mr. Edwards continued. "A professional association is developing that provides a positive dynamic that is beneficial to both

the membership and the college."

Current membership of the advisory board includes Edward Bailey, Nashville, Tennessee; Gregg Carrier, Clio, Michigan; Bob Carris, Livonia, Michigan; W. Stanley Edwards, Martin, Tennessee; Greg Hinkson, Rochester Hills; David Laikind, Ortonville, Michigan; Alex Litrichin, Rochester Hills; Dean Oliver, Davison, Michigan; Bob Perry, Birmingham, Michigan; Michael E. Thomas, Flint, Michigan; Dr. John Todd, Rochester Hills; and Mark VanRheenen, Rochester Hills.

Accountants, attorneys, and financial planners who are interested in working with the advisory board should contact Doug Edwards in the Development Office at 1.800.521.6010.

## Planned Giving Matters

### More Blessed to Give ....

God is blessing Rochester College in marvelous ways. The cover page of this issue features several estate gifts which recently have been received by the college. These gifts will make it possible for the college to continue impacting the lives of students in wonderful ways while strengthening the college.

*Has the college fully arrived financially? No. Does it need estate gifts in the future? Yes!*

As the college is strengthened through endowment and as growth is planned to provide for increasing numbers of students, estate gifts will be needed even more. Most people can make their most generous gift to Rochester College through their final estate.

*Have you planned your estate? Do you have a will? If not, your state of residence likely has a will planned for you!* It is probable that your state of abode will not be thinking of your personal interests as it disburses your estate.

*Consider leaving a legacy for the future.* Careful planning of your estate, whether small or large, will benefit your family and the nonprofit organizations that you want to encourage.

Rochester College has established an estate planning advisory board to help serve you better. Our staff is available to counsel you, and we have many professional resources to call upon for answers to your questions.

*For assistance or questions, please call 1.800.521.6010 and press option 4 on the menu.* We will be happy to send you a free brochure entitled "Charted Giving Plans."

Doug Edwards

## Equipment Donations and Needs

Equipment donations that could be used by Rochester College and result in tax benefits to the donor include the following items:

automobiles (any size)	quality microscopes	lawn mowers
fireproof files	tractor and attachments	lap top computers
mini-vans or trucks	golf carts (maintenance)	snow plow

To discuss donation of an item, please phone Doug Edwards, vice president for development, at 1.800.521.6010 (option 4).

Memorial gifts and honor gifts may be sent to the Office of the President at the college address on the mailing panel. Be sure to include 1) your name and full address, 2) the name of the person being honored, and 3) the name and address of the person to receive an acknowledgment card.

# north star

NEWS BULLETIN OF ROCHESTER COLLEGE

VOLUME 40 NUMBER 1 FALL 1998



## New majors serve record enrollment

Rochester College experienced another record enrollment for the fall semester as the institution broke the 500 mark for the first time in its history. The availability of additional majors contributed to the record.

"Last year, our admissions staff dubbed the year *End of an Era*, since they felt we would never again enroll less than 400 students," stated Dr. Ken Johnson, president of the college. "In only one year, we have reached yet another enrollment milestone by passing the 500 level with students from nineteen states and eleven nations."

As the fall semester began, the college introduced new majors in English and music. "While we designed the new majors for education students planning to certify in English or music, the programs ended up providing attractive options for students seeking employment in a variety of careers other than teaching," stated Dr. Michael Westerfield, provost of the college.

Students enrolled in the new English major may select tracks in either literature or professional writing. Options in music education, music ministry, and vocal performance are available to music majors. Among the current student body, 14% of those



English students take advantage of a fall day with Mrs. VanRheenen.

with declared majors list English or music as their choice.

"To support the majors, we had to employ additional faculty members," stated Dr. Westerfield. "We were blessed with seasoned instructors who bring strong academic credentials and complement the faculty we already had in these departments."

With eighteen years of teaching experience at Northeastern Christian Junior College and Faulkner University, Dr. Tony Mowrer, joined the faculty of Rochester College as a professor of music. Before joining the faculty this fall, Beth VanRheenen, assistant professor of English, taught for seventeen years at the

secondary and college level, including positions at Harding Academy, Harding University, and Arkansas State University. Pam Light, a popular adjunct instructor at Rochester College for the past two years, moved to full-time status as an assistant professor of English.

"During the year, we plan to develop additional majors in history and general studies," noted Dr. Westerfield. "Again, these majors will be designed for teacher certification, but will be applicable to other students as well."

"In the general studies major, students will select two tracks," Dr. Westerfield continued. "At this point, we anticipate offering tracks in communication, history, general science, literature, mathematics, music, professional writing, and religion."

"We have hit a critical plateau with our enrollment," noted Dr. Johnson. "We are now at the point where we will need additional facilities to accommodate major enrollment increases. It is very important that we maintain momentum by providing new programs and facilities as quickly as resources become available."



Dr. Ben Noah shares insights with an upper-division psychology class.

**Current Majors  
See Page 2**



## inside the north star

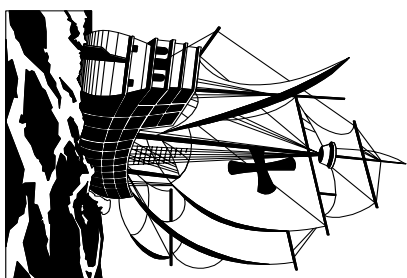
**Former  
First Lady  
slated to  
speak at  
Partnership  
Dinner on  
May 8 at  
Cobo Civic  
Center in  
Detroit**



The *North Star* is the official news bulletin of Rochester College. Comments should be addressed to Larry Stewart, director of public relations.  
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## Great Special Events Coming Next Spring!



### Celebration in Song

22nd Annual

March 19-20

Rochester  
College's  
extravaganza  
of music  
and drama

Celebrate  
Adventure



### Partnership Dinner XXVIII

May 8, 1999

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featuring Barbara Bush

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