



Babette G. Augustin/Staff photographer  
 Former President Jimmy Carter stopped for a ride on "Gertrude the Cow" during his May 1 tour of the School for American Craftsmen at Rochester Institute of Technology. RIT sophomore Brad McDougall (right) of Woodbury, Conn., made the rocking animal during his freshman year.

## Carter calls for probe into Sick allegations

By Lee Strong  
 Staff writer

ROCHESTER — Former President Jimmy Carter wants a blue-ribbon commission to investigate allegations that the campaign staff of former President Ronald Reagan delayed the release of U.S. hostages in Iran in 1980.

"I think it would be nice if President (George) Bush would call for an investigation just to prove that it's not true," Carter said at the Rochester Institute of Technology on Wednesday, May 1.

He thinks that the allegations or rumors have raised questions in people's minds that need to be laid to rest.

"I would hope that they (commission members) prove it's not true," added Carter, who served as president from 1977-1981. Many observers believe Carter lost the 1980 election in part because of the hostage situation.

Carter, who visited Rochester last week to deliver a lecture on world affairs as part of the Horton Distinguished Speaker Series at RIT, avoided becoming embroiled in the current controversy at the school over President Richard Rose's involvement — while on sabbatical — with the Central Intelligence Agency.

In addition to spurring protests by students and faculty at the college, Rose's work for the CIA has led to calls for his resignation. During Carter's visit to the campus and speech at the Frank Ritter Memorial Ice Arena, students opposed to Rose's involvement with the CIA distributed literature and chanted.

Carter said he could not comment directly on Rose's activities because he had not spoken with the RIT president and was not aware of the exact nature of his involvement with the agency.

But Carter defended Rose's right to be involved with the CIA.

"This is a free country," Carter said. "We don't define what a free American citizen can do."

In addition, Carter — whose daughter Amy was arrested in 1986 for protesting against CIA activities in Nicaragua — said the United States needs the CIA, but the agency's activities should be monitored.

"Having an intelligence agency as a part of our nation is vital," he stated.

Carter — who since leaving office in 1981 has become a best-selling author, a college professor, and the founder and director of the Carter Presidential Center of Emory University (a center for addressing vital world issues through nonpartisan study and consultation) — toured RIT's School of American Craftsmen, held a press conference, and spoke to more than 300 people at the ice arena during his visit.

During both the press conference and a question-and-answer session following his address, Carter was asked about recent reports linking Reagan's campaign to a deal with the Iranian government concerning 63 U.S. citizens held hostage from November, 1979, to Jan. 20, 1981.

According to the allegations, the Reagan staff agreed that if the Iranians would hold the hostages until after the 1980 election — and thus undermine Carter's re-election bid — the Reagan administration would supply Iran with arms. In fact, Carter noted, the hostages were finally released five minutes after Reagan took the oath of office.

Carter acknowledged that he had heard rumors about the alleged deal even before the election, but dismissed them. "To me it was kind of a nauseating thought that any American would deliberately try to delay the release of the American hostages," he said.

But now former Carter aide Gary Sick  
**Continued on page 18**

## St. Joseph's Hospital reports \$5 million turnaround

By Rob Cullivan  
 Staff writer

ELMIRA — St. Joseph's Hospital, plagued by deficits the last five years, reported a profit of \$931,392 for 1990 — a dramatic turnaround of more than \$5 million from last year.

After posting a deficit of \$322,179 in 1985, the hospital experienced deficits over the next four years. St. Joseph's suffered losses of almost \$3.5 million in 1986, more than \$3 million in 1987, more than \$1 million in 1988, and a whopping \$4,313,041 in 1989.

Budget-cutting measures, aggressive marketing campaigns and technological upgrading combined to increase the hospital's revenue in 1990, noted Sister Marie Castagnaro, SSJ, president and chief executive officer of St. Joseph's Hospital, 555 E. Market St.

In outlining the hospital's cost-saving actions over the last year, Sister Castagnaro noted that the facility eliminated between 40 and 50 positions of the hospital's nearly 950 workers, and cut back the hours of about 24 employees.

"We've gotten our work force down to numbers that seem appropriate," Sister Castagnaro said.

In addition to streamlining the work force, the hospital began a promotional campaign to market its services, she said.

"I think we have been more aggressive in terms of our marketing program," Sister Castagnaro asserted. She added that the promotional drive included the airing of 30-second hospital commercials on local television, and visits by hospital department directors to physicians' offices throughout the Southern Tier to promote St. Joseph's services.

St. Joseph's was also recognized for excellence last year after placing in the top 10 percent of all the nation's hospitals by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals, which accredits all hospitals in the United States.

"As matched hospital to hospital, we fared pretty well," Sister Castagnaro said.

Technological improvements in a number of the hospital's departments formed the third major component in the hospital's financial turnaround, Sister Castagnaro said.

She cited new medical equipment that will be used in such procedures as burn surgery, gall bladder removal, and the detection of gastrointestinal cancer, as examples of how St. Joseph's is keeping on the "cutting edge" of new technology.

Patient referrals have increased because Elmira-area physicians are impressed by the hospital's ability to offer advanced services, Sister Castagnaro said. "People look and want to use you because they have

a sense of quality," she commented.

In articles on the hospital's budget-cutting measures made last year, the president reported that hospital admissions were increasing — a trend that is continuing, she noted. She pointed to an overall increase in outpatient admissions of 5 percent in 1990.

The turnaround came at a fortuitous time as the hospital faces the potential loss of \$1.2 million in Medicaid reimbursements if Gov. Mario Cuomo's proposed budget passes. The governor's budget calls for more than \$1 billion in cuts for Medicaid reimbursements.

Sister Castagnaro called the potential cuts "devastating," adding that because of the expected revenue loss, St. Joseph's should — at best — break even by year's end.

Nonetheless, the Elmira hospital is doing better than many in the state, the president remarked, claiming that only 25 percent of New York's hospitals expected to break even or show a profit last year.

**BARTOLOMEO FUNERAL HOME, INC.**

Peter W. Guillani, Jr. Philip P. Perotto Michael P. Perotto  
 Personalized service in the community since 1922.

1425 Lexington Avenue Rochester, NY 14606  
 conveniently located near 390  
**(715) 254-5400**

**For Mother's Day**

Sunday Specials

Roast Leg of Lamb	9.95
Roast Pork w/Dressing	9.95
Baked Ham	9.95
Prime Rib w/4oz. Lobster Tail	15.95

ALSO REGULAR MENU

**raffles FOOD & DRINK**  
 367 E. Main St. (next to Eastman Theater)  
 454-6030

**The Olive Branch Ltd.**  
 Inspirational Materials  
 Christian & Judaic  
**Graduation 1991**  
 Beveled Glass  
 HIGH SCHOOL Class of '91  
 Keepsake (Personalized with advance order)

Books • Mugs • Cassette Tapes • Note Kits • Very Special Ways to Say Con grad ulations!!!

**THE BOX FACTORY**  
 The Box Factory 6 N. Main St., Fairport 377-7660  
 Hours: Mon., Tues., Wed. & Sat. 10-6; Thurs. & Fri. 10-9  
 Gift Certificates & Special Order Service Available