

NORTH



STAR

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THE

PLEASANT

CSA

*Warriors reflect as Garth retires
and Klint steps into the game*

from the *president's desk*

TO YOUR HEALTH! Rochester College has committed itself to the creation of a quality nursing program that will serve our community, state and region. We have broad-based institutional commitment to the program, a clinical partnership with Crittenton Hospital Medical Center and a number of community and institutional relationships necessary to support the program.

As of summer 2011, our RN-to-BSN program is up and running. This is a degree-completion program for credentialed nurses who have two or more years of college training and want to complete their baccalaureate degree in nursing. The BSN is now required for numerous leadership positions in health-care organizations, and RC's online delivery of coursework is appealing to nurses who must continue to work but want to pursue the degree.

We are engaged in the development of a full four-year nursing program as well. This means we will undergo an accreditation review by the State of Michigan Board of Nursing and a similar review by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education. We are prepared and eager for them to examine our program.

Why is nursing important to Rochester College? Jesus cared for the sick and injured who had been excluded from normal life because of their conditions. We want to look like him and train people who will go into the workplace with his commitment to serve others' total well-being—physical, emotional and spiritual.

Dr. Brian Stogner has been the key person for the launch of this program. He has monitored our compliance with accreditation agencies, nurtured our critical relationship with Crittenton, and taken the lead in nursing faculty formation.

Our director of nursing is Jaime Sinutko (RN, MSN), and other faculty members in the department are Sharon Heskitt (RN, MSN), Dr. Remy Bruder (RN, DNP), and Gina Palombo (RN, MSN).

This initiative positions Rochester College for positive leadership in a growth profession in our region and reflects our mission as a Christian College.

Spread the word. Good things are happening at Rochester College.



Rubel Shelly, President



*For more information on making a contribution to Rochester College and receiving a copy of Dr. Shelly's new book, **I KNEW JESUS BEFORE HE WAS A CHRISTIAN (AND I LIKED HIM BETTER THEN)**, see the back cover of this issue.*

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THE PLEASANT ERA

Legendary Coach Garth Pleasant Retires After 34 Seasons; Son Succeeds Him

ON THE COVER

After 34 years as head coach of RC's men's basketball team, Garth Pleasant retired from coaching in 2011. The tradition of Warrior basketball will stay in the family as Garth's son, Klint, takes over as the new head coach. Here, the two stand in the Rochester College gym.

PHOTOGRAPH BY JEFFREY LEWIS BENNETT

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Rochester College cultivates academic excellence, principled character, servant leadership, and global awareness through a rigorous educational experience that integrates liberal arts and professional studies within an inclusive Christian heritage.



CONTRIBUTORS

GET TO KNOW SOME OF THE PEOPLE WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THIS ISSUE OF THE NORTHSTAR.

(We promise you'll like them.)

JEFFREY LEWIS BENNETT photographer



Jeffrey Lewis Bennett, or "the JLB," as his colleagues often refer to him, received an associate degree from Rochester College in 1998 before completing a BFA in graphic design at Harding University. Jeff met his wife, Kelly (Coleman '01), while working for RC after graduation. He was even able to distinguish his crush from her twin sister who also attended RC, luckily avoiding several potentially awkward moments during the courting phase. Jeff and Kelly now have a 3-year-old daughter, Ivy. JLB can't live without coffee, yoga and Xbox, and he describes himself in one, all caps word—NERD. A Subaru is what drives him every day (he and the wife are quite loyal to the brand), and he admires former RC President Ken Johnson. Jeff would one day like to retire in Banff, Canada where he might be found listening to his favorite music, "The National."

ADAM HILL writer



For the past three years, Adam has served as campus minister at Rochester College and recently accepted the position of preaching minister at the Rochester Church of Christ. Adam and his wife, Kelly, have one child, a son named Cooper, who Adam will undoubtedly bestow his wisdom upon as time goes by. These lessons and bits of advice include, but are not limited to, good musical taste (Radiohead, Band of Horses, Manchester Orchestra and The Beatles), how to play guitar (Adam's six string is a Martin GPCPA4), and how to appreciate literary greats, such as JD Salinger, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Billy Collins, David Mitchell and Gustavo Gutierrez. Adam's nightstand currently holds *The Help* by Kathryn Sockett, *Love Wins* by Rob Bell and *The Guinea Pig Diaries* by A.J. Jacobs.

ELLIOT JONES photographer



Elliot graduated from RC in 2007 but has worked for the college since 2000. He has worn several hats, including recruiter, graphic designer, project manager and photographer. Most recently, he completed an M.S. in integrated marketing communication at Eastern Michigan University. Elliot is motivated by his family which includes his wife, Shannon (Hillman, '99), who he met at RC, and boys Trent, 4, and Jace, 2. Shannon, a public school special education teacher, is the person he admires most. Elliot's favorite music is hip hop, and he says he can't live without his wife, his Mac and his grill (the cooking kind, not to be confused with the hip hop kind). He also enjoys photography (Canon over Nikon, if you're wondering) and any gadgets that begin with the letter "i." Elliot is currently reading *Engage* by Brian Solis and hopes to one day retire in Heaven.

REBEKAH PARSONS writer



Rebekah graduated from Rochester College in May 2006 with a B.A. in communication before completing a master's degree at Arizona State University. Most recently, she can be found mourning the \$3.41/gallon gas prices and sunny weather she left behind in Phoenix to return to Michigan where she has joined RC's adjunct faculty. Although she diligently tried to narrow down her time at RC to one most memorable moment, she was unsuccessful, saying she loved every single day she was at RC. Rebekah is driven by the belief that the Lord has His hands on her life, the thankfulness she feels for all she has been blessed with and the hope that one day she can achieve everything He has purposed for her. Rebekah can't live without Dr. Pepper, fantasy football and her DVD series of *The West Wing*.

EMILIE VINSON writer



Emilie graduated from RC this spring and will soon move to Orlando, Fla. to work as a missionary journalist at Campus Crusade's International Headquarters. Emilie will always remember adding the term "majormates" (the core group of people with whom you share classes for your major) to her vocabulary during her college years. More importantly, she will cherish becoming so close with this group of people that they often spent weekends together too. Each day, Emilie is driven to become better in some way than she was the day before. She loves looking at the world through the lens of a camera and ink of a pen, and on any given night, it is likely she can be found weaving photography and words together on her blog or in her journal. Emilie also enjoys travel, biking, reading, having adventures, and spending time with family and friends.

Rochester To Remain Non-Profit Christian College

During the past two years, Rochester College was considering a proposal to partner with University Education, a subsidiary of K-12, Inc. After lengthy discussions among all the parties involved, and as recommended by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association, that proposal has been taken off the table.

Rochester College will continue its status as a non-profit Christian college offering both liberal arts and professional studies. As the college carries on with its mission of equipping kingdom servants and leaders, the college will continue to be controlled by the RC Board of Trustees.

During this period of consideration, the college made substantial strides forward with new educational initiatives, record enrollment numbers and effective budget management. “We are in a much stronger position than we were three years ago — despite stressful economic times for our state and nation. We have made significant progress, and we’re excited about what the future holds for Rochester College,” said President Rubel Shelly.

Ham Library Awarded Grant To Archive Stone-Campbell Collection

Rochester College’s Ham Library has been awarded an \$8,000 DALNET grant to organize and digitize parts of the Stone-Campbell Churches of Michigan Collection.

The Stone-Campbell Movement (also called the Restoration Movement) is a Christian movement with roots in the American frontier during the early 19th century. It sought to unify Christians into a single body that was patterned after the early church of the New Testament.

The Stone-Campbell collection was donated by Dr. Vernon Boyd, a long-time friend of Rochester College. The collection contains photographs, pamphlets, brochures, letters, personal scrapbooks and church records. A part-time archivist has been hired to organize and properly store its contents, and the collection should prove useful for anyone researching either the Stone-Campbell Movement or American religion.

“The DALNET grant is a wonderful opportunity for RC to provide access to a unique collection of information concerning the Stone-Campbell Movement in Michigan, especially the Detroit area,” said Allie Keller, director of library services. Parts of the collection will be available online for scholars and others to access, while the rest of the collection will be housed in the library. Those doing research and other interested parties can access the collection by contacting the library at 248.218.2268.



Hagermans Recognized For Commitment To College

Rochester College awarded the J. Robert and Mary Utley Philanthropy Award to Howard and Joan Hagerman at the annual President's Circle of Honor Reception last October. Established in 2007, the award recognizes those who have modeled sacrificial commitment to the college.

"It is our desire for the college to continue onward with its original mission to be a beacon of educational excellence," said Howard Hagerman. "We are encouraged by the increasing enrollments. To see these things happening is greatly satisfying."

Howard, a retired professor of biology from Michigan State University, joined the Rochester College Board of Trustees in 1973. He served on the executive committee for a number of years, including two terms as chairman. He accumulated 36 years of service by the time he retired from the board, the second longest term of any board member in college history.

"There were several challenges during my years of service on the board, but having enough funding was always the primary one," Howard recalled. "Keeping adequate enrollments and living up to our advertised mission of providing a Christian atmosphere along with a top-drawer educa-

tion has always been challenging as well."

For many years, Joan volunteered her time as a North American fundraiser and correspondent for the Good Samaritan School in Honduras. She faithfully joined Howard at numerous college functions and has been a member of the Associates of Rochester College for more than three decades.

"In the early days, I was active in our local chapter of the Associates," said Joan. "Although Lansing is more than 80 miles from the campus, we participated in most events. For several years, we ran a food booth at the Fall Festival and netted hundreds of dollars for the college."

The Hagermans join a distinguished list of award recipients, including Bob and Mary Utley (2007), Harold and Helen Slater (2008), and Ann Luchsinger (2009). All have been strong advocates of Rochester College and have played critical roles in the institution's growth.

"We feel we can contribute to the educational enterprise and do a small part to further Christian education," Howard commented. "We have always believed having a college that could provide a good combination of secular and religious education would be a lasting contribution to the Lord's work in Michigan."

Donation Of Longtime Supporter's Coin Collection Provides Student Scholarships

Bobby Carter did not attend college, but he loved Rochester College. In the early 1960s, Bobby joined the Junior Associates as a teenager to help raise funds for the newly-formed institution. Nearly 50 years later, Bobby's mother donated his coin collection to the college in his memory.

"I cried when Bobby decided he did not want to attend college," said Susie Carter. "Instead, he served in the special forces of the United States Army and eventually became a master repairman for Chrysler. Occasionally he would visit the campus and remained interested in the college's work."

While going through papers after Bobby's passing, Mrs. Carter discovered a check he had written to the college. She said, "He trusted and loved the college, so I knew he would be pleased if we donated his coin collection as well."

Upon accepting the donation for the college, Dennis Veara, director of estate planning, retrieved three large boxes from the Carter family home in Detroit. After opening the first box, he immediately realized the collection was far more substantial than he had envisioned.

"Bobby had collected a number of mint sets, silver dollars, half dollars, and even some gold and silver bullion," said Veara. "The collection was so significant we felt it would be important to have it appraised."

Over the next several weeks, an inventory of the collection was made and an appraiser was retained. When the appraiser arrived, he remarked about the rarity of several pieces. In particular, he noted a book of pennies dating from the early 1900s, commenting, "This is a complete set, which is rarely seen. [Bobby] knew what he was doing."

By late fall, the appraiser placed a book value of \$30,631 on the collection. College officials sent bid invitations to about 50 coin dealers, and eventually sold the collection to the highest bidder. They then placed the proceeds in the Associates Endowed Scholarship fund in Bobby's name, where his legacy will live on and his love for the college will continue to grow.



HOWARD AND JOAN HAGERMAN received the J. Robert and Mary Utley Philanthropy Award for more than 30 years of service to Rochester College. The couple's dedication to the college's mission and long-term growth has had an immeasurable impact on Rochester College.

Nursing Skills Laboratory Completed

Construction has been completed on a Rochester College nursing skills laboratory. This newly renovated space will allow students to train in a hospital-like environment, giving them as authentic an education as possible.

"Learning occurs best when a student applies the theoretical material in a safe, practical way," said School of Nursing Director Jaime Sinutko. "This lab provides the chance for practical application of nursing procedures and use of equipment. It will be a place where safe scenarios can be worked through to help students perfect the skills they'll need in their clinical studies."

Crittenton Hospital donated eight mechanical hospital beds to the lab. Designed to mimic a real hospital experience, the lab also includes eight over-bed tables, a sink, eight simulated headwalls behind the beds and a family of four mannequins to provide simulated clinical experiences. The

mannequins have a pulse and the ability to breath, and can be used for students to practice invasive nursing procedures, such as blood draw and foley catheterization.

Rochester College currently offers an RN-to-BSN program, where individuals who already hold RN certification can complete their BSN through the college. Pending state approval, RC's School of Nursing is seeking to institute a pre-licensure BSN program. The nursing laboratory is required before the State of Michigan Board of Nursing can visit the site.

"Our accrediters understand the value of having a skills lab," said Sinutko. "They recognize it as a way to teach, learn and practice nursing — a place where students can gain the confidence they need to carry with them throughout their careers in the medical field."



Tucker and VanderWoude Join Rochester College Staff

Dr. Gary Tucker welcomed as Dean of Online Learning



Dr. Gary Tucker will lead RC's initiative to create a stronger online presence, linking emerging e-technologies and learner needs with RC's Christian heritage and dedication to quality learning.

As the number of students enrolled in online programs at colleges and universities continues to grow, there is a shift toward online education. This shift is accompanied by an explosion of new e-learning technologies, such as electronic books, smart-phones and simulations.

"Given the demand for online learning, a plethora of online technologies to incorporate into teaching, budgetary problems, and opportunities for innovation, I believe online education is facing a 'perfect e-storm,'" Tucker said. "The question arises as to where Rochester College will be in this e-storm. We can shrink back or we can embrace it and emerge as a leader in providing quality online faith-based education."

Tucker is also eager to take on this storm as an RC staff member. "Rochester College is noted for its outstanding, caring faculty who believe every student should receive a quality faith-based education," said Tucker. "I am looking forward to working with this faculty to help Rochester College deliver quality education to all students, even those who

cannot come to our campus or offsite locations."

Tucker and his wife, Kay, have two children, two dogs and one cat. Their son, Timothy, will graduate from high school this year and plans to attend RC in the fall. He is an accomplished swimmer and diver. Their daughter, Anne, is a sophomore in high school and has two goals in life: to play basketball and to become a veterinarian. Of their pets, Tucker says, "Our dogs are a German Shepherd and Toy Poodle. The cat is a cat."

Many years ago, Tucker was selected as a finalist for the Teach in Space Project created by Ronald Reagan. More than 11,000 teachers applied for the program. "I was eliminated because they decided I was too tall and weighed too much," said Tucker.

Dr. Katrina VanderWoude welcomed as Academic Dean

Rochester College welcomes Dr. Katrina VanderWoude as its new academic dean. VanderWoude will be replacing Dr. David Keller, who graciously served as an interim dean for the past year and who will return to his previous role as a full-time professor. VanderWoude's post will entail working with both traditional and CEL programming and collaborating with faculty and staff in the delivery of current programs, as well as the



development of new ones.

VanderWoude brings almost 20 years of experience to Rochester College after having been involved in the administration and delivery of professional development programming, continuing education and traditional education programs at other universities and community colleges. She has also worked with corporate clients and educators and has administered the delivery of State Board CEU courses for K-12 teachers and other certified professions.

VanderWoude holds a bachelor's degree from Michigan State University. Her master's degree and doctorate in education leadership, with an emphasis in higher education, organizational leadership and student affairs, come from Eastern Michigan University. She also has many years of experience in such roles as associate dean, faculty member, research fellow, corporate training and grants coordinator at institutions such as Schoolcraft College, Eastern Michigan University and Kaplan University Online.

VanderWoude will begin full-time work in July and is looking forward to filling her role at Rochester College. "I was highly impressed with the genuine respect and regard that students expressed to me anonymously about Rochester, its faculty and staff," she said.

When she has free time, VanderWoude describes herself as an "avid walker." She also enjoys visiting art museums and introducing her 11-year-old daughter, Elyse, to classic films. Calling herself a "foodie," VanderWoude also loves to cook.



WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS The Rochester College softball team claimed the USCAA Championship title on May 8 in a best-of-three game series.

TO THE NAAIA...
AND BEYOND!

TEXT BY *Rebekah Parsons*

To say 2010-11 saw significant change in the RC Athletic Department would grossly undersell the Warriors' accomplishments, both on and off the field. In addition to bringing home two national championships, Athletic Director Klint Pleasant announced in April that the college was unanimously voted into the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics, after a year-long application and compliance process.

"This is a big deal," said Pleasant. "The NAIA has been around for 70 years and is nationally recognized. We are both humbled and excited to have this opportunity."

While the college will continue its affiliation with the United States Collegiate Athletic Association, the NAIA affiliation opens the door for an increased level of competition. The USCAA has roughly 85 members, with student body sizes around 2,000, while the NAIA boasts almost 300 member schools with student bodies up to 6,000.

Initially the Warriors will compete independently, similar to how Notre Dame plays football in Division 1 NCAA. Ultimately Pleasant would like to see the college join a conference and develop rivals on that level. Conferences are not part of the USCAA structure.

One of the biggest challenges for the department was ensuring that none of the current student athletes would lose eligibility in the transition. Pleasant praised Clayton Bissett, associate athletic director, who spearheaded the project saying, "Clayton worked tirelessly this past year, and fortunately we can say the change to the NAIA has not affected any athlete's eligibility."

While most of the recent headlines coming out of the athletic office revolve around the NAIA, plenty of other achievements during the 2010-11 season brought the spotlight to Rochester College.

The men's golf team successfully defended its national title, becoming the first RC team to win back-to-back championships since the men's basketball team locked up consecutive trophies in 2004 and 2005. Led by junior All-American Gary Turner, the Warriors won the tournament by 12 strokes. The golf team is also the first team in RC history to achieve national success within five years of the program's start.

In baseball news, a matchup against Division-1 Oakland University did little to intimidate the Warriors, and the baseball team bested the Golden Grizzlies, 6-3, while playing on Oakland's field.

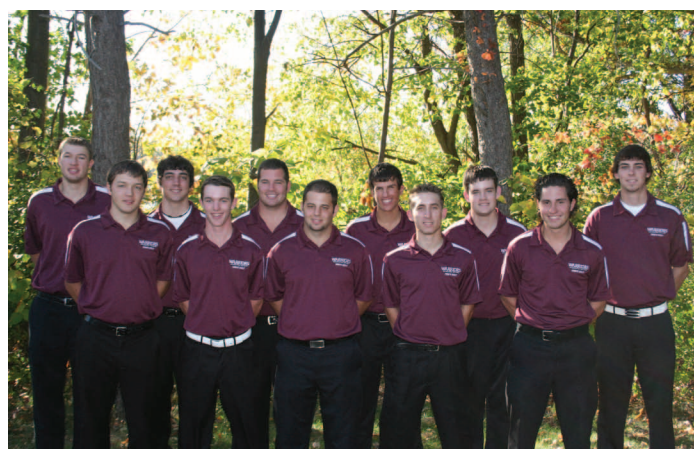
The men's basketball team ended its season with a 5th place finish at the USCAA Nationals. The Warriors were the number one seed and favorite to win heading to Uniontown, Pa., but offensive setbacks doomed them in the first round in a 69-56 loss.

Women's teams excelled during the 2010-11 season as well, with the softball team claiming the USCAA Championship title on May 8 after defeating St. Mary of the Woods in game two of a best-of-three series. The Warriors won by a final score of 8-6, marking the first softball title in the history of the program.

Warrior volleyball placed third at the national tournament, while the women's soccer team finished the season with seven wins, the most in college history.

"Overall, I think all the teams did well this year," Pleasant said. "I've been fortunate to retain strong coaches, which allows for programs to be built. The current coaches understand the kind of student-athletes that fit our mission and they've done a great job of recruiting and making steady progress each year."

The department will continue to build on this progress as it preps for a new set of challenges in 2011-12.



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS



To keep up with Warrior athletics, visit
www.rochestercollegewarriors.com.

ROCHESTER COLLEGE
ATHLETES brought home two national championships, including one for the men's golf team, pictured above. Traci Taylor, a junior from Sterling Heights, Mich., assisted volleyball to a third place ranking at the national tournament. In upcoming seasons, Warriors will have the opportunity to play in the NAIA.





Honoring

Coach

Garth Pleasant

Lifelong mentor, unyielding leader, steadfast friend,
constant example and diligent Christian servant,
Garth Pleasant retires after 34 years
coaching RC basketball.

TEXT BY *Carlee Barackman* **PHOTOGRAPHY BY** *Jeffrey Lewis Bennett*



Entering a modest space off the singular narrow hallway of the Rochester College gym, one would hardly anticipate walking into the office of a college basketball legend such as Garth Pleasant. However, upon stepping foot in the room and seeing the memorabilia, awards, medals and trophies that cover the space, it is then you realize this place is in fact home to the winningest coach in Michigan college basketball history. In that moment, one can't help but stand in awe of Pleasant's career accomplishments.

Game balls from the 500th, 600th and 700th win sit poised in protective cases; a custom plaque honors his induction into the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan Hall of Fame; no fewer than four Coach of the Year Awards from the BCAM, NSCAA and USCAA, along with a Career Achievement Award, hang on the walls; and photographs of his teams at national championships (Pleasant led the Warriors to nationals 28 times and brought home four victories) show off what most would consider the greatest moments of any coach's career.

Yet sitting at his desk, Pleasant ignores the accolades surrounding him and reflects on what he considers the most precious accomplishments of the basketball program he has led at Rochester

College for 34 years—his players.

With his retirement from coaching upon him, Pleasant makes his reflections on coaching all about these men, rattling off what seems to be nearly every player he has ever coached. Using the various generations he has been around the college as markers for this spoken roster, Pleasant

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*The players become
your family.
That's what I'll
really miss...
being part of a team.*

names the players, but doesn't recall their statistics or if they won a national championship. Instead, his gaze focuses, as if his mind is showing him an instantaneous evolution of the young men he once directed on the basketball court, to the husbands, ministers, fathers, missionaries and upstanding citizens these men are in present day— no doubt because he touched their lives.

“I try to tell my players that I will know how good of a team we were in 15 years when I see how good of a husband, father and member of society they are,” said Pleasant.

Tyler Leipprandt, a player from 2004-2008, heard Pleasant speak this lesson and saw it in Pleasant's example many times during his college years. “He not only showed us how to be great basketball players, he showed us how to be great people, Christians and fathers...which I am experiencing now,” said Leipprandt.

The yearning to see his players become great men and Kingdom servants is perhaps the most definitive aspect of Pleasant's coaching style. Simply put, it was never about the wins, championships or halls of fame. It was about the ministry and about the players. In speaking with these men, this coaching style is reiterated time and time again:

“I've listened to a lot of college coaches speak about the game, and you can tell they know what they're talking about by the way they dissect a play and can analyze it from angles you didn't realize existed. But at the same time, you get the sense that is what they lived for—that expanding their knowledge of the game was the ultimate goal of their job. Coach never gave that impression,” said Adam Hacias, who played under Pleasant from



IF YOU'VE PLAYED THE GAME, YOU UNDERSTAND that at some point, you stop being a team, and you become a family...and you're a part of that family for life. Members of the Warrior basketball family, from left: Josh Graves ('02), Andrew Topie ('07), Adrian Schaffer (current), Adam Hacias ('07) and Brian Thrift ('98) stand with "Coach," a man who all of them say has made a lasting impression on their lives.

2003-2007 and is now a math teacher and assistant basketball coach at Rochester High School. As many former players know, Hacias recognizes why Pleasant is so renowned and says it all boils down to one thing: his perspective.

"Don't get me wrong, Garth was as good a coach as anyone. He understood Xs and Os as well as any coach you see on TV and probably ran the best practices around. But when practice ended, he didn't stop coaching. He understood that his real purpose—mentoring young men and being a witness on the way to live a godly life—wasn't confined to the two hours of practice or game time. He continued to exemplify a Christ-like character and preach what really matters—not how many points you score or the teams you can beat, but how to live a life that directs people to the Savior. He understood the components of the game better than most, but he understood what the game really was—a way to lead people to Jesus—better than all," said Hacias.

John Losher, a member of the college's team from 1960 to 1962, echoed what was always of top importance to Pleasant, saying, "Coach has been a model Christian for thousands of young adults. His knowledge of basketball, while significant, was more than "wins" and "losses"—it was how to play the game of life in a way to glorify God."

Richard Zalenski, a member of the first team to qualify for the national tournament under Pleasant during the Michigan Christian College era, echos Pleasant's focus on and off the court saying, "Garth encouraged me to have a personal relationship with Jesus. I have been blessed by my association with Coach Garth Pleasant. He has been my coach, my mentor and my friend."

If perspective is what has helped Pleasant use his coaching role to impact a young man, it's trust that has continued to build on the player-coach relationship and form a lasting friendship. Pleasant's players have opened up to him, allowing him to stay involved in their lives long

after he is done being their official coach. How did Pleasant form such trust? He made sure every player knew they were important to him, and he was sure to spend time with his players, creating memories they'll share forever.

Pleasant still reflects on moments where players told him they were baptized or the weddings he performed for the men he coached or moments he spent with the team in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina, witnessing the devastation and working as a team to help rebuild the ruined city. Around the nation, Pleasant and his players opened up and shared their lives, just like a family does. "I took the boys to where President Kennedy was assassinated, and I told them 'Guys, this was my 9/11.' The players become your family. That's what I'll really miss, being a part of a team," Pleasant said as he described what he's leaving behind with tears coming to his eyes.

Home court, the hardwoods of the Rochester College gym, witnessed many milestones and



special moments as well. “I will never forget the hours we spent together in that little gym, pouring blood, sweat and tears onto the floor,” said Leipprandt. “That gym floor is where I fell on my face and later received eight stitches; where I would get blisters the size of baseballs on my feet; and where my brother and I would almost get into fights while practicing against each other. But looking back, I would do all of it over again just to have the chance to be under [Garth] as head coach.”

Today, as his final season has come to an end, Pleasant sits in his office and does some looking back himself. With the wisdom of the ages, he remembers thinking he was the best coach around and could out-coach anyone when his career first started. “Then I realized how bad I was,” joked Pleasant. Over the years, he was able to learn a valuable lesson that has no doubt aided his success. He realized in coaching, there’s never a pinnacle to be reached. Rather, one must keep pushing to learn more and more, year after year. Not surprisingly, after nearly four decades, this is one routine that’s going to be hard to shake. “A month ago I ordered around \$100 worth of DVDs about finishing around the basket. I was so excited, and then I cracked myself up because I realized I’m not coaching anymore!”

Luckily, however, it won’t be difficult to pass along his knowledge, experience and even growing DVD collection to the coach succeeding him since it is his son, Klint, who has taken over his head coaching position. “Warrior basketball has been a family affair for us from the beginning. Klint has been around the program since he was a toddler,” said Pleasant.

As Klint steps in as head coach and Garth’s legacy lives on through the character of the men he has impacted, the Pleasant era continues. Klint will bring his father’s same passion to the sidelines, and coupled with his love of Rochester College and impressive coaching history, Klint and his teams will no doubt be a force to reckon with. Although he has coached at schools such as Lipscomb University, Abilene Christian University and Kent State University, Klint says, “If people knew how excited I am to be [at Rochester College] doing my dream job, they’d think I was coaching the Lakers! But in all seriousness, for [Garth] to now pass the baton down to me is really incredible, and it’s something I don’t take lightly.”

“

When practice ended, he didn't stop coaching. He understood his real purpose—mentoring young men and being a witness on the way to live a godly life—wasn't confined to the two hours of practice or game time.

worth repeating

"To say Coach Pleasant has worn many hats during his tenure at RC is like saying a mother has many responsibilities;

both are beyond measure."

JOSH GRAVES, in his reflection of Pleasant entitled, "I Will Always Call Him Coach."

"You not only showed us how to be great basketball players, you showed us how to be great people, Christians and fathers."

TYLER LEIPPRANDT, on the character Pleasant instilled in his players.

"I will never, ever have another coach work with me in a baseball camp who will do less with the kids while working the fence with famous dads and good-looking moms."

STEVE LYON, making light of Pleasant's networking expertise.

"I often wonder where I might be if not for Garth Pleasant."

RICHARD ZALENSKI, former Warrior athlete and current basketball coach.

RECAP

A TRIBUTE TO GARTH PLEASANT

By the
#s

34

YEARS COACHING AT RC

400+

PLAYERS

what seemed like more than
1, 000, 000
miles traveled

MORE THAN **11**
Academic
All-Americans

MORE THAN
22

Small College All-Americans

4

National
Championships

720 WINS

(Most in Michigan college basketball history)

countless

lives changed

1

MAN.
COACH.
LEGEND.



A photograph of a woman in a tan sweater and a floral scarf holding a small, fluffy white dog. She is also holding a black smartphone in her left hand. The background is slightly blurred, showing an indoor setting.

Life, POST-GRAD

"ALL IN A DAY'S WORK" MEANS A LOT OF WORK FOR ANDREA WALKER ('05). As the owner of Walker PWS, a public relations company specializing in small businesses, editor of *Community Lifestyles*, contributing writer for several Detroit-based magazines and mama to one adorable puppy, Walker has created a life that's beautifully busy. But Walker wouldn't have it any other way. In fact, she's just getting started.

TEXT BY *Emilie Vinson* **PHOTOGRAPHY BY** *Elliot Jones*

Andrea Walker's mornings almost always begin the same way. She finds a spot on the floor that's warm with sunshine, and there, she and her fluffy white Maltese puppy, Moses, scroll through the first round of emails on her BlackBerry.

A 2005 RC graduate, Andrea majored in English, focusing on professional writing and literature. Following graduation, she started editing for a local paper and freelance writing on the side. In 2007, she started her own business, Walker PWS, LLC., a company designed to offer media and publicity assistance to small businesses. She currently works with seven different clients, providing a wide array of services from ad design to social media upkeep to traditional media pitches. "My goal is to be a one-stop shop," she says.

Responding to emails is one of Andrea's only work elements that remains a daily activity. From there, every day is different. On this particular day, she works from home in the morning, sending a client's ad to a magazine, following up on another client's press release, talking to the director of the

Rochester Hills Community House, and setting up an interview for the afternoon, all before 11 a.m.

By 11:30, Andrea is sitting at a table in the middle of Panera with her new English and journalism intern from Oakland University. Today, the two talk through the first list of assignments.

This afternoon brings a quick trip home for her computer, some files and a Diet Coke on her way to *Community Lifestyles*, the newspaper where she works as managing editor. From there, Andrea conducts the phone interview she set up this morning with a local tutoring center, contacts her assistant and heads over to a client's office. Lisa Jendza, owner of The New You Body Wraps and Wellness Center, is prepping her business for an event that will launch several new products.

The New You was Andrea's first client when her business opened in 2007. "Most of my clients become friends," Andrea said. "I get to do what I love with people I like. I get to promote what I believe in."

In the middle of her work with Lisa, Andrea takes a 30-minute break so I can conduct an interview and paint a picture of one of her typical days. Sitting across from me in a casual-chic cardigan, Jewel Kade jewelry (which she has come to love so much she sells it on the side) and an airy floral scarf, she laughs. "I'm blessed to be a writer and really live out my dreams at the same time," Andrea says. "And most days I can do both in my sweats!"

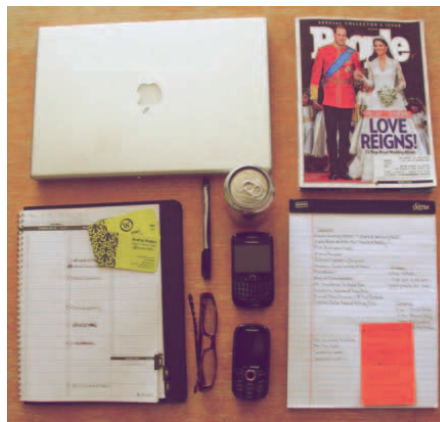
Nevertheless, Andrea's flair for fashion has been a useful asset in her work environment. She's worked as a freelance writer with Detroit-

based *Ambassador Magazine* since 2007, written a fashion column for the *Detroit Free Press* from 2008-2010, and also spent a year writing for *944 Magazine*, a national publication with a local Detroit magazine. In these positions, she's interviewed celebrities such as Angela Basset, Tophere Grace, Drew Barrymore, Jerry Seinfeld, Paul Moley and Chris Noth, as well as many people who have invested in Detroit. "I meet so many amazing people. On the same day I may interview a celeb for a magazine and pitch a story to the media about a nonprofit client helping people in need... it really is the best of everything for me."

We wrap up our interview, and Andrea checks her BlackBerry before heading back to work. It's almost 5 p.m., but there's more to be done. Tonight she'll work from home with her puppy, Moses, curled under her feet.

The evening's order of events include a chicken gyro as a snack, three articles for *Community Lifestyles*, a press release for one of her clients and some national pitches to media in Los Angeles. Along with her local clients, Andrea works for an LA-based client and has a virtual office in New York City, allowing her to have a presence in New York without having to move there.

To wrap up the day, Andrea prepares tomorrow's schedule, double-checking each of her client's lists to be sure she hasn't forgotten anything. Tomorrow will no doubt be a new adventure. "No two days look the same, but even on the most chaotic day, it is 'my chaos,'" she tells me. "I live my life by the grace of God, really good friends, my BlackBerry, Diet Coke and a really cute puppy."



WALKER RUNS a full-service PR company where she works with several non-profit organizations in the area, as well as other local and national clients. At top right, she reviews marketing material with Peg Hamilton, director of the Community Foundation of Greater Rochester. Walker's community presence led to being awarded the Rochester Regional Chamber of Commerce's 2010 Young Professional of the Year Award.

MEET Andrea

CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT

My Diet Coke
My BlackBerry
My puppy

CURRENTLY READING

Crazy Love by Francis Chan,
and I always have a
PEOPLE magazine in my bag

GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT

Starting a business

MOST MEMORABLE COLLEGE MOMENT

My last year of college, last class of the last semester, I spent time with a few people who have now become my best friends and pour into me daily. (You know who you are, and I'm so grateful to you!)

I ADMIRE

Anyone who has pushed through adversity and is thriving not in spite of, but because of it. Professionally and as a woman, it's Lora Hutson, hands down!

EVERYDAY, I AM DRIVEN BY

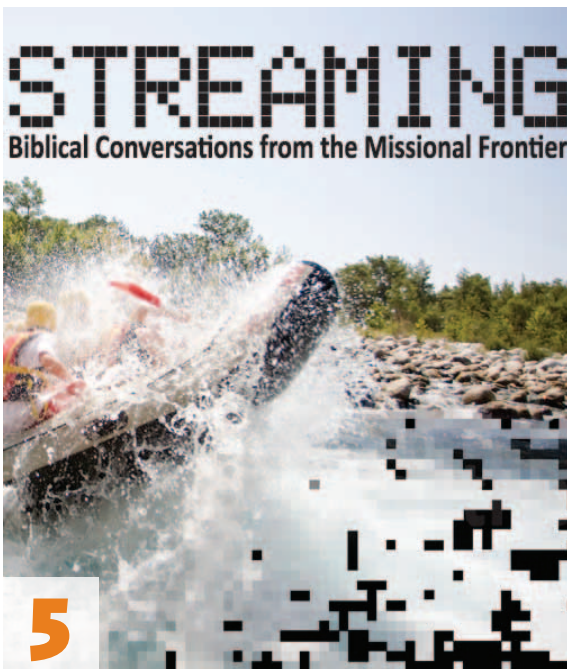
the plans God has for me. That is what my hope is built on. If I can accomplish even some of what He's planned, I've had a successful day.



elevate 2011

REFLECTIONS

As water reflects the face, so one's life reflects the heart. [PROVERBS 27:19](#)



A LOOK AT ALL THAT KEEPS OUR CALENDAR FULL *Spring & Summer 2011*

1 CELEBRATION 2011: MUST SEE TV!

A long-standing tradition at the college, Celebration this year was a must-see event. Themed "Must See TV," the annual variety show featured more than 50 students in various social club acts along with song and dance ensembles. The evening was hosted by Zac Watson, assistant professor of English, and directed by Stephanie Corp ('96). Sigma Phi Delta Nu received the Journey Award for its hilarious *Law & Order* spin-off entitled, *Who Killed Penny Penelope Porter?*, and The Omegas took home the Gill Performance Award for the soap opera-inspired drama, *The Bold & Restless Semesters of All My Children's General Lives While the World is Turning...*

SNAPSHOT A "pregnant" Kevin Briski, along with fellow Omegas, Rob Root and Jonathan Powell, take to the stage during Celebration 2011: Must See TV!

2 GLOBAL JUSTICE CONFERENCE: HUMAN TRAFFICKING

From April 1-2, Rochester College hosted its first Global Justice Conference, which focused on bringing awareness to the reality of modern day slavery. It is estimated that there are more than 23 million victims of slavery worldwide. More than 17,000 of these slaves are brought into the United States each year, most often as part of the lucrative and growing sex trade.

With more than 250 people present, the conference's keynote speakers brought the reality of human trafficking to life. Theresa Flores, survivor of human trafficking, reminded attendees that trafficking is not just a global problem. It's a local problem as well.

Wayne Barnard, representing the International Justice Mission, explained international rescue operations to secure justice for victims of slavery, and Bridgette Carr, a professor directing the Human Trafficking Clinic at University of Michigan Law School, shed light on the legal aspects of trafficking. The music group, "Abolitionist Hymnal Project," brought a unique collection of 19th century hymns about the slave trade to life.

SNAPSHOT The 1st annual GJC offered practical advice on how to identify victims of human trafficking on a global and local level.

3 8TH ANNUAL ACADEMIC SYMPOSIUM

The 8th annual Rochester College Academic Symposium took place April 15-22 and featured several events celebrating Rochester College's vibrant academic community. The highlight of the week-long event took place on Tuesday, April 19, when 57 students from various disciplines presented their scholarly and creative work derived from capstone or senior project courses. A diversity of subject matter was reflected in scholarly papers, executive simulations, public relations campaigns for real world clients, and musical and theatrical presentations. The Symposium also included a keynote presentation and luncheon featuring Dr. Thomas Maridada, superintendent of the Pontiac School District. A dynamic speaker, Maridada charged students to "find their purpose in life, and get passionate about it." Other events included the Academic Awards Ceremony, Showcase of the Arts, Theatre Festival, special showing of "Death of a Salesman," and much more.

SNAPSHOT Dr. Thomas Maridada delivers the keynote address during the 8th annual Academic Symposium.

4 40TH ANNUAL PARTNERSHIP DINNER

Rochester College hosted the 40th annual Partnership Dinner at the Royal Park Hotel in downtown Rochester on Sunday, May 1. Generating funding for student scholarships, the event boasted a crowd of more than 400 students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends of the college who gathered to pay tribute to retiring coach, Garth Pleasant. Don Meyer, the NCAA's most winningest coach, presented the keynote address, while several others close to Pleasant took the stage to recall favorite memories and deliver well wishes to the Pleasant family. Pleasant and his wife, Pat, were also presented with a Royal Caribbean Cruise, courtesy of the Board of Trustees. The 41st annual Partnership Dinner will be held at the Royal Park Hotel on Saturday, April 28, 2012, and will feature Judge Kenneth Starr. Tickets and sponsorships may be purchased by contacting Cathy Ries at 248.218.2021 or cries@rc.edu.

SNAPSHOT Retiring coach Garth Pleasant reminded the audience at this year's Partnership Dinner that although RC has seen many changes throughout the years, the college remains steadfast in creating Kingdom servants.

5 STREAMING CONFERENCE

From May 16-18, Rochester College's Resource Center for Missional Leadership hosted a conference entitled, "Streaming: Biblical Conversations from the Missional Frontier."

Designed to be an in-depth exploration of the adventure of ministry, Streaming focused on the book of James and offered ministers and church leaders biblical resources to help them lead God's people in a missional era.

Centered in biblical text, the conference sought to take seriously both the church and the world's current culture. Streaming featured presentations from leading biblical scholars such as Dr. Miroslav Volf, director of Yale's Center for Faith and Culture, and Dr. Scot McKnight, a widely recognized authority on the New Testament.

6 ELEVATE 2011: REFLECTIONS

Elevate, Rochester College's annual summer camp for teens, will take place June 26-July 2. Inspired by the words of Proverbs 27:19, "As water reflects the face, so one's life reflects the heart," this year's theme is Reflections. Featured speakers include Wayne Beason, Dion Frasier and Jason Steckle who will discuss a variety of topics and share their personal testimonies. Chris Shields will serve as worship leader for the week. Elevate campers also have the opportunity to participate in various service projects, small group discussions and a variety of worship experiences. In addition, artistic activities and times of sport and recreation, including the Elevate Olympics and annual "Crud Wars," will round out the fun-filled festivities. For more information, visit www.rc.edu/elevate.

**HOW DO I STAY
UP TO DATE ON
ALL RC EVENTS,
YOU ASK?**

*It's as easy as
1, 2, 3.*

 [facebook.com/RochesterCollege](https://www.facebook.com/RochesterCollege)

 twitter.com/RCWarriors

 photos.rc.edu

King's Spirit Lives On Through RC Community and Memorial Site

REFLECTION BY *Adam Hill*

MY PHONE RANG SHORTLY AFTER MIDNIGHT ON NOV. 10. AS A MINISTER, YOU LEARN THIS IS RARELY A GOOD SIGN.

I remember sitting stunned as I was informed that Jeremy King had died. I had lost one of my closest friends.

Two and a half years is not a long time to spend with someone, but for Jeremy and me it was enough time to become fast friends. Not only did we work together at Rochester College, we also served on staff at the Rochester Church of Christ. More personally though, when my family moved to Michigan, Jeremy was one of the first people to truly make me feel welcomed and loved. He was so funny, real and good that one could not help but enjoy his company.

Most of our time together happened in my office at RC. Jeremy would often come in early in the morning (especially during snow plowing season) and his work day would be wrapping up by mid-afternoon, just about the time my faculty office hours were starting. As a result, we had an informally scheduled appointment for random conversation every Tuesday and Thursday between 3-4 p.m. He would saunter in, crack a joke, sit down and we would talk.

We talked about everything from fantasy football, hunting and hockey, to our families, children and faith. I'm no outdoorsman, but I couldn't help but enjoy listening to Jeremy talk about hunting and fishing. Sometimes we would laugh to the point of tears talking about how strongly his five-year-old daughter, Faith, and my three-year-old son, Cooper disliked one another at the time (thankfully, they have successfully mended this rift into a friendship). We talked often of our spiritual lives and how to live as Christian men for our families. His love for his wife and children was deep and inspiring. I remember the day he came in grinning as he shouted to me the happy news that his wife Veronica was pregnant with another baby boy, Carter. We prayed and joked and celebrated. Through times of frustration and times of laughter, I remember Jeremy as one of the most authentic and honest friends I have ever had.

I still miss Jeremy often. In particular, I find myself avoiding my office between 3-4 p.m. every Tuesday and Thursday. It seems too empty.

As the campus minister, I remember feeling so inadequate for the task of helping a community grieve the loss of someone as loved and influential as Jeremy. So instead of that, I settled for crying publicly in chapel (something which Jeremy would have probably teased me about, now that I think of it). But I think, by God's grace, that crying was the right thing to do. We cried together as a community.

Over five months later, on Sunday, April 17, the Rochester College community gathered again to commemorate the loss of Jeremy. In the mid-morning winds of Michigan April, with a chill blowing in straight from Canada, alongside others from the Rochester Church of Christ and Troy Church of Christ, the friends and family of Jeremy King shared a time of prayer and dedication at the newest addition to campus, the Jeremy King Memorial. In one of Jeremy's favorite places on campus, Riverside Park, three Canadian maples stand tall in honor of his three beautiful children, and a large stone monument bears witness to the lasting imprint he made on our college family. In the cement at the base of the stone, you can see handprints and footprints of his wife, Veronica and his three children, Faith, Caleb and Carter. These bear witness to his most treasured possessions.

As we sang some of his favorite songs, the wind blew. As we spoke words of memory and blessing, small snowflakes drifted through the air. As we prayed, a deep yet gentle roll of thunder answered us.

I miss Jeremy, but I know that he is present with us still. I look forward to talking with him again one day when we see one another in heaven.



JEREMY KING graduated from Rochester College in 2004. As a student at RC, Jeremy participated in Autumn and the A Cappella Chorus, which is where he met his wife, Veronica (Arnett '06). He was a devoted husband and father—he and Veronica have three children: Faith, 5; Caleb, 3; and Carter, born in February 2011. Jeremy's passion for music ministry was evident as he performed with the men's a cappella group, DeeperStill. Most recently, he joined the Rochester Church of Christ staff as worship minister. In addition to this role, Jeremy worked as grounds supervisor at Rochester College, where his gregarious personality made an impact on both staff and students. Jeremy passed away on Nov. 9, 2010, after suffering a sudden heart attack while hunting—one of his favorite pastimes. The Jeremy King Memorial bears witness to the lasting imprint he made on the Rochester College community.

ALUMNI NEWS

To submit alumni news, see rc.edu/alumni or send information to Larry Stewart at 800 West Avon Road, Rochester Hills, MI 48307.

1982

Melanie (Shelton) Cooper and her husband, Homer Cooper, celebrated their 20th anniversary on March 17, 2010, with a cruise to Mexico. They have one son, Justin, a college student. The family lives in Lorena, Texas. Melanie can be contacted at mscooper@hotmail.com.

1998

Jeremy Deming recently accepted a role as chief professional officer for the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Mississippi Delta. He previously spent 10 years working for the Boys & Girls Clubs, including positions as vice president for finance and administration in Lansing, Mich., and chief professional officer in Natchitoches, La. Jeremy and his son, Isak, now live in Greenwood, Miss. Jeremy can be reached at jdeming@bgc-msdelta.org.

Joanna Lynn joined Donald, Josiah, Abigail, Samuel, Philip, Miriam and Elizabeth in the home of Brian and *Carrie (Pier) Ellerbrock* on Nov. 11, 2010. The Ellerbrocks reside in Leipsic, Ohio. Carrie can be reached at carrie_ellerbrock@yahoo.com.



FROM SANTA'S LAP TO GRADUATION CAP *Melissa (Panzica) Llewellyn*, daughter of 1975 graduate *Debbie (Hay) Panzica* and *John Panzica*, visited with Santa (*Patrick Smith*) at the 1991 Associates Gift-a-Rama. Nineteen years later, Melissa received her bachelor's degree in language arts education from Rochester College during the December graduation ceremony.



2000

Bill and Shannon (Perne) Simons adopted William Isaac Simons last fall. Will was born six weeks early on Aug. 23, 2010, with hydrocephalus and mild spina bifida. After two surgeries, William is showing no ill effects from either diagnosis. The Simons live in Canton, Ohio, and can be contacted at iluvjesus77@hotmail.com.

2001

William Lee joined Luke in the home of *Dawn (Jenkins) Foust* on Oct. 28, 2010. The family lives in Culbertson, Neb. Dawn can be contacted at thefoustfam4@gmail.com.

Todd and *Lisa (Zill) Noorman* welcomed Landon John on Feb. 3, 2011. The family resides in Spring Hill, Tenn. Lisa can be contacted at todd_noorman@me.com.

Florian Thiel and his wife, Samantha, welcomed Amy Magarethe on Dec. 8, 2009. Florian is employed as a commercial project manager for Krauss-Maffei Wegmann, and wrote, "I hope someday Amy will experience Rochester College." The family lives in Kassel, Germany. Florian can be reached at florian-thiel@yahoo.de.

2002

Taylor and Katie (Hoffman-03) Whitt welcomed Oliver Grayson on Jan. 7, 2010. Jan (Scruggs-77) Hoffman is the proud grandmother. The Whitts recently moved back to Michigan from Phoenix, Ariz. They can be contacted at taylor@whittmatters.com.

2004

Mike and Karyn (Bell-'05) Tankersley welcomed their second child, Katy Rae, on July 17, 2010. The Tankersleys reside in Madison, Ohio. Karen can be contacted at mrs_tank@hotmail.com.

2005

Oakland University recently promoted *Luke Fleeer* to associate director of alumni engage-

ment. He created and coordinated a grant-funded Alumni Ambassador Program at OU, which successfully transitioned to permanent university funding last year. Luke and his wife, Marianne, welcomed their second child, Lyle Marshall, on July 15, 2010. The Fleers live in Shelby Township, Mich. Luke can be reached at fleer@oakland.edu.

2008

Tyler and Rachel (Stuewer) Leipprandt welcomed Rhiana Lanae on Feb. 11, 2011. The family resides in Brown City, Mich., and can be contacted at rstuewer@rc.edu.

2009

The American Secrets, a Detroit-based band including alumni *Bryon ('98) and Danny Rossi ('09)*, became the new Free Credit Score group after winning a national contest in July. As winners of the contest, the group will be featured in several Free Credit Score commercials. Recently, the band performed on the George Lopez Show to promote their new album, "The Fight EP." To find out more about The American Secrets, visit www.theamericansecrets.com.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

September 10, 2010—
April 29, 2011

Vernon & Kay Adams
Ralph & Malfie Webb
Cyrus & Betsy Addams
Don & Doe Whetstone
Everett & Nan Alexander
Jim & Barbara Ingram
Evelyn Anspach
Joe & Sarah Reddick
Nettie Atnip
Barney & Sharon Neill
Larry Barton
Pam Barton
Judy Blake
Donald Blake
Larry Bouman
Martha Bouman
Anthony J. Bowers
Steven & Sarah Bowers
Billy Brazel
Joe & Sarah Reddick
John McCartney
Campbell
John & Harriet Campbell
LaReita Campbell
Joe Campbell
Norman Christman
Marge Christman
Ralph & Lorraine Church
David & Janice Church

Benamin L. Davison
William & Helen Putty
Richard Dean
Zearl & Betty Watson
Royce Dickinson, Jr.
Smiley & Sandra Wells
Merle Elliott
Zearl & Betty Watson
Dr. John L. Estes, Jr.
June Estes
Ion Florescu
Joe & Sarah Reddick
Owen Freeman
Joe & Sarah Reddick
Emma Friese
Jerry & Virginia Ebeling
Ruth Gastaldo
Jerry & Virginia Ebeling
Otis Gatewood
Savage & Mariella Goff
Katie Kirkpatrick Godwin
James & Hazel Kirkpatrick
Harold Haddrill
Jerry & Virginia Ebeling
Jackie Hannah
Tom & Carol Thompson
Kathryn Hendrick
Wes Hendrick
Edna E. Henson
Barbara Montgomery
Thelma Hoggatt
Bruce & Robin Nettles
Joe & Sarah Reddick
Cathy Ries
Sarah Yoakum

Brent House
Zearl & Betty Watson
Fred Jeziarski
Joe & Jill Vincent
Penny Judd
Larry & Lynne Stewart
Zearl & Betty Watson
Jeremy King
Larry & Lynne Stewart
David "KP" Kirkpatrick
James & Hazel Kirkpatrick
Vera Leake
Henry & Marion Durrell
Nancy Milligan
Roger & Kathy Anspach
Jerry & Virginia Ebeling
Jason & Heather Miller
Larry Moebs
Mary Moebs
J. J. Montgomery
Barbara Montgomery
Lori Newby
Zearl & Betty Watson
Tricia Novy
Terry Kogowski
Charles & Nadeline Owen
Joe & Sarah Reddick
Cathy Ries
Ivy & Laverne Parsons
Joe & Sarah Reddick
Virginia Phillips
D. J. Birdwell
Lyle Hancock
Peggy Holland
Phyllis Osborne

Donna Parker
Cathy Ries
Jan Short
Clyde Phipps
Brian & Tamara Phipps
Edwin C. P'Pool
Ken & Peggy P'Pool
Douglas Pridemore
Helen Slater
Ted Rachel
Zearl & Betty Watson
Annette Riley
Joan Costello
Cheryl Riley
Joan Costello
Kenny Robertson
Zearl & Betty Watson
Joan Scheuer
Dennis & Kathleen Van Wagoner
Ken Shaw
Joe & Sarah Reddick
Helen Sherer
Alfred Sherer
Bill Shinsky
Shirley Alexander
Wallice & Virginia Mays
Dorothy Sims
Robert & Mildred Rucker
Terry Yarbrough
Harold Slater
Helen Slater
Ken & Donna Slater
Lucille Smalley
Jerry & Virginia Ebeling

Tom Strangway
Jerry & Virginia Ebeling
Raida Thomas
Cathy Ries
Larry & Lynne Stewart
Jim Thomas
Katherine "Winkie" Thornton
Steve & Carolyn Thornton
Robert & Rosalie Turner
Theresa Turner
Janet Wagner
Donald Carter
Wiley & Dixie Williamson
Barbara Justin
Clara B. Wilson
Phyllis Wilson
Velma Wineinger
Roger & Kathy Anspach
Doris Dunn
Hinkson Financial Services
Dave & Lora Hutson
Jane Leslie
Joe & Sarah Reddick
Cathy Ries
Vivian Stringer
Larry Witzeling
Sandi Witzeling
Hellen Wood
Robert & Kim Martin
L. B. & Laura Work
Zearl & Betty Watson
Beth Yuhas
Margaret Smith

HONOR GIFTS

September 10, 2010—
April 29, 2011

Helen Allmond
Harry & Janet Cybulski
Susan Babb
Thomas & Margaret Babb
Jerry & Virginia Ebeling
Mike & Dawn Kurschat
Sherry Kindt
Bill & Eleanor Dinger
Ann Luchsinger
Robert & Elaine Ernst
Bill, Cindy, Candace & Clayton Luchsinger
Fred & Connie Sitter
Mary Motsinger
Martha Bouman
Garth Pleasant
Brent & Letha Harshman
Ernie & Ginny May
Don & Carmen Meyer
Scott & Birgie Niemann
Dean & Zan Oliver
Robert Randels
Joanne Shinsky
Arnie & Wanda Pylkas
Zearl & Betty Watson
Marie Scherbak
Averill & Wilma Thomas
Rubel Shelly
Richard Van Meter

rochester in RETROSPECT



1978

COMMENCEMENT *Ceremony*

Class members listened attentively to Coach Bill Shinsky at the annual spring commencement in 1978. Students enjoyed outdoor graduation until 1990, when the ceremony moved indoors to avoid weather problems and to provide additional seating in the spacious new auditorium of the Rochester Church of Christ. The college added a modest December ceremony in 1998 to accommodate the first graduates of the Center for Extended Learning. Within four years, the December program rivaled the size of the spring graduation.

The college reached a significant milestone in the spring of 1999 by granting more bachelor's degrees than associate degrees for the first time in its history. During the 2010-11 academic year, Rochester College granted 251 bachelor's degrees and 10 master's degrees. Even with two ceremonies and nearly four times the former outdoor seating capacity, the crowd size has necessitated limited distribution of guest tickets per graduate.



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WHEN YOU GIVE A GIFT, SO WILL WE.

In appreciation of your fiscal year-end gift of \$100 or more, Dr. Shelly will send you a complimentary copy of his new book, *I Knew Jesus Before He Was a Christian...and I Liked Him Better Then*. To find out more on how you can partner with Rochester College and add to your library, visit www.rc.edu/donate.

