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## **RWC News, March 1975**

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# ROGER WILLIAMS COLLEGE **NEWS**

MARCH, 1975



ROGER WILLIAMS COLLEGE NEWS / VOLUME IV, NUMBER 2

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Water in winter, taken from the foot of the Mt. Hope Bridge by freshman Susan Davitt. Last fall Miss Davitt won a prize in the Providence Journal's Photo Contest. THE LONDON THEATRE PROGRAM
AT ROGER WILLIAMS COLLEGE

"Gigantic, gutsy, homogeneous" ... that's a city, London, and to William Grandgeorge, director of RWC's Theatre Department, it is the most theatrically exciting city in the world -- storehouse of a rich past, seat of a unified culture, "the center of everything." This passion for London has been translated into the London Theatre Program, a period of study abroad designed as an integral part of the theatre major. As Bill Grandgeorge sees it, a semester in England is meant, at the very least, to change a student's outlook, to broaden his total perspective. More specifically, it's meant to make him understand the whole history of



theatre in relation to the whole culture. "In painting," Bill explains, "there's no applause, but the work endures. Theatre is ethereal, unreproducible. The theatre heritage is not there to <u>see</u>. So a theatre person must get an understanding of his craft by understanding other crafts. Dali can paint like Dali, but a theatre person has to know a range of styles, from Medea to Tennessee Williams."

Under the auspices of the London Theatre Program, 22 students from Roger Williams and three from Rhode Island Junior College are now in London, "living in a very English way" in a bed-and-breakfast establishment (akin to an American guest house) 11 blocks north of Hyde Park. They arrived on February 5 and began classes on February 10. They've already taken a river tour of the city and been to a Sunday concert at the Royal Festival Hall. They're seeing a minimum of three plays a week. Each student is taking five courses from among six offered; one of these, "British Theatre and Its Cultural Influences", is required and meets once a week after a play. It is here that the students are expected to discuss, along with the play, their excursions into other forms of culture -- museums, art galleries, and so on. They'll see productions at the Old Vic, the Haymarket, the Vaudeville Theatre, and the Players' Theatre (known to Channel 2 buffs as the scene of the short pieces following each episode of "Upstairs, Downstairs"). Supplementing the plays will be two ballets, three operas, and two Gilbert and Sullivan operettas. Side tours, courtesy of BritRail passes, will include Windsor Castle, Hampden Court, Stratford-Upon-Avon, and the city of Bath, site of a world renowned costume museum.

Accompanying the students is program director Michael A. Romano, who heads the Theatre Department at RIJC. Mr. Romano is instructor in "World Drama" and "Theatre Practice." The latter course provides experience in every phase of theatre production and relates directly to productions at the Cockpit Theatre (neither a bird nor a plane but an arena theatre built in the style of pits where cockfights were held). The Cockpit Theatre is under the jurisdiction of the Greater London Council, which manages all sports and art events not managed by the Crown. Other resources include significant library collections and "crash workshops" conducted by the British Drama League, of which RWC has been a member since 1971.

The course in directing, which focuses on specific problems as seen in current London productions, is taught by Hywel Jones, known for his experimental work in and around London. James Roose-Evans conducts the acting workshop. Mr. Roose-Evans was first

consultant to the RWC Theatre Department when it was forming and an instructor in the first London Theatre Program, 1971-72. A world authority on Medieval drama, Dr. E. Martin Browne, will lecture on Eliot's "Murder in the Cathedral"; in conjunction with this the students will visit Canterbury Cathedral. About nine of the students (not all of whom are theatre majors) have undertaken independent studies, which were approved by their divisions before they left home. Such studies which do not relate to theatre must deal with some aspect of British culture.

The English penchant for theatre has created a triple plus for theatre-lovers who also happen to be students: variety, quality, and low cost. "Out of 19 events booked so far," according to Bill, "only one of them costs more than one pound per person." By law 10% of the house cannot be sold until the day of performance, and restricted view seats cannot be sold at more than half the price of regular seats. (Exceptions to the rule are Covent Garden and the Aldwich.) At the Royal Festival Hall an entire section called the choir is given over to students at reduced prices.

RWC students currently Thameside are: Henry Fluster, Tony Risoli, Mary Steeves, and Constance Urban, seniors; Betsy Carlin, Neal Delaporta, Lisa Enslen, Judy Hutchings, Craig Jones, and Martin Ziegler, juniors; Seth Abbott, Christy Clifford, Patricia Cochran, Holly Hutchins, Carolyn Jones, and Lenore Urbanik, sophomores; Richard Cameron, Jeffrey Gage, Antoinette McCarthy, Garry Morris, Andrew Slavin, and Paul Smith, freshmen. Sixteen of them are majoring in theatre. And they're savoring superb theatrical fare at two dollars and thirty-seven cents a head. New York, eat your heart out.

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FOCUS ON STUDENTS On January 14, Armen Tamamian, a part-time business student, was presented with a Suggestion Award Certificate and \$365 in award money at his place of employment, the U.S. Defense Supply Agency's regional office in Boston.

Armen has been a computer technician there since September, 1972. The Agency receives supply requests from the armed services (anything from ballistic missiles to shoelaces), draws up specifications, and negotiates with private contractors to fulfill the specs. Last March Armen filled in for a sick colleague on a tedious job -- manually scanning 75 firesafe tapes out of 3,000 because a program had never been written which would permit computer retrieval. At Armen's suggestion, the computer was duly programmed, resulting in an annual saving of \$6,285 in manpower hours. Armen has completed three data processing courses with Ferdinand Schroth and is working toward a B.S. in general business.

Poems by two creative writing majors have been accepted by the literary magazine Intro: Life as We Know It, edited by writer George Garrett and published by Doubleday. VerKuilen Ager's "sac city" and Clifford Saunders' "Driving Home from Coney Island" will appear in a forthcoming issue. Maria Flook, a 1973 graduate in creative writing, appeared in the most recent Intro, which has one of the largest printings and circulation of any literary magazine.

In Washington during the week of February 24 were four seniors selected by the Political Studies Area to be interns in the offices of Senator Claiborne Pell and Representative Edward Beard. Assigned to Senator Pell's office were Monica Egresits and Brian Phillips, both political studies majors; assigned to Representative Beard's office were Eugene LaBonte, Jr., majoring in business administration, and Jean Ferreira, majoring in sociology. Announced each spring, the internship program allows students to see how a Congressman's office operates and to observe Congressional sessions.

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On January 13, John Pelletier, a representative of the Sears-Roebuck Foundation, presented a check for \$900 to President Gauvey. Roger Williams College is among the almost 1,000 private, accredited institutions across the country sharing in Sears Foundation funds for the

1974-1975 academic year.

"But, Grandma, what big teeth ....." LRRH's deathless words to the spurious old lady were uttered on January 14 by Roland Shappy, during an afternoon workshop for Head Start interns from Rhode Island and nearby Massachusetts. The purpose of the workshop, one of several conducted by the Advisory for Open Education, Cambridge, was to help the interns (teachers and teachers' aides) make learning materials out of "scrounge stuff" -scraps recyclable into new uses. One group chose to dramatize the tale of Little Red Riding Hood and cast Mr. Shappy, Head Start regional program manager, in the title role. Dr. Paul Jarman, who is education director for the program, played the forest; in the photo he is being menaced by a distinctly Ozian weapon. The 35 participants included field advisors Bianca Gray (Wolf/Grandma) and Sandy Kelman, and two consultants to the regional program, Fran Moultrop and Cornelia Voorhies. The



interns were chosen by their peers at local Head Start centers, of which there are seven in Rhode Island and three in Southeastern Massachusetts. At a March 4 follow-up workshop held in the Providence YMCA, the teacher-interns showed what their pupils had created in the classroom by applying ingenuity to "scrounge stuff." The Head Start program, in which Roger Williams has taken part for several years, is funded through HEW's Office of Human Development.

On January 22, seven students from Project AWARE visited the campus and were supervised in some kitchen and janitorial duties. Project AWARE is a federally funded pre-vocational school for educable, mentally retarded, middle school students in Providence. The program is designed to make the students aware of skilled or unskilled jobs they might undertake in the future. Accompanying the seven students were Joseph Dailey, coordinator, and Karin Di Cenzo, instructor.

Lucien Stryk, poet and expert on Oriental literature, was writer-in-residence at Bristol, February 24-28. On February 25 Mr. Stryk gave a special lecture on "Zen and Modern American Poetry," in addition to a reading on February 27. March 13 brought writer Andre Dubus to the campus. A group reading is scheduled for April 10, to include DeWitt Henry, a co-founder and director of Ploughshares, as well as three RWC creative writing majors: Adrienne Maher, Sandra Grossi, and Colleen Russell.

The Political Forum has sponsored appearances by two nationally known figures. Journalist Brit Hume spoke on February 26, and Victor Marchetti on March 11. As an investigator for columnist Jack Anderson, Mr. Hume played a key role in several major exposes, including the ties between the Nixon Administration and ITT lobbyist Dita Beard. Mr. Marchetti, a former CIA agent, is the author of The CIA and the Cult of Intelligence.

During February and early March, Donna DeStefano, Acting Director of Career Develop-

Development, led a series of workshops aimed at teaching the skills basic to a successful job search. Although primarily for the benefit of RWC seniors, the workshops were also open to the public. Ms. DeStefano has established a career information center on the third floor of the library.

On March 1, the Bristol Consort presented a concert of music from the 12th-16th centuries in the library. Six musicians in period dress played recorders, flutes, psaltery, lute, and viola da gamba. Commentary was provided by James Bartram, an RWC/UWW alumnus whose profession is making historical woodwinds. The Consort's members are, in addition to Mr. Bartram, Nancy Ayton, a lutist and guitarist; Will Ayton, a graduate of the Shenandoah Conservatory of Music; Aaron Smith, a Music Education major at Rhode Island College; Mary Spalding, a graduate of the Eastman School of Music and a mathematics instructor at RWC; and Philip Stiles, Chairman of the Physics Department at Brown.



BRISTOL CONSORT, left to right: W. Ayton, P. Stiles, J. Bartram, N. Ayton, M. Spalding, A. Smith.

The College was host to a March 5 U.S.O.E. Workshop sponsored by the American Personnel and Guidance Association. About 20 people from school districts in the East Bay met to discuss sex stereotyping in the public schools.

Wine, cheese, conversation, and a play -- these were the constituents of Open Division Night at the Coffeehouse Theatre on March 7, held in the Student Center.

The Women's Center is flourishing. It has presented speakers and film showings, including Kate Millett's "Three Lives." On April 3 it will sponsor an on-campus production of "Persephone's Return" by the Rhode Island Feminist Theatre, and it is making plans for a women's fair in early April. Advisor Mary Lytle reports that the Center does need more womanpower to keep it continually open, and urges interested women at RWC to volunteer whatever time they can.

Undergraduate students currently studying at colleges in Rhode Island, Connecticut, and Massachusetts will be invited to compete on canvas during the Southern New England

Painters' Festival, scheduled to open Sunday afternoon, April 13. It will be followed later in April by the Senior Degree Project exhibit, a requirement of art majors at Roger Williams College. Both exhibits will last a week.

## APPOINTMENTS ... MAURICE GAUVIN, Bursar, has an A.A. in business administration from Rhode Island Junior College and will earn his bachelor's in accounting this May from RWC. He is a resident of Johnston.

- ... JOSEPH SMITH, administrative assistant in the Division of Continuing Education, worked previously for <a href="The Echo">The Echo</a> and as a feature writer on travel for the <a href="Providence Journal">Providence Journal</a>. In the summer of 1972, Mr. Smith and two other men walked from Washington, D.C. to mid-Ohio; one product of this four-month jaunt was a <a href="Providence Sunday Journal">Providence Sunday Journal</a> series which ran for 18 weeks. He recently published an article in the <a href="Rhode Islander">Rhode Islander</a> about the birth of his daughter by the Lamaze method. Mr. Smith lives with his wife and two children in Smithfield.
- ... JOHN PHILIP SCHUYLER, a history instructor and a member of the Open Division, has been appointed a Planning Associate for the Planning Project on Purposes of Postsecondary Education in Rhode Island. The appointment was made by Thomas C. Schmidt, Commissioner of Education, on the recommendation of President Gauvey. Mr. Schuyler will work with staff members of the R.I. Department of Education and an advisory group of representatives from affected institutions and consumers. As Planning Associate, he will assume the major role in drafting a position paper for Purpose II (continuing education), one of the five purposes for postsecondary education now under study by the Department of Education.

TRUSTEES AND
CORPORATION

College. He is the son of Alvin E. Anderson, Chairman of the RWC Board of Trustees from 1960 to 1969. New Corporation members elected in February are: Mrs. Charles Bogosian of Warwick; Mr. Arthur D'Ercole of Cranston; Mr. Earl Franklin of Warwick; Mr. George Kelley of Lincoln; and Mr. Daniel Lapolla of Cranston. With regret we note the passing, in January, of Andrew Joslin, who had been a Corporation member since April, 1971.

ROGER WILLIAMS COLLEGE
NEWS

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