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**Faculty and Staff: Family Entertainment at the Blackfriars Theatre,
First Annual Rhode Island Storytelling Festival, Presented by the
Providence College Theatre Program**

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PROVIDENCE COLLEGE

Theatre News

FACULTY AND STAFF: FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT AT THE BLACKFRIARS THEATRE

FIRST ANNUAL RHODE ISLAND STORYTELLING FESTIVAL

PRESENTED BY THE PROVIDENCE COLLEGE THEATRE PROGRAM

SATURDAY, MAY 7, 1983
2-5 PM AND 7:30-9:30 PM

The ancient art of storytelling gets a breath of fresh air this Saturday, May 7, with the First Annual Rhode Island Storytelling Festival, to be held at the Blackfriars Theatre, Providence College, from 2 to 5 PM in the afternoon and 7:30 PM in the evening. The festival will feature the internationally acclaimed storyteller Jay O'Callahan, and the Spellbinders, a performing group of accomplished narrators from Rhode Island. Tickets are \$1.00 for the afternoon show with the Spellbinders and \$4.00 for the performance by O'Callahan in the evening. Reservations may be made by calling 865-2327.

According to Bill Harley, a member of the Spellbinders, the event has been designed to introduce storytelling to Rhode Island. "There has been a real rebirth of interest in storytelling all across the country" he noted. "There are festivals, swapping groups, and workshops in storytelling popping up just about everywhere. We wanted to show Rhode Islanders some of the best storytelling we could find, so we asked Jay O'Callahan to come."

O'Callahan, who will be performing at 7:30 PM, is a resident of Marshfield, Massachusetts, and considered by many to be the finest yarn spinner in the country. Time Magazine has called him a "Genius ... a man of such poetry, wit, and elegance that, even in a rugby shirt, he seems Elizabethan". O'Callahan writes and performs his own material and has toured this country, Europe, and Africa with his work, including stints at the Smithsonian Institute and the Winter Olympics at Lake Placid.