Congratulations!
Congratulations to Nancy Shih-Knodel, English instructor, for receiving a Yellowjacket compliment. Students in Nancy’s afternoon class state that she is a really good teacher and that she is very understanding. They feel that they are learning a great deal, thanks to her. RCTC thanks you, Nancy, for being such a wonderful teacher. Clearly, your students appreciate you. You are an outstanding Yellowjacket!

Baldrige Banterings
The North Central Association (NCA) requires that all of its member schools go through a self-study as a prelude to the site visit by an NCA evaluation team. RCTC has been approved to use the Baldrige criteria in lieu of the more traditional NCA guidelines as an outline for our self-study. We hope to complete our self-study this summer. On April 1-4, Don Supalla, Judy Harris, Dave Weber, Laura Tacheny, Tammy Lee, and Don Baldus will be attending the North Central Association (NCA) annual meeting in Chicago. Over 100 college representatives and quality gurus will present or facilitate sessions covering such topics as institutional integrity and improvement, self-study, general education, and quality in teaching. Don Supalla and Dave Weber along with Bill Ammentorp from the University of Minnesota and Bill Warner, a private educational consultant, will present “Perspectives on Academic Design: Quality Programming for Two-Year Colleges.” In this presentation they will discuss educational landscapes, innovative academic designs, and RCTC’s Baldrige-based self-study process. MnSCU is recommending that all two-year Minnesota colleges follow RCTC’s lead in adopting Baldrige criteria as a guide for their self-study.

Visiting Scholar Series
Public Subsidy of Sports Stadiums: Good Sense or Not?
DR. EDWARD SCHIAPPA, Professor and Director of Graduate Studies in the Department of Speech Communication at the University of Minnesota will discuss his research paper, SQUEEZE PLAY, THE CAMPAIGN FOR A NEW TWINS STADIUM. A project for graduate students, directed and edited by Dr. Schiappa, the report reveals important and significant details on how and why public subsidy of stadiums works and why, in Minnesota it generates such strong feelings, whether pro or con. This analysis provides logical rationales on why one should or should not support the use of public funds to support the private business of that relies on broad public appeal. What roles do Carl Pohlad, Bud Selig, local politicians, and the governor play in determining the fate of keeping the Minnesota Twins in Minnesota? Please, come and hear the lively discussion over this volatile topic.

Wednesday, March 22, 2000
Charles E. Hill Theater at Noon
Dr. Edward Schiappa discusses...
RCTC Chiropractic Clinic
What are the benefits of Chiropractic care?

Chiropractic care is beneficial to every man, woman, child, and animal that has a spine. Understanding that the brain and spinal cord make up your nervous system, one can understand that chiropractic care works by restoring balance to the body giving it a better chance to heal itself. Everyone needs proper nerve function. Chiropractic care provides your body with a greater potential to defend itself against germs and infection. You and your family should be checked regularly for spinal nerve interference. Call today to set up an appointment for a spinal exam or a massage. Our phone number is 507-529-2736.

Thank you
I wanted to say thank-you for the wonderful fruit basket, cards, flowers and thoughts during my recovery from surgery. All were enjoyed and appreciated. I am glad to be back and feeling better every day. Thank you.

—Teri Hill

Weekly funny...
"Nurse, get on the internet, go to SURGERY.COM, scroll down and click on the 'Are you totally lost?' icon."

Faculty forum on distance education
April 13th from 1:00-3:30 p.m.
University Center Rochester  ST110
Winona State University  Phelps 101
Riverland— Austin  B103B
Riverland—Albert Lea  B201

How Do We Measure Quality In Distance Education?
Members of the Office of Instructional Technology staff at MnSCU will join the TeachNet staff in a forum with faculty to discuss how to bring quality to distance learning. The sites listed above will be linked by ITV so there will be interaction between campuses. Some topics to generate the initial discussion are listed below:
A. Technical support for faculty and students
B. Instructional design-interactive learning -student centered
C. Feedback to students
D. Testing online
E. Technology limits on distance learning
F. What or who determines what courses go distance

Food and drink will be served.

Contact your TeachNet Support Manager to sign up for the Forum scott.sahs@roch.edu or 529-2785.

Thought for the week...
A truth that's told with bad intent, beats all the lies you can invent.

—William Blake
Almost every week someone or some organization that’s been impressed by the actions of a RCTC employee takes the time to write and express their thanks. This week a student and his wife wrote…”I would like you to know of [Troy Tynsky’s] good character, professionalism, capacity to listen, and solve problems. Troy pleasantly made a sincere effort to satisfy, to the degree he could and within reason, our desires. Thank you, Troy, for your time and sincerity.” I also was forwarded a copy of a letter from Eugene DiMmagno, MD, Chair of Mayo’s Institutional Review Board, expressing great appreciation for Karen Machlica’s contributions to the Board. The letter went on to express the Executive Committee’s thanks for Karen’s volunteer service and Dr. DiMmagno’s gratitude for her teaching and helping him grow into the chair’s job. Thanks to all of you who contribute to the community and satisfy our customers.

Judy Harris, Russ Lohmann, and Gail Sauter will be presenting “3-2-1” – 3 institutions, 2 systems, 1 campus – at the Western Association of Branch Campus Administrators in Vancouver, Washington, April 27-29. This presentation, coupled with our NCA presentation in Chicago on April 3, gets RCTC/UCR some excellent national exposure. Way to go, presenters!

Don’t forget to check out the “World Tai Chi and Qigong Day 2000” on April 8th in the UCR Atrium. A free workshop will be offered from 9-9:50 a.m., immediately followed by the “Main Event” from 10-10:30 a.m. Thanks to Charles Liu for allowing UCR to host one of the many Tai Chi Day 2000 sites scattered around the world.

Vern Bushlack and Robin Fruth-Dugstad were pleased with the news out of St. Paul last week. The Horticulture Technology project is alive-and-well in the House and Senate. Senator Kiscaden got $1.3 million for the project included in the recommended list of small projects and Representative Bishop was able to convince the Capital Investment Committee to include $4.5 million for the project on its list. In addition, both lists include at least a $1 million for UCR infrastructure funding. Although several hurdles need to be scaled before the funding is secured, our local legislators, GRAUC, faculty, students, and agribusiness representatives have done a wonderful job positioning the horticulture project for future legislative action. Thanks to all who’ve worked hard to make this happen. You can log onto the Internet to find out what’s happening in the Minnesota House and Senate. Go to www.house.leg.state.mn.us or www.senate.leg.state.mn.us for updates, to search bills, and to see a schedule of legislative events. Stay tuned…things will really heat up as the session winds down.

Did you know…that in 1999, 25% of the top 100 U.S. companies decreased their workforce, 58% increased their workforce, while the number of employees remained the same in 17% of the companies. The nation’s largest employer (for the fourth consecutive year) was Wal-Mart with 878,000 employees.

Thoughts for the Week – Someone who can think logically provides a nice contrast to the real world. Middle age is when broadness of mind and narrowness of waist change places. Bills travel through the mail at twice the speed of checks. A clear conscience is usually a sign of a bad memory. A balanced diet is a cookie in each hand. Enjoy the cookies and the nice respite from winter…a state tournament snowstorm is likely just around the corner. Until next week…
Students excused
Please excuse the following students for a Store Management (RMDS 2250) field trip on March 27 from approximately 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.:
Michele Allhiser; Kristen Conway; April Dembraski; Kathy Freiberg; Gavin Hinkley; Joel Keith; Megan Kyllo; Gina Laack; Mylinda Mumford; Theresa Myers; Seth Neil; Dan Young Park; Sara Poldervaard; Cynthia Praska; Amy Roberts; Rachael Sands; Carrie Schwartz; Anne Shebeck; Karlyn Smith; Kim Windhorst; Lisa Youngman

Benefit Concert
Plan now to attend a concert by Libby Roderick to the benefit of Choices of Southeast Minnesota; Young Women’s Conference and the United Organization of Somali Women.

The benefit concert will be held on April 8, 2000 at 8:00 p.m. at Century High School.

Advance ticket sales ($10 and $15) at The Good Food Store; Healing Touch Massage; or by calling (507) 289-6165.

Tickets at the door will be $12 and $17.

FREE Counseling workshops

Career Portfolio
Monday, March 20th
5:00 p.m. - SS147
Karen Machlica

Life Purpose Process Career Fulfillment
Wednesday, March 22
Noon - SS147
Karen Machlica