

REPORTER

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TIGERS BATTLE THE BOMBERS

RIT Wrestling
takes on Ithaca

ADDICTION IN RELATIONSHIPS

Porn, smokes and
booze

WITR CANCELS 6 SHOWS

Summer block
buster preview



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EDITOR'S NOTE

SINGULARITY

Whoever decided that spring is the season of love was kidding himself. Sure, the flowers are blooming and there's birds singing, but symbolism aside, there's not much going on there.

Winter, on the other hand, is really when love is in the air. The nights are cold, you've let yourself go a little after Thanksgiving, and you're feeling a little vulnerable because Grandma asked you why you never bring anyone to Christmas dinner. It's the perfect time of year to wind up in a relationship.

If you take a look at the distribution of birthdays throughout a year, the numbers peak between August and November. Those months are conveniently three trimesters away from the prior winter. Let's face it, if you're a fall baby, you might be the result of "the house is cold, let's keep warm" love making.

In any case, Winter is a dangerous time to be single. The bars are packed with people in ugly sweaters looking for some light conversation and a little heavy breathing. Just be careful you don't let the low lighting and spiked eggnog get the best of you - warm bodies can be nice, but compromising your morals isn't.

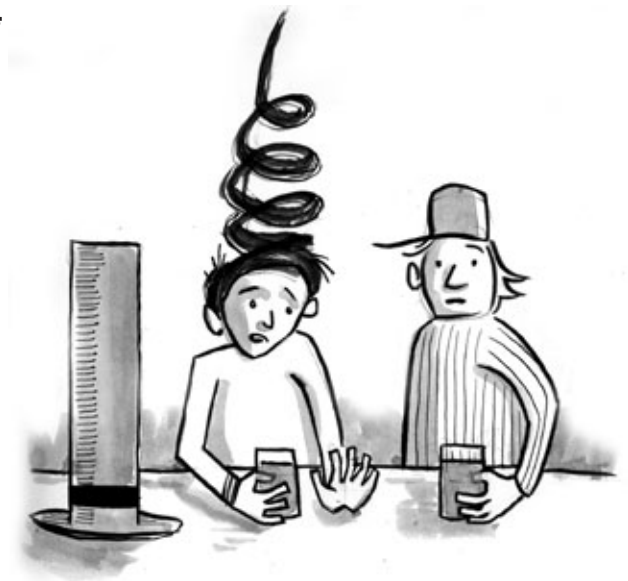
If you are alone at this time of year, you're not the only one. Take it from somebody who has never had to do the "what should I get my girlfriend for Christmas" thing. Being single when it feels like everyone else is curling up together by the fire can be a little disheartening. It doesn't help that the days are short and holiday advertising has been shouting in your ear for months. Between Seasonal Affective Disorder (winter depression) and the romance-heavy advertising during the holidays, it's no wonder that winter comes in first place for suicides.

Winter doesn't have to be so bad. If everyone else is itching to find that special someone, you might have some luck in the next couple of months. Don't sit in front of the computer all day watching porn and writing in your LiveJournal. There's hundreds of lonely hearts out there looking to put on some flannel nightwear and get down to business.

So if you're single this season, you have a homework assignment. Next time you're standing in line to get your morning mocha and you see a cute girl or guy giving you the elevator eyes, break out of your shell and strike up a conversation. There's no reason to wait for spring to fall in love.



Andy Rees
EDITOR IN CHIEF



CARTOON by Jamie Douglas and Andy Rees

"I don't get it, the date was going great until I took my hat off."

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

12 18 09 | VOLUME 59 | ISSUE 13



Two students walk down from Building 7 during Rochester's first snow storm of the season while a tractor plows the walkway. | photograph by Steve Pfof.

NEWS PG. 05

Dubai Short On Growth
How well will RIT Dubai weather the economic storm?

SG Update

SG considers a guest meal swipe.

University Services, Microelectronics Buildings Evacuated Over Gas Leak

A natural gas line is struck during Global Village construction.

WITR Programming Changes To Be Implemented, Despite Controversy
Six radio shows face the chopping block starting December 20.

LEISURE PG. 10

Hip-Hop
A playlist reflection on the past 10 years of the genre.

Reviews

Should you be watching "The Secret Life of the American Teenager?" (yes.)

At Your Leisure

Put your knowledge to the test with an AYL Pop Quiz.

FEATURES PG. 16

Addiction In Relationships
Porn, smokes and booze.

Date Night Examined

Where should you bring that special someone?

SPORTS PG. 22

Tigers Battle The Bombers
Some is getting pinned.

Kyle Gahagan: One Man Racquetball Army

One RIT student takes on the wall.

VIEWS PG. 26

RIT/ROC Forecast
Things to do over holiday break.

Rhymes, Rythms, and Reality
What does hip-hop mean to you?

Artifacts

Guns, guns, guns.

RIT Rings

[Margaret Thatcher] is one busy lady.

REPORTER

we like you

LARGER THAN LIFE DUBAI SHORT ON GROWTH

by Michael Conti | illustration by Joanna Eberts

Corporate over-speculation and government mismanagement has resulted in debt crises totaling an estimated \$80 billion in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. The previously booming market, home to RIT Dubai, is surrounded in doubt after the monarchy announced a moratorium on debts for Dubai World, an investment company that oversees businesses and projects in Dubai. As linked economies reel from unpaid debts to pay for vacant shopping malls and unused housing developments, institutions like RIT Dubai becomes more critical for the prosperity of the region.

"Construction sites were popping up like weeds until recently. The pace of construction has slowed since the start of the credit crunch in Dubai," says Chris Tan, a resident of the Dubai Silicon Oasis and administrator of the online forum <http://siliconoasis.org>. According to the "master plan" on the DSO's website, <http://dso.ae>, the final city will be more than 4.5 square miles, and was projected to include more housing, "several junior and high schools, supermarkets, hospital, clinics, restaurants and cafes."

The economy of the Dubai emirate has become notorious for this kind of unprecedented expansion. (An emirate is political territory that is ruled by a dynastic Muslim monarch styled emir. While Dubai grew wealthy from oil money, the royal family's emphasis on trading established the coastal region as a Middle Eastern hub. The land soon became a prime vacation spot for Westerners and Easterners alike, encouraging development in recreational and real estate properties.

RIT Dubai is a center point of the expectations of Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, whose emphasis on real estate has led to the growth of the tallest free-standing hotel, which is also expected to be the tallest building in the world. He is also responsible for the artificial islands known as "The Palms," which have sprouted along the waters in the Gulf of Iran. The head of the royal family has also put aside \$10 billion for "human development."

Mohammed's uncle, Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, is a patron of RIT Dubai. A graduate of the University of Denver, Ahmed sees RIT Dubai "facilitating the creation of a competent resource pool of tech-



nologically talented professionals." With programs growing in business, electronic engineering and mechanical engineering, those who graduate are expected to grow the economy of Dubai further.

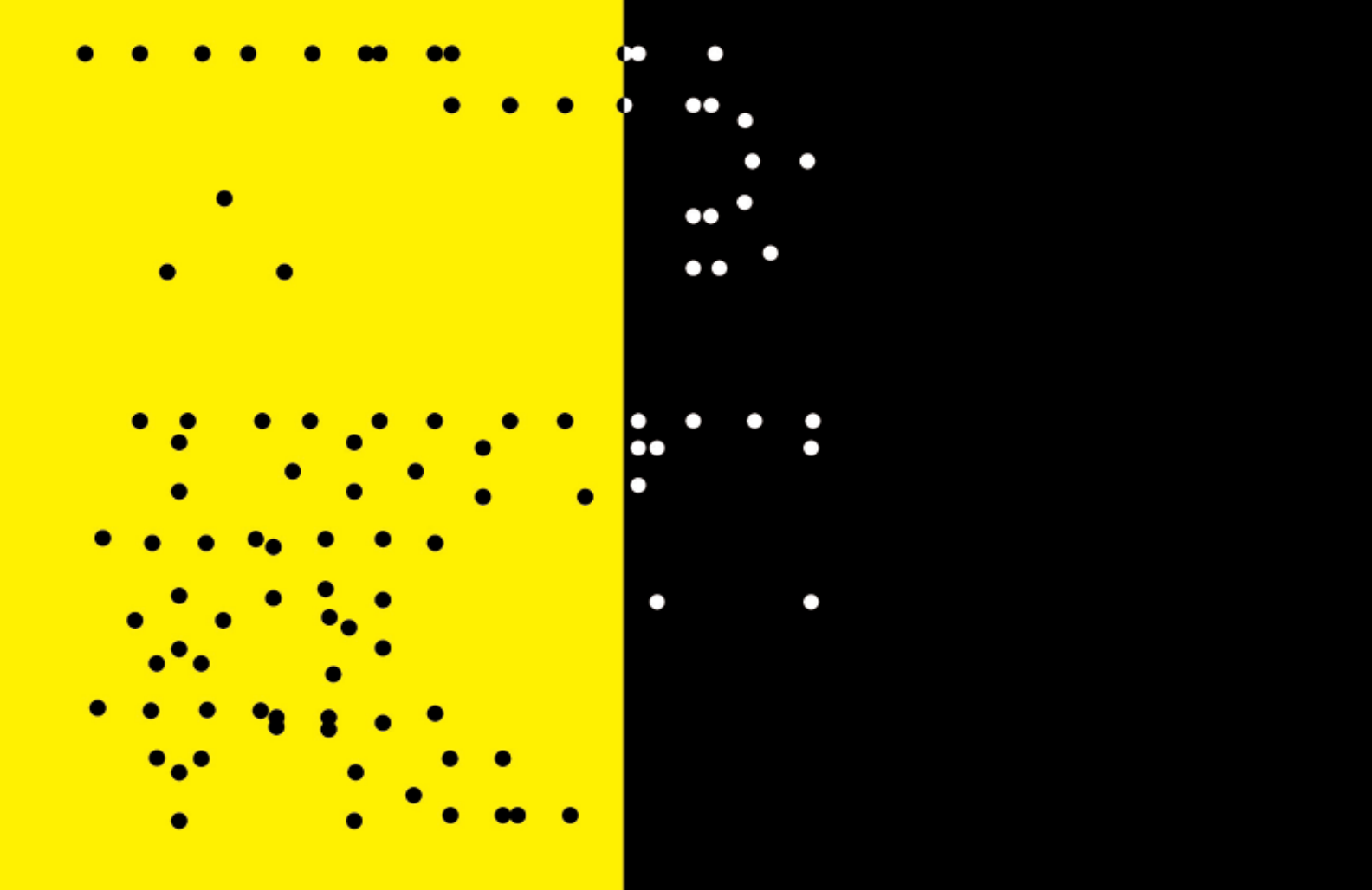
But growth at such a breakneck pace left the real-estate business vulnerable. As oil prices dipped, vacationers and traders stopped becoming as frequent. As fewer people decided to make their home in and around Dubai, the government-controlled industries have had to put a halt on numerous construction projects. An oversupply of middle to up-market apartments caused government companies to go belly-up – directing more of the blame at extravagant productions in the coastal region rather than the buildup occurring inland in the DSO.

Like much of the UAE, Dubai authorities are downplaying the significance of their credit crunch, saying they are being unfairly criticized by the west. President William Destler describes RIT Dubai's program plans as "ambitious," as they are to continue to add graduate, and soon undergraduate programs to their campus.

Ambitious is a fitting description for the United Arab Emirates, who will most

likely shoulder the debt burden until Dubai becomes a viable housing market once more. Dubai is one of seven emirates of the UAE, and has been characterized by rapid economic growth since the creation of the largest man-made harbor of Jebel Ali, established in the late 1970s. Since 1979, the Jebel Ali Free Zone has encouraged world trade and has become a hub for worldwide markets. Used cars, textiles, metals, machinery, ball bearings, vegetables and electronics can all be found within the 1,500 square miles of sand. With an arid desert climate, a veritable Las Vegas has its eyes set on becoming Los Angeles in the near future.

But the dreams of royalty have been halted by the realities of living in a global village. Amid accusations of human rights abuses from Southeast Asian laborers used to build the city, and clashes between the values of western businessmen and Islamic police, Dubai will remain in the news for many years to come. As long as the region remains a nexus for the world's consumer interests, especially fossil fuels, there will be tension as Dubai attempts to modernize on a scale fit for the 21st century. **R**



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SG UPDATE

by Chelsea Watson

THE ROCHESTER SOCIAL SCENE

Trey Rogers, an RIT graduate student, spoke about how he and the company he works for wants RIT students to be more involved with the downtown Rochester club scene. “Basically, I just want to get RIT involved in the nightlife.”

Aditya Manjrekar, an Industrial and Systems Engineering graduate student and Student Government director of finance, remarked on how many RIT students think that “Rochester is Henrietta.”

Heath Boice-Pardee, SG advisor and associate vice president for Student Affairs, remarked on how the policy has thus far been that buses could not be allocated due to safety reasons.

“Students can take a bus to Niagara Falls, but who is accountable for them returning back to RIT.

Not the bus drivers, not RIT.” However, Boice-Pardee did express interest in implementing transportation services to the area as “it is a

great opportunity” for students to explore all of downtown Rochester and not just its club scene.

SG WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Teraisa Chloros, SG student relations representative, spoke about the plan to create a SG weekly newsletter and how best implement it. Starting out small, she suggested that SG ask students questions to get a general feel of what they wanted in the newsletter. Asking questions on the Quarter Mile, using Facebook, and utilizing email were all suggested. Recommendations on how to best reach the most students were also made. Gregory Warchol of CAB suggested that RIT “stop spamming people ... I get a lot of emails from RIT, but I don’t read them all.” If fewer messages were sent, perhaps more students would read them.

GUEST SWIPE MEAL POLICY

Freshman Senator, Christopher Scott, proposed a guest swipe meal policy. Gracie’s current system allows students to use their meal card to only pay for their meals. Students do have the option of using their debit to pay for a guest,

but it can cost up to \$9. “Many students have complained about this to me and have become discouraged. [To them,] it’s their money and they should be able to do what they want with it.”

The guest swipe meal plan would consist of five guest options allocated per quarter. There would likely be no extra costs because the guest plan would be implemented in a similar way to how meal options are now; no extra meals would be given. For example, if a student chooses the 10 meals a week option, he would be able to use one meal and one guest meal at Gracie’s. This would leave the student with eight remaining meals. However, there potentially will be a cost for students who are a part of the unlimited meal plan.

“Most students only use 80 percent of their meal plan,” stated Teraisa Chloros. With the concern of it being misused Warchol said, “Even if you miss five meals, students are not gonna starve.” This policy could help foster a greater sense of community and “will bring more people to the school,” ended Scott.

UNIVERSITY SERVICES, MICROELECTRONICS BUILDINGS EVACUATED OVER GAS LEAK

by Chris Zubak-Skees

An accidental gas line rupture caused by the construction of the Global Village resulted in two building evacuations on December 3. The leak was quickly stopped, and buildings were reoccupied within about an hour of the incident.

According to James Yarrington, director of Campus Planning, Design and Construction, the line was hit at 10:54 a.m. while attempting to install a fence post on the northeast corner of the Global Village site. Shortly thereafter, residents of nearby buildings smelled the pungent odor of natural gas.

Natural gas in its pure form is colorless, odorless and tasteless. Under the right circumstances, it can be explosive. Hundreds died in Texas when the New London Junior-Senior High School suffered a natural gas explosion in 1937. To prevent such catastrophes, gas providers have added a chemical with a strong sulfur smell. This allows gas leaks to be quickly detected.

Ian Gatley, director of the Center for Student Innovation and Undergraduate Research Support, was at his desk in the center when the students asked him if he thought gas might be leaking from a radiator. “A person came rushing

in and said ‘we’re evacuating the building because there is a gas leak,’” said Gatley.

The University Services Center, including the Center for Student Innovation, and the Center for Microelectronics and Computer Engineering were evacuated according to Yarrington. Public Safety said they responded to evacuate the affected buildings.

Gatley joined others standing outside the Services Center and then took a lunch break. When he returned, about an hour later, the building had already been reopened.

According to Yarrington, who cited an incident report, the flow to the leak was stopped within minutes. Buildings were then ventilated and tested by Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S). Residents were allowed back in by 11:40 a.m.

David Armanini, director of EH&S, said buildings were tested by a certified industrial hygienist with a meter that tests for gas combustibility levels. The concentrations present in the buildings did not register as combustible.

“There was no danger to anyone in the building,” said Armanini. According to him, buildings were ventilated because

of the odor and were reopened when the ventilation was complete.

To avoid these kinds of accidents New York State law requires a call to a central clearinghouse for information on buried pipes before excavation. Yarrington asserts appropriate measures were taken.

“Pipes were marked using mapping and GPS data as usual before any excavation began,” he said in a written response. “In fact, the location data was off by about one half of a pipe width.” This error caused the pipe to be struck.

The type of GPS device typically used for surveying construction sites is subject to less error than consumer units, but minor inaccuracies still exist. Data entered for existing utility lines are occasionally incorrect as well.

As techniques improve, accidental excavations have decreased, but over 135,000 excavations were still reported to the Common Ground Alliance for 2008. Some 63,000 (52 percent) of those were natural gas lines.

“An accident occurred and approved protocol was followed to deal with the issue and ensure safety,” said Yarrington.

WITR PROGRAMMING CHANGES TO BE IMPLEMENTED, DESPITE CONTROVERSY

by Laura Mandanas | photographs by Mike Graae

“We kind of lost control of the situation when somebody found the minutes from the September 27 [executive board] meeting. At that point, we were no longer in control of how this went,” described WITR’s general manager. A fifth year Information Technology major, Greg Keyzer-Andre is a non-traditional student, returning to school after 15 years of experience hosting and managing radio professionally. In his current position, Keyzer-Andre leads the WITR e-board through a particularly difficult transition period as they attempt to shift the radio station’s focus back to RIT students. In recent weeks, their decisions have been the source of a great deal of controversy.

“What we’re trying to do is change the culture of this radio station so that everyone feels welcome here,” said Keyzer-Andre, noting that many students he talks to are surprised to learn that RIT even has a radio station, let alone one that they can participate in. Keyzer-Andre and the rest of the WITR e-board would like to change that. “I think this will be huge for the radio station. As an MSO [Major Student Organization], I don’t think we were doing our job ... We’re an SSO [Student Service Organization], and we’re not doing an adequate job of servicing students if we run into too many people who don’t know that we even exist.”

The policy changes that the e-board has planned were presented to the WITR community in a general meeting on December 6. Over 100 people piled into the conference room in the Student Development Center – students on one side, alumni on the other. Security stood outside the doors, in case things got out of hand.

CHANGES INCLUDE:

- All shows will be limited to two hour time slots, maximum.
- Specialty shows will make up only 20-25 percent of all airtime, and the remaining time will go to WITR’s core format, Modern Music and More.
- Student DJs will have priority in creating specialty shows, and in choosing a time for their show. Remaining slots will be opened to the community after students have had their pick.
- Specialty shows and show times will be evaluated by the program director quarterly, and may change or be cancelled if it is determined that the show does not meet the needs of WITR.

In addition to these changes, Program Director Andy Watson, a second year Game Design major, gave a list of all shows that will continue. These include: Sudden Death Overtime, Bad Dog Blues, Dimension Latina, Whole Lotta Shakin’, Reggae Sounds, Kevbot Save the Universe, Dig This!, Renegade Soundwave, Dysfunctional Noize, Skank On, and Indestructable Beat. Shows that will not continue: The Living Rock, Uncle Samoo’s Zoo, Weathered Steel, HIStory, Jeff and Jeff and Axecalibur. The Answer was also on the list of shows to continue, but due to scheduling conflicts, it is unlikely to do so.

Following the presentation, the floor was opened for questions. Concerns were raised over whether enough research had been done prior to making the decisions. Many WITR alumni were upset that they had not been consulted, noting that they had all faced similar issues and could have offered the current e-board guidance. The most passionate criticisms, however, came from DJs who had just learned that their shows were to be cancelled.



“This e-board has been very — and forgive me for saying this — very passive aggressive. You’ve been avoiding us,” said Will Benson, host of The Living Rock, a Christian rock show, for the past four years. After having approached Watson the previous Friday to ask about the status of his show, Benson was told that he would have to wait until Sunday to hear along with everyone else; it was not until the meeting that he learned that his show would be cancelled in two weeks.

Benson’s voice grew thick with emotion as he expressed his disappointment with the way the situation had been handled. “Have a conversation with me as a person,” he said, looking in the direction of current e-board members. “I’ve given hours of my time. My wife has sacrificed every Friday night for the last four years. That’s worth something to me. And you guys didn’t care. And that’s what hurts. That’s what the worst part of this is. Everyone on this side of the room represents ... obligations we’ve given up on, and we’ve asked our family to give up on. We deserve more than a list on a Power Point.”

Said Sam Palermo, host of Uncle Samoo’s Zoo, another Christian music show, “I had no idea that my 17 years was being ended until I saw it up there on the screen. For all of you young people who are just starting out in radio? It’s not always like this ... where experience is ignored and disrespected. It’s not always like this, where decisions are being made in secret — and then kept secret — and innuendos and secret little emails and all these kinds of things ... I admire your love for music and I pray that you have a career in it, if that’s what you so choose. If you have this kind of passion, good! Go for it. Because one day you’re going to be alumni. You’re going to be sitting on this side of the room.” A beat

passed before a student’s voice called out: “No, I’m not. I’m sorry. I’m going to move on.”

Benson, Palermo and several others walked out at this point. Outside, they shared their frustrations, feeling that Christian shows had been targeted seeing how three of the six cut shows are Christian music themed.

Inside, discussion continued. Heated debate arose over how DJ creativity would be impacted, as well as the possibility of a loss in core listeners. After a comment was made about the lack of constructive questions, Garret Voorhees, a Print Media graduate student, one of the few student members with a specialty show (Dig This! which is a funk and blues show), spoke up in defense of the students. “To say we have not done our homework is a fallacy. Ben [Isserlis] has personally gone through the cabinet and filed every single document he can find going back to the early ‘90s. We have talked to the creators of Modern Music and More format. We’ve really done our homework on that. To say we haven’t done our homework and we’re kids and really inexperienced — that’s showing us a lot of disrespect.”

Although Voorhees and many others hope for a compromise, Keyzer-Andre reiterated at the close of the meeting that the changes presented during the meeting will be made effective December 20, with only minor tweaks to follow.

“Specialty shows are still here; we’re just giving an opportunity for the core of the station to be heard everyday,” said Keyzer-Andre after the meeting. Once the changes are implemented, “I think people will be pleasantly surprised that these changes don’t significantly change what they love about the station.” **R**



“Universal Mind Control”

was a dud. Once billed as “the future of hip-hop,” the socially conscious rapper turned clubber, Common, was found guilty of lazy production and even lazier “party-starting clichés,” to quote a Pitchfork critic. Other lukewarm releases from the mainstream and underground; “Blueprint 3” and “Attention Deficit” from Jay-Z and Wale, respectively, show that the strongest voices in the hip-hop industry have failed to define what’s next.

Poor African American and Hispanic neighborhoods, which carried hip-hop into existence, are more excited about the work of artists who still identify with them. Or at least pretend to. The party-style lyrics and syrup-induced sounds produced from artists like Gucci Mane and Soulja Boy is more popular than ever.

You could say that the past 10 years have been about experimentation. Kanye West and Kid Cudi (in “808’s and Heartbreak” and “Man on the Moon”,

respectively) crooned and cried their way through emo-pop ballads, accompanied by public cries of “I’m an artist, take me seriously!” Theirs and other public acts of existentialism have moved hip-hop past a genre to a media spectacle.

But all of this is an image, one that artists use to sell their music. To really understand where the music, and our culture is going, grab a pair of headphones and visit YouTube. Instead of zoning out, listen and think.

A PLAYLIST REFLECTION ON THE PAST TEN YEARS OF HIP-HOP

by Michael Conti
illustration by Stu Barnes



TRACK 4

CRANK THAT SOULJA BOY TELL’EM

SouljaBoyTellem.com, 2008

Yes, it’s the 19 year-old everyone loves to hate. He may be younger than you, but undoubtedly he has more cars, jewelry and sex than you do, and he’ll be sure to remind you about it in every song.

Soulja Boy’s hypnotic dance moves spawned dozens of other copycats, and was even called out by Ice-T as the one who “single handedly killed hip-hop.” Rather, Soulja Boy can be seen as a nostalgic, someone who has a lot in common with DJ Kool Herc and Afrikka Bambaata, the founding fathers of hip-hop.

Back in the 70s, hip-hop wasn’t about Ice-T’s growling observations, but more related to the celebration of DJ’ing and dancing skills. Hip-hop was about community togetherness, which Soulja Boy has achieved, albeit through the internet. Grouchy artists like Ice-T are mad that people don’t want intelligent commentary in hip-hop, but is it the fault of the rapper? Or the consumer?

TRACK 5

UNIVERSAL MIND CONTROL COMMON FEATURING PHARREL

Universal Mind Control, 2008

TRACK 6

DC GORILLAZ WALE

100 Miles and Running, 2007

Critical of the consumer is Washington, D.C. rapper, Wale, proclaimed by XXL magazine as the “thinking man’s Lil Wayne.” In “DC Gorillaz,” Wale’s frustration with the industry is only surpassed by his frustration with music fans, observing: ‘Cause they don’t want to think/ No!/ They just wanna dance/ And she ain’t tryin’ to learn/She jus’ tryin’ to shake her little ass/While they rain with that cash.

Wale tries to make his own thoughts danceable, choosing instrumentals that are pop-centered, (check out the song “W.A.L.E.D.A.N.C.E.,” while you’re at it) while still focusing his words on relationships and wellness for those who support him.

TRACK 7

THE ART OF STORY TELLING, PART 4 DJ DRAMA FEATURING OUTKAST AND MARSHA AMBROSIUS

Gangsta Grillz: The Album, 2009

Storytelling is what much of hip-pop has abandoned, as rappers have become wealthier and more focused on their development as “artists.” To find a gritty tale of life on the street, you can’t turn to 50 Cent, whose latest work sounds more like death threats from a mob boss over the phone than a struggling drug hustler.

Enter Andre 3000, who crafts his own sultry tale of sexual morality amidst insights on his environment. He weaves thoughts together in a beautiful way, but the part that stands out is this: 3000 feels guilty about wasting his money, and while he may enjoy the club atmosphere, his mind is preoccupied with the unhappiness of his people. It is this connection to his community that drives the artist to create.

TRACK 8

STREET CORNER MASTA KILLA FEATURING INSPECTAH DECK AND GZA

Made in Brooklyn, 2006

TRACK 9

EVERY LAST ONE COMMON MARKET

Common Market, 2005

TRACK 10

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM LUPE FIASCO

Enemy of the State, A Love Story, 2009

TRACK 11

5 STAR YO GOTTI FEATURING NICKI MINAJ, TRINA AND GUCCI MANE

All Things White, 2009

When considering an artist’s connection to the community, the transformation of hip-hop from “street” music to “club” music can be attributed to a shifting audience. This has encouraged artists to become more sexual in order to connect to those in the dance hall.

Many who say running sexual themes produce misogynistic lyrics need look no further than Nicki Minaj for a feminist foil. Rappers like Lil Kim may have paved the way, but Minaj is as outspoken about sexuality as her fellow male rappers on Young Money Records, Lil Wayne’s label.

Some of her lyrics are playful; some are downright nasty, proving that music is a reflection of cultural ideas and not an attack system against women. Minaj is able to rap with her co-workers about the subject of sexuality in a way that is feminine-dominant, and eventually pushes her own agenda. Her catchphrase of “Step Ya Pussy Up,” is an encouragement to her fellow ladies to stay selective when it comes to bedfellows. But when speaking about her own relationship, Minaj says, “Music is her man.”

TRACK 12

INDEPENDENT WEBBIE FEATURING LIL BOOSIE & LIL PHAT

Savage Life 2, 2008

TRACK 13

I THINK I LOVE HER GUCCI MANE

The State vs. Radric Davis, 2009

TRACK 14

CAN’T TELL ME NOTHING KANYE WEST

Graduation, 2007

“808’s and Heartbreak” was a sad story, but listeners saw it coming. The cocky beat, complete with dirty south horns, crazed Jeezy samples and a strained chorus, Kanye sounds like a man on the edge. Frantically, he slams his detractors, validating his own behavior in and out of the studio. He says, *I’m on T.V. talking like it’s just you and me.*; a strong example of what artists have had to do since their genre transformed into world phenomenon.

Instead of hopelessly trying to please critics, artists tend to expand the amount of interaction they have with other forms of media, spreading their image through interviews, appearances and marketing. Those who produce the movies, websites and licensed products try to appeal to those with disposable income: uneducated children. Those who are vulnerable in the socio-economic sense begin to see a rapper’s money as the only future, a lie. So expect rappers to be “role models,” but they never truly got into the business to be role models. They got into the business to make money.

TRACK 15

THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS KID CUDI FEATURING MGMT AND RATATAT

Man on the Moon, 2009

TRACK 16

I FEEL LIKE DYING LIL WAYNE

The Drought is Over 2: The Carter 3 Sessions, 2007

That’s what hip-hop has become: a business. It’s a sad truth, but something the consumer must accept if interested in hearing something different. Hip-Hop is simply a reflection of our values, and if we think that today’s music is all marketing: money-hungry and uninspiring, then we are commenting on ourselves. Until we find a way to be beautiful again: to educate our children, to balance our material and sexual desires, only then will we hear beautiful music once more. **B**

TRACK 1

MOMENT OF CLARITY JAY-Z

The Black Album, 2003

A good introduction to the artist-capitalist, Jigga writes: *I dumb down for my audience/And double my dollars/They criticize me for it/Yet they all yell “Holla!”*

In this case, when it comes to acknowledging obsession with financial success, Hov is straight to the point. Inspired by lucrative record deals, as Jay-Z eloquently explains, artists have become addicted to the hook, dispensing of storytelling in favor of a simplistic message. Simplistic messages lead to simplistic thoughts, and critics have mourned this change, while simultaneously acknowledging the new accessibility of hip-hop.

TRACK 2

EVERYTHANG THE COUP

Party Music, 2001

TRACK 3

NEVER TOO MUCH MONEY (REMIX) GUCCI MANE FEATURING THREE 6 MAFIA, YUNG JOC, AND OJ DA JUICEMAN

Welcome II My City with Drumma Boy, 2009

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22
12

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REVIEWS

WEBSITE | CLOTHING | [HTTP://GILT.COM](http://gilt.com)

GILT GROUPE



If the idea of spending over \$50 on shoes sounds preposterous, this site is definitely not for you. But perhaps, you'll undergo a change of heart if those \$50 shoes were designed by Michael Kors and had 70 percent knocked off of their \$200 tag price.

Gilt Groupe features high-end brands such as Nina Ricci (a French luxury label) and Lanvin (works by Alexander McQueen) and extends to general retailers, like Gant, Puma and Juicy Couture. The names are daunting, and the prices can be discouraging; but the sale prices are enough to make any fashion enthusiast giggle as they steal a \$13,000 Rodarte dress for \$2,000.

a more exclusive feel. (You have to apply for site membership or be invited by a member).

Gilt Groupe was started by Alexis Maybank, a founding member of the online bidding galaxy, eBay, and Alexandra Wilkis, a Fifth Avenue Bulgari and Louis Vuitton employee. It came from the perfect recipe for, as their website says, make "what was once accessible to New Yorkers,

Sunglasses, jewelry, stationary kits, radios, sports gear: it's like a snobbier Urban Outfitters, with fancier clothing, an elegant look, and

accessible to the country."

Two years since its launch, Gilt holds three separate departments, Gilt, Gilt Fuse (for the younger woman) and Gilt Man. They are also associated with Jetsetter.com, a side project travel planning site. Style editors discuss the in stock items on the Gilt Groupe's site blog, and you can catch quick background stories of the designers and their work.

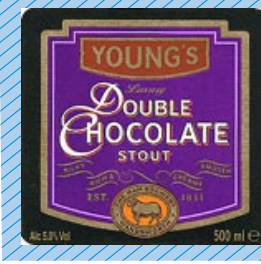
The limited, but ample, design brands, which were once thought to be high-end luxuries, are now available through quick, bid-like sales that go from one to three days on holiday occasions.

Things this cheap shouldn't feel so good. Check out <http://gilt.com> and bear the Gilt.

BY SAM ANGARITA

BEVERAGE | BEER | \$5.85 FOR 1 PINT

YOUNG'S LUXURY DOUBLE CHOCOLATE STOUT



The purple and silver label of Young's Luxury Double Chocolate Stout stands out of Wegman's European beer aisle. Visions of warm chocolate chip cookies immediately fill the heads of onlookers. Two of the most powerful forces on earth, beer and chocolate, aligned as one; needless to say, this is a hard treat to pass on.

Popping off the top of this hardy beverage, a sweet aroma of chocolate with a hint of vanilla greets you. Straight from the fridge, this beer has an effervescent bite that unfortunately mellows as it warms. The stout pours an opaque black, with an almost imperceptible hint of

dark chocolate ingredients, but the sweet flavor is closer to coffee than chocolate. Each sip starts off sweet, ending on a bitter note. The bitterness, however, is not overwhelming and probably won't stop you from returning for another swig.

Wells & Young's is the largest privately owned brewing company in the United Kingdom; you might recognize it as a licensed brewer of Red

gold. A dense mocha colored head crowns the package.

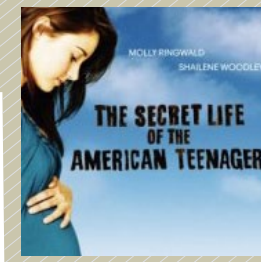
This beer is easy to drink and has a creamy mouth feel. The bottle boasts of its real

Stripe. Their Double Chocolate Stout, like all their beers, is brewed using natural mineral water from their very own spring. It's brewed with crystal malt, chocolate malt, Fuggle and Golding hops, a blend of sugars and, of course, dark chocolate. Their Double Chocolate Stout has won several awards since 1998 including gold, silver and bronze medals in the Brewing Industry International Awards.

Available in a one pint, 0.9 ounce bottle, it packs just over four more ounces than your standard glass bottled beer, but has an average alcohol by volume at 5.2 percent. You probably won't find yourself pounding this beverage on a Friday night with your buddies, but it would be good paired with a slice of pie or as a dessert all in itself.

BY EMILY MOHLMANN

TV SHOW | TEEN SOAP OPERA | ABC FAMILY
THE SECRET LIFE OF THE AMERICAN TEENAGER



Have you ever wanted to watch a show depicting what it's really like being a pregnant teenager? If so, don't watch "The Secret Life of the American Teenager", you will be sorely disappointed. However, if you're interested in watching a train wreck of a TV series, then grab some popcorn and a few beers and tune in to ABC Family this January.

From the mind of former "7th Heaven" writer, Brenda Hampton, "Secret Life" is a thinly veiled attempt at a cautionary tale for teens. The story focuses around Amy Juergens (Shailene Woodley), a 15-year-old high school freshman, who winds up pregnant after a sordid evening at band camp. As if a high school filled with ethnic,

viewers every week, might be the worst scripted drama on television. Suffering from gag-worthy dialog, horrific plot twists, terrible acting, and characters who not even the best of 3-D glasses could give depth to, it's a wonder how this show stays on the air. But perhaps that's its charm.

From a character standpoint, each one can be described in a few words: "Preggers Chick," "Baby Daddy," "The Sausage King," and "Slutty Ethnic

religious and sexual stereotypes wasn't already difficult enough, Amy now has to do it with a bun in the oven.

The show, which manages to draw in millions of

Girl," to name a few. Amy, who is apparently the main character, doesn't have much to say, but when she does talk, it's usually an excuse for something in the form of "Because I'm a teenage mother!"

If you take a step back to admire the fact that *everything* about the show is bad, you might actually start to enjoy it. The situations that characters wind up are absurd. What other show could have a child with Down's syndrome ordering a prostitute on the internet?

Why should you watch this show? Three reasons: One, it might be the funniest thing on television. Two, you're in need of a show to scare you straight about premarital sex. Three, Molly Ringwald is in it, and you thought she died shortly after "Pretty in Pink."

BY ANDY REES

ALBUM | GREGORIAN CHANT | 58 MINS
CHANT
BENEDICTINE MONKS OF SANTO DOMINGO DE SILOS



There are no instruments; only vocals. The harmony is unbelievable; the voices intertwine, they crescendo and decrescendo as one and pause for breath simultaneously. The singing bobs like a gentle surf that your mind can swim along with...

With all due respect to 8 Beat Measure, these Spaniards are definitely *the* a capella team to beat. You don't have to be Catholic, or even religious, to appreciate their ability. Wait a minute, "Chant?" Turns out that listening to enough of this chanting will actually up the production of beta waves in

the brain, giving you increased tranquility and relieving stress; or at least, that's how it was marketed.

When this little slice of heaven dropped in 1994, it went triple platinum in the U.S., selling three million copies. Listening to the album itself is certainly jarring. If you're rumaging through your iTunes library on shuffle and "Media Vita In Morte Sumus" (that's "In the Midst of Life We are Dying," for those of you who flunked Latin) starts up, you're definitely going to sit up and take notice. The singing is eerie,

otherworldly, and yes, extremely soothing. These guys have had a bit of time to practice (say, a thousand years or so) and it shows. The money that the album brings in funds the church and does not go into the pockets of the singers. These monks aren't performing for you. They're praying. If you can remember that while listening to the tracks, it'll humble you in a good way, but it also might help you to forget to sweat the small stuff. Listen when you're feeling stressed or overwhelmed, and see if you can't put it all in perspective. There is an undeniable reason this album went triple platinum; there's a reason these guys are still singing it a thousand years after they wrote it. Four words, baby: This sound is divine.

BY JUSTIN CLAIRE

SMARTPHONE | MOTOROLA
DROID
VERIZON | \$199.99 + TWO-YEAR CONTRACT



"It rips through the web like a circular saw through a ripe banana."
"It's not your next phone; it's the one after that."
"Everything iDon't, Droid does."

The Droid has benefited from no shortage of commercial hype in its short life. With Verizon, Google and Motorola lined up behind this black monolith of a mobile, their ad copy is playing for keeps.

The first impression, after extricating it from FedEx cardboard, is the solid and weighty feel of the Droid. Combined with a velvety back and metallic sides, it feels like a very expensive brick. Thankfully a gorgeous high-resolution touch screen comes to life to dispel the brick impression, if not the expense.

A slightly faster processor than its sister phones runs Android 2.0, an open mobile operating system tied heavily to Google services – like a champ. Almost zero lag was experienced while opening and using

numerous applications simultaneously. The applications themselves, however, are often not fully matured.

The clock app that ships with the Droid, for instance, lacks stopwatch and timer modes. Trying to find a suitable replacement for these functions poses challenges.

Android comes with a market for applications that boasts several thousand entries. Unfortunately, it faces the same information overload as other app stores. Truly polished apps are few and sometimes difficult to find, and app customer reviews complain loudly of glitches.

The Droid's high resolution actually singles it out for one such problem: some app graphics designed for lower resolution screens appear fuzzy.

Google and the Android community will need a few more releases to make everything copacetic. The good news is that the Droid, as the current flagship device,

is likely to receive those updates, and they're likely to be painless. An upgrade to 2.0.1 installed seamlessly over a wireless connection during testing.

The camera is passable but not as impressive as the five megapixels and dual flash bulbs would suggest. If recognizable pictures or video is desired, the scene better be well-lit. Plans for a Droid-filmed Blair Witch remake have been duly cancelled.

The on-screen keyboard is intuitive, but the slide out physical keyboard requires special contortions to use. Typing an e-mail on it was almost painful.

So does it live up to the hype? It certainly has the potential, but it remains one or two steps away from the fantasy promised by its marketing. That said, its only competition in this generation of smartphones is the Apple iPhone, Palm WebOS devices, and other Android phones. It so far bests these, except perhaps the iPhone. **R**

BY CHRIS ZUBAK-SKEES

POP QUIZ

- Which of these inventions came first?
 - The zipper.
 - The electric vibrator.
 - Crayola crayons.
 - The sport of basketball.
- The Alnwick Castle, located in Northumberland, England, was used as the setting for all of the following film productions except:
 - "Mary Shelley's Frankenstein" (1994).
 - "Becket" (1964).
 - "Elizabeth" (1998).
 - "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone" (2001).
- Who was the first president to ride in a submarine?
 - Woodrow Wilson
 - Calvin Coolidge
 - Franklin D. Roosevelt
 - Harry S. Truman
- Last summer, researchers resorted to what tactic, resulting in the discovery of ten unknown colonies of emperor penguins in Antarctica?
 - Crossing penguins being hit by researchers' snowmobiles.
 - Contents of blue fin whale vomit.
 - Penguin sex noises.
 - Feces stains on ice.
- Which U.S. state has the most man-made lakes?
 - New York
 - Michigan
 - Oklahoma
 - Colorado

Study up and be on the look out for more Pop Quizzes, coming soon from Reporter. **Answers:** 1. b 2. d 3. c 4. b 5. b

REPORTER RECOMMENDS:

(Not) Stealing Chairs
Perhaps you were inspired by last week's *Kleptomania* feature. While we are not suggesting you start a career in theft, if you are in the business of gathering loot, chairs may be good to invest in. For example, the orange chairs outside the new Reporter office, Room A710 in the new campus center, aside from being a fine example of seat engineering duel swivel action these cub scouts retail at a grand total of \$1,289. Forget laptops, two of these scores can earn you a cheap, reliable car! The second floor library arm rest loungers are worth even more. If RIT has such big-ticket furniture, other local colleges must too. Wait, wait, wait. That's right you shouldn't steal. From RIT or anyone else. But it is tempting isn't it?

WORD OF THE WEEK
RENITENT:

adj. resisting physical pressure; resisting constraint or compulsion. If your company for the evening is a little **renitent** on the first date it's probably because you told her you were an IT major at RIT. Definition taken from <http://merriam-webster.com>

Reasonable Reasons to Dress for Summer in Winter Seasons



"Everyone talks about rock these days; the problem is they forget about the roll." - KEITH RICHARDS

SUDOKU

Difficulty Rating: Medium

	4	3		9			5	7
7			5		2			6
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9	1		3	4	5			2
2		5		8				4
4	3	6		7		5	8	1
					6			
		4			7	9		
1	8		9			4		

OVERSEEN & OVERHEARD

First blizzard of the year.



"Carbonate! Damn you!"
STUDENT IN JAVA'S.

"I like this purse 'cause it goes over my shoulder. I could drive with over my shoulder."
WOMAN IN BAUSCH & LOMB BUILDING

"A DVD player? Now we'll be able to watch Harry Potter!"
THREE EXCITED FEMALE STUDENTS IN STAIRWELL OF THE GANNET BUILDING

Send your Overseen and Overheard texts or emails with the phrase "Overseen and Overheard" in the subject line to leisure@reportermag.com. Or submit them via Twitter by directing submissions @reportermag with #OnO.

NOW ACCEPTING YOUR TWEETS!

ADDICTION IN RELATIONSHIPS

BY CAITLIN SHAPIRO | PHOTOGRAPHS BY ROBERT LUSSEN

LIKE AN EARTHQUAKE, addictions arise with little warning, and can be just as destructive. While addicts become paralyzed by their cravings, their loved ones are consumed with fear, anger and frustration. Unfortunately, addictions to pornography, tobacco and drinking are often the vices that pry couples apart. As young students pile on the work and worry, having a dependency can break a relationship out of the honeymoon stage and quickly into a dismal ending.



PORN IS The Relationship

BRAD PEASE, a fifth year Software Engineering major considers his three to four porn viewing sessions a week a moderate addiction. "I would quit if I had a steady relationship because then I wouldn't need it anymore." The stimulation of porn may be to blame for the fact that he has never been in a committed relationship. Pease admits, "It definitely kills your sex drive, it makes you less likely to actually want to go out and find a girl." However, he believes that porn hasn't affected any of his personal relationships. Pease confessed that he would probably be "angry and pissed off" without open access to porn, and he finds porn to be a good way to learn about sex.

His outlet for porn exploration stemmed from magazines and soon grew with the internet. Surprising, considering Pease did not have web access in his home until his junior year of high school. Despite this, he thinks, "Porn becomes a part of every guy's life, unless you're completely sheltered and locked in." Coming to RIT immersed Pease in a digital world he was unfamiliar with. It was his freshmen year, Pease recalls, when he watched the most porn.

With the challenges of fitting in, finding friends and the pressures of a fast-paced 10-week quarter, Pease sunk further into his interest in porn. "It's definitely a good stress reliever. I'm not afraid to admit that," he continued, "If I'm ever pissed off. I'll just go look at some porn and it helps; it cheers you up."

Inevitably, porn users grow more curious as time goes on. "There's tons of fucked up shit on the internet, and if you just browse, you're bound to come across stuff that blows your mind," said Pease.

Some "pornos" go mainstream. When this happens, some of the negative stigma placed on watching porn is removed. Popular films like *Pirates*, become more like a punch line than an embarrassing addiction. "I have some messed up friends who send me ridiculous X-rated things. And every now and then, I'll stumble across something similar in my travels and send it to them." Because you can't always anticipate



where a porn link will bring you; sometimes the outcome can be scary.

ADDICTION Aiding Love

WHILE PEASE BELIEVES he wouldn't be an avid porn-viewer if he had a girlfriend, fellow student, Steve Charbonnier, a forth year New Media Publishing major thinks that porn is the glue holding his long distance relationship together.

His girlfriend attends Emmanuel College in Boston. They have been in an on-and-off again relationship for five years. Charbonnier thinks porn has made his relationship last. In the same way porn decreases Pease's sex drive, porn helps Charbonnier stay faithful by quenching his desire for other girls. He attributes the continuity of his relationship to porn.



Although the couple has never viewed porn together, he would like to try it as a way to explore deeper into the sexual side of their relationship. "She would never agree to it. She doesn't watch porn," he said.

Porn is the theme of many recurring fights in the relationships of college aged couples. Sometimes girls in college feel a weird sense of jealousy if they know their boyfriend is watching porn. If this was the situation for Charbonnier, "I would ask her why, first of all, and then if she couldn't give me a good answer, I would just say, then I'm not going to stop watching it."

Oddly enough, the topic never comes up between the two. He thinks this is because he

doesn't let the two times a week he watches porn interfere with other aspects of his life. He feels that because his girlfriend doesn't confront him about it, he doesn't have a problem. Charbonnier believes that a problem starts when someone watches porn more than once a day. "If you're putting more than an hour of your day into porn, I think you have an issue."

An ADDictive Escape

IN CONTRAST to Charbonnier's definition of addiction, Dan Amos, a fifth year Computer Science major said, "I'm not really addicted at all," after admitting he watches porn everyday, sometimes twice. "In a typical morning, I wake up, probably check email, probably watch porn, and probably play with myself," said Amos.

His longest relationship lasted roughly a year and a half and ended about a year and half ago.

"When I'm with someone, it's about them; it's centered on them," said Amos. "Because I'm selfless in that regard, it doesn't matter if I get off because I can just go home and do it," explained Amos.

The thought of viewing porn with his former girlfriend never crossed his mind as he considered sex and porn to be separate. "Porn is a 'me' thing," said Amos. "You know how to get yourself off the best," he said laughing. "The funny thing is I've never encountered a girl that could do it."

Amos is generally interested in watching pornography that is based around foreplay, but he doesn't feel that he has

enough access to it. "Most porn is directed toward men, so it doesn't have the foreplay," he said. So, this makes finding good porn pretty hard for Amos.

Porn serves another purpose for Amos. It is almost like a retreat from real world women. He said, "As far as females go at RIT, they are hit on at parties by a lot of creepy guys. I don't want to be a creepy guy." Porn is a way for Amos to avoid becoming someone he doesn't want to be. He also implied porn will not take the place of a relationship in his life forever, but he hopes to find a girl in the future. The only catch is that the girl he would date must not be offended by porn.

Kissing An Ashtray

PORN IS JUST one addiction among many that can

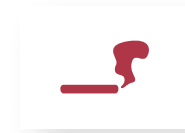
affect a relationship. A reliance on tobacco products can negatively impact a couple. "I smoked because everybody else did, and then I smoked because I was addicted," said Jessica Adams, a senior and general studies major at Monroe Community College. At the age of 14, Adams began to pick up her mother's smoking habit. By the age of 16, she was smoking about a pack and a half per day. Amazingly, at the age of 20, she kicked the habit entirely.

Shortly after quitting, she entered a serious relationship. The couple spoke of marriage, but her boyfriend's tobacco addiction quickly changed Adams' mind about what the future might hold for them. Although he promised to quit smoking after they started dating, those promises were put on hold when he realized that quitting was not an easy task. "He just didn't want me to tell him what to do. He kept on trying to quit and kept on failing," said Adams. He tried gum, the patch, lollipops, and quitting cold turkey; nothing seemed to work. "I quit smoking cold turkey, I was just done," said Adams. "I was like, 'I just don't ever want to smoke again,' so I didn't."

Tobacco addiction was an issue for Adams for a number of reasons. "Kissing a smoker is like kissing an ashtray," said Adams, admitting the cliché saying was correct. "I didn't want it around me because I didn't want to smoke, and you smell disgusting when you smoke."

Like many people in a situation like this, the rules were that he wasn't allowed to kiss her without brushing his teeth or using mouthwash. "That's pretty much all we fought about, his smoking," said Adams. "Our relationship was really healthy other than that." Most of these fights turned into "screaming matches ... I was concerned about his health because I really cared about him," recalls Adams.

Despite the seriousness of their relationship, tobacco proved an insurmountable obstacle. "It



was a mutual thing because we both knew it wouldn't work unless he quit smoking," said Adams. "It was a big factor in why we broke up."

What's Your Poison?

UNLIKE tobacco and porn, alcoholism is considered more taboo to college students. The reality of alcoholism played a large role in shaping the relationship between David Leeds, a fifth year Computer Engineering major, and his former girlfriend. "She always had self confidence issues and the alcohol was an escape for that," said Leeds.

His relationship lasted just over a year, and Leeds thought of himself as, "The strong person who was there for her when she needed company." Although she accepted her drinking



problem, she still allowed the addiction to take over in uncomfortable situations. "If she went out to a restaurant, she would be fine, but if she went to a social setting where she felt insecure, she drank a lot," said Leeds.

"She was very affectionate which was great, because everyone likes to feel like they're needed, and I felt like she needed me," explained Leeds. "But on the flip side, she would let you down and disappoint you. Because she was insecure, she couldn't be happy with what she had," he said.

As Leeds moved on and pursued other women, he saw that there was potential for other relationships, but still missed the bond they shared. He admitted, "It was tough but at the



same time it was exciting, and that's why it lasted so long, as screwed up as that was," said Leeds. "She overreacted considerably when she was under the influence." The fight that ended their

relationship occurred because of that. Leeds admits that he is still mildly curious as to what his ex has been doing with her life since they ended. He would consider a possible friendship in the future, but he assures, "I never want to be attached to her again." She participated in therapy, but never attended any formal alcoholic treatment to Leeds's knowledge.

End of The Road

ADDICTION can be easier to notice after the addict is thrown into the real world, no longer justified by the notion of "the college life."

That's not to say that the habits formed while in school aren't threatening and persistent.

Although a porn addiction is more often made into a joke than a serious problem, it truly can be hurtful in a relationship. Many people value making love as opposed to just having sex, and when one side of the relationship indulges in viewing porn, it makes having sex less personal.

Also, if the topic of addiction isn't addressed in a current relationship, when should it be addressed? Waiting until a marriage is potentially ruined is not the right thing to do. As soon as you notice a problem, you should act. Respecting addicts' decisions to smoke

and drink can be difficult, but it sometimes is unavoidable. The problem begins when smokers and drinkers won't respect the words or accept advice, especially when someone who is affected by the addict's habit gives it.

What all of these students had in common was the desire to help their relationship take a turn for the better. It wasn't about changing the one they loved to better fit an ideal mold, but instead, asking them to make better choices. Students from both sides of the argument are learning that understanding the process of loving an addict is more difficult than understanding the feelings affection toward the ones you love. **R**

DATE NIGHT EXAMINED



by Leanne Cushing with contributions by Michael Barbato | illustration by Jamie Douglas

To many, relationships at RIT are non-existent. Once in a while you'll see a couple cozied up in Java Wally's or walking down the Quarter Mile holding hands, and that's about it. Even the dating scene is lackluster. So what happens when that special someone says yes when you ask them out? Reporter asked around to see where couples like to go.

MORE THAN DINNER AND A MOVIE

When you take a significant other out, taking time to appreciate the great outdoors can do wonders building a lasting relationship. A long term couple, Matthew Piatkowski, a fifth year Mechanical Engineering major, and Caitlyn Ostrowski, a fifth year Civil Engineering Technology major, have been dating for four years and three months. They met on their dorm floor during freshman year and have been together since. They are the co-presidents of the ballroom dance club and both play intramural volleyball. "On top of running the [ballroom dancing] show, we love to dance together," Ostrowski comments. "We travel with our team between New York, Massachusetts and Rhode Island to competitions at various colleges." Part of their strong bond comes from their ability to have successful dates. In addition to sticking with the classics, like going to the movies, mini-golfing, or visiting local museums, they like to experience the fresh air by visiting local parks.

"Going off campus, Matthew and I have tried to find all of the public parks that are here in Monroe County. Some we revisit time and again, like Mendon Ponds and Black Creek, especially for sledding in the winter." All of the parks in the Monroe County area are free to the public and tend to be open during daylight hours.

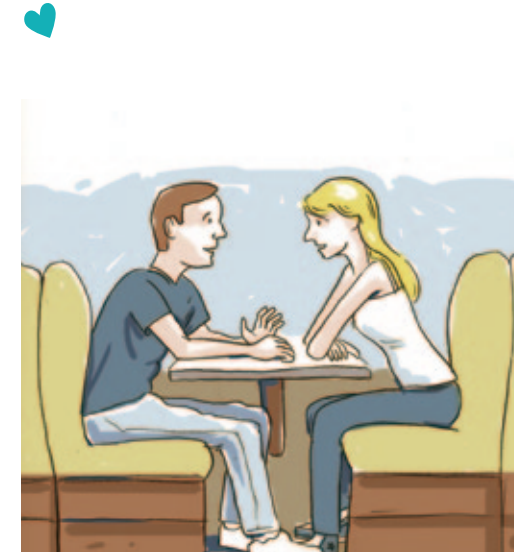
Being so near the Finger Lakes area, Rochester is surrounded by a variety of vineyards. Many tours include wine tastings (as long as you're 21). Wine Tours in Seneca Falls are a must.

When they feel like expanding their minds, or when the weather is bad, places like the Strong National Museum of Play and the Rochester Museum of Science and Technology are fun alternatives. The Strong Museum of Play is located downtown and costs only \$10 per person. Currently, there's a new Lego brick sculpture exhibit and a variety of holiday-themed activities taking place. The Rochester Museum and Science Center is located on East Ave. and has a variety of exhib-

its in addition to the Strasenburgh Planetarium. The cost for admission to the museum is \$7 with a student ID (\$8 without), and it currently has the Titanic Artifact Exhibit until the first of the New Year. The planetarium has a variety of films, star shows and laser music shows daily.

YOU CAN PICK MY BERRIES ANYTIME

If you are looking for a more unique outdoor location, consider Brown's Berry Patch. Just 40 minutes northwest of RIT and two miles from lake Ontario, lies the location of one of the best dates ever had by Kate Anderson, a Biotechnology-Biomedical Sciences major and recent RIT graduate (Class of 2009). She and her boyfriend, David Lahn, a third year Industrial Engineering major, have been dating for about a year. "It



sounds corny, but the berry patch was a lot of fun," she recalled. "When we were done picking, we held hands and walked down a pier to the lake and looked out together over the glistening Lake Ontario in the moonlight."

This type of date is a definite relationship strengthener. It is recommended only for established couples, maybe looking to change things up a bit. This is because picking berries can get messy, long car rides can spell disaster, and the moonlight can make things uncomfortably intimate for a young couple.

STICKING TO THE BASICS

Adam Lee, a fourth-year Finance major and Rochester local, had some well practiced – albeit shotgun – suggestions. Black and Blue, a seafood and steak restaurant in Pittsford Plaza is a nice

and expensive place to take a date. The lighting makes it feel like evening and it is a little on the higher end of casual dating.

If you are not in the mood for food or perhaps want to extend an evening, catch a show at the Geva Theatre. Located in Rochester, this small theater is a good way to break the mundaneness of going to the movies in favor of taking in a classic play. And if the performance isn't sweet enough, you can top it off by going to Phillips European Restaurant located on Crittenden Road for dessert. Phillips has their own fresh-pressed, flavored coffee and a variety of specialty tortes and cakes. This is a date fit for any sized romance but is an especially effective way to get a budding relationship to blossom.

DESIGNING A DATE

People who say dating is difficult are not doing it right. There is one simple thing you can do to ensure a successful rendezvous, plan every little detail. For a first date, have an idea about where to go before you ask her or him. It comes off as awkward when you get a 'yes' and then fumble around your mind for a suitable location; you need to have two or three options ready. This foresight is important because it is essential to avoid a threatening environment on the first date.

Keep it light, and make sure it is a place where you can actually meet each other. A little romance is fine, but it can easily get too intense so try to avoid it. Excitement is fun, but avoid a concert; they are too loud to get to know one another. Simply have coffee or stroll through an art exhibit – somewhere easy to slip away from if things go sour.

A FEW FINAL TOUCHES

To help ensure a successful evening, remember touch. When it comes to finding love, "Sometimes we need a hand – literally," reports a leading expert on initial encounters at Cosmopolitan, Michael Jann. This is not to say get gropey on a first date, but rather, casual taps and touches can help someone take their guard down and let you into their personal bubble. Periodically, touch a knee, an elbow and a hand throughout your date. Do not get overly touchy. If you happen to remember while you are telling a story, make a touch for emphasis; it really goes a long way.

If you can remember these tips and take into account the great date suggestions from successful couples, there is no reason why you cannot start or strengthen a relationship. **R**

TIGERS BATTLE THE BOMBERS

by Sam McCord
photographs by Jake Hamm

The RIT Wrestling team may not be off to the best start this season (0-3), but that doesn't mean they can't put on one hell of a show. On December 9, the men in orange tights took on Ithaca's Bombers. And you were probably cooped up in your room. For shame.

RIT took the mat, pacing back and forth like hungry predators stalking their prey. The way they carried themselves inspired hope in the audience as their hunger for victory steadily became apparent. If one were to judge the competition's outcome solely on both teams' show of adrenaline, then Ithaca's idle approach to preparation would not inspire much confidence.

Second year Illustration major, Shin Wakabayashi, from the 125 lbs. weight class was first to take the mats. Within about a minute and a half, he made several shots at the legs of Ithaca's Jon Gregory, but was brought down and kept on the mat. The match ended with a whimper when Gregory finally contorted Wakabayashi into a pin, but not before Ithaca racked up six points and the first match win.

The 133 lbs. weight class was next with second year New Media Publishing major Chris Keeler facing Ithaca's Chad Winowich. In the first round, they seemed evenly matched; each athlete threw frequent leg shots only to see

the other reflexively sprawling away. Winowich caught lucky breaks in the second and third rounds to take Keeler to the mat, keeping him there for the remainder of each round. By the time the match was called, Ithaca had accumulated another six points while RIT was stuck with the goose egg.

The 141 lbs. weight class representative approached the mat. Unfortunately, it was going to get worse for RIT before it got better. Ithaca's Jeremy Stierly overwhelmed first year Business Management major Tim Banks by making frequent, effective shots that Banks rarely seemed to get a break from. Using his agility to his advantage, Banks was able to escape Stierly's grasp a few times. Although both athletes effectively wore each other down to the point of vulnerability, time ran out and Ithaca claimed another four points, bringing the score to 0-16, Ithaca.

University Studies major Dominique Graham was the next to represent RIT against Ithaca's Evan Conor in the 149 lbs. weight class match. Soon after they shook hands and the match began, Conor had already established his dominance by refusing to relinquish Graham's legs. This perilous position for RIT prompted coaches and teammates to shout out advice like "Sprawl!" and "Get outta there!" but Conor had already brought Graham to the mat.

After two minutes of keeping RIT suppressed, Conor finished Graham off with an incredibly acrobatic pin to clinch it. 0-22, Ithaca.

With the emergence of RIT's heavier weight talents came a slight bout of optimism as fourth year Accounting major Jason Wake steadily tipped momentum in the Tiger's favor. Wake toyed with his prey, knocking the head of Ithaca's Jason Fraser around to assert his power. Most of the match was spent fighting for wrist control as both of the competitors appeared evenly matched. Each party looked as if they could anticipate the other's moves, resulting in several interesting stalemates which resulted in the ref bringing the wrestlers back to the center mat. In the later rounds, both competitors were steadily losing energy, but Wake never let Fraser get the better of him, escaping from his increasingly desperate attempts. Wake recognized this weakness and finally brought Fraser to the mat for RIT's first non-escape points of the night. Wake struggled to keep the fight on the ground for the remainder of the match, scoring the first win and chalking up three points to Ithaca's 22.

With RIT forfeiting due to the lack of wrestlers in the 165 lbs. weight class, Computer Engineering major Ben Johnstone stepped forward to continue with the

174 lbs. weight class match. He proved his strength by pulling and manipulating Ithaca's Josue Mendez in an effort to catch him off guard. RIT brought Ithaca to the mat and used this opportunity to tire Mendez out. Although Mendez escaped once, RIT took the match, improving their score to six versus Ithaca's 28.

If anything is to be noticed about hard-of-hearing first year Biotechnology major Dakota Tiger, let it be his uncanny speed. By taking advantage of his swiftness, he racked up a couple escapes throughout the match and let Ithaca fight themselves into a losing position. At the end of the three rounds, Tiger had shut out Ithaca 4-0 and clinched another win for RIT. The board now read 9-28, Ithaca.

Third year Mechanical Engineering major Stephan Avorkilya may have been a little discouraged walking to the middle circle, but still managed to brawl a long, arduous match. Avorkilya slipped up in the beginning, getting taken down by Ithaca's David Sbriscia. Avorkilya, however, bounced back with an easy escape. The remainder of the match was essentially a series of these repeated events. Ithaca conclusively clinched the battle of the hard-to-spell last names simply by spending their energy wisely and stringing 3 points out of the Tigers to bring the cumulative score to 9-31.

The final match between first year Game Design and Development major Somara Atkinson and Ithaca's Matthew Mahon for the 285 lbs. weight class brought the night to an appropriate close. After Atkinson hilariously lost his shoe upwards of three times, Mahon exploited Atkinson's size to wrangle him into a pin less than a minute into the first round.

Here's to the Tigers pulling together late in the season, as they were shut out in their following contest, a 50-0 decision at SUNY Cortland. **R**



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WITH QUESTIONS & INQUIRIES

KYLE GAHAGAN: ONE MAN RACQUETBALL ARMY

by Derrick Behm | photograph by Trevor Reid

The most successful athletes are self-motivated. Parkton, Md. native, Kyle Gahagan not only motivates himself to excel in the sport of Racquetball, but he is also enthusiastic when it comes to making a difference in the handicapped sporting community. Gahagan lets nothing – neither his deafness nor being RIT’s lone racquetball athlete – hinder him from following his dreams.

When Gahagan was 12, his mother died of cancer. Gahagan then became determined to enroll in a medical school, and chose RIT because of its excellent education and support services for the deaf and hard of hearing. Gahagan emphasizes that school and his studies come first for him. RIT, however, does not have everything for him to fulfill his passions – specifically racquetball.

As a first year Biomedical Science major, it is challenging for Gahagan to schedule practice time daily and competing in high profile tournaments.



Although RIT has yet to sponsor a varsity racquetball team, he proudly wears an RIT jersey. The other colleges in RIT’s Empire 8 conference do not have varsity racquetball teams, so Gahagan has to find his own way to compete in different tournaments on his own.


Gahagan travels by his own expense to tournaments, and maintains connections with sponsors to provide his equipment. “Without my sponsors; Ektelon [who provides racquets and equipment] and Rollout Racquetball [who provides jerseys and apparel], I wouldn’t be here. I break a lot of racquets and I get them replaced for free,” Gahagan grinned.

Several players form a team and play selected matches for other universities in the collegiate conference, but since Gahagan has yet to find more people as passionate or talented here at RIT, he plays all of the matches himself. He enjoys the challenge.

“I’m not the best, but it’s cool to be able to represent an entire university by yourself,” Gahagan admits. He has swept tournaments all over Albany, Pennsylvania and New Jersey registered under RIT’s name, and he will continue to play in more tournaments until the end of the official season, which ends in May. As he has won the majority of his matches, he is confident enough in his ability to compete not just the Western, but the Eastern Collegiate Conference Championships in Arizona this spring.

Born profoundly deaf, Gahagan believes that his deafness gives him an advantage; think the exact opposite of Marvel’s superhero Daredevil. “Players often depend on the sound of the ball when it bounces, but I think I am more alert and quick by depending on my vision,” Gahagan added. “I don’t wear hearing aids on the court [due to sweat], and I sign more. It’s nice sometimes because the referees don’t understand my frustrated signs.”

As part of the National Racquetball Association for the Deaf, Gahagan wants to get more deaf people interested in racquetball. He is currently corresponding with the Deaflympics (Olympics for the Deaf) to get Racquetball an official event in the upcoming 2013 Summer Deaflympics in Athens, Greece. He is proud and honored to expand his influence beyond the RIT community.

Gahagan’s next match is at Penn State this January. He will compete against the likes of Penn State, Army, Coast Guard, and Clarkson as the lone racquetball athlete hailing from RIT. 

RIT/ROC FORECAST

compiled by Brendan Cahill

FRIDAY 18

JAMES CAMERON'S "AVATAR" OPENS

Don't forget to see James Cameron's new blockbuster, opening in theaters today. With explosions, floating continents, and nine foot tall blue alien chicks, who could resist? Cost: one overpriced movie ticket.

SATURDAY 19

LAST DAY OF HANUKKAH

If you're Jewish, thank your lucky stars the holidays are almost over. If you're not, beware: the holiday season madness is just getting started. Cost: one last Hanukkah gift.

SUNDAY 20

SNOWTUBING

Polarwave Snowtubing Park. 3500 Harloff Rd. Batavia. 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Remember that time you broke your collarbone sledding when you were a kid? Relive those fond childhood memories at the Polarwave Snowtubing Park. Cost: \$13 (two hour pass), \$15 (three hour pass).

MONDAY 21

TRIVIA NIGHT

Lovin'cup. Park Point. 9 p.m. So you have a week off and are wondering what to do with your newfound freedom. Why not stay up late on a Monday and hit up the lovin'cup for trivia night? Be sure to get there early if you want to sign up to participate. Cost: Memorizing Wikipedia.

TUESDAY 22

KENNY ROGERS AND HITS TOUR

Auditorium Theater. 885 E. Main St. His live shows may not have the same clout as his famous roasted chicken, but for those looking for some Christmas-themed live entertainment, Kenny Rogers shouldn't disappoint. Cost: \$52-\$72.

FESTIVUS | WEDNESDAY 23

Does the commercialism of the holiday season have you down? Then pull out the aluminum pole and get ready for some feats of strength; today is the holiday for the rest of us. Cost: Understanding this reference.

HOLIDAY SONGS AND SKIES WITH MR. JACK FROST | THURSDAY 24

Rochester Museum and Science Center. 657 East Ave. 11:30 a.m. Have a grand old time learning about winter stargazing while enjoying a laser show, some holiday music, and corny jokes all in the comfort of a planetarium. Cost: \$9 (college students and seniors), \$8 (ages 3-18), \$10 (adults).

CHRISTMAS DAY | FRIDAY 25

If you need the Reporter to tell you what to do on Christmas, there is nothing that we can do to help you. Cost: Christmas presents.

BOXING DAY | SATURDAY 26

Known in such exotic lands as England and Canada as a public holiday, Boxing Day is more commonly known in the U.S. as "Day After Christmas Sale Day." So get out there and shop! Cost: Whatever is left in your wallet.

KWANZAS FAMILY DAY | SUNDAY 27

Memorial Art Gallery. 500 Memorial Dr. 12 p.m. - 5 p.m. Join in the celebration of this African-American holiday with hands-on activities, storytelling, music, and ceremony. Cost: Free.

MANIAC MONDAYS 80S NIGHT | MONDAY 28

Bug Jar. 219 Monroe Ave. 9 p.m. Shake off the lethargy of the holidays with some dancing and 80s music at the Bug Jar. Cost: Free (21+).

AFRICAN CARIBBEAN DANCE | TUESDAY 29

School of the Arts. 45 Prince St. 7 - 8:30 p.m. Let's face it, your moves could use some work. Add some flair to your dance style by going to this African Caribbean dance lesson. Cost: \$1

DJ COSMO | WEDNESDAY 30

Bay Bar and Grill. 372 Manitou Rd. Hilton. 10 p.m. Chillax to some techno at the Bay Bar and Grill. Cost: Free.

NEW YEAR'S EVE | THURSDAY 31

No one ever gets around to fulfilling those pesky New Year's resolutions. But hey, this year can be different, right? Make that list, stay up until midnight, and make it happen. Cost: Finally getting organized this year.

NEW YEAR'S DAY | FRIDAY 01

If you need the Reporter to tell you what to do on Christmas, there is nothing that we can do to help you. Cost: Christmas presents.

WHERE WE LIVE

George Eastman House. 900 East Ave. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Just got back from break and not sure what to do? Take a look at how people have seen Rochester throughout history. Cost: \$10, \$6 students

JAZZ NIGHT

Lovin'cup. Park Point. Relax with some light jazz music before you go back to classes. Cost: Free.

CLASSES BEGIN

Bug Jar. 219 Monroe Ave. 9 p.m. Shake off the lethargy of the holidays with some dancing and 80s music at the Bug Jar. Cost: Free (21+).

GUIDED TOUR: WRITERS, ACTORS AND ARTISTS

School of the Arts. 45 Prince St. 7 - 8:30 p.m. Let's face it, your moves could use some work. Add some flair to your dance style by going to this African Caribbean dance lesson. Cost: \$10.

SMOKE FREE RIT STAND UP, STAND OUT

Bay Bar and Grill. 372 Manitou Rd. Hilton. 10 p.m. Chillax to some techno at the Bay Bar and Grill. Cost: Free.

THURSDAY NIGHT CINEMA PRESENTS "FREQUENCY"

No one ever gets around to fulfilling those pesky New Year's resolutions. But hey, this year can be different, right? Make that list, stay up until midnight, and make it happen. Cost: Finally getting organized this year. **R**

SATURDAY 02

SUNDAY 03

MONDAY 04

TUESDAY 05

WEDNESDAY 06

THURSDAY 07

RHYMES, RHYTHMS AND REALITY

by Sam Angarita

When Cindy Cambell needed some money in 1971, she asked her brother Clive to play some records for a party she was throwing, and in doing so, unknowingly asked the future DJ Kool Herc to start spinning the very fabric of hip hop culture – not only in New York but eventually, the entire world. That record is still going 'round today.

Few people know it, but hip hop's origin was merely an ingenious reggae party in a Bronx high rise, where the 17-year-old Clive Cambell started playing his own albums in his room. He found himself driven by nostalgia for the music he heard back in his hometown of Kingston, Jamaica, which featured the likes of Bob Marley, Don Drummond or the Skatalites, and the parties where these musicians were heard.

He'd take speakers from old cars and make his own boomboxes to play his debut songs loud enough for all to enjoy, catapulting his reputation from a mere street graffito to a hot, young disc jockey. Word about Kool Herc spread. By the age of 18, he was the personification of the sound of Harlem music for the coming decades, sampling and immortalizing artists like James Brown by bringing them to his audiences in a different, exciting format.

That's how Herc wanted music – fun, intimate, with silky smooth transitions from one song to the next so that the dancing

had no excuse or reason to stop. He had his break-dancing boys with him (the B-Boys as he called them) who spun their bodies spastically and energetically in the center of the floor, begging everyone to perform and interpret the music with their hopping hips and dexterous bodies.

This intimate scenario that Herc created was hip-hop culture in its rawest form. That was the genre's niche. It wasn't grown folks in Brooklyn listening to Ella Fitzgerald or rock n' rolling with Chuck Berry, these were teens with avant garde energy, beating souls, and unmistakably glaring hormones. That's how it was. And how it should be.

However, the rest is...a remix.

Artists like Grandmaster Flash and the Sugar Hill Gang began revving up party rooms and whole street blocks. Hip-hop grew more street and more aggressive. It was like how the Rolling Stones were the rawer version of the Beatles, or how Malcolm X's passion and explosiveness drowned out Martin Luther King Jr. in the veracity of his speech.

Kids were confused about the world, politics, and the recent years of racial upheaval. So they took action and made socially conscious art.

Through its three decades, hip-hop culture has had the uncanny ability to mirror the American mentality with honest, insightful truth that no other genre can achieve. When people were grooving with art and sexuality in the 70s, hip-hop was just starting; funky

and sexy. In the 80s, when grunge and metal became more prevalent, hip-hop found itself fighting for a cause with Public Enemy and NWO. In the last decade of the 20th century, hip-hop was the epitome of a semi-muted and unimaginative conclusion to a century marred with explosive human history.

Russell Simmons, head of Def Jam records, once indirectly noted that the kids of these respective generations were the definition of New America. And he was right.

Today, when the world is oversaturated with media and escapism, hip-hop continually proves to be blaringly materialistic, hedonistic and derivative. On the horizon, however, we see a rising set of artists, bringing slow progress with redeeming social value into the art of this genre, and the industry in general. Lupe Fiasco, for example, ridicules his contemporaries with his sarcastic wit.

But what leaves the greatest impression about hip-hop, to me, is that you can't shake it off your bones. We all know a song or two that, quite simply, sticks. There's something so rooted and personal about hip-hop's dulcet tones, something we all relate to in an explicitly human way.

Hip hop single-handedly speaks about the fantasy of man; the desire to progress or "move on up," to conquer in spite of adversity and anything that keeps us down, i.e. "the man." It's what drove our earliest ancestors out of the African savannah, Columbus across the ocean, what keeps us in motion every day, and – if I may invoke Tupac – to fight for what is ours.

ARTIFACTS

FIND SOMETHING COOL? Slide it under the door of Reporter's office, along with a note about where you found it. We're located in the basement of the Campus Center, room A-730.

RIFLE AND PISTOL CLUB

First Row: James Faggion, Richard Smith.

Second Row: Richard Obrecht, Charles Nash, Paul Daykin, William Roe, Roy Steiner.



With shots re-echoing down Commercial Street, members of the Rifle and Pistol Club could be found testing their skill every Tuesday evening at the Rochester Rifle Range. Instructions in shooting were given by various members of the club who had previously had experience outside of the Institute.

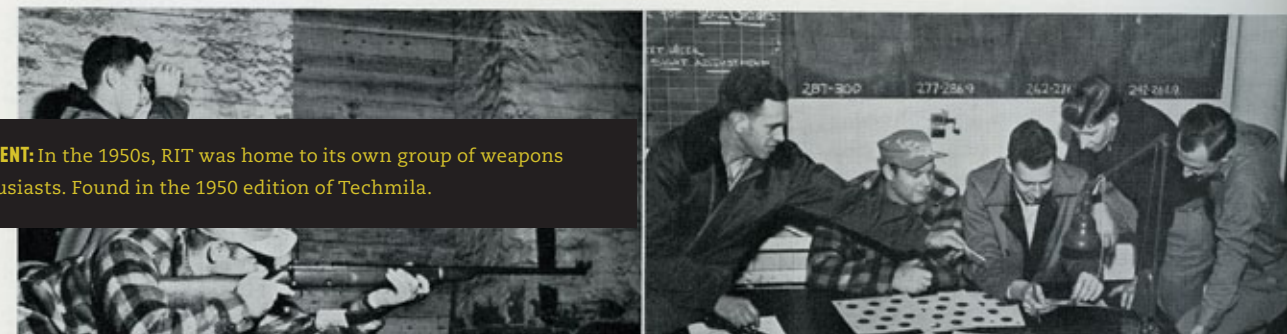
Keen competitive matches were held among the members which offered much enjoyment and sportsmanship. In spite of the exacting skill required, interest in pistol shooting this year has far surpassed that of rifle

shooting.

Of paramount importance in these nimrod's season was the firing for Government Qualification Ratings at which all were accepted and five were rated as experts. Perhaps it was due to these results that ideas and designs were submitted as possibilities for a club emblem.

The club had this year as its officers President Dick Smith, Vice President James Faggion, Secretary-Treasurer Roy Steiner and Adviser Mr. Raymond Biehler.

Left: Bull's eye. *Right:* Looks good to me.



COMMENT: In the 1950s, RIT was home to its own group of weapons enthusiasts. Found in the 1950 edition of Techmila.

RIT RINGS NOW TAKING UR TXT MSG!

585.672.4840

compiled by Amanda Szczepanski and Moe Sedlak | 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.

TUESDAY, 5:49 P.M.

WHAT THE [COTTON HEADED NINNY MUGGINS]?! RIT ACTUALLY HAS A LIBRARY?! I THOUGHT THAT BIG BUILDING WAS JUST WHERE THEY GREW THE COFFEE BEANS. *from text*

SUNDAY, 11:59 P.M.

SO GET THIS: SITTING IN COMMONS, WATCHING FOOTBALL... ALL OF A SUDDEN THE CHANNEL CHANGES. WHAT TURNS ON? LORD OF THE RINGS. WELCOME TO RIT. *from text*



FRIDAY, 12:34 P.M.

SO, I'M STRAIGHT CHILLIN IN THE SAU, AND ALL OF A SUDDEN THE BANJO MAN HIMSELF WALKS IN, PICKS UP A **REPORTER**... AND CAN YOU GUESS WHAT HE DID NEXT? YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT — HE FLIPPED IT OPEN AND WENT STRAIGHT FOR THE **RINGS**. I'M GLAD OUR ADMINISTRATION HAS GOOD TASTE. *from voicemail*

SATURDAY, 4:03 P.M.

LAST WEEK IN WINES OF THE WORLD, I ANSWERED A QUESTION THAT I NOW REALIZE I LEARNED THE ANSWER TO FROM FARMVILLE. RINGS CAN YOU THANK ZYNGA FOR ME? *from text*

FRIDAY, 9:14 A.M.

WE'VE GOT A TYPICAL RIT RATIO: FIVE GUYS TO ONE GIRL. BUT NONE OF THESE GUYS ARE GOOD LOOKING! WHO SAID GIRLS ARE "LUCKY" FOR THIS RATIO? IT'S A TRAP. *from text*

WEDNESDAY, 8:48 P.M.

HEY, I JUST DROVE BY ELLINGSON, AND THE COMBINATION OF SMOKE AND RED LIGHT ON TOP MADE ME THINK IT WAS A VOLCANO! *from text*

MONDAY, 5:55 P.M.

I NOTICED THERE'S NO VEGETARIAN STICKER NEXT TO THE FRENCH FRIES AT THE RITZ. WHAT THE HELL ARE THEY PUTTING IN THOSE THINGS? *from text*

TUESDAY, 5:36 P.M.

REPORTER, **MARGARET THATCHER IS IN MY MASSAGE CLASS. COULD YOU PLEASE NOTIFY THE PUBLIC FOR ME?** *from text*

MONDAY, 8:04 A.M.

DEAR RINGS, DO YOU THINK THAT IN SPANISH PRON THEY SAY "SI" INSTEAD OF YES? WE SHOULD INVESTIGATE! *from text*

THURSDAY, 2:00 A.M.

OH MY GOD RINGS HELP ME! MY ROOMMATE AND HER FRIENDS ARE CURRENTLY SEARCHING THE INTERNET FOR "MAGIC: THE GATHERING" PORN. I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT TO DO. I HAVE NO REACTION TO THIS. *from voicemail*

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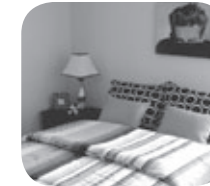
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