

REPORTER

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Education in Empathy

A Spotlight on RIT Student Activism

Lunch with a Socialist

Stroganoff and Socialism

Big Gay Wedding

Rochester activists stage an unofficial marriage ceremony



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EDITOR'S NOTE

DE-ACTIVISM

If there's one thing that I've learned in this brief time that I've spent as a reporter, it's that everyone has an axe to grind. There's no escaping it, we're all carrying around a bag full of opinions that we want to share with the world.

Journalists love activists (as you can see from this issue, see pages 4, 10, 16, and 20). They're a wonderful way of illustrating an issue. Activists are colorful, passionate and most importantly, loud. They have something to say and usually have a megaphone on which to say it. It makes perfect news story material. But not if that's all you're reporting. At some point you're just publishing, posting and airing noise.

Turn on Fox News, MSNBC, or CNN at any given hour of the day and you will invariably see a talking head moderating two louder, red-faced talking heads. These shouting matches have come to replace the reporting of verifiable facts. Instead of an informed public, you end up with polarly divided mobs.

This summer, I had the chance to cover Sarah Palin's visit to Auburn, NY for the cities Founder's Day Parade. (I'm still not sure why the paper sent two interns to cover this, but I'm not complaining) The streets of Auburn were lined with people holding signs, some telling Palin to run on 2012, others telling her to go back to Alaska.

I came across two sign waving 20-somethings and started talking to them. As they were explaining what they were protesting, a woman walked over to us in a huff.

"What are you protesting," she said angrily. "Is it the fact that she wears lipstick and a pant-suit?"

The two protesters and the angry woman began arguing, seeming to forget that I was even there. Not wanting to be involved in a street brawl, I walked away and looked for someone else to talk to.

I thought that perfectly illustrated the current state of the country. Two diametrically opposed groups constantly bickering, reducing real issues to name calling and sucker punches.

Activists, I'm not suggesting that you throw down your signs and head home. You are doing your job. It's us, the media, that needs to figure out that just because you're yelling, it doesn't mean you're right.

Andy Rees

EDITOR IN CHIEF



CARTOON by Jamie Douglas and Andy Rees

"Well guys, I've got this costume for another half hour... what should we do next?"

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Cover Art by Joanna Eberts



BIG GAY WEDDING

by Chris Zubak-Skees | photographs by Shinay McNeill

It was big. It was gay. But, the marriage was not legally recognized, and that is what organizers say they want to change. On October 2, despite a steady downpour, a large crowd of students and activists gathered in downtown Rochester for a protest wedding ceremony. The stated aim was to support the passage of legislation recognizing same-sex marriage in New York State.

▲ A couple embrace after they have been unofficially married.

The protest was organized by the Rochester Civil Rights Front (CRF), a student-heavy, local group that was formed last summer to advocate for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) issues. The group argues that marriage is a civil right, and that it (and other rights) are unjustly denied to the GLBT community.

Melissa Kelsey, a SUNY Brockport student and founding CRF organizer, didn't hesitate to frame their cause in historic terms. She wants to see sexual orientation protected by the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and said, of providing civil unions in place of marriage, "Separate is not equal."

At 4 p.m., people began to arrive across from the Liberty Pole, a large monument near Franklin and East Main streets. Protestors crowded under a sheltering overhang along Midtown Plaza, an abandoned shopping mall, while Kelsey, two reverends, and other organizers led the ceremony from farther out on the sidewalk.

As the crowd gathered, signs were passed out ("Wedding gifts: 1,324 civil rights") and chants spread ("Gay, straight, black, white! Marriage is a civil right!"). Reverend Sally Hamlin, minister of the First Universalist Church of Rochester, and Reverend Dr. Sharon Jacobson, founding pastor of Tawa Pano Unity Fellowship Church, began the wedding ceremonies.

The question "Who is getting married here today?" was met with a cheer, and three couples stepped forward in response. The couples were then married by both reverends and the marriages were pronounced. "By the love that has brought you here today, by the vows you have exchanged, and by the integrity of your commitment."

Peter Kline and Omar Ramirez, partners of five years, were one of the newlywed couples, and Kline stresses

the integrity of commitment. "I think that couples are judged," says Kline. "The longevity and commitment to each other is judged by the word marriage. So to me, marriage is a very important commitment you make to yourself, to your partner, to society; and to me that is important." Kline also acknowledges marriage as an important legal status, but he says, "Really, it is about love."

Some of the protesters then marched to a reception and panel discussion that took place at the headquarters of the Gay Alliance of the Genesee Valley (GAGV) on East Main St. The reactions to the chanting and sign-carrying march were varied. One man gave a thumbs down sign from a shop window while another sitting on a front step chanted along as marchers passed.



▲ A protester for gay rights witnesses the unofficial marriage between two couples.

The stated purpose of the event was to help effect passage of bill A07732, a bill that would legalize same-sex marriage in New York State. That bill passed the New York State Assembly last May and is now being considered in a narrowly-divided New York State Senate.

A second purpose was to promote the National Equality March taking place on October 11. That march, which will take place in Washington, District of Columbia, will

advocate for all GLBT issues, not just marriage. The CRF has been working with GAGV to provide buses to ticket-holders for that demonstration.

The National Equality March is important because, as Kelsey says, "If we do this piecemeal, sort of state-by-state passage of marriage equality ... a fight won today can be easily lost tomorrow, take California for example ... and as long as DOMA, [the Federal] Defense of Marriage Act, is in effect, it is ... just a symbolic thing that you can get married in New York State." **R**

SAME-SEX MARRIAGE IN THE U.S.

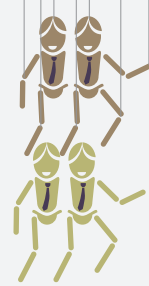
compiled by Andy Rees | info graphic by Kelvin Patterson

There are...



564,743
same-sex couples

Of which...

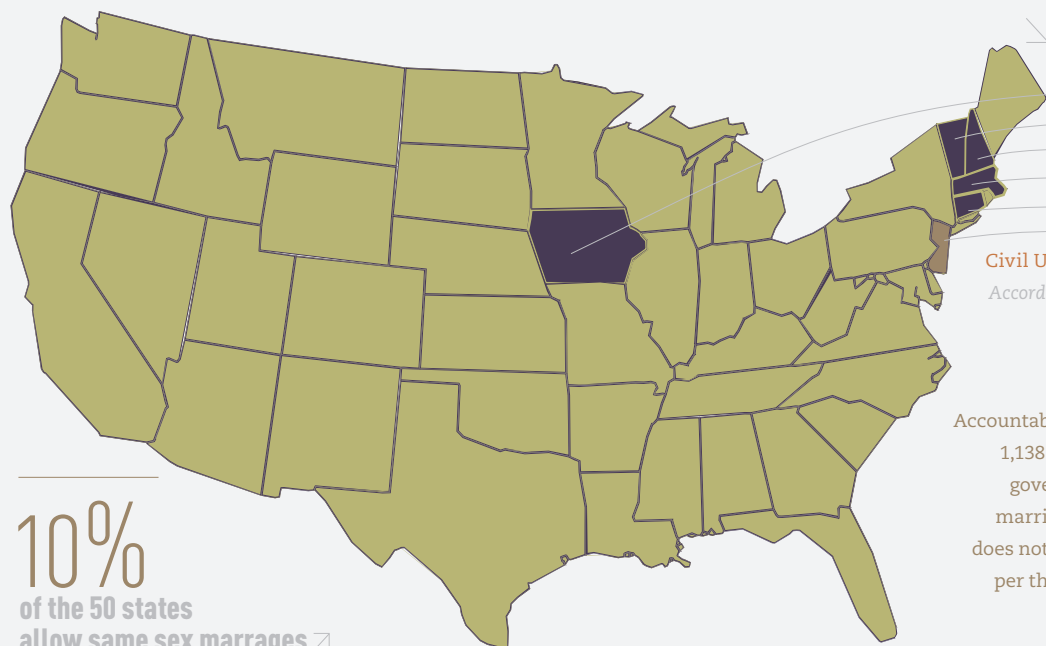


149,956
reported being married

With...



56%
being female couples



SAME-SEX MARRIAGE IS LEGAL IN FIVE STATES:

- Iowa
- Vermont
- New Hampshire
- Massachusetts
- Connecticut

Civil Unions are legal in New Jersey

According to Stateline.org <http://stateline.org/live/details/story?contentId=347390>

According to the Government Accountability Office, married couples receive 1,138 rights and benefits from the federal government that are not granted to non-married couples. The federal government does not recognize any same-sex marriages, per the Defense of Marriage Act (1997).

10%
of the 50 states
allow same sex marriages

RIT FORECAST

compiled by Jill McCracken

09
FRIDAY

Jim Gaffigan at RIT

Gordon Field House. 9 p.m. Kick off Brick City Weekend with your favorite multi-personality comedian! This show guarantees a laugh-filled night, and if not, you can just go home and eat your sorrows with a Hot Pocket. Cost: \$15 student, \$30 faculty/staff, \$40 public.

10
SATURDAY

Signature Magazines Reunion

lovin'cup. Park Point. 1:30 - 4 p.m. If you're involved (or have ever been involved) with *Signatures Magazine*, or if you're simply a fan of poetry, music and food, stop by lovin'cup to celebrate *Signatures'* 25th Anniversary Reunion. To RSVP, contact Sarai Oviedo at sxo7329@rit.edu. Cost: Free.

11
SUNDAY

Arboretum Tour

Durand-Eastman Park Arboretum. Begins at the park kiosk located on Zoo Road. 2 p.m. What better time than fall to go on an Arboretum Tour? Put on your favorite oversized fuzzy sweater and your hiking boots, take a nice walk outside, and see the beauty that nature has to offer!
Cost: Free. (Donations accepted)

12
MONDAY

Rochester Americans vs. Syracuse Crunch

Blue Cross Arena. 1 War Memorial Sq. 7 p.m. Support Rochester's own Amerks and gear up for a great game of hockey this Monday night. Cost: \$10 to \$25.

13
TUESDAY

Foundation Yoga

Breathe Yoga. 19 South Main St. 9:30 - 10:45 p.m. Are you interested in yoga but don't know where to start? Try a class at Breathe Yoga in Pittsford. This beginner's class will layout the foundation. Learn more at <http://breathe-yoga.com>. Cost: \$16 for drop-in. (Membership plan and private session costs will vary.)

14
WEDNESDAY

Student Degree Recital

Eastman School of Music. Kilbourn Hall. 26 Gibbs St. 7 - 8:30 p.m. The Eastman School of Music hosts student recitals many times during the year. Enjoy great live classical music at an unbeatable price. Cost: Free.

15
THURSDAY

RIT Women's Soccer vs. Alfred

Rochester Auditorium Theater. 885 E. Main Street. 7:30 p.m. A must-see classic based on the novel by Pulitzer Prize winner, Alice Walker. *The Color Purple* will be in town until the 11th. Cost: \$30 to \$60.

SG UPDATE

by Caitlin Shapiro

+/- ? IN MY GRADING SYSTEM? IT'S MORE LIKELY THAT YOU THINK

Questions surrounding RIT's grading system are unfolding into an interesting debate. Should a "+" or "-" be added? Although SG doesn't have a say on the outcome of this type of policy, they can advocate by supporting the change or opposing it. "I think it's very important that students actually have a voice on what's going on with their grade," said RHA representative, Phil Amsler.

Suggestions for the most effective way to get student opinions on this topic included the idea of emailing a mass survey. "I think this is particularly interesting for more of the subjective classes, like in the arts," said SG President Matt Danna. A problem that arose last year was allowing the faculty to choose whether or not they wanted to use "+" or "-". Unfortunately grading became very confusing because some opted to use it while others did not. Ultimately, SG decided that more information is needed before they openly support or oppose changes in the grading system.

MORE STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

SG brainstormed ideas on how to connect with students and get them more involved in events offered around campus. Jacqueline Robinson, vice president of SG, posed the question, "What can we do to reach out to the students to get them involved, to make them feel satisfied?"

Alaina Somers, GCCIS senator, suggested that organizing the existing events calendar would make finding events easier for students. "The complaint I hear a lot is that people will say 'nothing's going on on campus' and it's because sometimes it's hard to find," she said.

In addition, Robinson suggested an alternative to putting up flyers, which she called "dorm-storming" and "apartment-storming," where the senate would meet people and tell them about upcoming events, face to face.

NO MORE FYE?

Through the program Greater Expectations, Dr. Dick Doolittle, assistant provost for Undergraduate Education, spoke of evolving FYE and redefining the two, one-credit courses that make up the program. *Discovery* would be the first of the two, offered in the fall; and, *Innovation* would be the second, offered in the winter.

Discovery would organize students by major, where they would learn more about their program, meet with faculty and FYE coaches, and get a deeper look at their studies. *Innovation* would organize students into multidisciplinary teams and teach the process of innovation from the point of an idea, to researching, and finally, to generating an outcome. **R**

2009

MAROON 5

BACK TO SCHOOL

M15



SPECIAL GUEST
KNAW

Friday
Nov 6th
8:00 PM

cab.rit.edu

rit Gordon Field House
(doors open at 7pm)

- \$16 - Students
- \$25 - Fac/Staff/Alumni
- \$36 - General Public



All tickets on sale at the Gordon Field House Box Office. General public tickets also available at ticketmaster.com

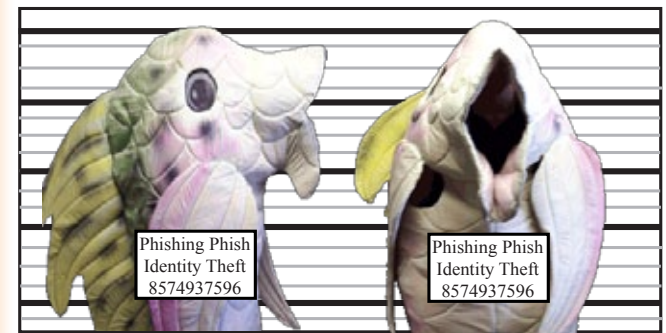


www.maroon5.com ??? TWITTER.COM/MAROON5

Phishy: Phrends and Phoes Security Awareness Costume Contest

October 19-30

Visit the RIT Information Security Facebook Fan Page for Details



Phishy will be returning to campus.....
IS HE GUILTY?

OCTOBER IS NATIONAL CYBER SECURITY AWARENESS MONTH

ZOMBIES of MASS DESTRUCTION

A Political Zomedy

1 show only!

IMAGE OUT

The Rochester Lesbian & Gay Film & Video Festival

Program 32
Wednesday
Oct. 14
8:45pm
Little Theatre

Students receive a \$2 discount with college ID | www.image-out.org



COME CELEBRATE
OUR GRAND
OPENING ON
OCTOBER 13, 2009

Welcome to Park Point @ RIT.

At M&T Bank, we want you to feel right at home at our new location. So join us on October 13th for refreshments, special offers, and a celebration. And you'll also find the latest technology such as a Microsoft Surface™ in the lobby – stop by and explore this revolutionary multi-touch computer. You can check out M&T's latest offers, browse the news and play games – without using a mouse or keyboard! All this from a bank with more than 150 years of experience. Visit us at our new Park Point @ RIT branch and help us celebrate.

300 Park Point Drive, Suite 105, 585-272-8057





“TAKE BACK THE NIGHT,” SHORT OF EXPECTATIONS

by Caitlin Shapiro | illustration by Ben Rubin

Feminism: n. The doctrine advocating social, political, and all other rights of women equal to those of men. (<http://dictionary.com>)

“From the East Coast to the West, Women are the Best!” chanted the Guerrilla Girls in effort to enthruse their Ingle Auditorium audience during their October 1 show. Despite the Guerilla Girls’ seemingly good intentions, their performance seemed artificial and their material lacked research.

Feminists fight for equal opportunity, so why then do the so-called “feminist” Guerrilla Girls present themselves in a way that disregards the definition of their beliefs? The message the Guerrilla Girls sent to their audience did not focus on the equality of men and women, but instead affirming the image of power-hungry, man-eating women. Sadly, the immature antics of these women is the face of feminism, an unfortunate association in the minds of the uninformed.



After their introduction (which included them pounding on their chest and flinging bananas at their viewers), they explained that their presentation would address violence against women and date rape, and that it would be broken up into a series of reenacted memories performed by humorous feminists.

“How many people here are for equal pay for equal work, raise your hands?” asked a member of the Guerrilla Girls. Most of the audience raised their hands, and the performers applauded the audience for their feminism.

“Okay, how many people here are for more pay for less work?” joked another member of the Guerilla Girls. Almost every female’s hand went up. It was at that specific moment when they could have asked a number of questions or pointed out a number of reasons why inequality exists between men and woman in today’s work place.

Is it lazy women that encourage chauvinistic thinking? Did the way RIT women answer this question reinforce the female stereotype and confuse the Guerrilla Girls’ message?

They presented their facts on a large screen, similar to a PowerPoint presentation. The information they presented had the feel of propoganda; and the audience erupted in support. However, it was because of the propoganda that their credibility failed and their mission became overshadowed by their own warped opinion.

The attitude of the Girls could be represented through an analysis of a popular Guerrilla Girls poster. The image is of a superimposed gorilla mask on the *Grande Odalisque*, a famous 19th century oil painting by Jean Auguste Dominique Ingres. The caption reads, “Do women have to be naked to get into the Met. Museum?” followed by “Less than 3 percent of the artists in the Modern Art sections are women, but 83 percent of the nudes are female.”

Had they done their research before they pinned the famous *Grande Odalisque* on this is poster, they would have realized two things: First, this painting can only be found at the Louvre Museum in Paris, not the Metropolitan Museum in New York City. Second, they would have noticed that although this painting was created by a male, it was commissioned by Napoleon’s sister, the Queen of Naples, Caroline Murat, a female.



A PERSONAL TAKE

by Carolyn Dunne

As a proud woman who considers herself a feminist, I had very high hopes for this event and was really excited about attending, especially when I heard that the celebrated feminist group would be performing. As a victim of acquaintance rape, I wish that RIT’s “Take Back the Night” event was more informative and focused more on preventing sexual assault on our campus.

Instead, The Guerrilla Girls on Tour was more like watching a talent show put on by my mother and her friends after they’ve polished off a couple bottles of wine: boisterous, nonsensical and tactless. Rather than coming off as humorous feminists, it felt more like they were simply trying stretch the show out for the full two hours.

This image was made abundantly clear in the sketches “Saturday Night Fever” and “Obama,” both of which were dance numbers that featured similar, pointless flailing of arms in time with music. What did this have to do with feminism or “Take Back the Night,” an event that aims to prevent sexual assault?


The Guerrilla Girls advocate the elimination of the negative connotation feminism has in the minds of their audience, but in doing so trivialized the issues they deal with. Having images of women with the caption, “This is not an invitation to rape me,” does not even begin to tackle the issue of preventing sexual assault. The most useful part of the night was the sketch that dealt with date or acquaintance rape, but they were too hyperbolic to really be useful in most situations that a woman could potentially find herself in.

The 15 minute march around the ice rink and Clark Gym that constituted the actual Take Back the Night portion of the program was probably the most upsetting part of the night. I was expecting that this portion of the program would be longer, that there would be a keynote speaker on the issue, and that the Guerrilla Girls might actually join in. The substance simply wasn’t there, and as a result, the event rang hollow. Marching and chanting may make people feel like activists, but if no one is educated as a result, the effort is for naught.

ABOUT THE GUERRILLA GIRLS

Founded in 1985 in New York City, the Guerrilla Girls were known for speaking out against the underrepresentation of women and minorities in the arts. In 2001, they became three separate groups, referred to in the performance as “The Banana Split.” Soon, they became Guerrilla Girls, Inc., GuerrillaGirlsBroadBand, and then finally, Guerrilla Girls On Tour. For more information, go to <http://guerrillagirls.com/>.

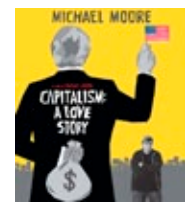
ABOUT TAKE BACK THE NIGHT

Dating back to the late 1970s, “Take Back the Night” events have been held to raise awareness about sexual assault and show support for those who have been sexually assaulted. For more information on the organization, go to <http://takebackthenight.org/index.html>. 



MOVIE | DOCUMENTARY | 120 MIN

CAPITALISM: A LOVE STORY



Ah, Michael Moore. What can be said about him that hasn't been said already? He's known for sensationalism, theatrics and muckraking. In that regard, "Capitalism: A Love Story" doesn't break any new ground. The documentary, which looks at the reasons behind the recent economic collapse, offers a critical view of the people who give capitalism a bad name.

When the power of the profit overtakes morals, bad things happen. There are stories about housing foreclosures and massive layoffs, as well as a demonstration of how the bank holding company, Goldman Sachs, holds more pow-

er than you might be comfortable with. The dismal science becomes a little bit more amusing to watch given the witty commentary, clever editing and Moore's typical stunts. And with a lot of ground to cover, Moore does a good job of keeping the audience entertained throughout.

This film doesn't have the same focus as Moore's previous works. He does the best he can considering he's trying to cram modern economics — a mystery to anyone without the proper training — into two hours, but sometimes it feels too forced.

Occasionally, it feels like Moore glossed over a topic or a scene just

didn't work. But, if there's one thing that he's good at, it's making people think. While he does spend the whole movie speaking from his soap box, a few good points are brought up: the discussion of "dead peasant" policies (where corporations buy life insurance policies on their employees and profit from their deaths) and Franklin Roosevelt's proposed "Second Bill of Rights" (which would have guaranteed financial security, healthcare and adequate education to all Americans).

If you go in there expecting to hear the voice of reason through Moore, his extreme point of view might leave you disappointed. All the same, this is definitely a movie you can benefit from seeing.

by Brendan Cahill



MOVIE | HORROR COMEDY | 81 MIN

ZOMBIELAND



The unthinkable has happened. You witnessed the infection start; you saw it spread; and thousands have turned into mindless zombies. Against all odds, you survived it all. Months have passed, but your head is still soundly on your shoulders and your innards are still inside you. Alright, that's all well and good, but now what? "Zombieland" shows us that while surviving might not be that difficult (as long as you play by the right rules), actually living in this new world is almost impossible. The movie follows four survivors — addressed in the film by where they're from: Tallahassee, Columbus, Wichita and Little Rock — as they cope with

life in a lonely world, trusting the few people who are willing to help. But that's not to say this movie isn't hilarious. Shuffling zombies practically beg to be killed in the most creative and amusingly gory ways. Of course, in a movie with only four people who aren't zombies, the main characters make or break the film. Fortunately, "Zombieland" knows how to deliver where it counts. Tallahassee's (Woody Harrelson) "nut up or shut up" attitude contrasted with Columbus's (Jesse Eisenberg) overly cautious take on survival make for an odd and humorous pairing. Throw in Wichita (Emma Stone) and Little Rock (Abigail

Breslin), sibling con artists with severe trust issues, and you end up with one big happy family hitting the road and looking for safety in a world where the few remaining humans are considered a delicacy. A well-timed surprise cameo by a familiar Hollywood face doesn't hurt, either.

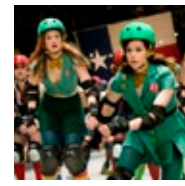
Now, maybe I'm a little biased. I play "Left 4 Dead" religiously; I participated in Humans vs. Zombies; and, I admit that I have a contingency plan in the event of a zombie apocalypse. All that notwithstanding, I loved "Zombieland." But before you see it, remember: Cardio is key, don't skimp on ammunition, and always buckle your seatbelt.

by Brendan Cahill



MOVIE | COMEDY | 111 MIN

WHIP IT



Like any Ellen Page movie, "Whip It" begins with a troubled teen, Bliss. In her small town of Bo-dween, Texas, Bliss is a misfit at her school, an awkward waitress at the Oink Joint, and a less-than-graceful beauty pageant contestant.

Her life changes when she runs into a group of punk-rocker chicks on roller skates who are handing out flyers for a roller derby. After witnessing the intensity of the game, seeing the bloodied noses, broken bones, and bruises, Bliss decides she wants in. Pulling out her Barbie roller skates, she tries out for the Hurl Scouts and makes the

team. The Hurl Scouts are comprised of a diverse group of empowered girls who become Bliss's new family and role models. The story continues through Bliss's transformation into a strong, confident woman who can stand her ground, hip check and kick ass.

Things are going well until Bliss stays out all night with her love interest, Oliver (played by pop artist Landon Pigg), and her parents find out she is on the team. The conflict in the story comes when her parents force her to quit, her best friend abandons her, and she moves out. But, when her father sees just how talented his little girl is at this underground sport, Bliss is given

his blessing to skate in the derby championship.

For Drew Barrymore's directorial debut, I think she did an excellent job. She produced a lot of beautiful shots and evoked solid cast performances that really depicted the feelings meant for each scene. The combination of sexy tattooed chicks, fishnets, food fights and awkward comedy makes every minute of the movie enjoyable. Like any other indie film, the soundtrack has a good assembly of music ranging from *The Ramones* to *Jens Lekman*. The

movie also sends out a good message to leave the theater with: do what you love no matter what it takes. **Be your own hero. R**

by Leanne Cushing



AT YOUR LEISURE

10.09.09

by John Howard

“Reality leaves a lot to the imagination.”

-John Lennon

POP QUIZ:

Time to put those *Stream of Facts* skills to the test. All questions have just one correct response. Answers are listed below. Eyes on your own papers!

- 1) Sphagnum and Andreaeidae are two of the many names falling under the category of Bryopsida, or more commonly known as
 - A A SCIENTIFIC NAME FOR MOSS.
 - B A JAPANESE KITCHEN KNIFE TECHNIQUE.
 - C A HOOFFED FEET BACTERIAL DEVELOPMENT.
 - D A CLASSIFICATION OF MICROORGANISM FOUND IN HOT SPRINGS.
- 2) All of the following NFL players also dabbled in a little college basketball during their NCAA years except:
 - A TONY GONZALEZ
 - B DONOVAN MCNABB
 - C JASON CAMPBELL
 - D ANTONIO GATES

- 3) In 2003, Flaming Lips producer, Dave Fridmann, created an album entitled "Songs for Dustmites", featuring this popular television show star:
 - A DAVID CARUSO OF "CSI MIAMI"
 - B STEVE BURNS OF "BLUES CLUES"
 - C EVA LONGORIA OF "DESPERATE HOUSEWIVES"
 - D KEVIN JAMES OF "THE KING OF QUEENS"
- 4) The largest internet concert of all time that brought in a whopping 11 million virtual spectators on <http://msnbc.com> and <http://msnbc.co.uk> is a claim to this pop artist:
 - A MOE
 - B JAY-Z
 - C MADONNA
 - D BRITNEY SPEARS

- 5) Along with earning the title of the first United States president to be assassinated, Abe Lincoln is also known as the first United States president to
 - A NAME HIS FAVORITE HAT.
 - B OWN A SEWING MACHINE.
 - C NEVER TAKE A SICK DAY THROUGHOUT AN ENTIRE PRESIDENCY.
 - D UNDERGO A GRAVE ROBBERING.

That's all you get for now. Keep your eyes peeled and pay attention for future pop quizzes.

Answers: 1. a; 2. c; 3. b; 4. c; 5. d

CARTOON

by Ben Rubin and Jamie Douglas



OVERSEEN & OVERHEARD

"Wait you're in the woods? That's totally bro rape."
- Male student outside a UC apartment.

"Let me tell you what I know about the furry lifestyle."
- From inside a professor's office in the Eastman Building.

Non HvZ freshmen students on walkie-talkies surveying a map outside of the Louise Slaughter Center for Integrated

Manufacturing Study, 9:45 p.m.

Send your Overseen and Overheards with the phrase "Overseen and Overheard" in the subject line to leisure@reportermag.com. **R**

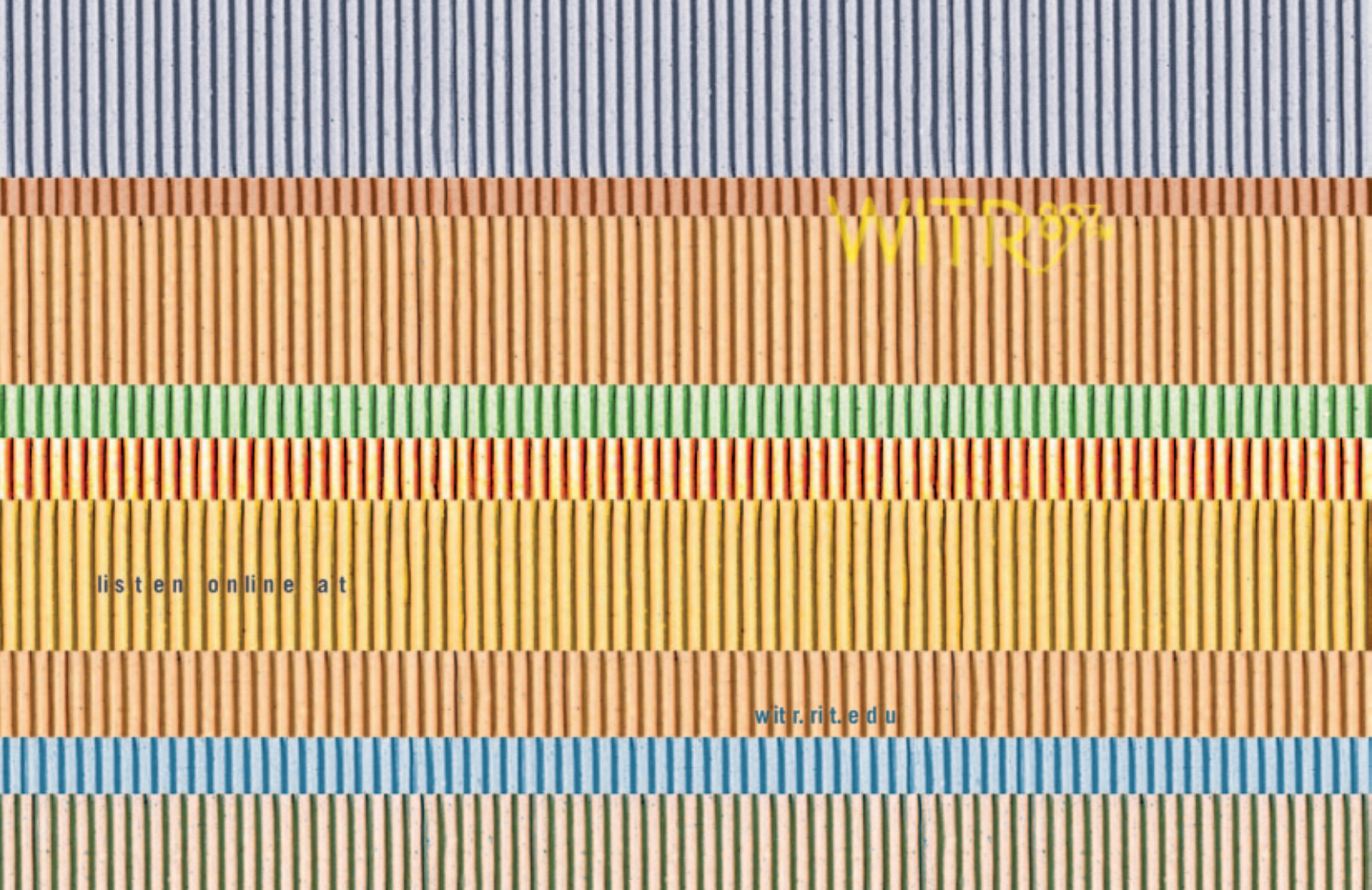
from start to finish using only hyperlinks found within the wiki pages to follow wins; a wiki-maze game if you will. Invite the whole third floor library gang and bring the fun back to internet surfing. It's not like you're working anyway.

WORD OF THE WEEK

QUAGGA: n. an extinct mammal (*Equus quagga*) of southern Africa that resembled and was related to the zebras.
Definition taken from <http://merriam-webster.com>.

			8		2			6
				3		7		
	2	5		1				
	5		4					2
					6			
			8		7			
7								
								8
				8		3	1	

SODUKU Difficulty Rating: Hard



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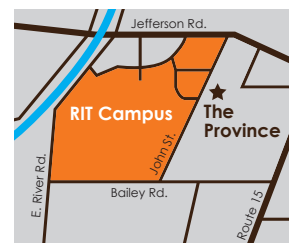
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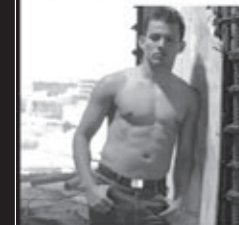
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 Students
 under 21

Program 22 | Ingle Auditorium
Zombie Prom
 (shorts program)
 Monday, Oct. 12, 6:30pm

FREE!
 Students
 under 21

Program 24 | Ingle Auditorium
Watercolors
 Monday, Oct. 12, 8:45pm

FREE!
 Students
 under 21

Program 26 | Ingle Auditorium
**Amancio: Two Faces
 on a Tombstone**
 Tuesday, Oct. 13, 6:30pm

Program 29 | Ingle Auditorium
**"Showgirls"
 Provincetown, MA**
 Tuesday, Oct. 13, 8:45pm

Program 31 | Ingle Auditorium
Training Rules
 Wednesday, Oct. 14,
 6:30pm

Program 33 | Ingle Auditorium
for my wife...
 Wednesday, Oct. 14,
 8:45pm

Check out all the programs including:

Program 11 | Dryden Theatre
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IT'S A FRIDAY AFTERNOON, and you've just gotten out of your 10 a.m. class. Shaking your head, you walk towards Java Wally's to wake up out of the mid-morning haze. You see several young men passing out newspapers and conversing outside of the library. You motion to your friend to go the other way, but it's too late. You've made eye contact, and you are headed right towards them. Smiling at your shoes and pretending to be greatly engaged in your conversation about the explosive ability of Drano, you avoid the interaction and walk on.

EDUCATION IN EMPATHY



BY MICHAEL CONTI | ILLUSTRATION BY JOANNA EBERTS



THIS SITUATION MAY FEEL FAMILIAR. You could have been in this position before: being so preoccupied with thought that the will to listen or care about another person's point of view becomes lost. With the sheer amount of opinions floating through the airwaves and cyberspace, a physical *being* greeting you with an opinion may become just as annoying as a pop-up ad. Dismiss. Click. Ignore.

However, RIT hosts a multitude of charitable and activist organizations, and many of their efforts go unseen. Because one might not have the time to sit down and talk with every group, *Reporter* took the time to ask, "Why?" to some notable activist groups: the Student Environmental Action League, the InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, the Rochester Civil Rights Front and the RIT International Socialist Organization.

Student Environmental Action League (SEAL)

AS IT SAYS in the name, the SEAL organization is all about "taking action." A subtler approach to environmental activism, SEAL seeks to change the culture of RIT through recycling and awareness events. Instead of hitting the pavement with a bullhorn and an attitude, SEAL attempts to make environmental awareness the mainstream.

To do this, SEAL spearheads many projects and events. "Project Runway," a fashion show challenging students to make outfits from post-consumer waste, gives recycling a much-needed sex appeal. Their efforts in E-cycling is another important contribution to the RIT campus, collecting thousands of pounds of computers and other equipment to be responsibly disposed.

But what makes a SEAL-er tick? Is it an impending fear of the apocalypse? A zealous Luddite crusade to make Rochester an agrarian utopia?

The answer may be surprising. Club webmaster Ryan Ammerman, a fifth year Information Technology student, feels compelled to volunteer almost every weekend out of a simple appreciation for the natural world. Growing up in rural Pennsylvania, he saw value in his home and wanted to preserve it. "Picking up trash might not sound like that big of a deal. But having so many people come out and do it, you know when you walk away [that] you made a better place," said Ammerman.

Seeing an immediate, local effect of their work, as opposed to spending hours lobbying or trying to affect national change, is an important part of SEAL's mission. "We don't try to stress the environmental activism to such a degree, so we don't scare people away," said Tori Larson, publicity chair and third year Animation student. Bridging the gap between hopeless attitudes and total denial, SEAL tries to get students interested in environmentalism by giving them something they can do with their hands not just with their mouths.



The poverty he witnessed made him feel "appalled" at the waste of developed countries. Upon returning to the United States, McKimpson re-evaluated his old dream of working for a defense contractor. "I thought, 'do I want to make things that bomb people? Or do I want to make things that help people,'" McKimpson said. With this new mindset, he plans to pursue a dual degree (BS/MS) in RIT's newly-minted Sustainable Engineering program. McKimpson wants to develop an affordable bacterial process to purify drinking water, called bio-remediation.

Both Martin and McKimpson want to address social justice issues using their environmental science training. A huge problem that they are hoping to work on in Rochester is the issue of lead water pipes in low-income housing. Unfortunately, they know that some people may not want to join them based on the issue of faith.

"For us, a lot of the reason we're getting involved is the love that God has shown us. He's definitely given us passion and motivation for these kind of things," said Martin. But the IVCF did not want to remain an island; they tried to find common ground and coordinate with other like-minded individuals. To do this, they created an unofficial network of other activist groups affectionately known as the "Justice League." While their activities may consist of simple event sharing and promotion, the new group begins to overcome differences in beliefs.

InterVarsity Christian Fellowship (IVCF)

TROY MARTIN, a fifth year Environmental Science student, was awakened to the pertinent need that exists in the city through the Rochester Urban Plunge. The alternative spring break gave IVCF members a one-week immersion to see what downtown Rochester is really like.

Hosted by the Parsells Avenue Community Church, the group spent their days learning about the city's problems, especially the struggling public school system. Moved by his experience, Martin joined a tutoring program at Rochester's Center for Youth, helping in a GED class. While many of them have been influenced by generational poverty, Martin wants them to see education as an achievable goal. "For me, it's just showing them that they are loved," he explained.

Neal McKimpson, a third year Industrial & Systems Engineering student, was drawn towards social justice causes after a trip to Guyana.

Rochester Civil Rights Front (CRF)

MAKING MARRIAGE POSSIBLE for couples of all sexual orientations is the goal of the CRF. Formed last June, the CRF (which is comprised mostly of college students) is putting pressure on Governor Patterson to approve legislation that would legalize same sex marriages in New York State. Sponsoring the "Buckwild for Busses" event at the Bug Jar bar and the "Big Gay Wedding," (see pg. 4) the men and women of the CRF look for support in unconventional ways.

The group members are a diverse collection, representing many sexual orientations and political backgrounds, but many strangely have not been passionate about one thing like this until now. "I had never participated in any activist group," explained Joanna Rudolph, a third year Fine Art Photography major. It wasn't until another student involved with the CRF expressed his opinion during a heated discussion about homosexual rights in philosophy class and invited his classmates to get involved that Rudolph decided to join in the effort.

Now a regular member of the group, Rudolph does not see why more do not act on the beliefs they have. "It's not as hard as it sounds ... I always stood back because I didn't want to be one of those people holding signs and getting arrested, but it's the little things that you do to support the rest of the community," he said.

Melissa Kelsey, a Women's Gender Studies major at SUNY Brockport and a Java Wally's barista, has taken a leadership role in the CRF. "It's easy to feel small, like you don't have [a say in society]," she commented. Her way of breaking through the bubble is by talking with students individually. She wants others to be as personally invested in the issue of marriage equality as she is; therefore, she takes the time to connect with people through conversation.



CURIOSITY

RETURNING to the hypothetical situation, you are leaving Java's, your mind reawakened, re-caffeinated. If someone asked why you kept walking; you probably could come up with a host of reasons. Perhaps you virulently disagree with their point of view. Or maybe you already are involved with some similar effort, and one more worthy cause would likely break the bank. In the case of RIT, there is probably a degree of social awkwardness underpinning the entire interaction, and it would take a significant degree of courage to muster the curiosity.

Curiosity is fundamental to excelling in the lab, classroom or studio.

INNOVATION Not just for Gadgets

INNOVATION is a word thrown around a lot. But this word does not have to have the connotation of nifty gadgets like a hot dog machine or a table that reacts to the human touch. To the students involved in the many activist organizations on campus, their education is not through the creation of consumer products. Their ideas of how to fix social and eco-

RIT International Socialist Organization (ISO)

RIT'S BRANCH of the ISO may be our most visible revolutionary presence due to their Friday newspaper distribution. But their actual specific beliefs and attitudes towards certain elements of RIT culture may be of a surprise to some students.

"We come from parents who work their asses off so that we can come to college," said Kevin Sapere, a fifth year Urban and Community Studies major. To them, RIT is more than simple brick arrangements and conversations about the weather. Rather, they see their experience as building upon the historical struggle of the working class.

One challenge that besets the socialists is their conflicting position as motivated, career driven RIT students and dreamers of a world without destructive capitalist competition. "There is no way that any person who is in the system cannot participate in it," says Adriano Contreras, a fifth year Multidisciplinary studies student. To attempt to give meaning to a school community with an often radically different worldview, they gather weekly, selling the Socialist Worker newspapers. They do this to "gauge student opinion," and get others to question political events.

Without descending into rhetoric, many socialists refer to a capitalist "system" when talking about everyday life in today's mixed economy. They identify the RIT campus as a microcosm of this system. "A college is really a business. There is a reason why the board of trustees is full of guys like Lockheed Martin and the Wilmorite Corporation," said Sapere.

The ISO takes a view towards education that lies outside of a system of exploiting the working class. Encouraging students not to pursue education for the sake of a job but for "knowledge." Josh Karpoff, a fifth year Electrical Engineering and Technology major, wishes the school was not simply a "training ground for large corporations."

"We're not raging against the idea of structure. We are angry about the way the structure is used for," he explained.

Entering into a school community means interacting with ideas, cultures and people, all while encountering misinformation, stereotypes and difficult personalities. A cultivated sense of curiosity for people who care about the RIT community changes the way we treat each other. You may be compelled to pick up your head and initiate the conversation.

The activists on campus are a special breed; they give their time and talents to an often-unforeseen end or goal. However, their beginnings at RIT were not casted with purpose, rather, they were motivated to change their routines, following through on gut impulses and inclinations.

nomc problems or how to change political systems are just as evident of innovative thinking. The sheer amount of problems in the world suggests an infinite number of solutions, and it would be a bleaker campus if everyone were concerned with individualistic matters of the status quo and moneymaking. **R**

LUNCH WITH A SOCIALIST

by Michael Miranda | illustration by Jamie Douglas

Whether staging a walkout against tuition hikes, holding a demonstration to oppose a controversial speaker, or protesting a racist meal plan, student activism has become a cornerstone of college campuses across the world. The driving force of a social movement can grasp a student's interests and thrust him or her into a brave new world.

RIT is not immune to this phenomenon, as it fosters its fair share of student activist groups. In an effort to better understand the state of student activism in this brick city, I sought out an intimate encounter with one of these groups. My journey led me to the Wallace Library's Idea Factory where a public forum entitled "Socialism: What It Is and Why We Need It" was taking place on the evening of September 17. The event was sponsored by the RIT branch of the Rochester International Socialist Organization (ISO), an organization geared toward laying the groundwork for ultimately forming a socialist society.

The meeting was conducted as an open discussion directed towards dispelling common misconceptions about socialism and to enlighten the audience with the ideas behind it. Throughout the night, those in attendance were able to state their thoughts and ideas across numerous topics, ranging from the banking crisis to the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. This allowed the conversation to grow and evolve as it moved across the room. The ISO hosts this weekly meeting in the Idea Factory every Thursday at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

Since arriving on campus in 1999, the RIT branch of the ISO has been motivating like-minded students to strive for liberty and challenge injustices on both a local and national level. The organization is largely involved with other activist groups in the Rochester area including the University of Rochester's Students for a Democratic Society (UR-SDS) and Rochester's Iraq Veterans Against the War (IVAW), amongst others.

In addition to weekly meetings on campus, the socialists are often found conversing with passersby and endorsing the ISO's weekly periodical, "The Socialist Worker," every Friday outside the Wallace Library. Activities like these engage students and help open others to new ideas and radical thoughts. With a strong commitment to change and a desire to better society, the socialists have plenty of irons in the fire this autumn.

After poking around some hot coals, I was able to sit down for a pleasant lunch with Ralph Bean, an RIT dual degree (BS/MS) graduate in Computer Science (2009) and active socialist, to discuss some of the upcoming and recent events that interest the ISO members, as well as other social activists in the Rochester community.

Over a couple of steaming bowls of stroganoff at Crossroads, Ralph and I were able to talk about the success of recent events. Since joining the ISO in 2004, he has seen the organization grow and flourish, and he has noted that almost half of those in attendance at "Socialism: What It Is and Why We Need It" were new faces in the crowd. He stated, "Real people in the masses make history themselves," showing the steadfast nature of those involved with the organization. Additionally, I was informed that many ISO members, like Ralph himself, stay active with the organization after graduating from the university.

Another successful happening for activists in the Rochester area was the "Buckwild for Busses" fundraiser, which provided a night of

good fun for a good cause. Held on Friday, September 18 at the Bug Jar, the proceeds from this event will be used to help reduce the cost of sending busses from Rochester to Washington, DC for "The National Equality March." With a crowd of over 175 people in attendance, "Buckwild for Busses" was "the largest fundraiser we have ever pulled off, by an order of magnitude" as described by Ralph.

On October 10 and 11, "The National Equality March" will unite the masses across America at the Washington Mall to demand full and equal protection for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) community under civil law in every state. This march will mark the 30th anniversary of the first LGBT march to the mall, and it hopes to set the stage for a nationwide movement to pursue equal rights for all. As Ralph puts it, "I hope this march consolidates the nuclei of grassroots activism across America." With 112 local activists signed up already, it is expected that at least two buses will be sent from Rochester.

As our meal continued, we discussed many recent events, including the protests and marches at the Group of 20 Financial Minister and Central Bank Governors summit which was recently held in Pittsburgh, PA. Seven RIT students were given the opportunity to travel to the summit and participate in a mass march with other activists from all around the world. These protests drew large crowds and brought activists from across the nation. When asked about the state of activism since the inauguration of Obama, he replied, "There has not been much of an increase in activism recently ... After Rosa Parks took a seat on that bus, it took almost ten years for the Civil Rights movement to culminate." This shows that all movements need time to flourish. "I want a revolution," Ralph explained. "But that revolution must be built on incremental reforms along the way."

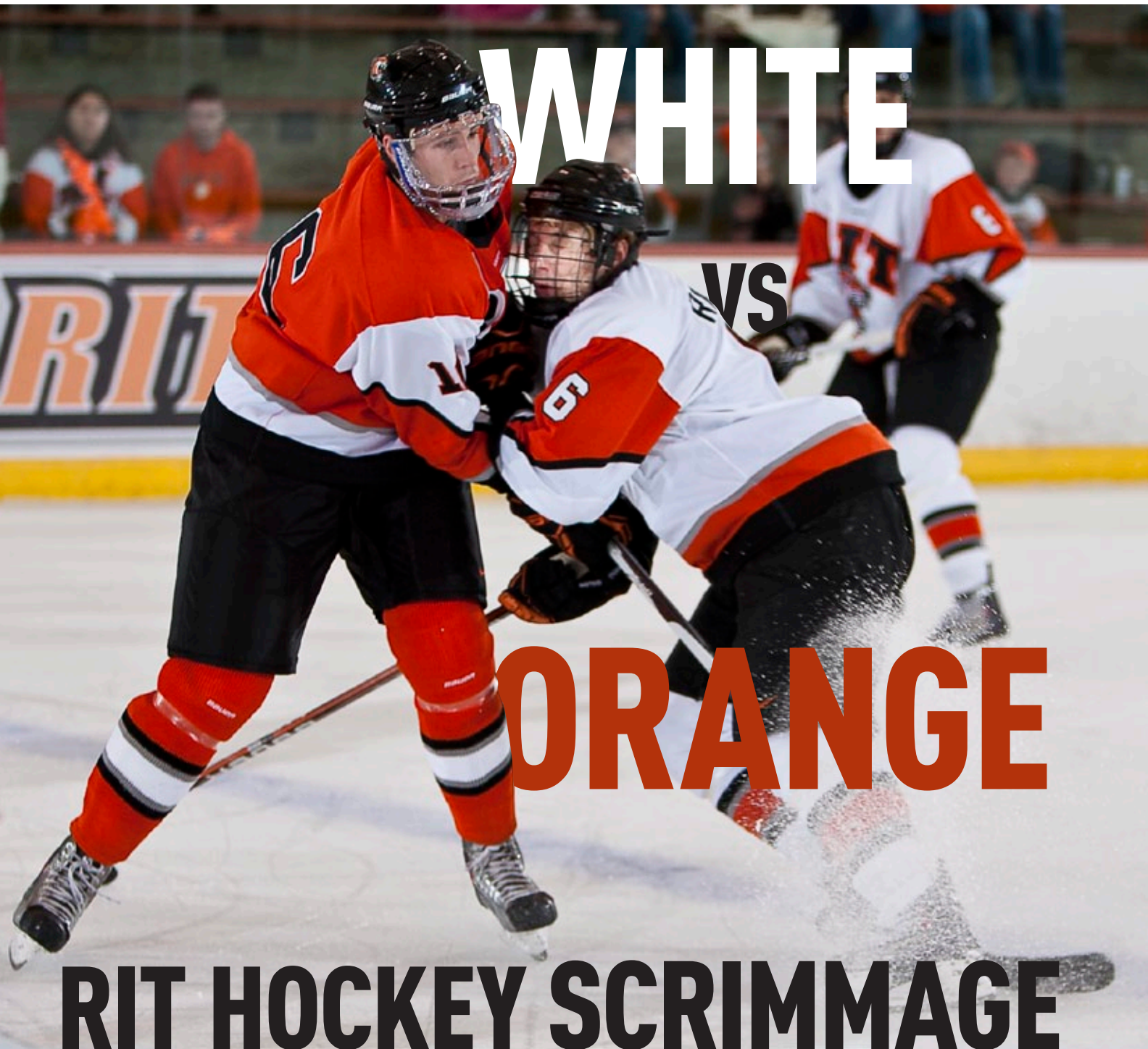
"I WANT A REVOLUTION."

We continued to converse on a variety of issues and upcoming movements that may gain momentum in the near future. Ralph expects to see equal rights, health care and America's involvement in Afghanistan to spark some interesting debates over the coming months. "Already there are an increasing number of liberal critics on Obama's handling of Afghanistan, which may leave some skeletons in the administration's closet," he mentioned.

One important event for promoting social change is the Northeast Socialist Conference being held at Columbia University in New York City from October 24 to 25. Ralph calls this "the most important political convention in the Northeast," as the event plans to draw large crowds of student activists and socialists from across the region. Currently 35 RIT students are expected to attend, and tickets are available to anyone who is interested at the ISO branch meetings. Personally, Ralph "hopes the layer of people from RIT come back with the tools they need to bring an increase in activism to the Rochester area." The conference is a large promoter of activism and will offer numerous workshops with titles ranging from "Afghanistan: Obama's Vietnam" to "The Capitalist Roots of Sexual Oppression," which are aimed to help arm activists with a barrage of revolutionary ideas.

As you can see, student activism has not yet gone with the wind. Activists within the RIT community will continue to flourish, as they strive to make the world a better place. **R**





photographs by Evan Witek

Captain Dan Ringwald, right, and Tyler Brenner, left, collide while handling the puck.



1



2



4



3



5

1. The players on each team are introduced to the crowd one by one.

2. A few passionate fans wait for the chance to high-five their favorite players coming off the ice.

3. A frightened fan jumps back from the boards as Dan Ringwald, left, takes a check to the boards by Bryan Potts, right.

4. Coach Wilson gives some much needed direction to the white team during a shift change.

5. Coach Wilson gives some tips to the team after the game. 

CLUB FIELD HOCKEY COMES CLOSE

by Emily Bogle | photographs by Jake Hamm

The rattling of sticks could be heard across the field as the RIT Field Hockey Club started their cheer. The Tigers played against Hobart and William Smith Colleges (HWS) on Saturday, October 3, the first sunny day after a week of rain. Having to play “one man down” because HWS only traveled with 10 players, RIT could not muster a win, resulting in a 3-2 loss.



The game started off smoothly, with the teams exchanging possession back and forth on the pitch. The players stayed low to the ground throughout the game, bending over their sticks to better control the ball.

Early on in the first 35-minute half, the RIT defense was not effectively clearing the ball out of the circle, or the half circle scoring zone which is 16 yards out from the goal lines. The Tigers would frantically hit the ball away from the goal, to the center of the field where another Hobart player would be standing. Because of this, HWS maintained possession near the RIT goal, which led to a score early in the half. Not to be dismayed, RIT answered back within a couple of minutes with their first goal scored by Melissa Thone, a first year Chemistry major, tying the game at 1-1.

Most field hockey rules are similar to those in soccer, however, the two umpires called fouls more often than soccer game. Free hits were frequent in the game, where the umpire would call an unintentional foul, and the other team would hit the ball where the foul took place. RIT had trouble with these free hits on occasion, not utilizing the hit to propel the team forward. The Tigers' fieldwork and dribbling proved to be their strongest point in game. A prime example was first year Bioinformatics student, Allison Roder, who played a tough midfield, with a few solid free hits and the agility to race back to protect the goal. She then fought through HWS's forwards to get a pass off to a RIT forward to



pressure the goal. The other midfielders and defenders did their best to push the play up the field as the eager HWS players challenged them.

Throughout the first half, HWS pressured the goalie, third year Biology student Kayla Weber. She made full use of her pads, which were just short of a complete set of ice hockey goalie pads. Weber deflected ball with her leg guards, kickers and, occasionally, her stick, which seemed to be dwarfed by the size of her padding. Despite her agility and fearlessness to go after the ball, HWS scored two goals towards the end of the first half, resulting in a score of 3-1.

The Tigers composed themselves in the beginning of the second half. Through shorter passes, they were able to put pressure on HWS's side of the field. Maintaining possession through the second half, first year Hospitality student Emily Conners, scored after a string of quick passes. This boosted the Tigers' morale as they continued to be on the offense. With a few more shots on goal, the game could have turned out differently, but the Tigers were usually deterred when going towards the goal.

As the time wound down, both teams were exhausted and were a bit sluggish on the pitch. The RIT Soccer club also distracted the players with their mix of jokes and cheers. After HWS's time out, RIT tried to remain on the attack for the final minutes of the game, but were unable to tie. When the umpire called the game, both teams seemed relieved, although HWS seemed a bit more cheerful.

Club president, fourth year Imaging and Photographic Technology major, Jacqui Caci responded positively to the game, regardless

of the score. “[The team] kept the energy up and the pressure on. [They just have to] keep working on the shots.” This was the club's third game of the season, bringing their record to 1-2. Desirae Gilbert, fourth year Industrial and Systems Engineering student and club treasurer, noted that this was the club's first season with home games. She has seen a change with home games. “More girls are interested [now that] there is less of a time commitment on the weekends.” The club was established five years ago and typically has five or six league games and a tournament each season. **R**



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TABLE OF CONTENTS



The Things I've Learned in Class

by Jessica Kopitz

A few (interesting) observations from the classroom...

<http://reportermag.com/go/classlessons>



RIT Home Opener

Check out our coverage of RIT's first Brick City home game.

<http://reportermag.com/go/brickcityhockey>



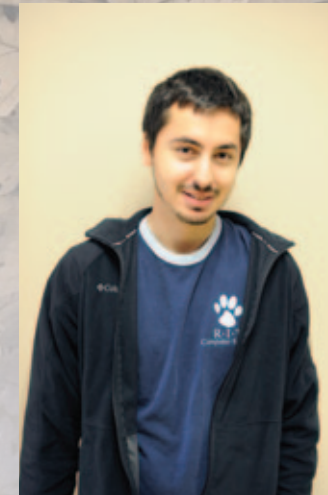
Reporter Twitters Brick City

Reporter sends its crew of highly trained tweeters out for Brick City Weekend.

<http://reportermag.com/go/brickcitytwitter>

WORD ON THE STREET HOW WOULD YOU PROTEST?

photographs by Chris Langer



"LET MY VOICE BE HEARD USING THE INTERNET."

Adrian Cretzu
Computer Engineering,
Fourth Year



"BITCH AND MOAN."

Geoff Bastian
Mechanical Engineering,
Third Year



"SILENTLY."

Pat Mitchell
Computer Engineering,
Fourth Year



"SLEEP THROUGH IT."

Samantha Bergan
New Media Interactive
Development, Fifth Year



"STRIKE."

Garrett Forrester
Information Technology,
Third Year



"SIT-IN."

Jessie Maceda
Electrical Engineering,
Third Year



"THROUGH THE HELP OF THE CANADIANS — FEAR THE MEN ON HORSES."

Phil Fradina
Marketing, Third Year



"THROW A RIOT."

Kyle Greene
Mechanical Engineering
Technology, Fourth Year

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NOW TAKING UR TXT MSG!

compiled by Neil DeMoney illustration by Stu Barnes
All messages subject to editing and truncation. Not all messages will be run.
REPORTER reserves the right to publish all messages in any format.

THURSDAY 5:20 P.M.
Hey RINGS, it's me again. I just wanted to let you know that I couldn't find my credit card all day today. And I finally took off my bra, and thre is was on my boob. And the numbers are still imprinted. Yeah, it really sucks.

from voicemail

THURSDAY 12:32 A.M.
[Fork] you RIT job fair! Not only do you not have anything for Animation/Art kids, but you've also taken all the parking spots behind the gym and Bldg 7. Jerk-bags.

from text

SATURDAY 11:19 P.M.
Thanks REPORTER for making us drive all the way to sketchy SPoT Coffee for an arts & crafts exhibit that wasn't happening!

from text

TUESDAY 5:40 P.M.
THIS CRAZY LADY IN MCDONALD'S HAS HER PHONE ON SPEAKERPHONE AND HER CONVERSATION IS AS FOLLOWS. . . "I WILL NOT BE CREAMATED AND PUT IN A JAR!"

from text

SUNDAY 10:51 .M.
Drunk frat guys from Connecticut are weird. One spent all night convincing us he was from Italy. Then he couldn't speak a lick of Italian. Then, by the end of the night, he was giving me his credit cards and ID for some unknown reason.

from text

WEDNESDAY 4:24 P.M.
RINGS, WHAT IS ROUGHER? THE QUARTER SYSTEM. . . OR THE TOILET PAPER?

from text

SATURDAY 2:42 P.M.
HEY RINGS! I'M DRUNK. WHAT THE [FLAMINGO] AM I SUPPOSED TO SAY TO YOU? MY FRIEND [JASON] IS HIGH ON [DRUNKEN LUCK]. DON'T GET HIGH, KIDS. NO, GET HIGH, BUT NOT ON NARCOTICS. LATER [LADY DOG].

from text

SUNDAY 11:03 P.M.
Hey RINGS! I work at the Corner Store and to the [big-butted-ninny] who thinks we don't sell cases of Arnold Palmer anymore: You're an idiot because we do.

from text

SATURDAY 2:39 A.M.
HEY RINGS, WHY DIDN'T TANGENT GET THE APARTMENT? YOU GIVE UP? IT'S BECAUSE HE DIDN'T COSINE.

from voicemail



```
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Transitional//EN"
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Transitional//EN"
"http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-transitional.dtd">
<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml" xml:lang="en"
http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml">
<meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html; charset=ISO-8859-1" />
<title>Online Developer :: Portfolio</title>
<style type="text/css">
<style type="text/css">
body
body
body
body
{
background-image: url(bkg.gif);
background-repeat: repeat;
background-repeat: repeat;
background-repeat: repeat;
}
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A GENERATION LEFT OUT

by Eryc Duhart | illustration by Maria Vallese

Recently, an article in *Computer Link*, a monthly Rochester technology publication, pointed out a phenomenon that most of us have probably taken for granted: Many Baby Boomers feel out of place on the internet. The article states that Baby Boomers make up over a quarter of all internet users, but they only use the internet for approximately five hours a week. Only 14 percent felt that ads and other internet content targeted their demographic.

Furthermore, only 9.9 percent of Baby Boomers felt that social networking sites targeted them. According to the 2008 American Census projections, this underrepresented generation (those aged 55 to 69) could be roughly 44,467 out of the 177,868 people currently on the internet.

While the idea that older Americans may not be well-acquainted with new technology may not be difficult to fathom, this article struck too much of a nerve with me to let it pass. There is more to using the internet (or any form of technology) than age. I believe that our Baby Boomers aren't being left out physically. They may just not feel confident enough in their technical skill to continue to venture until they find what they are looking for.

The internet isn't a supermarket. At any physical store, if you don't see what you like on the shelf or in the entire store on a regular basis, then you can legitimately claim that the supplier isn't meeting your needs or desires. The internet requires more effort and a continuous search. This being so, the attitude that they aren't allowed to extensively use the internet would definitely stunt their desire to learn or venture out.

I asked my Game Design professor, Keith Whittington, about his experience with his internet use. He identifies himself as a Baby Boomer who uses the internet extensively (about 10 hours a week). He has a Facebook account, which he enjoys because it, contrary to

what the study implies, helps him find and connect with people he knew years ago. Having a Facebook account myself, I agree when he concludes that the only real requirement for using it or the internet is that "you have to know how to use a computer."

But in all fairness, my professor only uses his page occasionally, and a large portion of the Facebook crowd does appear to be younger folks, who most likely don't want their parents, older relatives or teachers in the same networks as them. Additionally, he admits that his internet experience is comprised mainly of email, MyCourses and Facebook because he is required through his status as a professor. He doesn't see sites such as Facebook as solely targeting the young crowd, but he feels that there may be something missing in his experience.

But how do we address the lack of content targeting this underrepresented generation? Perhaps, it should be done in the same way we get elementary school children to remember their lessons: by giving them the internet in a form they're comfortable. While we can't force them to use or like the same things we do, we can provide alternative forms of the things that serve the same purpose, give them an internet that fits their needs. In this case, one may be interested in <http://mytimehero.com>, a social networking site specifically for older, more mature individuals.

In the end, a person isn't automatically entitled to be a

part of the "computer literate" or "internet group" just because of his age. Skill should be the main deciding factor in whether one is allowed to use the internet. Instead, we as a culture are treating technology as a commodity to be marketed to a narrow target group. The Baby Boomers could obviously increase revenue for online business, but the underlying requirement of feeling confident and welcome online must be met for them first. I charge that as future entrepreneurs and CEOs, we keep this fact in mind. **B**

The opinions expressed in the Views section are solely those of the author.

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