Rochester College recently designated Munich, Germany, as the new official home of GEO, the College’s study-abroad program. Officials cited the city’s cosmopolitan culture, central European location and vast resources that could support special business and education programs as the factors that made Munich their clear choice over 28 other prospective European sites.

“Munich is a vibrant city, filled with all sorts of opportunities,” said GEO chairperson Jennifer Hamilton. “There are museums, operas, theatres, historical sites and sports to take in. Munich is a travel hub, so even a two day weekend will provide opportunity to visit other cities in Europe.”

The College’s decision came nearly a year and a half after GEO’s first overseas summer experience in Aberdeen, Scotland, which will serve as the program’s temporary home until the College locates facilities in Munich. After narrowing 29 suggested sites down to two—Salzburg, Austria, and Munich—a team of business, English, history and religion professors traveled to Europe last November to scout the finalists. The team graded the two cities on their academic resources, infrastructure, safety, accessibility and turn to BAVARIA on page 4.
We’re building to transform lives

Dear alumni and friends,

For 44 years, north star has chronicled the progress of this institution. From significant changes in leadership to significant changes in brick and mortar, north star provides alumni and friends an opportunity to know what is happening.

The most important happening at Rochester College is transformation in the lives of young people who come to a deeper faith in the God of the universe. Transforming lives is the reason we exist. Yet, the context for our endeavor is higher education.

Today, the higher education marketplace is more complex than ever. With great strides, we have been able to strengthen our academic presence. Yet, much remains to be done and must be done in a relatively short time if we are to hold our place—or carve out a larger place—in the highly competitive arena of higher education.

In terms of academic presence, our highest need is credible science laboratories. In terms of campus life, our highest need is a student center. In terms of co-curricular activities, our highest need is a gymnasium.

Plans for all of these facilities are in place. Tuition and fees generally cover operating costs but do not cover new buildings. Buildings are constructed only when God touches the hearts of donors who believe in our mission. Our hope is for God to touch the hearts of donors as we seek and ask and pray for funding.

The new facilities of the last six years -- Hoggatt Hall, Ferndale Hall, Dearborn Commons, Isom Atrium, and Ham Library -- have reshaped the face of the College and have contributed significantly to enrollment growth. Yet, our greatest growth will occur after the additional new facilities are in place. With that growth will come significant additional transforming opportunities.

Thank you for your continual encouragement and for your investment in the future of Rochester College as it seeks to be responsible in the task of building up the Kingdom of God.

Cordially,

Kenneth H. Johnson
President

The mission of Rochester College is to engage students in a vigorous liberal arts education within a Christian community for a life of study and service.

News Briefs

College confers first BA

Rochester College awarded its first Bachelor of Arts degree on Dec. 13 to Megan Graham, an English major from Fenton, Mich.

“The addition of the Bachelor of Arts means we now offer a full range of bachelor’s degrees,” said Dr. Michael Westerfield, College provost.

The difference between the Bachelor of Arts and other degrees is its emphasis on humanities subjects like literature, philosophy, languages and history.

On May 28, 2002, the state of Michigan granted the College the authority to confer the BA. Rochester currently offers communication, English, history and music under the new BA degree. Graham’s graduation marked the completion of the College’s nearly 50-year quest to become a true four-year liberal arts college.

In addition to the Bachelor of Arts, Rochester College confers the Bachelor of Business Administration, Bachelor of Religious Education, Bachelor of Science, including two accelerated bachelors’ degrees through its adult learning division.


College hosts U.S. representative


“I believe hosting the chamber of commerce and our elected representatives placed the College in the minds of the many who attended,” said Rochester College Provost Dr. Michael Westerfield. “The activity set an attendance record and allowed the College to be a partner with the community.”

Westerfield delivered a brief presentation about the College’s recent growth, the new Ham Library and plans to construct an academic center by as early as next year.

The event, held periodically by the Rochester Regional Chamber, set an attendance record.

Rochester College Celebration 2003

March 21 at 8:00 p.m.
March 22 at 2:00 p.m.
March 22 at 8:00 p.m.

Tickets:
248.218.2051

Join us for the 26th annual Celebration, a Christian-flavored musical variety show written, directed and performed by the Rochester College students for your family’s pleasure.

north star

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Rochester College does not discriminate on the basis of ethnic or national origin, religion, or skin color. The College does not discriminate on the basis of gender except for specific necessary religious principles held by the College and its governing body.
College caps tuition at 2002 level

Official: “We want to do what we can to help students”

Rochester College officials recently announced it would buck a growing trend of tuition increases at small private colleges by not raising the amount of money most of its traditional students would pay for the 2003-2004 academic year.

“We understand that the tight economy has a real impact on our students,” said Rochester College Executive Vice President Mark VanRheenen. “We want to do what we can to make it possible for students to get a quality college education.”

On average, Rochester College traditional students (those not enrolled in the College of Extended Learning) presently pay $5,136 for a “block” of 16 credit hours per semester. The College’s recent decision will keep that dollar amount static for 2003-2004, but will reduce the number of credit hours to 15 per block.

“We chose to reduce the tuition block from 16 to 15 credit hours to be comparable to most other colleges and universities, which use a 15-hour block when calculating tuition,” said VanRheenen. He added that about 70 percent of the College’s traditional students take 15 hours or less and will directly benefit from the College’s decision to hold tuition at the 2002 level.

“It’s a great decision from a student’s perspective because tuition [usually] goes up on a yearly basis and college is already out of reach for a lot of people,” said Ryan Pawlowski, a junior transfer from Macomb Community College. “I think it also shows the true colors of the administration and that their emphasis is on accommodating students. They’re very focused on allowing students to come and making it as affordable as can be.”

New facility moves closer to reality

Academic center could lead to science department growth

The faculty and students of the Rochester College Department of Science can hardly wait for College administrators and departmental representatives to complete the planning process for a $5.8 million, 28,000 sq. ft. academic center to be built by as early as next year.

Department chairman David Brackney, whose students are presently confined to a tiny building constructed from an old greenhouse on a remote fringe of campus, believes the science labs and classrooms planned for the new center could feed a growth boom for the College.

“The science department will be able to offer classes that are currently not offered due to lack of space, equipment and labs,” said Brackney. “The department could design courses to launch a natural science major and eventually a pre-med program.”

The new facility will also bolster the College’s growing teacher certification program by enhancing opportunities for education students to prepare to teach science at the primary and secondary levels.

“Having adequate and properly equipped work space will be a tremendous improvement,” said Brackney. “We are planning fully-equipped biology and chemistry labs, a physical science lab and a lab where students can conduct undergraduate research.”

The board of trustees approved construction of the new center at its last fall meeting. The facility will adjoin Ham Library, opened last year, in the center of campus. In addition to providing a new home for the science department, the building could house administrative offices and a recital hall for the College Theatre. Several other departments and campus groups also submitted “wish lists” that Gary Carson, vice president for special projects, said would be evaluated based on viability and added cost.

Carson expects to finalize plans and seek project bids by this summer. In the meantime, a capital campaign will be launched by the end of this year.

That may seem awfully close for Carson and the College’s fund raisers but it can’t come soon enough for the students who must get by in the existing space. Tim Parker, an education major and student body president, said he applauded the College’s decision to give the science department priority in the new building.

“The College is in desperate need of labs to accommodate the growing number of science majors,” said Parker.

Board appoints new trustees

Harrison (Hank) Davis

Nashville, Tenn., resident Davis is director of public relations for Nations University, a distance learning program with 1,335 students in 71 countries. He and his wife, Robbie, have two children. Their extended families have been involved in Christian education for generations.

“I’m looking forward to helping Rochester College progress to become one of the outstanding colleges in Michigan,” said Davis.

Connie (Kinser) Graham (’71)

A former Michigan Christian College home-coming queen, Graham and her husband, Todd (’71) reside in Fenton, Mich., where Connie teaches language arts for A.G.S. Middle School. Graham’s parents helped found the College in the early 1950’s. Two of her three children attended Rochester.

“We are so proud of where the College has been and where it is going,” said Graham.

Norma Morris

A native of the Philippines, Morris is vice president of Old Homestead Records and Publishing Co. and former assistant director of food services at the University of Michigan. She and her husband, John, have three children. Morris is an active Christian, leading the women’s ministry at church. She is a lifetime member of the Associates of Rochester College and is glad to be a trustee.

Jon Raymond

Raymond, a resident of Granville, Ohio, is the retired founder of Raymond Professional Management, a consulting firm that was a national leader in the field of electronic disaster prevention and recovery. He is on the board of trustees for Willowbrook Christian Communities in Columbus, Ohio.

“I’ve been so impressed with...the College that I wanted to be more involved,” said Raymond.

Leaders

Birgie Niemann was promoted to associate vice president for institutional relations and assumed responsibility for the offices of alumni, community, media relations.

Morris’s previous role was associate vice president for community and foundation relations.

On Feb. 14, Ohio Valley College in Vienna, W.Va., will present Tracey Hebert, vice president for the College of Extended Learning, a medal for his accomplishments in the field of higher education.

The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association invited Hebert to speak on the topic of “Partnerships in adult learning: Delivering bachelor degree completion programs” at its annual conference in Chicago, April 13-16, 2003.

Debi Hoggatt, associate dean of the College of Extended Learning, recently completed several months of participation in Head Start-funded Early Childhood Higher Education Initiative in Sequoia, Calif.
Unusual business

New prof wants to turn students on to concept of “redemptive business”

Danny Hardman wants her students to change the world. Fresh from two years in an innovative business-oriented Christian minis-try in Uganda, Africa, Hardman came to Rochester College on a mission: Persuade students to pursue business as a tool for social change.

“I want to open their minds to understand that nontraditional business can make a big impact,” says Hardman. “Perhaps I can encourage them to do what I did; to take a year or two—or a lifetime—and go make a difference somewhere.”

Hardman practiced what she plans to preach. Shortly after earning the MBA from Harding University in Scarry, Ark., in 2001, she moved to Jinja, Uganda, where a team of American and Ugandan Christians was perfecting an innovative new style of mission work that used business to connect with the community. There, she became director of The Source, a small business that functioned as a resource for the townspeople and a source of funds for expanding ministry in the region.

“The Source is unique among American Christian missions,” Hardman says. “It does not rely solely on money from the United States to fund its ministries,” says Hardman. Its founders hoped it would eventually be self-supporting and ultimately come under Ugandan ownership and management.

Among other things, The Source provided computer and skills training, a public library and a café with computer terminals and Internet access. The business eventually became one of Jinja’s primary Internet service providers. The Source also packaged and sold its own brand of coffee and merchandise crafts made by locals.

As the resident business graduate, Hardman managed bookkeeping, marketing, public relations and training the enterprise’s Ugandan employees. As a Christian, she did many tasks most MBA grads would scorn.

“I took time to make sure the cafeteria was clean and to gently and patiently teach the Ugandan workers about everything from salmonella to computers,” says Hardman.

It was that “gently and patiently teach” part that inspired her to pursue teaching as a profession.

“I was constantly teaching,” she says. “I was constantly taking something that was not understandable to the workers and putting it in a way that they could understand. I was constantly spending time with them and getting involved in their lives.”

Hardman’s eyes get teary as she remembers the tender teaching moments she shared with people who, she says, “lived their surface appeared to have so little and yet gave her so much.

“The teaching and mentoring were, hands-down, the best part of it,” she says. “I’ve done some cool things, like that pulled her away to Uganda. In fact, she says she would like to return with a few of her students in tow.

“I’d love to see a program where the College helped educate Ugandans,” says Hardman. “I could go over to teach a college course or two over the summer and take a group of students to show them what’s going on there.”

Hardman’s vision is part of the non-traditional business philosophy that she will impart to her students.

“How come we don’t encourage our business students or education students to go to the mission field?” she says. “I will encourage my students to not just be about making money because that’s not the thing that provides happiness in life. I will encourage my students to find a mission and purpose.”

Bavaria

cont. from page 1

marketability. Munich emerged as the students’ favorite.

“Village of a Million”

Munich is a visitor-friendly “world city” that hosts 3.5 million visitors each year, according to its tourism bureau. “Someone with very little knowledge of the German language can effectively live in Munich,” said the team’s report. “Meanwhile, students will meet people from all over the world.”

Munich’s popularity may be due to its location in the geographic center of Europe. Over 750 high speed trains stop and go each day in Munich, making two-hour connections to Vienna, Prague, Zurich, Rome and Paris.

Lest students forget that they’re in Europe to study, Munich has more libraries than any other city in Germany. Many of these libraries contain English collections. The city also boasts ten universities that enroll nearly 100,000 students. Munich’s status as one of Europe’s business capitals and reputation as a European “Silicon Valley” make it an ideal location for business students to taste the flavor of global commerce. In addition, education students could attain experience in cultural diversity, a requirement for teacher certification in some states.

The GEO team found friends in Munich, including a Rochester College alumna who lives nearby. The team also cultivated a relationship with a relocation firm that could attain facilities with the city or how it could augment their college education. To address such a concern, the GEO report suggested marketing Munich’s access to all of Europe and naming the program “GEO Bavaria.”

“Bavaria” communicates “old world” quaintness, the rolling hills of the Black Forest and the heart of Europe,” said the report.

High liberal arts

Regardless of any challenges, Rochester leaders believe Munich could augment the College’s liberal arts mission.

“We believe that a quality liberal arts education includes exposure to the diverse cultures of the world,” said College President Dr. Ken Johnson. “Our program in Germany will introduce students to many signs of the world.”

Erica Watson, a junior business management major from River Rouge, Mich., said that her overseas experience in Aberdeen, Scotland, helped her realize what the world really is.

“We learned so much more than we could have in a classroom,” said Watson. “You can be told about cultural differences but when you experi-ence them is when you know for sure.”

Hamilton agreed: “Students learn a lot about the world and other cultures when they travel overseas. In this age, global awareness and understanding are necessary—and not just for being competitive in the job market. If we are to be good stewards of all that we have been blessed with, we must understand who we are and what responsibility we bear globally.”
Two students travel to the Ukraine to deliver Christmas to over 300 orphans

Some people take Christmas as it comes; others make Christmas as they should be. Suzy Goffin, a senior social work major from Grand Ledge, Mich., and Rochester College’s 2002 homecoming queen, and Kendra Riley, a junior social work major from Flushing, Mich., spent their Christmas vacations collecting and hand-delivering presents to over 300 orphans in the Ukraine.

Last fall, Riley, who wants to be a missionary in Kenya, heard about a group of Americans that planned to deliver gifts to Ukrainian orphans. She told Goffin about the opportunity and the pair decided to help out.

“The kids there hardly have anything and we have so much,” said Goffin, who wants to find a career working with homeless people. “Kendra and I both felt like God placed this opportunity in our hands.”

After collecting 400 presents and about $1,400 each from their churches, classmates and families, the women spent Dec. 28-Jan. 12 traveling thousands of miles to orphanages in Amvrosievka and Mariupol, Ukraine. They gave more than just the presents.

“The kids were starving for attention. If you just smiled at them, they would start giggling and they were immediately your friend,” said Goffin. “They’d run over to you and grab your hand. They’re not used to someone paying attention to them.”

Between the time their impoverished parents abandon them and the date of their 16th birthday, most Ukrainian orphans will waste away in the government-run orphanages, their little hearts and teeth rotting from neglect. Sweet sixteen usually signals the beginning of a life of crime or, for girls, prostitution.

“They touched them and hugged them,” said Riley. “We taught them how to thumb-wrestle.”

Riley’s made the language barrier nearly non-existent. Any trace of kindness shown by the American students communicated far more than words.

“We touched them and hugged them,” said Riley. “We taught them how to thumb-wrestle.”

“Some girls wouldn’t let us go,” said Goffin. “They couldn’t hug us enough.”

The women said they regretted that they had so little time to play with the children.

“When we arrived, two of the girls got adopted by a family in Mariupol,” added Goffin. “The other people in our group would say we had to go to the next roomful of kids but the kids were holding on to us so it was hard to leave,” added Goffin.

The pair recently decided to try to return to one of the orphanages later this year to spend more time with the children. They say going back will be worth the Ukraine’s apparent disregard for common American amenities like toilet paper and breakfast food.

“It’s totally worth it,” said Riley. “I remember their smiles and how tightly they hung on to me and just how much they wanted to be loved.”

Sara Barton, the College’s associate director of spiritual life and a former missionary to Africa, said Goffin’s and Riley’s mission of mercy helped the Ukrainian children in more ways than they might have expected, and represented a kind of charity that many Americans do not practice.

“The way Kendra and Suzy served ‘in person’ was valuable for the children in Ukraine,” said Barton. “They didn’t just receive gifts from faceless, nameless people, but they were delivered by these two girls who held them, hugged them and shared the love Jesus has shared with them.”

“I remember their smiles and how tightly they hung on to me and just how much they wanted to be loved.”

--Kendra Riley, junior social work major
Sacred Work
These men left global corporations, six-digit salaries, or comfortable retirements to come to work at Rochester College. Here’s why they did it.

Don Robinson (’72)
Assoc. VP for Institutional Advancement

Previous job: Commercial development manager, Johnson Controls, Inc.

What is the difference between working for Rochester College and working in the so-called “secular” business environment?
I am able to use my God-given sales skills in a way that benefits Christian education and makes a difference in young people’s lives. I enjoy the opportunity to worship God during the week with my colleagues and students.

Why did you choose to come to work for the College?
I attended here and later worked here in various positions during the 1970’s and, when the opportunity presented itself for me to come back, I took it.

Describe what you do for the College.
I manage fund raising for new construction. We just completed Phase I of the Catch the Vision campaign that built the Ennis and Nancy Ham Library.

What are your goals in regard to your position at the College?
My goal is to successfully manage the fund raising efforts to build the facilities on the College’s ten-year master plan.

How does your position contribute to the mission of the College?
Successful capital campaigns will allow us to upgrade our facilities so we can continue to accomplish our mission.

What advice would you give the next graduating class?
Work hard, be flexible but never compromise your integrity. Being successful in your career is important but getting to heaven is most important!

How difficult has it been to adjust to making less money?
It has not been that difficult. We spend less because we have less to spend.

What is your greatest career achievement?
I was the first headliner salesperson Johnson Controls ever hired.

Ed Miller
Chief Information Officer

Previous job: Founder and CEO of Intellectual Assets, Inc.; information technology consultant

What is different about working for Rochester College?
It is refreshing to start staff meetings with prayer. There is no better ministry than this unique opportunity to minister to others while they are entrusted to the College for a few short months or years.

Why did you choose to come to work for the College?
My faith in God’s infinite wisdom in guiding me to serve Him where my work would affect more of His people. Also, my previous positions required weekly business travel and little time for spending with family.

Describe what you do for the College.
I apply information technology to the teaching and learning environment. My position includes supporting faculty, developing WebCT infrastructure and protecting its return on investment through continuous improvement.

What are your goals in regard to your position at the College?
My department provides technology, which gives students an opportunity for educational benefits and feel like Christ dwells on this campus.

Osama Kheir
Director of Instructional Technology

Previous job: Retired hub center manager for BNSF Railroad

What makes working at Rochester College different?
The mission of the corporate world is to secure money, power and self-indulgence. The College’s mission is to introduce young people to faith and the Spirit through exposure to His Word and godly people.

Why did you leave retirement to come to work for the College?
I’d been praying about a ministry and felt this was His answer.

Describe what you do for the College.
Help the College grow beyond the physical campus, especially to diverse ethnic and multicultural students who have never heard about Christianity and to reach that end using instructional technology. My desire is to facilitate the College’s first online degree program (once approved).

How does your position contribute to the mission of the College?
I help instructors understand and apply the “distance learning” model.

What advice would you give students?
Pray that God lead you to where you can serve Him where and when you are at your place of “highest use”.

How difficult has it been to adjust to making less money?
The biggest adjustments were leisure-time related.

What is your greatest career achievement?
Marrying [my wife], Judy, bringing my three children to Christ and enjoying their children has been all I need to feel that my life has been successful.

Garth Brooks

Amy Grant

and

other memorable clients include The Federal Reserve, TIAA/Cref, SunTrust, Prudential Bank, Cornell University, KRAFT Foods, Allmerica Financial, Garth Brooks, Amy Grant and Alabama.
**Previous job:** Executive vice president of RDS, Inc.

**What is different about working for Rochester College?**

The end product in business is profit. At the College, the end product is Christ-centered people.

**Why did you choose to come to work for the College?**

RDS, Inc. was sold, providing an opportunity for a career change.

**Describe what you do for the College.**

I develop human resources processes and provide guidelines for facility expansion and upgrades.

**What are your goals in regard to your position at the College?**

Create a work environment where each individual is productive and feels they are contributing. Also provide facilities that enhance learning.

**How does your position contribute to the mission of the College?**

Any organization succeeds or fails as a result of its people. The College’s people are my responsibility.

**What advice would you give to the next graduating class?**

Be honest and fair. Expect people to perform and recognize them when they do.

**How difficult has it been to adjust to making less money?**

This career decision was not financially motivated. There have been adjustments but my years in business provided supplemental income.

**What is your greatest career achievement?**

Being considered a successful businessman while being recognized for my Christian principles. From a secular standpoint, it is probably saving a business that was destined for closure by the parent company.

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**Previous job:** Regional operations manager for St. Paul Insurance

**What is different about working for Rochester College?**

The attitude of the secular world is generally “me” and the purpose is generally “bottom line” and “profit margins”. At the College, the attitude is “service” and the purpose is to impact lives.

**Why did you choose to come to work for the College?**

I had been interested in working for the College for several years but thought it would be as a professor when I retired. When the admissions position became available, I decided to pursue that instead.

**Describe what you do for the College.**

I manage admissions, student life, retention, financial aid and athletics.

**What are your goals in regard to your position at the College?**

First, effectively communicate what the College has to offer to young people and their parents. Second, make it possible for any student who chooses Rochester to be able to attend.

**How does your position contribute to the mission of the College?**

First, by encouraging students to attend the College and be impacted by the employees as they perform their role in carrying out the mission. Second, by my personal example to students whom with I have contact.

**What advice do you give to the next graduating class?**

Find a good woman who loves you, second only to God.

**How difficult has it been to adjust to making less money?**

God provides a way. I have fewer needs now.
Cross Country

Warriors runner Jayson Hammond placed third overall at the USCAA Cross Country Championship on Nov. 3 in Dallas, Texas. Hammond’s 30:08.54 in the 8K race placed him ahead of 29 runners.

“Jayson ran the race of his life,” said Eric Green, head cross country coach for Rochester College. “He was up there running with the big boys.”

Kari Herron represented the Lady Warriors at the championship. She finished 20th in the women’s 6K race with a 33:04.36 time.

Sophomore middle hitter Lindy Emerson and sophomore libero Krystal Lambeth each received honorable mention in the USCAA All-American voting.

Emerson Emerson’s 242 attacking average and 2.6 kills per game led the team on offense. On defense, she tallied 110 blocks.

“Lindy is simply a great person, one of the most positive people ever,” said Lady Warriors head coach Julie Coss. “She works hard on and off the court and demonstrates the kind of leadership I want from every player. Her GPA last semester was 4.0.”

Lambeth Lambeth’s 561 digs led the nation and gave the Lady Warriors the second-best dig average in the nation.

“Krystal is a fireball. If I could clone her, I would,” said Coss. “She’s aggressive and determined on the court and in life. She exemplifies everything that I could ever ask for in a student athlete. Her GPA last semester was 3.66.”

The Lady Warriors finished the 2002 campaign 13-23, an improvement of nine wins over the 2001 season.

Volleyball

Sophomore outside hitter Jasmine Garner and sophomore middle hitter Linda Hamilton were named to the All-Tournament Team. Garner and Hamilton were highly praised for their efforts in the tournament.

Garner Garner scored 23 points for the Warriors and led the team with a 1.35 points per game average.

“Kevin is a dynamic player who has set us up to do [this season],” said Debandt. “We’d like to have done better but we were happy to [get back] to the tournament. Next year we’d like to go back to the nationals knowing what it’s all about and win it.”

At the conclusion of the season, the USCAA named Cicely Linclonshire, England, native Garner to the USCAA All-American Team. Garner scored 23 points for the Warriors and led the team with a 1.35 points per game average.

“Kevin is a dynamic player who has the ability to change the game,” said Diehl. “He’s one of the hardest-working players on the team and always gives 100 percent.”

Sophomore forward Josh Porter of Lafayette, Ind., was given honorable mention in the USCAA All-American voting. Porter led the team with 24 points in 18 games.

“Josh’s greatest asset is speed and that he’s left-footed tends to be an advantage. He has a great shot,” said Diehl. “He’s a dedicated athlete who works hard.”

Women’s Basketball

The Lady Warriors’ (5-14) five wins this season with six games to go eclipses their win total from one year ago when they finished 4-21.

“Our greatest accomplishment this year is our improvement on offense and our competitive attitude,” said head coach Jeff Debandt. “We are scoring more points and beginning to believe that we can compete.”

The Lady Warriors’ Achilles’ heel this season has been their defense.

“We give up too many points,” said Debandt. “We want to learn that defense leads to scoring opportunities.”

Experience may be the most important factor in the Lady Warriors’ improvement since the 2001-02 season. Last year all but two players were freshmen. This year, veterans like three-year starter Eric Green and sophomore forward Brandi Winlow, both of whom were named to the All-Tournament Team, have given the team the kind of leadership that was missing in the past.

“If we can add a few more players in the right positions next year we will be able to take another step toward the next level,” said Debandt.
College plants “Tree of Life” living endowment

“The Tree of Life” living endowment campaign goal: $300,000

Last November, Rochester College planted the seeds of what could grow into a $12 million endowment by 2008.

College officials unveiled the Rochester College ‘Tree of Life’ Living Endowment Campaign. Doug Edwards, vice president for institutional advancement, said that while most endowments receive funds from the deceased, a living endowment gets its contributions from the living.

As if to give visual substance to the idea, Barbara J. Clark of Jeffersonville, Ind., donated a six-foot bronze “tree” that the College hung in the main lobby of the new Ham Library.

An endowment is so important to the life of a Christian college, said Clark. Perhaps alumni, parents and friends will use the ‘tree of life’ to memorialize family and friends just as I did.”

Left: Barbara Clark (center) of Jeffersonville, Ind., poses with Doug Edwards (left), Rochester College’s vice president for institutional advancement, and Dr. Ken Johnson (right), College president. Clark helped originate the “Tree of Life” living endowment campaign and made the first gift.

Right: The bronze “Tree of Life” that hangs in the main lobby of the Ennis and Nancy Ham Library. Donors’ names are inscribed on its leaves.

To contribute to the campaign, donors purchase one or more of the tree’s 297 “leaves” for $1,000 each or one or more of several bronze “stones” at the tree’s base for $5,000 a piece. The College will engrave donors’ names on the leaves or stones and apply the money toward the endowment.

Edwards said the initial goal of the campaign is $300,000.

To contribute or get more information about the College’s living endowment campaign, go to www.rc.edu or call (800) 521-6010, ext. 4.

Dr. Ken Johnson (right center), Rochester College president, accepts a check from Anthony Tuppins (left center) director of the Rochester Hills Meijer store. In November, Meijer helped the College finish its “Catch the Vision” campaign ahead of schedule. Sandy Wagner (left), Meijer training team leader, and Birgie Niemann (right), Rochester College associate vice president of institutional relations look on.

To take part in the campaign, put together a simple will that will not take long to put together. Please do it now, while you have life and health.

Like many, my wife and I have not accumulated much wealth in life. We have a modest home with a mortgage, furniture, some retirement funds and a few miscellaneous things.

We never thought of what we have as an “estate,” but we realize there is more than we once thought. We decided to take out an insurance (wealth replacement) policy, with small monthly payments, which will provide tax-free help for our children and perhaps the grand kids’ education.

The rest of our estate will go toward ministries, including a scholarship to be established at Rochester College.

Please let me know if I may assist you as you prepare for the future. Contact me if you have an existing will, trust or estate plan that includes Rochester College.

Call me at (800) 521-6010 option 4.

Doug Edwards
Vice President for Institutional Advancement

Honor Gifts

Honor Gifts

ALLEN & MARIE BARBER
--50TH ANNIVERSARY
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Allen & Evelyn Waller
CAROLYN BELL
Eleva Brown
THOMAS ENGOLD
Janet & Richard Abdouner
KEIGHT FLANIGAN
Earl & Thelma Spangler
TERRILL HALL
Mark & Sarah Buehner
BETTE HUCKABY
Will Ed & Michele Warren
JEANINE J. & FRED JEZERSKI
--50TH ANNIVERSARY
Jill & Joe Vincent
KEN & MARY JOHNSON
Betty Alston
SHERRY KINDT
Bill & Ellie Dinger
ED MILLER
Scott Miller
MARY MOTSINGER
--96TH BIRTHDAY
Martha Bouman
MARJORIE NELSON
Ralph Nelson
SARAH REDDICK
Mary Ann Butler
TROY BUTLER
Bill & Ellie Dinger
RAY & BETTY SKELETT
Toni Curtis
ROBERT & BEVE STANGER
--50TH ANNIVERSARY
Vincent & Lois Majorana
CHELSEA TYE
David & Judith Yee
MARK & BET VANRHEENEN
Eric & Lindsay Johnson
ALMERRY WASH
--90TH BIRTHDAY
Jerry & Janet Tarrant
PAUL & RUTH WATSON
--RETIREMENT
Buna Rickner
Ron & Fonda Robinson

Memorial Gifts

CLYDE BALDERSON
L. Dean & Mary Moore
Auritus Oliver
Ed Work
LUCY BENHAM
Ed Work
JENNIFER BERRY
Nancy Sparks
LABOR BOUMAN
Martha Bouman
LARRY MAE BRADFORD
Cathy Wilder
E.R. BRUCE
Lecia Penrod
MIDRELL BUCKLEY
Royce Jr. & Terri Dickinson
MINNIE BRUNER
Vernon Bruner
MELINDA BRYANT
Jack Allen & Neil Russell
RODERICK CAMERON
Kliee & Brenda Slouber
LeREITA CAMPBELL
Betty Dickinson & Cornell Stroman
Everett & Maxine Foster
CARDIN CAMPBELL
Bill & Joanne Shinsky

Leonard & Naomi Dickinson
Betty Dickinson & Cornell Stroman
Everett & Maxine Foster
ROYCE DICKSON
Betty Dickinson & Cornell Stroman
Royce Jr. & Terri Dickinson
FRITZ & KATHY DUESUL

BESSIE & ELMER DUNLAP
Ned Glenn Family
MARTIE DUNN
Donald Dunn
ROBERT DUTTON
Larry & Lynne Stewart
MAYNARD EBEILING
Gary & Joet Adams
Viva Cole
BELVA GREEN
Martha Bouman
JESS & LORENE TEMPLE
Belva Green
SARAH YOKUM
OLIVER GREEN
Terrence & Mary Margaret Wise
LOIS HAMILTON
Dol Smit
CLYDE HANCOCK
John & Verdena Ireland
CLEO HERRIN
Bobbie & Frances Smith
WARREN KROHN
Barbara Krohn
CHARLES LITTON
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Ed Work
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Ed Alford
KATHY PALMER
Ann Cantu
RUDELLE PERRY
Scott & Lynne Beck
BOB PONDER
Larry & Lynne Stewart
OWEN RICHARDSON
Martha Bouman
ART & MARGE POPE
PHILLIP RIDGEOUT
Bill & Phyllis Tansil
ANNETTE & CHERYL RILEY
Albert Meress
MILDONE WARD
BILL AND EILEEN ROOT
NADINE SHIRLEY
Paul Shirley
RUTH SIMPLER
Larry & Lynne Stewart
JAMIE STOWE
Howard & Lois Cutler
RONNIE STROMMEN
Mary Etta & Warren Whitelaw
MARVIN WATTERWORTH
Jillia Watterworth
DELPHA WILLIAMS
Chuck & Honey Beals
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KAREN WISE
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Find up-to-the-minute Rochester College news at www.rc.edu. Send your news or comments to news@rc.edu.
Two alumni received honors from their colleagues and coworkers at the annual employee appreciation dinner hosted by the Rochester College trustees on Jan. 24 in Rochester Hills.

The College faculty selected 1995 graduate Steven Bowers the 2002 Faculty Member of the Year. Bowers is director of the Ennis and Nancy Ham Library. "It is encouraging to be recognized by my peers because it means that the people of Rochester College view the library as a vital part of the academic life of the College," said Bowers. "Academic librarians are not always seen as a vital part of the faculty of an institution."

Bowers earned the Michigan Christian College associate's degree in 1995 before receiving the Bachelor of Arts from Oakland University and the Master of Library and Information Science from Wayne State University.

Top left: Steve Bowers ('95), director of the Ham Library. Bottom left: Mark Johnson ('01) accepts his award from Pat Kirby (left), chairman of the board, and Catherine Englehart (center), trustee.

In 2000, the College hired Bowers to manage the Murhead Library. Upon completion of the master's degree in 2002, he became director of the new Ham Library. Jennifer Hamilton, the 2001 Faculty Member of the Year, said that in the Ham Library, Bowers organized and created a resource that supports every academic endeavor at the College. "[Steve] launched [the College] into the 21st century," said Hamilton. "He connected us with a plethora of resources."

Rochester College employees chose 2001 graduate Mark Johnson to be 2002 Staff Member of the Year. Johnson is a telecommunications administrator for the College's information technology services office.

"[Mark] is a constant, positive motivator of the College," said Ed Miller, Johnson's supervisor. "Being a former student, he really does have an understanding of what the College is about. He never complains. He is self-motivated and actually looks for work or how to better do a job constantly. You can place a lot of trust and delegate responsibility to a person like him. He is a pleasure to work with."

**Alumni News**

**1960**

Ed Monroe and his wife, Gerri, live at 4 Grayburn Drive, Marlton, NJ 08053. An endowed scholarship is named for Ed's mother, Mary Monroe, a longtime treasuerer of the Associates of Rochester College. The couple has six grandchilren.

**1968**

Bob Stewart was awarded United States patent number 6,484,175 on Nov. 19, 2002. His design for a method and apparatus for providing network management data was developed before his retirement from Cisco Systems. Bob and his wife, Vivian (Hele-07), live at 976 Mason Rd., Wilton, NH 03086.

**1983**

Barry Wheeler finished his first season as Stockton High School volleyball coach with a 32-4-2 record, the school's first conference championship since 1989, the district championship and state quarterfinalist status. He was named Mid-Lakes Conference Coach of the Year. Contact Barry at P.O. Box 953, Stockton, MO 65785.

**1985**

Judah Nathaniel Terry joined Elisha, Gabriele, Elijah and Micah in the home of Blake and Becky (Blake) Eubanks on Oct. 4, 2002. He was named for Becky's dad, Terry Blake, who taught at the College and who died in March 2001. Blake is employed by EDS and Becky is a homemaker. The family lives at 218 East Rd., Holly, MI 48442.

**1987**

On July 31, 2002, Amelia Jae joined Alyssa and Makenna in the home of Jim and Lori (Truex) Calkin. Jim is youth minister for the First Presbyterian Church of Christ and Lori is a substitute teacher for the Plymouth-Canton School District. The family lives at 680 Georgetown, Canton, MI 48188.

**1991**

Vic Bliss and his wife, Mary, welcomed Hannah Bryan on Oct. 11. Vic is youth and family minister for the Trenton Church of Christ and Mary is a homemaker. The family lives at 22500 Canterbury, Woodhaven, MI 48183.

Along with their daughters Megan and Kaitlyn, Scott and Julie (Dover) Morgenstern now live at 9492 Treetop Drive, Galesburg, MI 49053. Scott is a mechanical engineer at Byce and Associates, and Julie is a homemaker.

**1994**

Dave Eaker recently graduated from the Illinois Center of Broadcasting and was promoted to the position of E-4, 3rd class petty officer in the United States Navy. He is an officer at the Naval Hospital in Great Lakes, and works on a part-time basis for Lenscrafters and radio station WXLC. Dave can be contacted at 3001 6th #A, Great Lakes, IL 60088.

**1995**

Jonah DeLos joined his sister Micah in the home of John and April (Shepard) Batty on Sept. 2. The family lives at 16258 West Woodland Ave., Goodyear, AZ 85338.

**1997**

Amy Bull is working as a preschool teacher at Creative Concern and helping a church for the deaf. She can be contacted at 1505 1 1/2 Riverside Drive, Dayton, OH 45405.

**1998**

On Sept. 23, Trevis and Nicole (Caprio) Willis welcomed Parker Jay. Trevis is employed by Bankers Life and Casualty. The family can be contacted at P.O. Box 252, Eminence, KY 40019.

Find up-to-the-minute Rochester College news at [www.rc.edu](http://www.rc.edu). Send your news or comments to news@rc.edu.
Alumni Brian and Lisa Cain are

Brian and Lisa (Barnett) Cain recall what it was like to be students at Michigan Christian (Rochester) College in the mid-1980’s.

“Everybody was friends with everybody,” says Brian. “If you saw someone sitting alone in the cafeteria, everybody at your table would pick up their tray and go sit with [the person].”

The Cains took this “leave no one behind” spirit with them when they married and moved on from Michigan Christian. Even after their first son, Darren, was born and a comfortable suburban life began, the couple continued to ask God for an opportunity to help someone in need.

God’s response caught them off guard. When Kevin, their second son, was born in 1993, Brian and Lisa soon discovered the child had severe cerebral palsy. For as long as he would live, Kevin would totally depend on his parents for everything.

Brian and Lisa grieved their son as medical bills piled up and many friends deserted them. The young family sagged under the dead weight of trouble. In that gloomy corner of their lives, Brian and Lisa promised God two things: That their family would stick together and that they would help people in similar situations.

Lisa became a parent representative for the Oakland County (Mich.) government. As she interacted with other parents of special needs children, she learned that many families just like hers could not find the assistance they needed to make ends meet.

Meanwhile, the Lake Orion (Mich.) Church of Christ collected clothing for a “giveaway” that drew 13 needy families. A few months later, the Lake Orion church and the Rochester Church of Christ hosted a second giveaway. This time, Lisa used her government contacts to promote the event. Over 50 families attended.

Lisa realized that if the suburban churches worked together, they could provide clothing for the many families that needed assistance.

Brian continued to work full-time but Lisa shifted her attention to nurturing her two boys and the new clothing charity. As churches donated more clothing and Lisa found more needy families, the give-aways became a regular event. The Cain family spent weeknights sorting clothes in a garage behind the Lake Orion Church of Christ. The garage became a storage shed. The storage shed became a warehouse in Rochester Hills.

The periodic clothing giveaways became a continuously operating organization called God’s Helping Hands. People started coming from as far away as Ann Arbor, Detroit and Flint for clothing or food.

Every week they came: Welfare moms, foster parents, mothers of special needs children and unemployed businessmen. Some of them were white. Some of them were black. All of them had faces creased by the exhaustion of hard lives.

Brian and Lisa welcomed every person “as family” and committed not to judge anyone based on their appearance. No need was too large or too small. No one, regardless of their income or situation, would ever leave God’s Helping Hands empty-handed.

Brian and Lisa remembered going to the government offices for help where the public employees treated them like “the scum of the earth” and numbers instead of people. They vowed to respect and dignify each person who sought assistance from God’s Helping Hands. Brian and Lisa began praying for their “customers” by name and encouraging people at church to do the same. They mailed a monthly newsletter to every person on the organization’s list of patrons. For some customers, it was the only piece of mail they would receive all month.

When Kevin died on April 26, 2001, Brian and Lisa briefly felt as if they were sitting alone at an empty table. On the day of Kevin’s “wedding” – as Brian calls it – hundreds of people crowded into the church to say goodbye to Kevin and thank-you to Brian and Lisa. On that day, the poor people the Cains served at God’s Helping Hands became the people who were rich in kindness. Brian and Lisa weren’t alone at the table after all.

Neither are the more than 2,100 families that have received clothing, food and friendship from Brian and Lisa since 1998. God blessed them with a new son, Devon (a combination of the names “Darren” and “Kevin”), in 2002, but they have not forgotten the son whom God used to teach them how to help the helpless.

When they were students at Michigan Christian College, Brian and Lisa befriended the needy. They still do. That’s why they’re God’s helping hands.

The Cain family poses in the clothing warehouse of God’s Helping Hands, the nonprofit charitable organization they run in Rochester Hills, Mich. Left to right: Lisa (Barnett) (’87), Darren (11), Devin (5 mos.) and Brian (’89).

Kevin Cain (1993-2001)

Many students gathered in the lobby of Associates Campus Center in 1973 to welcome fellow student Robert Gaisey back from a stay in the hospital. As the campus “hang-out” for most of the College’s first 20 years, “CC” lobby always seemed to hum with student interaction.

Today, Isom Atrium at the Westside Central Auditorium is the top “hang-out” in the center of campus. Many students grab a quick bite to eat in Isom’s café before going to daily assembly or class in the auditorium. The College Bookstore and Ham Library are nearby.

Donate for Good

The College needs 15-passenger vans, full-size pick-up trucks with eight-foot plow equipment, and electric golf carts. To donate, call (800) 521-6010, ext. 4.

Reunions

Class of ’63
Class of ’73

July 25-26

Class of ’83
Class of ’93

July 18-19

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Associates Fashion Show

March 21-22
26th Celebration

April 24-27
Student-written and directed one-act plays

May 3
Partnership Dinner XXXII with ABCNews’ Sam Donaldson

May 10
Spring commencement

June 9-11
Sixth Sermon Seminar with Duke Chapel’s Dr. Will Willimon

June 22-27
Elevate

June 28
Jim Wood Leadership Conference with Dr. Lynn Anderson