

# ROYALLIFE

## All you ever wanted to know about The Nields

By Amy Notwick  
Royallife Editor

Nerissa Nields claims that she knew she wanted to be a singer / songwriter since the age of seven.

"I remember I wrote my first song that I was really proud of when I was 13, and right away I had harmony for it, so I dragged Katryna out of her room and taught her the harmony," Nerissa said. "It was instinct. I knew that my sister should be there."

With that, the sisterly foundation of The Nields fell into place.

In the late 1980s The Nields, a predominantly folk group, regularly played open-mic nights in the Washington, D.C. area.

During this time, a graduate student by the name of David\* began performing with the sisters.

His acoustic guitar playing

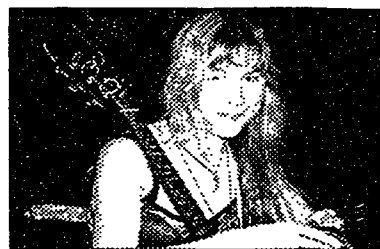
soon became a permanent element of The Nields. Nerissa and David eventually got married and David took the last name "Nields."

With two self-released recordings completed, the trio relocated to Connecticut where they met bassist David Chalfant. Chalfant produced The Nields third self-released album, *Bob On the Ceiling* (1994).

Chalfant later married Katryna Nields.

Drummer Dave Hower played on five tracks of the 1994 release and soon after he became the fifth member of The Nields.

*Gotta Get Over Greta* (1996), the first full length release by the recent version of The Nields, showed an evolution from folk-base stylings to a more electric rock 'n roll sound. The release of *Play* (1998) was met with outstanding critical



Courtesy of www.nields.com  
Nerissa Nields and her guitar.

acclaim.

"...*Play* finds the acoustic / electric folk-rockers at ease with themselves without sacrificing any of the edges that made *Greta* such a powerful emotional statement," the *Boston Globe* reported.

The latest Nields CD, *If You Lived Here, You'd Be Home Now*, was released in April 2000.

For additional Nields information, tour dates and a complete discography, visit [www.nields.com](http://www.nields.com).

\*We could not find David's maiden name.

## CAMPUS PROFILE

By Claire Connelly  
Aquinas Correspondent

Hard work does pay off, and senior Anthony Zamcho, of Cameroon, Africa, is a perfect example. Zamcho was named to the nation's first group of Gates Millennium Scholars.

The Gates Millennium Scholars Program is administered by the United Negro College Fund in partnership with the Hispanic Scholarship Fund and the American Indian College Fund.

The Program is aimed at enabling 20,000 minority American students to attend the undergraduate and graduate institution of their choice.

It gives students a head start towards succeeding as leaders in their professions and communities.

The Gates Millennium Scholars Program is funded by a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Promoting higher education and providing the opportunity to expand academic horizons for hardworking minority students from low-income families is the Foundation's goal.

Zamcho, a biology major, applied for the scholarship last spring.

Friends had mentioned the opportunity to him, and he had received a letter from the Financial Aid Office about it.

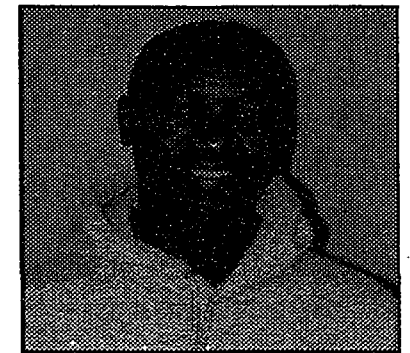
Zamcho was eligible for nomination by having at least a 3.3 GPA, being enrolled fulltime in a four-year undergraduate degree program, showing significant financial need and demonstrating leadership skills through community involvement.

Having met all these requirements, the essay was the remaining application element. Zamcho thought it was, "not particularly difficult."

He thinks that the key to writing a successful application essay is to make it unique and to strive to be different.

He has found that this is the best way to stand out against the stiff competition.

Zamcho is certainly an expert at this process; he has recently been applying to medical schools and has already been accepted to Ohio University.



Aquinas Photo / Amy Notwick  
Anthony Zamcho  
Senior biology major

Zamcho was selected from more than 62,000 nominees from around the country to receive the Gates award.

A total of 4,100 students will receive funds to assist with the cost of tuition, fees, books and living expenses for the 2000-2001 academic year.

This is Zamcho's third semester here at The University. He is originally from Cameroon, Africa and moved to Potomac, Md. in December of 1998.

Zamcho reported that he is extremely happy here in Scranton and is actively involved in the community.

He has tutored in local high schools and is a member of United Colors and the International Club.

Zamcho is pleased with this new achievement and the benefits it brings.

"Many people overlook the burden that paying for college is for our parents," Zamcho said.

He suggests going out and researching scholarships to take away some of that burden. Scholarships not only help get students through college financially, but can help them further their education and career.

The Gates Millennium Scholarship will without a doubt look impressive on Zamcho's resume as he continues his education and career.

The University community is proud of Zamcho's accomplishments and thankful for his involvement and dedication in our community.

Friends of Zamcho described him as a funny and warm character who always has something witty and intelligent to say.

They also joked that he can be found doing the zenge [dance] at many social gatherings.

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