

Rock Calendar

Listings taken from the
SRU Master Calendar of Events.

Today, Sept. 28

SGA movie: Mr. Brooks,
7 p.m., McKay Education Building

SRU Theater: "Tallgrass Gothic"
8 p.m., Miller Auditorium
(also 8 p.m. Saturday and Oct. 1-3; 2 p.m. Sunday)

Saturday, Sept. 29

Pre-game Party: White Out IUP
2-6 p.m., near N. Kerr Thompson Stadium

SRU football hosts IUP
6 p.m., N. Kerr Thompson Stadium

Women's field hockey hosts Bloomsburg
Noon, N. Kerr Thompson Stadium

Monday, Oct. 1

Breast Cancer Awareness: 6 p.m., North Hall

Opening reception

Anthony Valvano and Joren Dykstra
6 p.m., Martha Gault Art Gallery, Maltby Center
(Exhibit continues through Oct. 25)

Pi Sigma Alpha Film Night: Fracture
8 p.m., Spotts World Culture Building

Tuesday, Oct. 2

Michelle Donovan lecture
Purposeful Business Networking 101, 12:30 p.m.
Advanced Technology and Science Hall

Alexa Stiller lecture
"A New Order Through Ethnic Cleansing"
3:30 p.m.
Advanced Technology and Science Hall

Wednesday, Oct. 3

Welcoming Diversity, 9 a.m., University Union
(Call Ext. 2070 to register)

SGA movie: Mr. Brooks
7 p.m., McKay Education Building

Thursday, Oct. 4

Top Gun: Compass Leadership Program
Noon, University Union

Job Search 101: Internships and jobs
Noon, University Union

Walvik Freedom of Speech Lecture
Joseph Walvik
8 p.m., Advanced Technology and Science Hall

Saturday, Oct. 6

SRU women's field hockey hosts Shippensburg
2 p.m., N. Kerr Thompson Stadium

rockpride

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A newsletter for faculty, staff, and friends of Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania

Walvik Freedom of Speech Lecture features namesake's son Oct. 4

Slippery Rock University's fourth annual Ted Walvik Freedom of Speech Lecture, named for SRU Professor Emeritus Theodore Walvik, will feature his son and SRU graduate Joseph Walvik, now an associate professor of history at Dakota State University.

Walvik's topic for the 8 p.m. Thursday address is "Spinoza's Coin and the Price of Suppression." The free lecture is in the Advanced Technology and Science Hall.

A 1986 SRU graduate, Walvik earned his doctorate in history at American University.

The author of two books, "The Peekskill Riots" published in 2002 and "Rewarding Virtue," published earlier this year, Walvik is now writing about American political culture. In 1993 he worked for the Open Society Fund as a professor of practical philosophy at the University of Latvia. He was later awarded a Fulbright scholarship to teach American studies at the National University of Kyrgyzstan where he established the first American Studies Center in central Asia.

Before joining the Dakota State faculty, he taught history at American University in Cairo where he also helped establish an American studies program.

The lectures are made possible through continued support from Theodore Walvik, former SRU communication department chair.



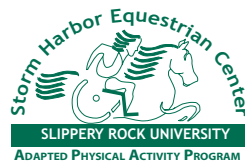
Walvik

Sunset Serenade Celebration raises funds to expand Storm Harbor Center services

The Slippery Rock University's Storm Harbor Equestrian Center Advisory Board invites the University community to join the Sunset Serenade Celebration at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 13 at the center. Proceeds will help build an endowment, expand services and provide scholarship assistance to center students and riders.

"We know that private support for the University makes a difference. This special reception gives us a chance to showcase the Storm Harbor Equestrian Center, our students and the work in helping those with disabilities that takes place here," said Carolyn Rizza, advisory board chair and a major center benefactor. More than \$22,000 has already been pledged.

(See Storm Harbor page 3)



Association taps Laughners as parade marshals

Carl Laughner, a member of the Slippery Rock University class of '49 and former faculty member and retired director of the SRU Alumni Association, and his wife, Norma Watson Laughner, a 1948 SRU graduate and former alumni association secretary, will serve as this year's marshals for the University's annual homecoming parade.

"The Laughners have greatly influenced the development of our alumni association and have remained active in their University. Their longstanding contributions to SRU make them the perfect couple to lead our traditional parade and homecoming festivities," said Michael Saraka, director of the Office of Alumni Relations at SRU. The 2007 homecoming theme is "Rockopoly."

In addition to their leadership in the association, Laughner and his wife created the Carl and Norma Laughner Scholarship for association members or their relatives.

(See Homecoming page 4)

Maureen McGovern brings wealth of talent to Performing Arts Series

Maureen McGovern, the Dec. 1 artist in Slippery Rock University's Performing Arts Series, has a career spanning nearly 35 years, including recordings, concerts, Broadway, theater, films, television, radio and composing.

Tickets to the 7:30 p.m. Dec. 1 performance in Miller Auditorium, are available at 201 Old Main or by calling Ext. 2091. In addition to individual tickets for "An Evening with Maureen McGovern," three-ticket packages, which includes the Feb. 8 performance of Philadanco, the Philadelphia-based professional dance company, and the March 29 musical presentation of "Five Guys Named Moe," are also available.

McGovern, who graduated from nearby Boardman High School, a Youngstown, Ohio, suburb, returned to Broadway's 2005 season, originating her Drama Desk-nominated role of Marmee in "Little Women, The Musical." She reprised that role in the Broadway National Tour.

McGovern made her Broadway debut as Mabel in "The Pirates of Penzance," starred as Luisa in "Nine" with the late Raul Julia, and as Polly Peachum in "The 3 Penny Opera" with Sting. Off-Broadway, she originated the role of Mary in "Brownstone" and recently won audience approval as Mrs. Anna in the Broadway National Tour of "The King and I."

She performed in the West Coast premiere of William Finn's "Elegies" at the Canon Theatre and starred as Countess Aurelia in the historic revival of the Jerry Herman musical "Dear World" at the Sundance Institute Theatre. She appeared in the Boston world premiere of "Letters from 'Nam," originating the role of Eleanor Bridges. Her other stage works include Eleanor of Aquitaine in "The Lion in Winter" at Oklahoma City's Carpenter Square Theater and as Madame Emery in "The Umbrellas of Cherbourg" and Mary Turner in "Of Thee I Sing."

Her career has taken her to roles in "The Sound of Music," "South Pacific," "Guys and Dolls" and "I Do, I Do." She appeared in the children's musical "The Bengal Tiger's Ball," premiered in 1999. She wrote the music, co-created and also starred in the production.

Her film roles include work in "Towering Inferno," "Airplane!" "Airplane II: The Sequel" and the independent film "The Cure for Boredom." She was heard as the voice of Rachel in the Dream-Works animated video/DVD "Joseph: King of Dreams" with Ben Affleck. Her television roles include, "One Life to Live," "The Tracey Ullman Show," "Pacific Blue," "Duckman," and "Beyond Belief."

McGovern's recording career began with the No. 1 chart-topping, Academy Award-winning Gold Record "The Morning After" from the blockbuster film "The Poseidon Adventure" followed by a Grammy nomination for "Best New Artist." She replicated her success with another Oscar-winning Gold Record "We May Never Love Like This Again" from another hit film "The Towering Inferno." She was the first singer to record and introduce two Oscar-nominated songs in the same year, in 1975 with "We May Never Love Like This Again" and "Wherever Love Takes Me" from "Gold."

A recipient of International Gold Records from the United States, Canada, Australia, Japan and the Philippines, McGovern also won the Grand Prize award at the 1975 Tokyo Music Festival. Other hit records include the John Williams and Leslie Bricusse



McGovern

love theme "Can You Read My Mind" from the motion picture "Superman" and "Different Worlds," the theme from the ABC television series "Angie."

She has recorded more than 25 albums, including songwriter tributes to George Gershwin, Harold Arlen, Richard Rodgers and Alan and Marilyn Bergman. She received her second Grammy nomination in 1999 for her CD "The Pleasure of His Company." McGovern is featured singing a Brazilian jazz version of "This Is Just The Day" on the Grammy-winning, "Best Musical Recording for Children" CD/DVD, "Songs from the Neighborhood: The Music of Mister Rogers."

Her current releases are "Help Is On the Way," in partnership with Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS, and "Works of Heart: Songs of Hope" featuring a newly recorded 30th anniversary version of her signature song "The Morning After."

McGovern is a member of the national board for the Muscular Dystrophy Association and an artist/spokesperson for The American Music Therapy Association.

"White Out IUP" event scheduled for Saturday's football game

Rock football fans are encouraged to come out in full support of the "White Out IUP" promotion that will be held in conjunction with Saturday night's home football game vs. IUP. Several pregame festivities are scheduled for the area adjacent to N. Kerr Thompson Stadium. For details, please go to www.rockathletics.com

In other Rock athletic news:

- Rock freshman forward Ashley Paganie was named last Monday as the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference-Western Division women's soccer "Athlete of the Week," while SRU's Matt Bluman and Jaime Wright earned the conference's men's and women's cross country "Athlete of the Week" honors;
- The Rock duo of sisters Kayla and Samantha Blackburn claimed a runner-up finish in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association's East Regional tournament in Bloomsburg;
- The women's soccer team remained unbeaten (6-0) in Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference-Western Division action with a 3-1 win Wednesday at California U. of Pa. Noreen Herlihy's team owns a 10-1 overall record and, in addition to being comfortably in front in the PSAC-West championship race, is ranked fourth in this week's National Soccer Coaches Association of America Division II national poll and first in the NSCAA Northeast Regional poll;
- The men's soccer team had its eight-game unbeaten streak snapped by a 2-1 overtime loss Wednesday at California U. of Pa. Matt Thompson's team now owns a 6-3-2 overall record and a 4-2-2 mark in PSAC action, the latter mark good for a third-place standing.
- The women's volleyball team, guided by veteran mentor Laurie Lokash, owns an 8-7 record and an 0-4 PSAC-West mark after dropping a 3-0 decision Tuesday to division-leading California U. of Pa.
- The women's field hockey team, under the tutelage of Stacey Hart, has an 0-10 overall record and an 0-6 PSAC mark after dropping a 4-1 decision Tuesday to 10th-ranked Mansfield.

faculty/staff accomplishments

Leighann Forbes, secondary education/foundations of education, presented a session at the Pennsylvania Educational Technology Expo & Conference on the use of electronic surveys for educational research. The presentation provided research-based guidelines for generating meaningful data using a variety of survey services. Student and faculty use of online surveys were shared.

Kerry Risco and **Joyce Penrose**, nursing, and **Randall McCaslin**, manager of Edinboro University's Distance Education and Learning Technology Academy, presented "Exploring Options for Distance Education in University Consortium" at the annual meeting of The Center for Advancing Partnerships in Education.

Theodore Kneupper, professor emeritus of philosophy, presented a talk at the Theosophical Society in Pittsburgh titled "Rebirth: Religious and Philosophical Theories of Reincarnation" at a session held at the University of Pittsburgh.

Ursula Payne, dance, presented a solo performance of *Womenfolk: Swimming Upstream*, following a lecture by Rebecca J. Cook, from the University of Toronto, as part of the Boyarsky lecture series on Women's Health and Social Justice: Global Perspectives. The events opened the International Conference on Maternal Birth Trauma in the Developing World: Ethics in Obstetric Medicine sponsored by the Trent Center for Bioethics, Humanities and History of Medicine.

Melissa Teodoro, dance, presented a paper at the Foro Internacional de Danza Contemporanea y Artes de Movimiento in Puebla, Mexico that examined bi-polar opposites at the level of gender in carnival dances.

David Champion, social work, was elected to the office of second vice president of the Pennsylvania Association of Criminal Justice Educators, a state and regional organization of criminal justice academics and practitioners. The organization includes professionals from Pennsylvania, Delaware, Virginia and New York. His duties include assumption of the first vice president's office in 2008 and the presidency in 2009. The election took place at the organization's annual spring meeting. **Champion** and **Katherine Hardesty**, social work, presented a co-authored paper at the meeting titled "Jail Nurses: Perceptions, Stigmatization and Working Styles in Correctional Health Care," which was accepted for publication in the *Journal of Correctional Health Care*.

Al Liebling, an art student from Grove City, won Best of Show for his acrylic work "Outside the Window" at the Associated Artist's of Butler County juried show.

Sunita Peacock, English, had her article "The Minority Subject: Stories of Spatial Identity of the Indian and Pakistani Woman in Western Australia" published in the *Pakistan Journal of Women's Studies: Alam-e-Niswan*. Volume 13, 2006-07.

Carol Holland, Student Counseling Center, was elected treasurer of the American College Counseling Association. The organization is the premier national professional association for college counselors. Holland most recently presented her work "Don't Hide! Be Prepared!" at the Georgia College Counseling Association. She has also been invited as a member of the newly formed Professional Advisory Committee that will advise the Council for Accreditation for Counseling and Related Educational Programs to draft and promulgate national emergency preparedness standards for counseling professionals.

John A. Bavaro, School of Business, had his chapter titled "Cooperative Learning in Civic Engagement: Strategies for Preparing Students for Group Work" published in "Promoting Civic Engagement in Healthcare Management Education: Concepts and Cases" by the Association of University Programs in Health Administration. The chapter, one of eight in the book, was funded in part by the Bureau of Health Professions Health Resources and Services Administration of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The chapter was the culmination of work presented on the topic at the National Conference of the Association of University Programs in Health Administration.

Ethnic cleansing expert details Nazi SS policies in SRU address

Alexa Stiller, a research fellow at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum's Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies, will present an address titled "A New Order Through Ethnic Cleansing: The Policy of the SS in the Annexed Territories during WWII" during her Oct. 2 visit to Slippery Rock University.

The free address is at 3:30 p.m. in the Advanced Technology and Science Hall Auditorium.

Stiller, a doctoral candidate and lecturer in the history department at the University of Hannover in Germany, received her master of arts degree in history, sociology and political science from UH.

As part of her Charles H. Revson Foundation Fellowship, she conducted research for her dissertation titled "The 'Volkstumspolitik' of the SS, 1939-1945." The author of several books, Stiller is a recipient of research grants and scholarships from the German Historical Institute in Warsaw, the Heinrich Boell Foundation and the German Historical Institute in Washington, D.C. She has also interned at the U.S. National Archives and Record Administration and the Federal Archives in Berlin.

While in residence at the center, she conducted research about the RuSHA Case of the Nuremberg Subsequent Proceedings.

Eric Engel Tuten, assistant professor of history at SRU, arranged the visit.

Storm Harbor (Continued from page 1)

The center is named for Rizza's horse, Storm Harbor. Rizza is a professor emeritus of sociology, anthropology and social work at SRU. Carruth Rizza Hall is named for her and her husband, Paul, a professor emeritus of geography, geology and the environment.

The event will offer music by Well Strung along with beverages and a series of culinary stations offering a variety of gourmet hors d'oeuvres and pastry items.

A live auction is at 8 p.m. with a silent auction running throughout the event.

Individual tickets are \$60 per person, tables for six are \$325 and tables for 10 cost \$500. Dress is elegant denim and boots.

Platinum Sponsors are Carolyn and Paul Rizza; the Gold Sponsor is Mine Safety Appliance Co. Charitable Foundation, and the Bronze Sponsors are Edward Jones and William Matesich.

To order tickets call Ext. 2644.

Show your **Rock Pride**

Send an E-postcard

www.sru.edu

Family, friends lay Abbass Alkhafaji to rest

Services were conducted last Saturday at the Kabbalah Islamic Education Center in Dearborn, Mich., for Abbass Alkhafaji, award-winning Slippery Rock University School of Business professor, who died Sept. 20 in The Johns Hopkins Medical Center in Baltimore following a several month illness. He was 59.

Alkhafaji, was scheduled to return to classes at SRU this fall following a Fulbright Scholars sabbatical to the Middle East, but had been hospitalized since early summer.

“He was an outstanding man, scholar and humanitarian,” said Robert Smith, SRU president. “His scholarship has been praised for both its quantity and quality. The University community will miss him and we offer our deepest sympathy to his family.”

“Abbass was an interesting human being who was always helpful to his colleagues and friends. He never stopped thinking about the wellbeing of others,” said Ahmad Tottoonchi, president of IABD (International Academy of Business Disciplines), chair of the management department at Frostburg State University and longtime colleague.

“He was one of the leading researchers in our School of Business and taught a number of our upper-level business policy courses. He provided leadership in international management courses and brought substantial recognition to both the School of Business and Slippery Rock University through his textbooks and his leadership in the IABD,” said Bruce Russell, dean of the College of Business, Information and Social Sciences.

Alkhafaji joined the SRU faculty in 1987 and was named a full professor in 1992.

He had been on an academic sabbatical to the Middle East since January and before becoming ill had served as a visiting professor under a J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship at Qatar University in Doha. He had lectured extensively throughout the Middle East, including Jordan and Cairo. He had also served as a visiting professor at the University of Sharjah and at Al-Isra University and had presented numerous workshops and lectures throughout the Arab region.

During his numerous Middle East trips, he conducted workshops, including those focused on Total Quality Management and Strategic Management at the Hashemite University and at Al-Omani Institute for Vocational Training. He spoke before the Muscat-Oman Defense Ministry on TQM and lectured extensively on the topic in western Pennsylvania.

Born in Iraq, Alkhafaji was often quoted in regional newspapers after the fall of Saddam Hussein and during Iraq’s elections. At SRU, he was cited for both the quantity and quality of his scholarship.

He published a number of books, including “Corporate Transformation and Restructuring: A Strategic Approach” (2001), “Strategic Management: Formulation, Implementation and Control in a Dynamic Environment,” “Competitive Global Management: Principles and Strategies,” “Restructuring American Businesses: Fundamentals and Implications” and “Stakeholder Approach to Corporate Governance: Managing in a Dynamic Environment” which was used as a classroom text. He served as guest editor of the “International Journal of Commerce and Management.”

Alkhafaji was instrumental in founding and served as executive vice president for the IABD. He undertook research in Total Quality Management and Strategic Management in International Companies Operating Theories in the Middle East.

He served as chair of SRU’s marketing and management department before it was incorporated into the School of Business.

Prior to joining SRU, he had served as an assistant professor at Gettysburg College and was a research assistant, teaching assistant and instructor of management at the University of Texas at Dallas. At SRU he was named Academic Adviser of the Year in 1995, presented the Dean’s Research Scholars Award in 1994 and 1991, the President’s Award for Outstanding Publication in 1992 and 1989, and the Apple Polishing Award in 1992. He was an honorary inductee to Phi Eta Sigma in 1990.

Alkhafaji, who joined the SRU marketing and management faculty as an assistant professor, earned his doctorate at the University of Texas and earned a Master of Science degree in accounting and a Master of Science degree in economics from North Texas State University. He also earned a Master of Business Administration degree from Bowling Green State University and his undergraduate Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Baghdad in Iraq. He earned certificates in Banking and Financial Institutions from the Arab Institute for Banking and Financial Studies in Amman, Jordan. He also earned an Auditor of Accounting Certificate in Iraq.

He made his home in New Castle, with his wife, Fatin, and six children, Hassan, Ali, Alfadel, Ahmed, Hussain and Ibrahim.

Homecoming

(Continued from page 1)

The homecoming parade kicks off from the Giant Eagle Plaza at 10 a.m. Oct. 13 then travels to Franklin Avenue, before turning west toward Main Street. The parade marches south through the downtown on Main, then passes Old Main before disbanding in the Russell Wright Alumni House Parking Lot.

In addition to the parade, weekend festivities include the Fall Classic Golf Scramble at Olde



Stonewall Golf Course in Ellwood City at 10 a.m. Oct. 12. A pep rally with students, athletes, the Marching Pride Band, SRU cheerleaders and coaches is at 6 p.m. Oct. 12 on Old Thompson Field. This year’s homecoming king and queen will be announced at the rally followed by fireworks, a bonfire and a percussion concert by Recycled Percussion in Morrow Field House.

Following the Oct. 13 parade, the alumni association will offer an alumni reception tent sponsored by First National Bank of Pennsylvania. Food, games for children and live music by Making Trax will be offered. Various academic departments and Greek organizations will host tailgate parties in areas surrounding N. Kerr Thompson Stadium. The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered/transsexuals and Allies will host a pre-game picnic at the N. Kerr Thompson Stadium Pavilion at noon.

In athletics, The Rock football team takes on Clarion at 2 p.m. in the stadium. Other weekend competitions include, the men’s soccer team hosting Kutztown at 1 p.m. Oct. 13 on James Egli Soccer Field followed by the women’s soccer team taking on Charleston at 3 p.m. SRU’s women’s field hockey teams hosts East Stroudsburg at 11 a.m. Oct. 14 in the stadium.

The pre-homecoming week buildup begins Oct. 9 with “Chalk the Walk” from 3 to midnight. “Stuff the Plush,” making plush stuffed animals, from noon to 4 Oct. 10 in the University Union and a visit with Veronica and Rachel from MTV’s “Road Rules” at 8 p.m. in the union.

Oct. 11 activities include a “Big Toy Party” at 11 a.m. in the Union, an Alien Haunted House at 3 p.m. in the Robert N. Aebersold Student Recreation Center and voting for homecoming king and queen throughout the day. The film “Old School” will be shown at 8 p.m. Oct. 11 on the patio outside the Union.

SlipperyRock
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