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The Isom Atrium, home of the Solid Rock Cafe, is the place to be on the Rochester College campus. Whether you're interested in meeting friends for a game of cards, doing some late-night studying, or just grabbing a bite to eat, the casual atmosphere is always inviting. RC students can be found chillin' in the atrium at all hours of the day. Can't you see yourself along with them?

Visit the Rochester College web site at www.rc.edu
E-mail us at admissions@rc.edu

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INSIDE Rochester College

Liberal Arts in a Christian Setting

Volume 25 Number 2 Spring 2002

"It's about time" for celebration 2002 to hit RC

Each spring, the campus of Rochester College unites, putting together an extravagant production of song and dance called *Celebration*. This show is as much a part of the college's history as classes, and invokes more bonding and participation among the students and faculty than any other single event during the year. This year, the show will be held on March 22-23, with evening performances on both days and a Saturday matinee.

The theme for *Celebration 2002* is "It's About Time," which leaves the door wide open for individual acts to display extreme creativity. The show's overall director is Dr. Andy Kronenwetter, and he is heading up a team of faculty and students who are working hard to make sure this show will be *dy-no-mite*.

This year's hosts are senior Ryan Koral, sophomores Steve Corp and Teresa Whitt, and freshmen Veronica Arnett and Toni Washington. Their job is tough, to be sure—it's up to the hosts to keep the show fun and entertaining for the audience while tying all of the acts together and making sure the theme is always being expressed. "Being a host is a big responsibility, but it's all worth it when the show comes together," said Corp, who was also a host last year. "It's going to be a blast working with the other hosts, plus [Kronenwetter and musical coordinator Frank Pitts] are always a barrel of laughs. It's a great way to make tons of new friends, too. Overall, it's a really fun experience for everyone involved."

Sigma Phi Delta Nu will be going back to the future with its act, which combines the crazy antics of *Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure* with a little bit of the Renaissance, the Old West, and the Roaring Twenties. As the

main characters travel through time, they begin to realize a thing or two about their own lives. The large number of club members this year will allow for different scenes and costumes, which is sure to add dimension to the act. Club treasurer Autumn Gallahar is the director, secretary Brett Cummins is compiling the



Celebration 2002 hosts Ryan Koral, Veronica Arnett, Toni Washington, Teresa Whitt, and Steve Corp are getting ready to win the crowd with their creative leadership of the show.

music, and choreographers are Martha Traylor and Jenni Keller.

Epsilon is breaking new ground this year by being the first club in *Celebration* history to have a live inter-club band on stage playing all the musical numbers. The act will seem like it is improvisational, but don't be fooled—this club has it all figured out. Watch as the main characters—a director and a writer who think their act has been sabotaged—realize that they can't let other people or circumstances dictate how they live their lives. Director Jared McMillan and choreographers Alisa and Jennifer Jenkins have put together an act that is sure to be amusing.

In Tau's act, a high school guy is given a watch by three old women who tell him that with it he can fast forward to any point in his life. First he skips ahead to his graduation party, where he determines he's been given a pretty useful little tool. He then skips ahead to several important milestones throughout his life until he finally finds himself at his own funeral. When he gets there and looks back on his life, will he like what he sees? Amye Smith and Amy Yoakum are directing and choreographing this intense and thought-provoking act.

Make sure to join us for *Celebration*. It promises to be an exciting and entertaining show, and it's a great way to check out the RC campus in full swing!

This May, fourteen Rochester College students will travel to the Badlands of South Dakota to explore the elements of earth science that can usually only be read about in text books. The two-week tour of geological marvels will include Badlands National Park, Custer State Park, Wind Cave, Jewel Cave, the Museum of Geology, the Mammoth Site, the Petrified Forest, Devil's Tower, and Mt Rushmore.

This is the first time a program like this has been available to RC students, but already the faculty is looking forward to its future. "I hope this will become an annual offering," said David Brackney, assistant professor of physical science, who will be leading the group. "I think the trip is an exciting opportunity to see and experience the things students usually just read about."

The participants will camp in tents and prepare their own food for the duration of the tour. Each student will earn four hours of earth-science lab credit, which fulfills a general education requirement for all degree programs.

girls' soccer team slated for fall 2002; new head coach hired

Rochester College charged ahead toward the goal of fielding a women's soccer squad in 2002 when it recently hired Upper Iowa University head coach Eric Diehl to lead the Lady Warriors into their inaugural season. Diehl will also coach the men's soccer team.

Diehl, 44, established Upper Iowa's NCAA III soccer program in 1997 and built the men's team from the ground up. His 20 years of college coaching experience include serving as an assistant coach at Central Michigan University and Wilmington College (Ohio).

"I've always been interested in Rochester College," said Diehl. "Now is a great time to be at RC because the college is growing by leaps and bounds and so is the support for athletics."

Diehl began recruiting as soon as he accepted the position in December. He said his goals for 2002 include creating a solid nucleus for the women's team and bringing in men who could add to the Warriors' 2001 season record of 8-7-2.

"I want to recruit good players who love the game,"



Eric Diehl will be coaching both the men's and women's soccer teams.

said Diehl. "I want players who come to Rochester College and give it everything they've got on and off the field."

Diehl emphasized that he not only coaches, but still plays the game as well. As a goalkeeper in college, he played NCAA-I soccer for two years at Miami University (Ohio) and two and a half years at Wilmington College (Ohio). As both a player and coach at Wilmington, Diehl participated in 11 NAIA district championships and appeared in five national tournaments, including the NAIA Final Four. He also played professional soccer with the Louisville Thunder of the American Indoor Soccer Association.

Diehl said he strongly encourages his players to play and coach in off-season soccer leagues and summer camps, something he still does himself.

RC Athletic Director and men's varsity basketball coach Garth Pleasant is pleased with the new women's team and the new coach as well. "I'm very excited that Eric will be overseeing our soccer program. His past as not only a player but a coach at the NCAA level will be a strength to the program."

For more information about the men's or women's soccer teams, contact Eric Diehl at diehls-ccb@juno.com. You can also visit the Rochester College soccer website at www.rc.edu/athletics/soccer.htm.

from the class of 2002...



Stephanie Arnett
Livonia, Michigan

Stephanie, a senior at Church Hill High School, is excited to graduate and come to Rochester College in the fall. At Church Hill, Stephanie is a class representative and runs track. She also sings in the Metro Detroit Youth

Chorus and is a leader in her church's youth group. Stephanie works in the Lifetime Fitness daycare and hopes to be a kindergarten teacher someday. "I've been around Rochester College all my life and it's the natural place for me to go," Stephanie said. "My sister is there right now and I've gotten the opportunity to spend a lot of time with her and her friends. It's a really great place and I can't wait to be there myself!"

Geoff Bassett
Washington, Michigan



Geoff is finishing his senior year at Bethesda Christian High School this spring and will be attending Rochester College to get a degree in Youth Ministry. At Bethesda, Geoff plays on the varsity basketball team and is the senior class chaplain and the president of National Honor Society. He is very involved with his youth group, serving on the leadership and drama teams. He has also done mission work and volunteered in his community. "I am excited about coming to Rochester College because it is large enough to offer a wide choice of courses and extracurricular activities, but still small enough to be friendly," Geoff said.



Tessa Lewis
Amarillo, Texas

Tessa is finishing her junior year at Canyon High School and will be early enrolling at Rochester College this fall to pursue a business degree. Tessa is a cheerleader at her high school and is actively involved in her youth group. She also works at the cafe of Barnes & Noble Booksellers. Although in Michigan she'll be far from home, Tessa is excited. "Going to Rochester College really seems to be the direction God is leading me in," she said. "I have visited the campus several times and it seems like a fun and spiritual place. I have a lot of family in Michigan that I would love to be closer to, and going to Rochester will give me that opportunity."

public universities vs. private christian colleges: does one outweigh the other?

Every year, graduating high school seniors spend months deciding where to attend college. This decision can be especially difficult for Christian teenagers, who often struggle with whether to attend a public university or a small, private Christian school.

Often there seem to be many more options and benefits in larger universities than small colleges could possibly offer. However, bigger doesn't always mean better, as a recent RC transfer discovered.

Lori Handyside, a 2001 high school graduate from Kalamazoo, Michigan, transferred to Rochester College this semester after spending her first semester at Western Michigan University. About her experience at WMU and her decision to transfer to RC, Lori said, "As a high school senior making my final decision about which college to attend, many factors weighed in my mind about what would be best for my future. After much thought, I finally decided that

a large state school would be the most beneficial to me. I moved into my dorm in August and gradually began to realize that a big school isn't exactly what I thought it would be. Many of my friends had decided to attend the same school. Some liked it, and some did not. I did not. After my first semester there, I began looking for another school to attend."

"When I initially began looking at universities in high school, I didn't put much consideration into Christian schools because I didn't think that I would get as good of an education as I would at a larger university. I was concerned that the smaller student population would limit the options for classes and majors I was considering," Lori continued. However, she finally decided on Rochester College. "When I came to Rochester, I realized that smaller schools really could offer a large variety of programs. I also found that Rochester uses the same technology and resources on campus as a university 30 times its size, such

as Western.

"I discovered that the atmosphere at Rochester College is incredibly friendly. At many bigger schools, the huge number of students makes it hard to meet people. I found that I rarely saw the same person more than once a day on such a big campus. Here at Rochester, I've found that everyone is eager to meet someone new, to say hello, and to help me find my classes. The small size of the campus really makes college much easier," Lori finished.

As you wrap up your time in high school and begin thinking about where to attend college, weigh your options carefully. There are lots of good universities out there, but there are many equally good small Christian colleges as well. *Rochester College can provide you with an excellent education in a strong Christian atmosphere.* For more information, call the Enrollment Services office at 1.800.521.6010, option 2.

Summer Jam 2002



www.rc.edu Rochester College June 23-28

Ground-zero. The disturbing images we saw in the hours and days immediately following the September 11 terrorist acts are forever etched in our minds. In the aftermath of the 9-11 tragedy, it seems that more than just rescue workers are searching. We all want answers. And so we dig through the debris of our false securities, hoping to find explanations that will help us make sense of this unthinkable tragedy. To be certain, no explanation comes easily, especially for those impacted directly by the attacks, grieving for lost family members, friends, and co-workers. But even for those of us who live a comfortable distance—geographically and emotionally—from what's taken place, the happenings of that fateful day in September impact us with important, uncomfortable questions about who we are nationally and where we are spiritually.

Gordon MacDonald, author and minister, volunteered at Ground Zero immediately following the collapse of the World Trade Center buildings. He recorded his reactions to the experience each night in his journal. Part of his journal entry from September 20, 2001 reads this way:

"As I talk to and pray for firefighters, it suddenly occurs to me that I have not touched a man whose shoulders aren't enormous. They are, for the most part, tough men. But they have deep hearts. One firefighter said to me, 'My sister is a real Christian. And she's been on my back because I've backslidden. This thing has really awakened me. I've got to stop backsliding.' So I suggested we could put a stop to the backsliding right then and there. He thought that was a great idea, so I

prayed, 'Help my friend John to cut out the backsliding. Give him a new heart; help him to make you proud.' He wept and was so grateful. And headed for the pit."

This firefighter's testimony gives us a glimpse not only into his heart, but into the heart of America. "This thing," as he calls it, has really awakened us all... or at least it should have. The questions we're asking now are questions we should have been asking all along. "Where is God when things go wrong?" "Can I trust Him to be who He says He is, to do what He said He'd do?" "As a nation, do we trust Him, desire Him?" "As His church, are we faithful to Him, in pursuit of Him?"

These questions and many more are the kinds of things we will discuss together at Summer Jam 2002. When you put a powerful theme like "In God We Trust" next to powerful keynote speakers like Patrick Mead, Don McLaughlin, and the others who will be joining us for the week of camp, you can expect a life-changing encounter with Christ at this event. Shannon Williams will be leading worship, and entertainers like Christian comedian Scott Gregory and contemporary Christian artist Riley Armstrong will be joining us as well. Youth ministers from all over the region are already working together to plan Summer Jam 2002, and it promises to be the best Summer Jam yet. God is calling us to go deeper with Him, to love Him unwaveringly, to trust Him faithfully. Your experience at Summer Jam 2002 will help you as you continue in your walk with God and endeavor to love and trust Him more. We hope to see you there.

Check out Rochester College's Summer Jam Website at:
www.rc.edu/summerjam/

MARK YOUR CALENDAR TO JOIN US FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS

College Life Preview Day	February 22, 2002
Celebration Weekend	March 22-23, 2002
Music Department Scholarship Auditions	March 23, 2002
Fall Pre-Registration Begins	April 8, 2002
Company Auditions	April 13, 2002
College Life Preview Day	April 19, 2002
Music Department Scholarship Auditions	April 20, 2002
Autumn and Spectrum Auditions	June 13-15, 2002
Summer Jam	June 23-28, 2002
Cedar Point Sunshine Rally	June 17, 2002

For information on any of these special events, please call the Enrollment Services Office toll-free at 1.800.521.6010.

PATRICK MEAD MOVES TO ROCHESTER TO PREACH AND TEACH

An old friendship became the catalyst that eventually led Patrick Mead to Michigan when he and Rochester College Spiritual Life Director Shannon Williams reunited for Summer Jam 2001. Williams, whose first ministry job was with Mead's church in Ohio, is also the worship minister at the Rochester church of Christ, and their collaboration led Mead to his new position as the church's pulpit minister. In November, the Mead family relocated to Rochester, moving from Surfside Beach, South Carolina. The church, which is located right next to the college, is involved with RC in many ways, and the addition of Mead to the ministry staff

will benefit the college as well as the church.

"I'm a nut about students," Mead said. "One of the big draws bringing me up here was the opportunity to work with Rochester College. Basically, I'll do anything I can to help the college." With the start of the spring semester, Mead began teaching a Sunday morning college class at the church focusing on the life of Christ. Instead of operating on a traditional quarter system, the class will continue until the study is complete, operating on student time. Mead will also be speaking frequently at RC's daily assembly. Although he does not plan to teach college classes of his own, he is interested in filling in as a substitute if possible. With the launch of a master's program in religion this fall, Mead may even take a few classes himself!

About the move from the sunny shores of South Carolina to the cold Michigan winter, Mead said, "This church and this opportunity to work with Rochester College was worth it." Mead, who holds several degrees in a variety of subjects from universities worldwide, is married to Kami. They have two children, Kara, 18, and Duncan, 12. All of them are extremely close, and they all look forward to their new work in Michigan.



Patrick and Kami Mead recently moved from Surfside Beach, South Carolina, to work in Rochester Hills, Michigan.