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College sets course into next century with strategic planning

Charting the college's course into the next century, the Board of Trustees recently approved a new strategic plan for Rochester College. Designed as a planning guide for the next decade, the document addresses important goals for the college's continued growth and development.

"The infrastructure of Rochester College has been strengthened significantly by the goals met in our last plan," stated Dr. Ken Johnson, president of the college. "We are now positioned for a period of time with even more remarkable progress."

The college introduced its last strategic plan in 1994. Since most goals were met ahead of schedule, college officials decided to accelerate the process by initiating further planning in 1997. Immediately, numerous committees, consisting of board and council members, alumni, employees, and students, began discussing their assigned tasks.

"Since strategic plans are living documents that require adjustments as circumstances and opportunities arise, we initially had to relook at our campus mas-

ter plan," stated Dr. Johnson. "To accommodate changes, TMP Associates revised our plan and delivered a new drawing before the end of last year."

As the committees submitted their recommendations, a draft of the final plan was prepared for the board. The plan addressed specific goals for academic programs, athletics, the College of Extended Learning, development, facilities, operations, personnel, student recruitment, student services, and technology.

"During the planning stages, we were able to begin addressing some of the goals being discussed by the committees," stated Dr. Johnson. "Already, we have met several goals identified in the final draft of the plan."

To meet one goal of the strategic plan, a faculty committee wrote a new mission statement for the college last fall. In the months that followed, the faculty developed proposed bachelor's degree majors in interdisciplinary studies and history.

During the spring, the Development Office launched a successful new format for the Part-



Gerald and Lucille Isom are joined by the Carsons and Sharon Whitlatch for the atrium ground breaking.

nership Dinner, including a sponsorship program and a speaker with national recognition.

During the summer, workers met additional goals by renovating the cafeteria and beginning major improvements on the base-

ball field. The college then broke ground for the Isom Atrium at the Fall Festival.

"Dramatic improvements that will benefit our students for decades currently are in the planning stages," stated Dr. Johnson.

"We will unveil some of those plans in the months ahead."

The introductory text and philosophy behind the new strategic plan, entitled *A Decade of Vision*, is included on the center spread of this issue of the *North Star*.

Making Headlines

LIBRARY BOOKS

Luckett Christian Academy donates children's library to college. Page 2.

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ALUMNI AWARDS

Four alumni recognized for achievement. Page 9.

BOOK RELEASE

ACU Press decides to publish series based on Sermon Seminar. Page 11.

General Powell scheduled for Partnership Dinner

Former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Colin L. Powell, USA (Ret.), has consented to be the keynote speaker at the 29th annual Partnership Dinner on May 13 in Detroit. The general will speak on the *Challenges of a Changing World*.

"General Powell is one of the most admired men in America",

stated Elton Albright, event coordinator. "Former first lady Barbara Bush charmed those in attendance at the last dinner. Those who attend the 2000 dinner are also in for a real treat."

General Powell is the author of a bestselling autobiography, *My American Journey*, in which he details his life from his Harlem

roots to his role in advising the last three chief executives, Presidents Reagan, Bush, and Clinton. General Powell served as a professional soldier for thirty-five years and oversaw Operation Desert Storm during the 1991 Persian Gulf War.

"We feel fortunate to have someone of General Powell's stature speaking at the 2000 dinner," stated Dr. Ken Johnson, president of the college. "By his example, General Powell serves as a source of encouragement to America's youth that success can still be achieved through hard work and determination."

General Powell is held in high regard worldwide. In addition to numerous U.S. military awards and decorations, at least eighteen governments have decorated him. Among his civilian awards are two Presidential Medals of Freedom, the President's Citizens Medal, and the prestigious Congressional Gold Medal.

Tickets for the 29th annual Partnership Dinner currently are available through the Development Office at the college. The price for the great evening of fellowship and entertainment re-



General Colin L. Powell (Ret.)

mains at \$100 for adults and \$50 for students. In addition, sponsorship information is available through the Development Office. For the first time last year, sponsors enjoyed special reserved seating at the dinner, a photograph opportunity with the keynote speaker, and recognition in the printed program.

"The 1999 event with Barbara Bush created a new image for the Partnership Dinner," noted Dr. Johnson. "We are looking forward to building on that positive experience with General Powell."



Many individuals who paved the way for the current progress at Rochester College visited campus for Founders Day. Participants reflected upon a proud past and bright future. Page 10.

Larger faculty serves another record number of students



Dear Friends,

God continues to bless our plans and our efforts at Rochester College. None of us, just a few short years ago, would have dared to suggest that we would be serving 600 students this semester. Such would have seemed too incredible! Our 1993 Strategic Plan projected only 480 students for 1999. We are thankful for the progress, and at the same time are tremendously challenged to effectively serve a rapidly growing student body.

To serve our students, we have added twenty-eight new positions in the last eight years. We now have eighteen faculty members with a doctoral degree, plus six more who are doctoral candidates, not counting several who are enrolled in doctoral course work at the present time. Our faculty, including full-time and part-time personnel, now numbers sixty-five!

Our founders believed that a strong college in Rochester, Michigan, would be a blessing to the region's Christian families in many ways. Primarily, the goal was to serve students who wanted a close-to-home college education in a setting where Christian values and faith in God are taught and encouraged.

Just this semester, fifty-six students transferred to Rochester College from other colleges and universities, primarily to get closer to home in a Christian environment. They came from Cornerstone University, Lipscomb University, Harding University, Cedarville College, Oklahoma Christian University, Belmont College, Abilene Christian University, and a number of other colleges. At the same time, students came to us this year from twenty-five states and twelve nations!

Your investment in Rochester College makes this possible. We thank you for your confidence in this institution through forty years of service. In the next decade, God willing, we will see significant additional steps of progress that will increasingly make Rochester College the first choice of college students who want a quality education in a strong Christian environment. Thank you for your involvement in our progress.

Yours for the Master,

Kenneth L. Johnson

Kenneth L. Johnson
President

Worth Repeating

A student recently wrote a thank you note to an employee, relating an event that happened to her earlier that day.

"As we were leaving assembly today, my friend Greg said, 'You know we have to leave this place when we graduate?' I just looked at him and said, 'It really feels safe here doesn't it?' We were both really moved by assembly and sad about knowing that it is the only place we know of that has this much Christ in it."



Students share favorite readings during a children's literature class.

Honor society chartered on campus

Joining over 300 colleges and universities from over the nation, Rochester College chartered a local chapter of Alpha Chi on September 9. The national honor scholarship society recognizes students in the top ten percent of junior and senior classes at member institutions.

"This is a significant step for Rochester College and the students that will be honored by this organization," stated Dr. Michael Westerfield, provost of the college. "It is our first honor society that serves all majors on the campus, allowing us to recognize overall academic excellence."

Dr. Dennis Organ, executive director of Alpha Chi and professor of English at Harding University, traveled to Michigan to install the chapter. Normally, the executive director passes this responsibility to a representative, but he desired to personally induct the Rochester College chapter because of his institution's relationship to the college.

After formal installation of the local chapter, Rochester College inducted sixteen students. Each



Sponsor Rex Hamilton visits with Rachel Gulish and Irina Sanches.

had earned a grade point average in excess of 3.80 during their academic career at Rochester College. Faculty members and fellow students congratulated the new members at a reception following the induction ceremonies.

"We want to hold our students to the highest academic standard at Rochester College," stated Rex Hamilton, assistant professor of

religion and sponsor of Alpha Chi. "We encourage them to see their studies as a significant part of their service to God."

"We also want our students to find joy in the rigor of study and discovery," Mr. Hamilton continued. "It is my hope that our chapter will serve as a catalyst in the development and implementation of academic achievement."

Luckett donates library

Luckett Christian Academy, which served the Detroit area since 1977, recently decided to cease operations. In the process of distributing assets, the board decided to donate their library to Rochester College.

"While we were saddened by the closing of Luckett, we were honored by their decision to help us meet our mission," stated Dr. Ken Johnson, president of the college. "The influence of Luckett will continue not only in the hearts of her alumni, but in the lives of Rochester College students who are preparing to teach."

Since establishing a cooperative program for teacher certification in 1996, the college has added certifiable majors in English, music, and history. Eventually, the college plans to seek

state approval to provide the certification process as well.

"As we plan for the future, this donation will help our library meet state standards for teacher education," stated Dr. Michael Westerfield, provost of the college. "This gift should make it possible for us to meet or exceed the requirements for titles in children's literature. We can now concentrate on building a curriculum library."

"With Luckett's donation, we tripled our children's literature collection," stated Sheila Owen, director of the Muirhead Library. "We now have an extensive collection of award-winning books covering several decades."

Among significant titles now available in the Muirhead Library are a collection of Newbery and Caldecott Medal Books, and a number of Coretta Scott King Award Winners.

"Barbara Gray, a retired librarian, developed a substantial portion of the Luckett library when I worked at the academy," stated Linda Park, assistant professor of education and instructor of the children's literature class. "Mrs. Gray, who now does volunteer work in the Muirhead Library, obtained many rare volumes while assisting Luckett. Those books now provide a wonderful resource for our education students."

"Previously, we had very few nonfiction books for children in areas like history, math, and science, which are needed to learn how to prepare lesson plans," stated Ms. Owen. "Approximately one-third of our children's collection is now starting to meet that need because of the forethought of the Luckett board."

Why RC?



Why does Rochester College exist? Because of students like Nadine Taylor, a music education major from Marion, Michigan.

Since arriving at Rochester College, Nadine has performed with the A Cappella Chorus, Autumn, and Spectrum. She also is a member of the new Chamber Chorus. "I have developed some of my dearest friendships through the performing groups," Nadine stated.

"As a music major, I have thoroughly enjoyed participating in many musical activities," Nadine continued. "In the performing groups, we sing music that not only is beautiful, but also praises the Lord. We sing with people who understand and are therefore able to sincerely express the texts."

Now in her senior year, Nadine is a member of Alpha Chi, a national honor society, and a regular participant in Celebration.



Employee Highlights

ChoralNet recently selected **Dr. Tony Mowrer**, professor of music, as secretary of their board. The organization is a web-based clearing house for choral music information.

Dr. David Fleer, professor of religion and communication, spoke at a workshop hosted by the North Warren Church of Christ on September 18.

Hosted by the East Main Church of Christ, **Dr. Mike Westerfield** spoke for a men's retreat in October.

Six hundred singers from around the nation are expected at the annual Christian High School Choral Festival in Nashville. **Joe Bentley**, associate professor of music, will serve as the clinician and conductor for the November event.

Jeff Cohu, associate professor of business, will present a paper with his graduate advisor at the 19th Annual Lilly Conference on College Teaching at Miami University in November.

Traveling to Bend, Oregon, in November, **Dr. David Greer**, associate professor of history, will speak at a campus ministry retreat. A week later, he will serve on a missions panel for the Balkan Summit at Abilene Christian University.

Renovated cafeteria named for former president

Founders Day provided an opportunity for the college to honor several individuals who played a key role in the early development of Rochester College. During the day, Dr. Ken Johnson, current president, announced naming of the newly renovated cafeteria in honor of Dr. Milton B. Fletcher, fifth president of the college.

Beginning in the early summer with removal of the closets and mailboxes located at the entrance of the facility, workers reshaped the cafeteria floor plan. In the weeks that followed, they built a new ceiling, installed air conditioning, added cabinetry in an expanded serving area, and refurbished the facility with new tables and chairs.

"By the opening of the academic year, we had a beautiful place to serve meals, host banquets, and experience some of the joys of college life, but the facility needed a name," Dr. Johnson told Founders Day guests. "Since Dr. Fletcher invested more years of his life than any other person involved in the formative years of the college, we decided the facility should bear his name."

"Dr. Fletcher first served the college for over a decade, beginning in 1961. During those years, he gained a love for this institution nearly as strong as a man has for his family," Dr. Johnson continued. "Within a few years, when the college was looking for a president, the trustees recognized that Dr. Fletcher likely knew the college better than any candidate,

and recognizing his love for this college, asked him to become the fifth president. He served in that capacity for eleven years."

On Founders Day, the college also honored Mary Johnson and Jeannette Schiele for their leadership in the project that funded the cafeteria renovation. Since 1997, the two ladies, assisted by members of the Associates, have assembled and sold angel pins on behalf of the college. Proceeds from the project funded the entire cafeteria renovation, which totaled nearly \$100,000.

Charles Hadfield, a retired artist who was recently featured in the *Detroit Free Press* for his skill in gold-leaf lettering, painted the sign for Fletcher Center. His son, Ron, a member of the class of 1976 and director of publications at Abilene Christian University, provided a portrait of Dr. Fletcher for the facility. Mr. Hadfield's



Students enjoy comfortable new surroundings in the Fletcher Center.

wife, Margaret, an Associates president during Dr. Fletcher's years as president, unveiled the sign, which now hangs over the entrance of Fletcher Center.



Mary Johnson, Jeannette Schiele, Margaret Hadfield, and the Fletchers

Our Goals

Addressing employees, Dr. Ken Johnson outlined a formula for meeting or exceeding student expectations.

- Warm, faith-affirming environment
- Consistently good academic classes
- Efficient, friendly, and caring people
- Clean and neat campus
- Recognizable value
- Solid career placement

Rochester College is deeply committed to that type of campus community!

Evening program added

Building upon a highly successful weekend program for adult learners, the College of Extended Learning recently began promotion of two additional programs. Beginning in January, both will be offered in their entirety during the evening hours.

"Since starting our weekend degree completion programs in business and counseling, we have

had students who lack a few liberal arts courses wanting to enroll," stated Tracey Hebert, dean of the College Extended Learning. "By offering all of the course work required for an associate degree during the evening hours, we will be able to serve such students, as well as those starting their degree from scratch."

Along with the associate program, the College of Extended Learning will launch a bachelor's degree program in early childhood education. Courses in both programs will meet one night per week for eight weeks.

"We were approached by the Oakland-Livingston Human Service Agency, who presented a need for this type of program in the local area," stated Mr. Hebert. "The agency supervises the Head Start Program in this region, and plans to pay full-tuition for any of their employees who enroll in the program."

"The early childhood degree will serve a unique niche in the educational market," Mr. Hebert continued. "While it is not designed to serve as a certification program for those desiring to teach elementary school, it will provide specialized training for those planning to pursue a career in early childhood settings."



Rochester College
Building the Infrastructure
of the Kingdom

knowledge ~ jobs
homes ~ relationships

The commitment of the founders of Rochester College has shaped who we were yesterday, who we are today, and who we shall be tomorrow. Whether teaching secular subjects or Christian topics, every generation of leaders at the college has been and must be committed to teaching under the light of the biblical message.

Likely, no generation will capture a full and correct understanding of everything biblical. Likely, no generation will totally apply biblical concepts and precepts accurately to every situation that arises in the culture of that generation. Some generations may become increasingly biblical. Some generations may lose some ground in their biblical understanding. Each generation will be tempted to isolate and emphasize certain portions of the biblical message.

Therefore, it must be the primary goal of every generation of college leadership to call the college and the church back to the biblical text. No other anchor is solid. No other anchor is sound.

If our commitment is to be biblical, and if we give each new generation of adults the freedom to use their best scholarship and their best logic to apply Truth to the challenges of their generation, then the church will never stray very far from its roots at Pentecost, and our graduates will know where they must set the anchor for those who follow. This, too, is a part of walking by faith.

Dr. J



Rochester College officially became the newest partner in the University Center at Macomb Community College this summer as Dr. Joseph Champagne, dean of the center, and Dr. Ken Johnson, president of Rochester College, signed an articulation agreement. Rochester College began offering bachelor's degree classes on the Macomb campus during the fall semester. Dr. Champagne hailed the flexible new degree program as "in the true spirit of the University Center's mission."

Faculty strengthened with additions

Growing in number and academic strength, the faculty of Rochester College added four full-time members to its ranks this fall. In addition, three individuals completed course work toward their doctoral degrees.

"When I arrived at Rochester College, Dr. Johnson charged me with the continuing task of building a strong faculty," stated Dr. Mike Westerfield, provost. "Since that time, our faculty has nearly doubled in size."

Those joining the full-time faculty this fall included Jeff Cohu, associate professor of business; Dr. David Greer, associate professor of history; Rex Hamilton,

assistant professor of religion; and Dr. Gregory Stevenson, professor of religion. Mr. Hamilton's wife, Jennifer, also is teaching nearly a full load in the English department.

"As we seek faculty members, we look for those who are highly qualified in their field and have the potential of being outstanding instructors," Dr. Westerfield noted. "It is also highly important that each one is committed to the Christian faith."

"Of those joining the faculty this fall, two already had completed their doctoral degrees," Dr. Westerfield continued. "Two others were doctoral candidates, and

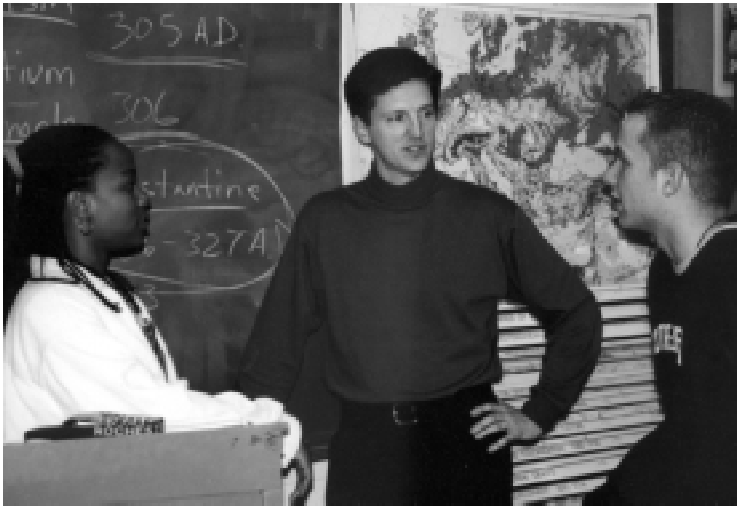
the last currently is enrolled in a doctoral program. All five had teaching experience, which made them even more attractive candidates for our openings."

"While we have been trying to hire qualified people with doctoral degrees to support our new bachelor's degree majors, the current faculty has also risen to the challenge," Dr. Westerfield noted. "Presently, we have eleven enrolled in doctoral programs. The institution has made support available for graduate study, and the faculty have responded by finding programs that help meet the institution's needs."

This past summer, three faculty members completed course work for their doctoral degrees, Joe Bentley, associate professor of music; Craig Johnson, assistant professor of mathematics; and Andrew Kronenwetter, associate professor of communication.

Four individuals received promotions in rank, Frank Pitts, assistant professor of music; Garth Pleasant, professor of physical education; Vivian Turner, assistant professor of mathematics; and Carol Van Hooser, assistant professor of biology.

"Faculty retention has been a high priority over the last four years," stated Dr. Westerfield. "Each academic year, more have been with the institution long enough to receive tenure."



Kelly Johnson and Josh Graves visit with Dr. David Greer after class.

Molding Futures ...



Kent Hoggatt, Craig Johnson, and Carol Van Hooser

Good instructors are at 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.

Drawing upon his experience as a teacher and minister, **Kent Hoggatt** returned to the classroom at Rochester College on a part-time basis this fall. Before moving to Iowa in 1993, he served the college for nineteen years in various roles in admissions, financial aid, and development. He now preaches for the Lapeer Church of Christ, and has taught communication classes for Rochester College, Kirkwood Community College, and Wayne State University. He holds degrees from Rochester College, Abilene Christian University, and Wayne State University.

Known for his keen interest in mission work, **Craig Johnson**, assistant professor of mathematics, began teaching at Rochester College in 1996. Prior to that time he taught at York College. He recently completed course work for his doctoral degree from Wayne State University, and holds degrees from Harding University and the University of Mississippi. He serves as co-sponsor of Image, the campus organization that promotes student interest in mission efforts.

Research in animal behavior and a special interest in ecology add a unique dimension to the classroom instruction of **Carol Van Hooser**, assistant professor of biology. While completing a degree at Central Michigan University, she focused her research on birds. Later, she studied the behavior of wasps for a master's thesis project at Oakland University. Prior to joining the faculty of Rochester College in 1994, she taught for the Saginaw City School District.

At a Glance

MUSIC GROUP

Providing an additional opportunity for experience in performance groups, the music department introduced the Chamber Chorus this fall. Under the direction of Dr. Tony Mowrer, professor of music, the group primarily performs classical literature. The ensemble presented their debut performance at the Bible Lectureship.

FALL FEST

Organizers of Fall Fest selected Rochester College as the official college host for their first annual youth gathering in Niagara Falls. Several students assisted throughout the weekend, Autumn performed, and Shannon Williams, director of spiritual life, led the worship. Nearly 1,000 teens attended the event.

YEARBOOK

Eaton Corporation recently donated four computers for use in preparation of the college yearbook. Earlier in the spring, Eaton provided a grant that enabled the college to install a totally integrated music laboratory in the Gatehouse.

Recording draws praise

Based upon comments about the A Cappella Chorus made by Barbara Bush at the Partnership Dinner, Joe Bentley, director of musical activities, recently decided to send a copy of the music department's latest recording to Mrs. Bush.

In a thank you note to Mr. Bentley, Mrs. Bush replied, "I loved being with Rochester College and the chorus made the trip even better. I will never forget the beautiful music and now I won't have to imagine the music. I have it!"

While the A Cappella Chorus, Autumn, and Spectrum have recorded most years over the past two decades, the three groups combined efforts in a single release on compact disc this past year. The recording, entitled *How Could You Say No?*, has drawn praise on multiple occasions.

"I have been literally swept away with the sheer beauty and inspirational qualities of your new CD," stated Tim Meixner, director of the Metropolitan Detroit Youth Chorus, in a letter to Mr. Bentley. "My favorite selection is *Alleluia*. I have listened to that track no less than twelve times and have been moved to tears each time."

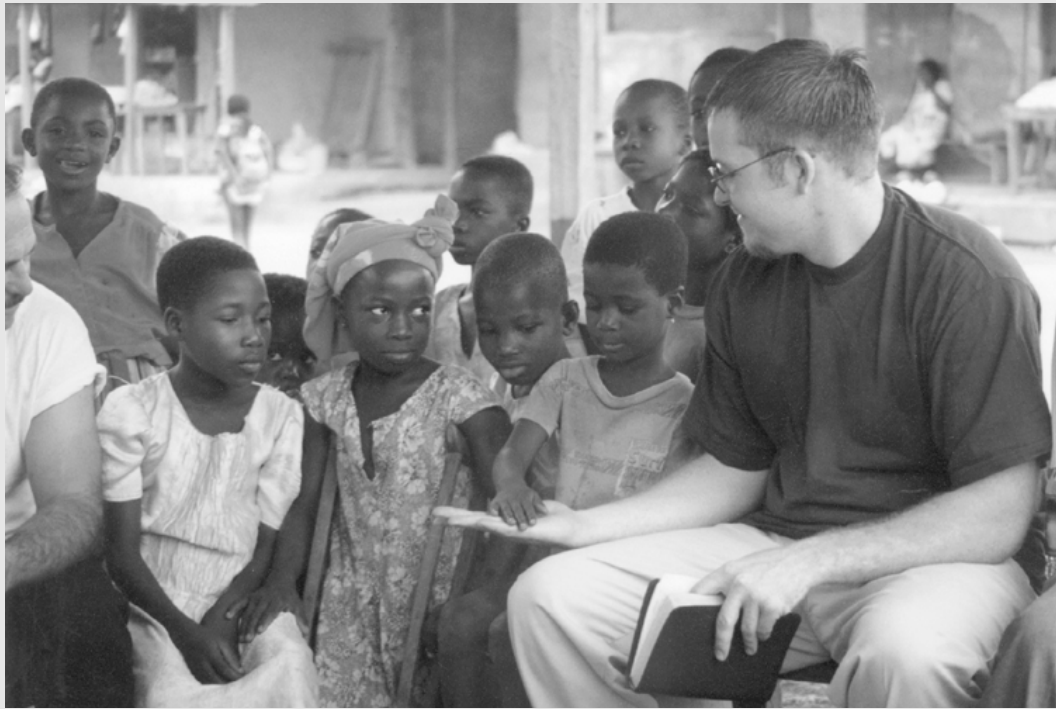
"In my travels with MDYC to the various Christian college campuses, I have heard many of their vocal groups," Mr. Meixner continued. "None of them are any

better than the Rochester College chorus. You have produced a spectacular musical organization that beautifully and artistically brings glory to the Father!"

The disc, recorded and produced by Tim Corder, a student at Rochester College, features ten selections by the A Cappella Chorus, and five each by Autumn and Spectrum. The disc is available by calling the Rochester College Bookstore at 1.800.521.6010.



Rochester College hosted the annual Dean's Conference for colleges and universities affiliated with the Churches of Christ from September 16-18. Forty-six deans and chief academic officers from eleven institutions participated in the event. Presentations, panels, and group discussions focused on the theme *Scholarship and Faith: Defining a Christ-Centered Education*.



During the summer, a team of students from Rochester College participated in a three-week mission effort in Ghana, West Africa. Most of the group's efforts centered around evangelism, work with water drilling projects, and assistance with construction at a home and school for orphaned and abandoned children. "Each member of the team was so excited about sharing the gospel with people who have never seen a Bible or heard the gospel," stated Michael Light, assistant professor of history and leader of the group. "It was an incredible, life-changing experience." Photo by Tiffany Hanna.



Oakland University hosts the Warriors near the close of last season.

Baseball field upgraded

Meeting a goal in the college's strategic plan, workers began a major upgrade of the baseball field during the late summer. Named for Bill Shinsky, longtime coach of the team, the field has served the college since 1970.

"Upon seeing the dramatic improvements, the coach from another college recently expressed his confidence that we would have one of the finest baseball facilities in the area upon completion

of the project," stated Garth Pleasant, athletic director.

Last July, Coach Pleasant made a proposal to the North Oakland Baseball Federation, offering exclusive use of the field during the summer months in exchange for a gift to the college. The proposal resulted in a \$20,000 gift and a seven-year usage agreement.

Vergil Smith, new coach of the Rochester College baseball team and owner of a construction firm, immediately began improvements. After rotating the field to campus master plan specifications, Coach Smith excavated the infield and installed an irrigation system, topsoil, sod, and proper baseline dirt. He also built two outdoor batting cages at the centerfield fence.

"By obtaining material donations and using volunteer labor, Coach Smith probably allowed us to do the equivalent of an additional \$15,000 worth of work on the field," stated Coach Pleasant. "We just received permits from the city and will begin construction on the dugouts soon."

"We will be seeking a corporate sponsor to provide a scoreboard," noted Coach Pleasant. "By next spring we will be playing on a first-rate athletic field."



Athletics

VOLLEYBALL

Opening their season with eleven straight tournament victories, the women's volleyball team won the Warrior Invitational in September. Eight colleges and universities participated in the weekend event. The Warriors will enter the NSCAA national tournament as defending champions.

SOCCER

Regular season wins over such institutions as Northwood University, Concordia College, Lawrence Technological University, and Ohio Valley College helped the men's soccer team prepare for their national tournament of the NSCAA.

BASEBALL

Playing on a newly-renovated field, the men's baseball team posted a 9-1 record for their fall season. The team will resume their season in the spring.

CROSS COUNTRY

Caden Ruohomaki broke the college five-mile record at the Quaker Classic at Wilmington College in November. Seventeen teams participated in the tournament. Caden placed second out of 130 runners.

Second men's basketball team added

Two men's basketball teams will represent Rochester College in intercollegiate competition for the first time this year. Dating back to the opening of the college, men's basketball has the longest tradition among the five sports offered by the college for men and the five for women.

"For years we have discussed the possibility of adding a junior varsity team," stated Garth Pleasant, athletic director and head basketball coach. "We had only two spots opening on the team this year due to graduation, so it seemed like an appropriate time to add a second team."

George Evjen, who has served for the past two years as assistant coach of the men's team, has been selected as coach of the freshman team. Both Coach Pleasant and Coach Evjen will work closely as they recruit and select team members for both groups.

"A lot of colleges have junior varsity teams to develop players for the level of competition encountered by their varsity," stated Coach Pleasant. "Our new team will help meet that need and provide many more players with a chance to participate in intercollegiate competition."

"Once people began finding out about our junior varsity team, we started getting phone calls almost every day," stated Coach Evjen. "Our focus, however, has been on students who will fit into the mission of the college. Consequently, we have selected several players who have experience playing for Christian high schools."

"One student, who was in Alaska for the summer, returned early to pursue a spot on our new

team," Coach Evjen continued. "We have attracted some talented players. Within a year, we should have some who will be able to move to the varsity, including one who has the potential of being a solid division one player."

Initially, the new team will play several junior colleges and junior varsity teams from larger four-year schools. The varsity team currently competes with several NCAA and NAIA institutions including Wayne State University, Central Michigan University, and Oakland University.

"As soon as our new athletic center is completed, we hope to join the Wolverine-Hoosier league

of the NAIA," stated Coach Pleasant. "Many of the colleges competing in that league have junior varsity teams that we will play in the coming year."

"All of our teams continue to excel and achieve new levels of success," Coach Pleasant noted. "Our volleyball team won their national invitational last year, and our baseball team defeated Oakland University just days after Oakland defeated the University of Michigan. We are excited about watching our teams in action again this year."

For team schedules, check the college web site at www.rc.edu or call athletics at 248.218.2135.



Dr. Ken Johnson presented Jerry and Rita Brackney of Lapeer, Michigan, with the *Christian Workmanship Award* at the 42nd Annual Bible Lectureship. Jerry has served as manager of Michigan Christian Youth Camp since 1972. He also served on the board of the Metropolitan Detroit Youth Chorus for nine years. The Brackneys have sent three sons to the college.

Technology

MUSIC LAB

Technicians recently completed installation of a totally integrated music laboratory in the Gatehouse. The lab includes computer and audiovisual equipment that interfaces with a digital piano and Sibelius, a sophisticated notation software program.

CLASSROOMS

Workers recently installed computerized audiovisual equipment in the auditorium and remaining two classrooms of the Associates Campus Center. The equipment will facilitate the projection of videos, powerpoint presentations, and Internet sites.



Introductory Text from the College's New Strategic Plan

A Decade of Vision for Rochester

Dear Friends,

A Decade of Vision presents the latest planning effort of Rochester College on matters of strategic importance. Culminating more than one year of effort, it reflects the vision, consensus, and hard work of many dedicated and capable persons who are involved in many ways with Rochester College. Faculty, staff, development council members, trustees, and others have provided input to this planning in a comprehensive process.

Covering a period of ten years, this strategic plan is intended to be a living document to be reviewed, revised, and extended on an intermittent basis.

Notwithstanding our past efforts and the future efforts we shall expend to accomplish the plan, we recognize that God is really the one who makes things happen. Our task is to plan responsibly, doing our best to discern His interests and His timetables, and to work prayerfully and diligently to achieve the plan.

We hope everything in this plan is achieved right on schedule. However, because we, too, are big dreamers, we know that our plans can happen on schedule only if God substantially blesses our efforts to convert the plans into reality. If that does not happen, many who are involved with Rochester College will be disappointed but we will not doubt God. Rather, we will return to the drawing board, review our thinking, remain prayerful, adjust our schedules, and go back to work to achieve the dream.

Cordially,
Dr. Ken Johnson

Call to Raise the Standard

Entering a new century, colleges face unbelievably complex challenges: challenges related to the explosion of information, the speed of technological change, the clashes of ideologies in the globalization of culture, change in the religious community, and the reality of having to couch every decision in the context of the many choices that are available. Surviving, let alone successfully operating, in the face of such challenges will require the best, the very best, that Rochester College can provide.



As Rochester College continues to prepare students to become leaders of integrity and faith, it must chart a clear course for the future. Much of its present task relates to a need to build and strengthen the infrastructure of the institution. As the twentieth century winds down and a new century begins, one can look back and see substantial progress on that task.

However, the college has a very long way to go to achieve the infrastructure required for a credible, quality, academic institution in the twenty-first century. For the college to attract and serve increasing numbers of students in a variety of liberal arts programs, it must improve its image and reputation for quality academic programs that lead to successful careers. The college must provide adequate new facilities to carry out the required work of an academic institution, including nonacademic facilities to support a vibrant campus community.

At all times, the core of the college's mission relates to the hearts of students. Through the years, with limited facilities and a shoestring budget, the faculty and staff have touched the hearts of thousands of alumni.

As the community watches the college's progress and enjoys the fruit of its labor, the college must continually raise every standard to which it aspires for the institution and its graduates.

Raising the Standard

Spiritual Life

Central to every plan, vision, and dream for Rochester College is Jesus, the Christ. As students prepare for their careers at the feet of Christian men and women, the highest goal of Rochester College is for its students to learn how to respond to His power to transform minds and hearts. Successes here will change the world to which the students relate.

Daily assemblies of the student body are

institution widely known for quality teaching. To do that, it must recruit and retain increasing numbers of outstanding, high-credentialed faculty who are committed to the Rochester College mission. Rochester College will not become a research institution. Rather, its faculty will remain accessible as teachers, leaders, advisors, mentors, and friends of students as it pursues a goal of integrating faith and learning.

The college must increase the number of dollars committed to development of existing faculty, both in the pursuit of advanced degrees and in the development of skills par-

"As Rochester College continues to prepare students to become leaders of integrity and faith, it must chart a clear course for the future."

ticularly relevant to their roles in the college. Faculty (as well as non-faculty) compensation must be raised to the national norm for similar positions at comparable institutions.

Add New Academic Programs

In recent years the number of bachelor's degree academic options for students at Rochester College has increased dramatically. The number of academic options must continue to grow, but prudence must be continually exercised to add only those programs that are economically feasible and which maximize the return on scarce resources.

To exist in the new millennium as a credible academic institution, Rochester College must add a program of international travel and study to its academic options. This will be done first within the context of the Maymester term, then expanded as opportunity is created.

Increase Emphasis on Technology

Today's college graduate must have a good measure of technological competence, regardless of the field of study. In a world increasingly focused on productivity, accuracy, and quality, technology allows one to multiply output and control quality.

Rochester College must make substantial investments in facilities, hardware, and software to allow faculty to teach and students to learn timely and relevant knowledge and use of technology appropriate to the degree taken. The college's advanced fiber-optic network must be linked to additional buildings on campus. The college must expand its capability to provide universal information access in classrooms, residence halls, and offices.

Expand Extended Learning

The market of working adults is the only profitable segment of the academic industry. The college must expand the services offered through the College of Extended Learning by adding new programs, delivering at new sites, and teaching over the Internet.

"Covering a period of ten years, this strategic plan is intended to be a living document to be reviewed, revised, and extended on an intermittent basis."

designed to lead all members of the college community to love and honor God, to study the Bible as God's Word, and to become Christ-centered individuals. The highest standards of morality, ethics, and integrity are encouraged, as are prayer, church attendance, and service to humanity.

The college community will continue to seek truth and knowledge in every discipline, encouraging informed intellectual discussion in the context of a Christian world view.

Raising the Standard

Academics

Increase Outstanding Faculty

Christian faculty members are at the heart of the educational experience. The college must enhance its reputation to become an

College

Rochester College Campus Master Plan



The College of Extended Learning will be allowed unrestricted growth, limited only by the college's commitment to profitably deliver quality academic programs at available sites. Income from the College of Extended Learning will be returned for investment in programs more directly related to the historic mission of Rochester College.

Expand the Library

The Muirhead Library is crowded. Space is insufficient to adequately house the library's holdings or to accommodate the growing student body. In addition to increased floor space, the college must commit increased resources to provide library support in the form of monographs, periodicals, and technology for new academic programs already added and for others contemplated in this plan.

Raising the Standard

Facilities

Upgrade Outdoor Athletic Fields

In recent years, Rochester College has added soccer and softball to its group of intercollegiate sports. However, no adequate fields for intercollegiate competition in any sport are available on the college campus. Sports fields are so inadequate that most intercollegiate games must be played elsewhere away from the campus.



The college must engineer and grade adequate outdoor intercollegiate facilities for baseball, soccer, and softball. While doing so, a practice/intramural track for runners and practice/intramural areas for intercollegiate field events must be created.

Build an Indoor Athletic Complex

Much of what happens on a college campus today revolves around physical activity, including intercollegiate competition, intramural competition, and personal workout and exercise. The college's present indoor athletic facility will not accommodate any intercollegiate competition and is substantially

inadequate for the level of service required to support the student body.

The college must construct a larger and more versatile indoor athletic complex and activities center to serve a student body of at least 1000 traditional students.

Build a Library-Classroom Facility

Growth at Rochester College has exceeded its capacity of classroom space and library space. Classrooms and library are core facilities on every college campus, and an adequate facility for both library and classrooms, totaling about 30,000 square feet, must be built.

Build a Performing Arts Center

Rochester College does not have a stage. It does not have a suitable place to practice or perform music and drama, or an auditorium sufficient to accommodate the current campus population.

The college anticipates eventual construction of a much needed performing arts center, perhaps in a cooperative project with

another community organization. When completed, it will house the music, drama, and communication departments.

Raising the Standard

Athletics

Presently, Rochester College is a member of the National Small College Athletic Association. This membership has served the college well across the years. However, the association has no major function besides providing a national tournament venue for member colleges.

Much of the college's intercollegiate competition throughout the season is with NAIA colleges. As Rochester College increases in size and as its athletic facilities improve, the college should join the ranks of its competitors in the more prestigious NAIA.

Rochester College will continue to recruit only those quality athletes who have demonstrated a life of habits and convictions consistent with the Christian emphasis of Rochester College. Only those coaches will be employed who are capable of serving as academic, spiritual, and athletic mentors to student athletes.

Raising the Standard

Student Services

The climate of the campus community is critical to student collegiate success. During the college years, habits are adopted and beliefs are formed that shape one's entire future. Because significant learning occurs outside the classroom, Rochester College per-

Raising the Standard

Finances

This *Decade of Vision* includes competing demands that will challenge Rochester College to expand its resources. The level of funding anticipated in this strategic plan is unattainable without the involvement and assistance of God.

To achieve this vision, Rochester College must sustain operational gift revenue at present levels or higher, and must raise capital funds in excess of \$20 million.

Raising the Standard

Enrollment

For its entire life, Rochester College has intermittently experienced swings in enrollment, along with the financial impact from such swings. With better planning and execution, Rochester College should continue to experience upward trending of traditional and nontraditional student populations. By 2004, the college should increase to a total of about 800 students. By 2007 that total should be 1,000 students.

In attracting these numbers of students, the college must seek talented high school and transfer students who have significant potential for leadership and Christian service. Additionally, Rochester College will pursue working adults for its nontraditional academic programs.

More than anything else, however, Rochester College must become a place where every employee, trustee, council member, and friend is involved in recruiting, retention, and public relations for the college. All successful colleges have a large contingent of excited and enthusiastic supporters who carry high the banner of *their college*, and Rochester College must cultivate a mind set among its friends that Rochester College is not only a fantastic place but is the best place for their children and their acquaintances to pursue a bachelor's degree.

sonnel must strive to create an environment that encourages and supports involvement in varied aspects of life, both on and off the campus, including social, spiritual, and extracurricular activities.

Through a variety of activities, from student government and fall break campaigns to the student newspaper and volunteerism in the local community, students must be given the gift of opportunity to connect their maturing beliefs with helpful actions.

Because increasing numbers of students travel great distances to Rochester College, the college must provide a more attractive set of weekend activities and experiences.

Remembering When ...



TOP LEFT: President Gatewood crowns Dona Mai Bruce as the college's first queen in 1960. TOP RIGHT: Otis and Alma Gatewood greet new students at a reception in 1962. BOTTOM LEFT: Otis and Irene Gatewood focus on writing projects after retiring in the Rochester Hills area. BOTTOM RIGHT: Dr. Gatewood visits with friends at a campus reception held in his honor in 1995.

Former president leaves rich legacy

Otis Gatewood, founding president of Rochester College, died at age 88 on September 16, 1999. Known for his efforts as a missionary, educator, and author, he left a remarkable legacy for future generations.

"While Dr. Gatewood served as president of the college for only six years, they were the formative years," stated Bob Utley, former chairman of the board. "His influence and strong character have had a long-lasting impact upon the college."

Following graduation from college in 1936, Dr. Gatewood and his wife, Alma, served churches in Nevada and Utah. In 1946, the Gatewoods entered Germany as the first American missionaries after the war. Before returning to the states in 1957, they assisted in the establishment of about forty congregations and distributed about one million dollars' worth of food and clothing.

In 1958, one year prior to the opening of Rochester College, then known as North Central Christian College, Dr. Gatewood accepted the presidency of the institution. "When the audience heard that announcement at a large rally in Detroit's Ford Auditorium, the excitement and expectation was exhilarating," Mr. Utley commented.

After the death of Alma, Dr. Gatewood left the presidency of the college in 1964, and redirected his efforts toward mission work.

He served as a professor of missions at the Harding Graduate School of Religion from 1964 until 1970, during which time he also assisted Columbia Christian College as chancellor.

In 1971, Dr. Gatewood began serving as director of the East European School of Evangelism in Vienna. He continued in that capacity until becoming the founding president of International Christian University in 1978. He retired ten years later and moved to Michigan with his

second wife, Irene. He continued to write and preach until shortly before his death.

"My father was a visionary," stated David Gatewood, a member of the class of 1963. "People called him a pioneer because he started so many things."

"With the passing of Otis Gatewood, an era has passed that will not be duplicated by many in our lifetime," noted Mr. Utley. "His driving spirit and determination to see the college succeed have left us a wonderful heritage."

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.

Alumni News and Notes

1965

Joseph Shulam is the director of the Netivvah Bible Instruction Ministry. Joseph and his wife, Marcia, have two grown children, Barry and Danah. The Shulams can be contacted at P.O. Box 8043, Jerusalem 91080, Israel.

1972

Dean Smith is the new pulpit minister of the University Church of Christ in Austin, Texas. His wife, **Carolyn (Francisco-70)** is teaching second grade. The family lives at 12627 Cinchring Lane, Austin, TX 78727.

1978

Valerie (Wiley) McGuire and her husband, Delton, currently are serving as houseparents for six boys at High Plains Children's Home. The couple has three children of their own, Katie, Rachel, and Travis. The family can be contacted at 11250 Chapman Drive, Amarillo, TX 79118.

1979

Terri (Whitlatch) Longfellow recently certified to teach elementary school. Terri and her husband, **Rob (78)**, have two daughters, Cathleen and Jennifer. The family lives at 14653 Shenandoah Drive, Riverview, MI 48192.

1982

Anita Clay married John Clauss on March 6, 1999. Anita is a recovery specialist for National City Bank, and John is employed by Adistra. The couple lives at 2228 North Elizabeth #1, Dearborn, MI 48128.

Timothy Warren joined Brandon, Andrew, Aubrey, and Maggie in the home of **Dennis (96) and Susan (Raper) Hall** on May 12. Dennis is an accountant for Central Michigan Staffing, and Susan is a homemaker. The family lives at 2524 Flint River Road, Lapeer, MI 48446.

Thomas Lawson joined Trey and Averi in the household of **Bob and Annette (Eckman) Harris** on March 3. Annette is an advanced director with Pampered Chef, and Bob is employed as a computer service engineer manager. The family lives at 2088 Timber Wolf Trail, Edmond, OK 73034.

Dan Isenberg and his wife, Lora, welcomed Taylor Paige on October 25, 1998. Dan is in his fourteenth year as director of season sales for the Detroit Pistons, and Lora operates the Write Image. The family lives at 696 Essex, Rochester Hills, MI 48307.

1983

With their two children, Adam and Ashley, **Chad and Lesly**

(Hoggatt) Brock have moved to 910 Niblick Court, Angola, IN 46703. The couple owns and operates rental properties.

James Matthew joined Megan and Amy in the home of Kevin and **Janice (Kilpatrick) McKisson** on February 28. Kevin is employed as an assistant registrar for Arizona State University, and Janice is a homemaker. The family resides at 518 West Horseshoe Avenue, Gilbert, AZ 85233.

1986

Sonja Barcus completed her Ph.D. in counseling psychology at Ball State University in May, after successfully defending her dissertation, *The Relationship Between Spiritual Well-Being, Religious Commitment, and Psychological Well-Being*. Currently, she is teaching in the psychology department at Abilene Christian University. She can be contacted at 1351 Parkridge Place #701, Abilene, TX 79605.

Dan Boren was recently named basketball coach for the girl's varsity team at Gladwin High School, where he teaches science. He also preaches part-time for the Church of Christ in Harrison. His wife, **Shannon (Roper)** is self employed as a daycare provider. The family lives at 4348 Sylvan Grove, Gladwin, MI 48624.

On March 21, Rebekah Kay joined Matthew and Benjamin in the home of Michael and **Francie (Martinez) Holder**. Francie is a homemaker, and Michael is employed by the federal government. The family lives at 3003 North Alexander, Royal Oak, MI 48073.

1987

Becky Richardson has moved to 2750 Davison Avenue, Auburn Hills, MI 48326. She is working as a registered sales assistant.

1988

Darrell Amy and his wife, Amy, recently moved to 85 Rolling Oaks Drive, Maumelle, AR 72113. Darrell is a district sales manager for Toshiba America Information Systems, and Amy is a training officer for Pulaski Bank.

Austin Lee joined Jimmy in the home of **Jim and Sandy (Wise) Haferkamp** on July 8. The family can be reached at 2442 West State Route 2, LaPorte, IN 46350.

Anna (Burns) Lang recently moved to 1072B Royale Glen Drive, Muskegon, MI 49441. Anna has two sons, Cody and Jordan.

1989

Ady Hutchins was married to Rob Rhoads on January 17, 1998. Both Ady and Rob are employed by Sherwin Williams. Ady is a

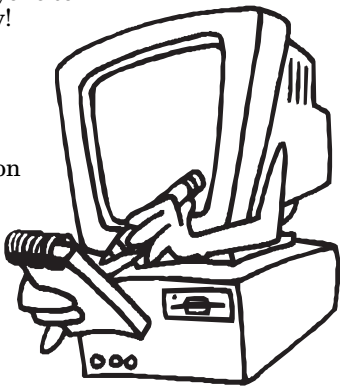
Have You Registered?

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!

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systems analyst and Rob is a senior programmer analyst. The couple resides at 33779 Lake Road, Avon Lake, OH 44012.

1990

Rachel Lynn joined Victoria in the home of **Vic Bliss** and his wife, Mary, on April 29. Vic is the youth and family minister for the Trenton Church of Christ, and Mary is a homemaker. The family resides at 22500 Canterbury Street, Woodhaven, MI 48183.

1992

Andrea Carman married John Exum on December 5, 1998. Andrea is working on her master's degree, and John is the network manager for Harding University. The couple lives at 300 North Clinic #9, Searcy, AR 72143.

1993

Ryan Shephard is working as a registered nurse. His wife, Lisa, is a program coordinator for a Parks and Recreation Department. The couple resides at 22 Robbye Lane, Searcy, AR 72143.

1995

Emma Louise was born to Andy and **Mary (Aldrich) Dorrell** on April 1, 1999. The family lives at 4210 Americana Drive #203, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44224.

Benny Lumpkins is enrolled as a cadet in the Army ROTC officers training program at Old Dominion University. He can be contacted at 1000 West 48th Street #B, Norfolk, VA 23508.

Jason and **Jill (Harris) Riker** welcomed Steven Jason on April 17. Jill is a riding instructor and trainer. The family resides at 627 Bellevue, Jackson, MI 49202.

Chris Russo recently began employment as an associate engineer for Caterpillar. He lives at 1301 West Jefferson Avenue #22A, Morton, IL 61550.

1996

Shane Anderson married **Amy**

Byars on January 2, 1999. Shane currently works in sales for Alaska Steel, and Amy is an administrative assistant for a financial advisor. The couple is expecting a child in January, and can be contacted at 307 Wedgewood Drive #A-9, Fairbanks, AK 99701.

Nathan Daniel joined Justin in the home of **Trevor and Lisa (Brown-92) Baker** on July 1. Trevor is a manager for Star Theatres, and Lisa is an administrative assistant at Rainbow Pediatrics. The family lives at 320 East Evelyn, Hazel Park, MI 48030.

Jesse and Deborah (Greene) Phalen welcomed Abigail Ruth on October 13, 1998. Jesse is employed by Bank of America, and Deborah is a homemaker. The family resides at 4010 Via Estrella, Martinez, CA 94553.

1998

Chris and Tannon (Ashlock) Davis are now living at 13230 Corbel Circle #1211, Fort Myers, FL 33907. Chris is an operations manager for TSR Wireless, and Tannon is an account coordinator for Accudata America.

1999

Jeremy Deming married Kristi Evans on August 21. The couple can be reached at 1418 North Madison, Corinth, MS 38834.

Four outstanding alumni recognized

Noting the professional accomplishments of alumni, Rochester College recognized four individuals on Founders Day. The college named Rob Clarke as *Alumnus of the Year*, Todd Graham as *Outstanding Alumnus in Business*, Karl Randall as *Outstanding Alumnus in Community Service*, and Betty Watson as *Outstanding Alumna in Education*.

Rob Clarke, a member of the class of 1982, has played an integral role in the volunteer organizations of the college. As president of the Alumni Association, he led a group of volunteers who completely renovated the music center in 1992. Currently, he serves as a member of the Development Council, and recently provided architectural design services for both the Associates Brick Plaza and the Isom Atrium.

After beginning his career as a contractor and architect, Mr. Clarke accepted a position with CBI Design Professionals. He is now the president and CEO of that firm. His projects have been featured in professional magazines, as well as *Better Homes and Gardens*. Mr. Clarke and his wife, Sherri, a 1984 graduate, have two children.

After an early career as a therapist, Todd Graham, a member of the class of 1971, returned to college and completed a degree in business. At that time, he began a career with the National Bank of Detroit, now Bank One. Currently, he serves Bank One as a



Todd Graham, Betty Watson, Karl Randall, and Rob Clarke

commercial loan manager.

Mr. Graham is active in Rotary, the United Way, and the Chamber of Commerce. He and his wife, Connie, also a 1971 graduate, have three children. The oldest, Megan, is a student at Rochester College.

Educated as a lawyer, Karl Randall, a member of the class of 1971, has served various facets of Oakland County government since 1972. He now serves as manager of aviation for the Oakland County International Airport.

Mr. Randall has sponsored several charity drives, and last spring put the college in contact with the executive that provided a private jet for Barbara Bush to travel to the Partnership Dinner. Mr. Randall and his wife, Natalie, a 1972 graduate, have two children.

A member of the class of 1962,

Dr. Betty Work Watson has served on the education faculty of Harding University since 1968. Currently, she directs the early childhood education program and is co-director of undergraduate teacher education.

After receiving the *Outstanding Teacher Award* at Harding on three occasions, the university honored Dr. Watson with the title of distinguished professor. She is one of only seven teachers to ever receive that recognition. Dr. Watson and her husband, Zearl, have two children.

While all four recipients had ties to the past, Dr. Watson expressed particular gratitude for receiving the honor on Founders Day. "This is an honor to my parents, Lucian and Laura Work, devoted workers who helped make the college a reality."

Class of 1979 hosts summer reunion

"There is no way to ever say thanks enough for this weekend's reunion," stated Jay Crow in an e-mail message to Julie Harper after a reunion held for the class of 1979 this past summer. "It was the best refocus I've had in many years. You taught me how to truly value memories and friends."

Jay Crow, a high school guidance counselor and avid cyclist, rode his bicycle to the reunion from Ephrata, Pennsylvania. He was joined at the reunion by class-

mates from such places as Georgia, Texas, and Illinois.

Meal times, a nostalgic visit to the Shinsky residence, devotionals, and a talent show that included the children provided structure for the weekend. Lots of unscheduled time gave class members an opportunity to share the trials and triumphs of their lives since leaving the campus twenty years ago.

"I can't express how great it was to see everyone," commented

Lauren Dickinson of Huntington Beach, California. "I don't know what it is, but we do revert back to the way things were when we got together!"

The class of 1979 reunion typifies the response of alumni when returning to the campus for summer reunions. "The years melt away within hours," stated Larry Stewart, coordinator of alumni activities.

Describing her family's return trip to the upper peninsula of Michigan, Pam (Montgomery) Debelak stated, "John usually does all the driving on our trips, but this time he was too tired. But we made it and had a wonderful time. The reunion certainly made a difference in our lives."



Classmates pose in front of the Westside Central Auditorium, which opened during their years at the college.

Reunions

Class of 1970
July 7-8, 2000

Class of 1990
July 28-29, 2000

Volunteers are needed to host a reunion for the class of 1980. Contact Larry Stewart at 248.218.2023 or lstewart@rc.edu.



Individuals who toured campus prior to the college's opening in 1959 pose for a photo on Founders Day.

Founders Day celebrates forty years

Many friends of Rochester College gathered on the campus on August 28 for a Founders Day celebration. Marking forty years of progress, the day honored those involved in the founding years of the college.

Addressing guests of the day, Dr. Ken Johnson stated, "Many of you have been involved with the college for most of your adult life. Today we especially want to honor you for your many years of sacrifice and service."

"Every once in awhile, it is appropriate to set aside the pressures of daily obligations and our dreams about the future to reflect upon the past," Dr. Johnson continued. "It is remarkably fulfilling to reflect on God's work through the people who have made the joy of the present and hope of the future possible."

Three former presidents of the college participated in the day's activities, Dr. Otis Gatewood, Dr.

E. Lucien Palmer, and Dr. Milton B. Fletcher. "It was a memorable day in many ways since it was Dr. Gatewood's last public appearance," stated Elton Albright, coordinator of the event.

"Hundreds gathered to celebrate the past and to honor those who first dreamed the dream, first invested the energy, first walked the property, first paved the way, first paid the bills, and first sacrificed and labored early in the journey to build this college," stated Dr. Johnson.

During the day, the college recognized former employees and board members, as well as charter members of the Associates. The day sparked a similar occasion when the Associates gathered for their monthly meeting a few weeks later.

"We reminisced about the early years of the Associates," stated Sharon Whitlatch, president of the Associates. "Then the most

wonderful thing happened. Ladies started sharing their feelings about being an Associate and the partnership we have with Rochester College. We talked, we sang, we cried, and we prayed. We left rejuvenated and united."



Iola Rummel and Lavon Tucker receive corsages as charter Associates.



Barbara Bush, former first lady of the United States, charmed participants in the 28th annual Partnership Dinner. Campaign sponsors like Pat and Jane Kirby of Rochester Hills also enjoyed a pre-dinner photo opportunity with Mrs. Bush.

Representatives from over sixty congregations of the Churches of Christ in Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois participated in the annual fund raising dinner. The dinner raised nearly double the amount of the previous year.

"The new campaign format has generated such interest that sponsorships for next year's dinner already are almost equal to last year," stated Elton Albright, dinner coordinator. "Since we are at an early stage, that amount will continue to grow."

Mission

"All that we have done for forty years, we have done with the hope and prayer that God will be glorified in the life and in the teaching of every young person who walks these halls and takes our degree. Wherever they go and whatever they do in live, our dream is that their walk with God will drive their journey through life."

Dr. Ken Johnson
Founders Day 1999

Volunteer spirit displayed by couple

Two dedicated Christian servants moved to Michigan during their retirement to assist the college as it prepared to add its first bachelor's degree in the summer of 1980. One of those individuals, Dr. Paul Southern, died on July 16 at age 98. His wife, Margaret, resides in the Christian Care Center in Mesquite, Texas.

The Southern typify the volunteer spirit displayed by so many friends of Rochester College. They originally made a one-year commitment to the college in exchange for basic living expenses. They enjoyed their experience to such an extent that one year turned into almost six years.

Dr. Southern began his teaching career at Abilene Christian University in 1937. He served as chairman of the Bible department until his retirement in 1970. He also taught for Columbia Christian College, Macquarie School of Biblical Studies, International Christian University, and South Pacific Bible College.

"Dr. Southern had an incredible sense of humor that endeared him to the students and those

who sat in his workshop classes," stated Larry Stewart, director of public relations. "For example, one time he walked into a class and told his students to not laugh at his tie since it had already been in style three times!"

While teaching at Rochester College, the Southern established an endowed scholarship for

students majoring in ministry or religious education. Since that time, they have continued to build the scholarship fund.

"Rochester College has been blessed by many wonderful volunteers," stated Dr. Ken Johnson. "The Southern are exemplary of such individuals who have helped build the college."



Dr. Paul Southern discusses counseling with a Bible major in 1981.



Planned Giving Matters

Doug Edwards
Vice President
for Development

A Case History: A 91-year-old friend of Rochester College placed the college in her will as a beneficiary for a percentage of her estate. She was determined to be a steward of the Lord's blessings by giving to Christian ministries, even after her life on earth was concluded. However, as the years passed she was convinced that her estate might dwindle as she faced future health and living needs.

Recently, she was informed about gift annuities and learned that she could take a sum of money from her estate and earn 12% earnings (amount for her age bracket) on that investment for life while Rochester College would still be the beneficiary at death. In addition, she learned that she could get significant tax benefits and the gift would be passed more efficiently to the college. This was an excellent decision for both parties.

Is a gift annuity the right strategy for your estate plan?

There are many different strategies for different people. For a free brochure or questions, please contact Doug Edwards in the Development Office at 1.800.521.6010.

Memorial and Honor Gifts

April 7, 1999 through October 15, 1999

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Jim & Vivian Avey

GROVER BELL

Juanita Mosley

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LAMAR BLACK, JR. ('96)

Keith & Rhonda Laurin

WILLIAM BRACKEN

Gracie Bracken

MATTIE BROWN

Oakland Church of Christ

JOHN F. BRYANT

William Bryant

CECIL BURCHAM

David & Niki Kirkpatrick

Linda Pace

MERLE CARTER

Ruth Buschmann

Livonia Church of Christ

Vince & Lois Maiorana

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Don Dunn

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Cynthia Gomez & Family

CLAIRE GUYMER

Gilbert & Barbara Guymer

Greg & Kathy Guymer

JACKIE HANNAH ('68)

Ethythe Fain

LEE HARPER

Gladys Bowman

Bill Harper

Howard Harper

Richard Harper

Don & Bernice Oberholzer

DIANE HILL

William Hill

JIM HOGGATT

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Board selects chairman

Members of the Board of Trustees recently selected Dr. Howard Hagerman to serve as chairman of the college's governing organization. Dr. Hagerman replaces Bob Utley, who has served as chairman since 1993.

"The college has made great strides in her academic programs and we expect to strengthen those programs," stated Dr. Hagerman. "At the same time, we must be faithful to our roots in Christian education. As chairman, I expect to work with the board, faculty, and staff to see that those ideals are accomplished."

Dr. Hagerman has served on the college board since 1974, leading the board as chairman during the 1979-80 academic year. He retired from his role as a professor of biology at Michigan State University in 1996. After serving as an elder of the Holmes Road

Church of Christ in Lansing for twenty-three years, he assumed a more active role in mission efforts in Honduras.

Bob Utley, board chairman of Utley Brothers, Inc., has been an active supporter of the college since its inception. He became a member of the board in 1975, first serving as chairman from 1980 until 1985. His latest tenure as chairman has bridged seven years of notable growth and change for the college.

"My work on behalf of Christian education has been a labor of love for me and my wife, Mary, who has been at my side through all of the joys and heartaches of the college's past forty years," stated Mr. Utley. "I intend to stay on the board and support the next chairman. I believe that Rochester College has a proud past and an exciting future."

Equipment Donations

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

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

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

Associates in Action



ABOVE: Project chairperson Lora Jones and designer Rob Clarke break ground for the Associates Brick Plaza on Founders Day. BELOW: Former queen Fonda (Waller) Robinson ('80) crowns Barb (Benham) Brooks ('71) as Fall Festival Queen.



Publisher selects seminar for series

ACU Press of Abilene, Texas, recently announced the publication of a new series of books on biblical preaching. The first volume will be based upon the Sermon Seminar hosted by Rochester College last spring.

"The board of ACU Press recognizes the quality of our program and has noted the caliber of our speakers," stated Dr. David Fleer, professor of religion and coordinator of the seminar. "There is a possibility that an entire series of six books will be based upon our seminar."

"I am personally very excited about this series," stated Thom Lemmons, editor of ACU Press. "The list of potential authors is impressive. I can hardly wait for us to begin."

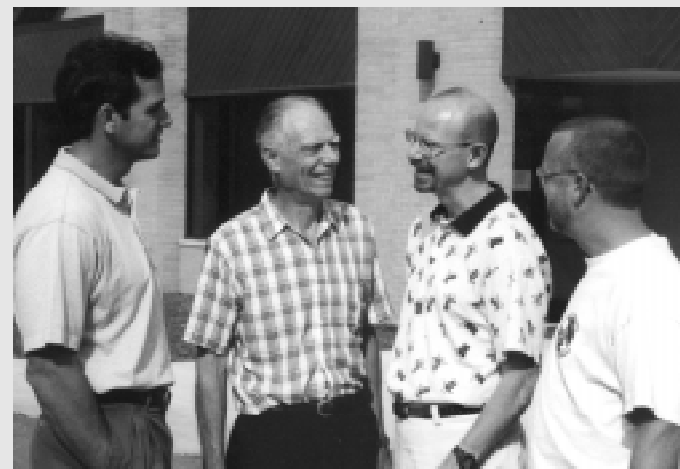
The first book, *Preaching from Luke/Acts*, will be divided into two major sections. The first part will include practical essays on preaching theory by each of the four speakers who participated in the 1999 Sermon Seminar, Tim Kelley, Tom Long, Dean Smith, and Greg Sterling.

The second part of the book will feature twelve sermons by John York and David Fleer, using the methods presented at the seminar and in the first half of the book. Dr. Fleer and Dave Bland of the Harding Graduate

School of Religion will serve as coeditors of the series.

"Our seminar grew from a small number of participants in 1998 to almost a hundred this past year," stated Dr. Fleer. "Ministers from the east coast to Wisconsin, representing fourteen states and three countries, participated."

The third annual Sermon Seminar has been scheduled for May 15-18, 2000, again on the campus of Rochester College. Centered around the theme *Preaching from Autobiography in Paul's Letters*, the seminar will feature Carl Holladay, Carson Reed, Andre Resner, and John York.



Campus ministers from twenty-six states and Ontario converged on the campus of Rochester College for the 43rd annual National Campus Ministries Seminar in August. Dr. Steve Eckstein, professor of religion and Greek at Rochester College, hosted the event. Dr. Eckstein, who served on the Bible Chair of Eastern New Mexico University for thirty-three years, has played a major role in the seminar since its founding in 1957.



north star

NEWS BULLETIN OF ROCHESTER COLLEGE

VOLUME 41 NUMBER 1 FALL 1999

Year opens with surge in enrollment

Shattering records with a 20% increase, Rochester College experienced another surge in enrollment for the fall semester. By the time the last classes enroll in the College of Extended Learning, the student count is expected to pass the 600 level.

"From the first day of classes, a contagious enthusiasm has permeated the student body," stated Dr. Ken Johnson, president of the college. "In daily assembly, it is not uncommon for students to refer to the wonderful things that God is doing on the campus and in the lives of classmates."

As the fall semester began, the college introduced new majors in interdisciplinary studies and history. The additions now give the college twelve majors, eleven concentrations, and ten tracks at the bachelor's degree level. Additional options are available through cooperative programs, and others are in the planning stages.

"With our growing list of degree options, most students who enroll at Rochester College now plan to obtain their bachelor's degree from us," stated Dr. Mike Westerfield, provost. "In fact, 39% of the students beginning their



Students pass the future atrium construction site after daily assembly.

studies at Rochester College this fall transferred from other colleges and universities."

During the current semester, students from twenty-five states and twelve nations enrolled for classes. In addition to most Midwestern states, students came from as far as Connecticut and Maryland in the East to Washington and California in the West. Others traveled from Southern states like Georgia, Tennessee,

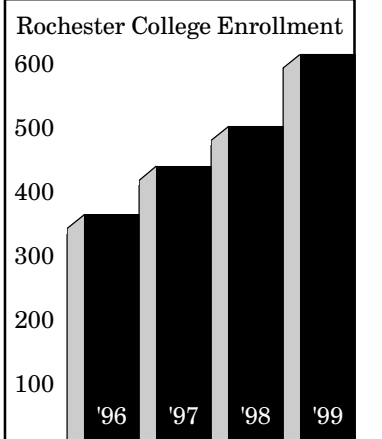
and Texas. Canada followed Michigan with the largest number of representatives.

"After operating in the mid-three hundred range for so many years, we are now facing new challenges," stated Dr. Johnson. "In particular, we are feeling a more urgent need for additional classroom space and parking."

"Currently, the administration and Board of Trustees are discussing options for providing additional facilities," Dr. Johnson noted. "As the academic year continues, we plan to announce further developments that will enhance our ability to serve a greater number of students."



Summer opportunities attracted the attention of several students at a fall Mission Fair. Image, a campus service organization, hosted the event in the Associates Campus Center lobby.



inside the north star

Rochester College charts course with strategic plan

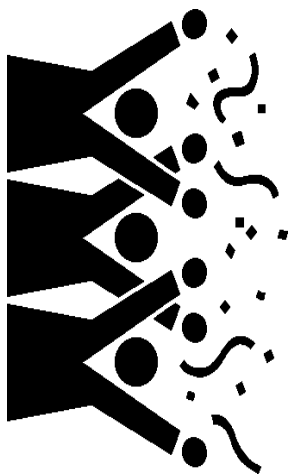


Liberal Arts in a Christian Setting!

Web Site: www.rc.edu E-Mail: info@rc.edu

The *North Star* is the official news bulletin of Rochester College. Comments should be addressed to Larry Stewart, director of public relations. Rochester College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, age, disability, or national or ethnic origin in the execution of its educational program, activities, employment, or admissions policies except where necessitated by specific religious tenets held by the institution and its controlling body.

Great Special Events Coming Next Spring!



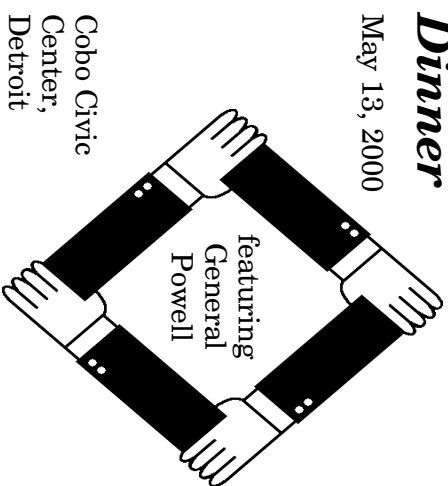
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March 17-18, 2000

Partnership Dinner

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