

REPORTER

04.23.10 reportermag.com

SOPHIA MAGGELAKIS NAMED COS DEAN

Interim dean becomes permanent.

GHOST TOWNS

Radiation, fatal accidents and the inspiration for "Silent Hill."

CCS BOULDERING COMPETITION

Find out who made it to the top of the rock.



REPORTER

EDITOR IN CHIEF Madeleine Villavicencio
| etic@reportermag.com

MANAGING EDITOR Emily Mohlmann
| managing.editor@reportermag.com

COPY EDITOR Laura Mandanas
| copy.editor@reportermag.com

NEWS EDITOR Emily Bogle
| news@reportermag.com

LEISURE EDITOR Alex Rogala
| leisure@reportermag.com

FEATURES EDITOR John Howard
| features@reportermag.com

SPORTS/VIEWS EDITOR Rachel Hart
| sports@reportermag.com

WRITERS James Arn, Alex Rogala, Moe Sedlak,
Amanda Szczepanski, Evan Williams

ART

ART DIRECTOR Kelvin Patterson
| art.director@reportermag.com

SENIOR STAFF DESIGNER Cassie Angerosa

STAFF DESIGNERS Caitlin Mc Cormick

AD DESIGNER Lisa Barnes

PHOTO EDITOR Michael Conti
| photo@reportermag.com

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Josh Kuckens

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER Alexis Lambrou

STAFF ILLUSTRATOR Stu Barnes

CARTOONIST Jamie Douglas

BUSINESS

PUBLICITY MANAGER Abraham Gil

AD MANAGER Alecia Crawford
| reporterads@mail.rit.edu

BUSINESS MANAGER Tom Sciotta
| business.manager@reportermag.com

PRODUCTION MANAGER Jayadev Alapati
| production.manager@reportermag.com

ONLINE PRODUCTION MANAGER Viktor Nagorny
| webmaster@reportermag.com

ADVISOR Rudy Pugliese

PRINTING Printing Applications Lab

CONTACT 1.800.970.5406

EDITOR'S NOTE

QUALITY OVER QUANTITY

As of April 13, the views piece that Joe McLaughlin, Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus, wrote about P.Z. Myers' lecture on campus had approximately 3,600 page views. Currently, there are 281 thumbs down, 25 thumbs up and 62 approved comments. Thankfully for my inbox, the action has seemed to die down. The incident, however, left me with a question: how is a publication's success measured?

Currently, the Reporter Online rating system is based on thumbs up and thumbs down, and the home page's "Top Article" section displays the three articles with the highest positive score. Obviously, McLaughlin's article would not be considered a top article based on these conditions. However, if we take a look at the spike in web traffic and the number of comments, the article would definitely be one of the most popular. Would an accurate depiction of success then be "Most Popular Articles" rather than "Top Articles"? After all, a positive or negative vote can be very arbitrary, especially when submissions can be driven by the appreciation for the topic, the writer's style or popularity, or even how well the article is written.

I like to think that if people are talking about something featured in the magazine, then we're doing our jobs. Unfortunately, following around students on campus with a tape recorder would likely get my staff arrested. Instead, we have to settle for feedback submitted online. Unfortunately, that means every 12-year-old, his parent and pet monkey can submit a comment provided that they have a valid email address and do not write libel or hate speech.

With the P.Z. Myers piece as an example, comment boards can easily turn into a melee of pointed statements and closed-mindedness. Sometimes, this can bring what could have been a healthy and interesting debate skidding to a halt. In a "New York Times" article rethinking anonymous commenting for news sites, William Grueskin, dean of academic affairs at Columbia's journalism school said, "People who might have something useful to say are less willing to participate in boards where the tomatoes are being thrown." This is especially the case if their name is attached to the comment. In the end, a great number of comments can look impressive, but I don't think we should be forgetting the quality of the content.

Taking it further, if we were to only publish topics that would be deemed "popular" and perhaps controversial, then we wouldn't be very good journalists. There must be a balance between what readers should be informed about and what readers would find entertaining, and finding the perfect equilibrium is very tricky — and this week, we're tipping towards the lighter side.

MKV Villavicencio

Madeleine Villavicencio

EDITOR IN CHIEF



Program Overview:

Student Government and departments all across campus want your feedback! Each department will set up a table and have one senior leader from the department present at each table to engage with you. At each table you will be able to participate in a brief action-oriented survey that asks a question, solicits feedback, or shares how departments have utilized past feedback. SG will be having a BBQ for any participants and will be handing out freebies!

Once we collect all of this information, each department will be asked to share what they learned and discuss future actions that have been inspired from this feedback. The overall findings will be announced at SG's week 10 senate meeting and published on our website. Dr. Destler has also asked that we share these same results in the fall with Institute Council, Academic Senate, Staff Council, and at the Board of Trustees meetings.

Tuesday, April 27th

(rain date Thursday April 29th, 2010)

11:30am- 2:30pm

Outside between the Campus Center and Infinity Quad

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-GANDHI

SOPHIA MAGGELAKIS NAMED DEAN OF COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

by Alex Rogala

On March 26, Sophia Maggelakis was named dean of the College of Science. Former head of RIT's School of Mathematical Sciences, Maggelakis takes the position after having spent nearly a year in the position of interim dean.

Maggelakis began her career at RIT in 1990, joining the Department of Mathematics and Statistics as the program's director. During her time in the department, Maggelakis worked to bolster its status, expanding the faculty and promoting research to prepare the program to deal with the increasing amount of math in RIT's core curriculum. She also contributed to the reworking of various courses, which helped to decrease failure rates.

In 2006, Maggelakis' contributions paid off, as she was announced head of the newly formed School of Mathematical Sciences, a school her efforts helped to create.

But for Maggelakis, her appointment as dean was somewhat of a happy accident. In March 2009, it was announced that then-dean of the College of Science Ian Gatley would be leaving the position to become the director of the Center for Student Innovation and Undergraduate Research Support. As a national search for his replacement was announced, RIT began an internal search for an interim dean. Although Maggelakis was among those nominated, she was initially hesitant to take the position. "I was encouraged by many faculty members to consider the position, so I did," said Maggelakis.

Last May, she was selected to serve as interim dean while RIT began its national search for a replacement. "I wasn't really planning to go for the permanent position, but as you know, sometimes things just fall into place," said Maggelakis. She received a call from the search committee, informing her that she had been nominated. After significant deliberation, she decided to accept the nomination, adding herself to the pool of applicants.

The top five applicants — Maggelakis included — were subjected to a grueling schedule of two day-long interviews. Despite her home team


advantage, the committee made definitive efforts to ensure that she and her peers were treated identically. "They escorted me from one office to another, even though I know the campus very well," said Maggelakis.

In the weeks since she has officially received the position, Maggelakis has already begun to plan the direction she hopes to take the college. "It is essential that we maintain our strengths," she asserted, "I think that hiring more faculty and bringing some strength in research groups has helped not only our undergraduate programs, but also our graduate programs, as well as our visibility."

In addition to these strengths, Maggelakis hopes to further align the school's research programs with the institute's, to establish connections with successful alumni, and to continue improvement of the college's Ph. D. programs. She stresses an "emphasis on excellence," noting that the success of many other RIT undergraduate programs relies on a general education core that draws extensively from the College of Science.

Even so, she expects to see challenges along the way, particularly over next few years. "How do we make sure we keep up our momentum and at the same time help the institute go through the move to semesters?"

In light of her background primarily rooted in mathematics rather than traditional science, some viewed Maggelakis as a controversial choice. But Maggelakis isn't daunted by these concerns, she commented, "if you're a good leader, you know better to be objective and take care in all your disciplines, all your programs, because you want your college to come out on top."

"One thing about RIT I always think fondly of is the collegiality that exists among faculty and staff," said Maggelakis. "It's not like other universities where it's so competitive that you don't know from one day to the next who does and doesn't support you. So I think that creates the right atmosphere for people to work and be successful." 



Sophia Maggelakis.
photograph courtesy of University News

RIT FORECAST

MR. RIT

23
FRIDAY

Ingle Auditorium. 6 – 9 p.m. RIT's annual male pageant contestants will be judged on school spirit and on-campus involvement. Donations collected by the contestants benefit the Cystic Fibrosis Research Foundation.
Cost: Free.

TORA-CON

24
SATURDAY

Campus-wide. 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. RIT's Anime Club is holding their annual fundraiser and convention this weekend.
Cost: \$30 and a weekend of furry dodging.

THE GERRY NASCA QUARTET

25
SUNDAY

lovin' cup. 7 – 9 p.m. Rochester's favorite jazz musicians, The Vince Finocchio Quartet, are back under a new name. Head over to lovin' cup to hear them recreate the magic.
Cost: Free.

GLOBAL CAPITALISM: THE SOLUTION TO WORLD OPPRESSION AND POVERTY

26
MONDAY

Ingle Auditorium. 7:30 – 9 p.m. Andrew Bernstein presents his theory that laissez-faire capitalism is the only solution to the world's growing poverty problem.
Cost: Free.

SPEAK UP DAY

27
TUESDAY

Tiger Statue, outside the SAU & Infinity Quad. 12 – 2 p.m. Various RIT departments will have tables set up along the Infinity Quad to get your feedback about their services. Plus, there's a free BBQ.
Cost: A little brain power.


HUMP DAY

28
WEDNESDAY

Everywhere. 4 p.m. – 12 a.m. Celebrate getting past the hump of the week by chillaxin' with your bros this afternoon. Revel in a game of pick-up ultimate, read a book, or just enjoy doing absolutely nothing.
Cost: This might not be the best academic choice.

TASTE OF RIT

29
THURSDAY

SAU Davis Room. 10 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. It's time for the 18th annual Taste of RIT, an all-you-can-eat smorgasbord of deliciousness provided by local vendors. Proceeds benefit the United Way.
Cost: \$7. 

compiled by James Arn

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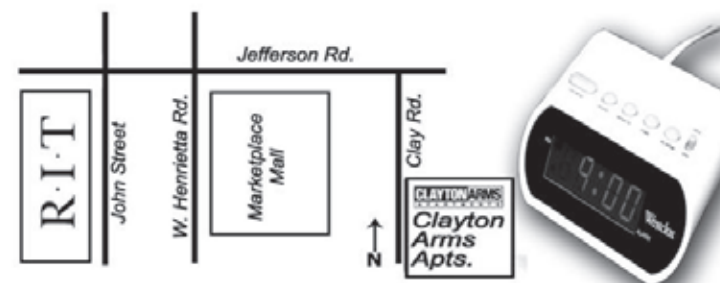
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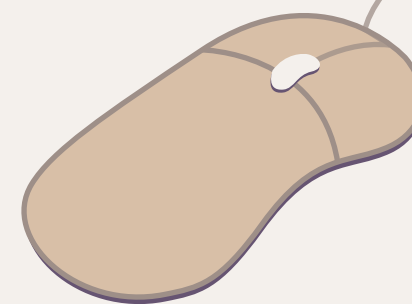


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RIT RINGS
585
672
4840

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Upper Class Initiatives 

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585.210.8897



STREAM OF FACTS

In January 2010, archaeologists uncovered an ancient Egyptian **TEMPLE** devoted to cat-goddess Bastet, proving a continued loyalty to animal-related deities.

The Buddhist **TEMPLE** Asakusa Kannon in Tokyo dates back to the seventh **CENTURY**.

Agave americana, more commonly known as the **CENTURY** plant, contains incredibly acidic sap which can **CAUSE** painful blisters.

Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia has been known to **CAUSE** considerably more "laughing episodes" (a term coined by the press) than any other justice **SITTING** on the Supreme Court.

Vannie Walker killed her husband Stanley by **SITTING** on him during a July 1989 argument at the couple's Bridgeport, Conn. **HOME**.

"**HOME Alone**" is the second highest grossing comedy film ever, with 1984's "Beverly Hills **COPS**" being the first.

The use of "**COPS**" as a slang term for police originated in the mid-1800s, derived from the verb "cop," referring to how a policeman might capture or seize a **CRIMINAL**.

Andrew Burwitz of Appleton, Wis. faced **CRIMINAL** charges after a failed drive-by shooting in November 2009. His mistake: forgetting to roll down his car **WINDOW** before shooting.

The stained glass **WINDOWS** at Augsburg Cathedral in Augsburg, Germany, estimated to be from 1065 AD, are considered the oldest in the **WORLD**.

The "Guinness Book of **WORLD** Records" was originally released in August 1955 as a marketing gimmick by the Guinness brewery.

SUDOKU Difficulty Rating: Easy

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

OVERSEEN AND OVERHEARD

"Let me move my laptop a second. I need to get into position."
- Male student to female in Park Point

"This building has a little shop deli thingy in it as well..."
- Tour guide in Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences (GCCIS) describing Ctrl Alt DELi

Soap in a bathroom on the second floor of the library

QUOTE

"I don't know where I'm going from here, but I promise that it won't be boring."

- David Bowie

REPORTER RECOMMENDS

THE GEROGERIGEGE

Over the years, Japan's experimental music scene has given birth to some groundbreaking musicians, such as Merzbow and Boris. But none of these musicians come close to the sonic mastery of The Gero-gerigege, who are simply the greatest band ever.

Since the mid 1980s, The Gero-gerigege has put out a slew of interestingly-titled releases that would be unprofessional to mention by name. If that isn't enough to pique your interest, the band's name is a portmanteau of the Japanese words for vomiting (gero), defecating (geri), and both at the same time (gegege). At their core, The Gero-gerigege are crowd pleasers — if your bodily emission of choice isn't mentioned in the band's name, it's more than likely mentioned in their extensive musical repertoire.

Most of The Gero-gerigege's songs begin the same way, with front man Juntaro Yamanouchi shouting some explicit or nonsensical phrase, followed by 20 to 40 seconds of a cacophonous outburst of loud, violent noise unleashed by the band. Forget melody, songwriting, or delicate production. Most songs clock in at under a minute, making them perfect for the modern, on-the-go music connoisseur.

Yamanouchi has been missing since the early 2000s, rumored to be dead or institutionalized. Yet his music lives on, inspiring all who hear it. **R**



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.



COMIC by Jamie Douglas

WORD OF THE WEEK

ANORAK - n. a usually pullover hooded jacket long enough to cover the hips.

During the harsh winter months, Jack bundled up in his **ANORAK** before making the trek across the Quarter Mile.

Definition taken from <http://merriam-webster.com>.



Ghost

Towns

by Evan Williams
illustration by Stu Barnes

Every city has a pulse. It's the natural throb that persists as people go about their daily lives, constantly moving, changing and growing. The dynamics within every town varies greatly, each with a unique rhythm and pace. Some beat fast and wild, while others drum along at their leisure, and — whether knownst or unbeknownst to the inhabitants — this enduring beat moves them all along together. But what happens when that pulse comes to a stop?

While the idea of ghost towns evokes classic images of desolate Wild West streets and wayward tumbleweeds, the reality of these forsaken cities extends far beyond saloons and outlaws, persisting right into our modern age.

When push comes to shove, there are many reasons why a town might be abandoned where it stands. Some are boomtowns built hastily around flash-in-the-pan economic surges, while others are the victims of natural or man-made disasters. Every story is different, but the atmosphere left over is almost always the same. These haunting views of worlds-that-were are eerily silent and unnervingly still. While infamous accounts of the Roanoke colony in 16th century Virginia have become legend, there are thousands of lesser-known, abandoned settlements around the world that still stand sentinel to this day.

PRYPIAT

On April 26, 1986, the worst disaster in the history of nuclear energy production struck at the nuclear power plant in Chernobyl, Ukraine. The explosion of a nuclear reactor spread radiation for miles and contaminated the landscape, while the then-Soviet controlled government did little to warn citizens in the surrounding areas. Less than three miles from the blast, however, the town of Prypiat was well aware of the danger. In sixty hours, no fewer than 44,000 residents — many of them plant employees — had fled, leaving the irradiated town frozen in its tracks.

Looters and vandals have ransacked the city, taking what they can and destroying what they can't, but explorers daring to venture into the town can see beds still adorned with sheets, and decorations hung outside for what was to be a May Day festival. Trees grow on rooftops and inside buildings while wildlife roam the corridors. There are guards now surrounding the city, but those willing to risk a trip into this poisonous museum can easily obtain the necessary paperwork for a guided tour.

Though it is unsure how safe it is to enter Prypiat — every few years a building will collapse, such as the four-story school in 2005 — some predict it won't be ready for human inhabitants for another hundred years, due to radiation.

SAN ZHI

On Taiwan's northernmost coast lies the bizarre San Zhi housing complex. Planned as a vacation resort, this futuristic community never reached completion. A series of fatal accidents during construction in the early 1980s led workers to believe the location was haunted; soon thereafter, the project was cancelled.

What makes San Zhi so interesting is its design. Like something straight out of the Jetsons, the units are shaped like giant circular pods, leaving each building looking like a stacked cluster of brightly colored UFOs. Though some might dream of a completed San Zhi, perhaps it is better the project remain unfinished; rumors of subpar building materials and unstable architecture plagued San Zhi from the start.

CENTRALIA

Perhaps the best example of a modern ghost town lies right in our own back yard. In 1962, landfill workers in the busy coal town of Centralia, were burning trash in an abandoned mine pit when the flames reached an unseen coal vein. The initial blaze was quickly contained, but unbeknownst to the townspeople the coal fire continued on, spreading through the mines that weaved beneath the city. In the weeks that followed, the extent of the fire was discovered. For over two decades, firefighting efforts went on to control the fire without progress.

Then in 1981, a 150-foot sinkhole caused by the fire opened up. Located in a residential area, the sinkhole would have swallowed 12-year-old Todd Domboski had his cousin not pulled him to safety. The incident brought greater attention to the plight of Centralia, and in 1982, the state spent \$42 million to relocate Centralia's population. All but a few moved away, and as of 2005, only twelve people were registered as residents of Centralia. The town has since been removed from many maps, and even had its zip code revoked in 2002.

Those brave enough to visit witness the blanket of smoke that covers portions of the town and the numerous sinkholes and caved in roadways. Many buildings that hadn't burned were demolished so as not to add fuel to the fire. It is predicted that the fire could burn for up to 250 years. As a unique sort of "hell-on-Earth," Centralia even provided the inspiration for the Silent Hill video game franchise.

Incredibly diverse, each of these towns has its own story leading to its unique fate. But as time marches on, it consumes these towns as they lose the long fight against nature. As they slowly decay, time becomes the only companion for these forsaken cities. **R**



Ethan Criss finishes a climb to the cheers of his teammates.

CCS BOULDERING COMPETITION

by James Arn

photograph by Josh Kuckens

On the morning of Saturday, April 17, while most of the campus was slowly crawling out of bed, the Red Barn was buzzing with activity. Climbers from across the state were congregating at the Red Barn for the last Collegiate Climbing Series (CCS) competition before the regional championships next weekend in Chatham, N.J.

The competition, or “comp” in climbing jargon, was open to both collegiate climbing teams and the general public. It started at just past noon and continued for four grueling hours. Most of the competitors were non-CCS members, but climbers from University at Buffalo, West Point and Cornell were present to compete against RIT.

With the temperature hovering in the mid-40s in the uninsulated barn, climbing conditions weren’t ideal. Most climbers could be heard complaining of cold fingers at the start of competition. After a couple climbs, however, most competitors had limbered up.

Taylor Rose, a third year Computer Science major who led RIT’s men in scoring, has been climbing since he was six years old. “My older brother used to take me climbing, and I just loved it. My favorite thing about climbing is the puzzle solving. It’s certainly physical, but no matter what your skill level, there’s always that

puzzle of finding the best route to the top. The comps add the challenge of a time limit, which is fun,” said Rose.

The climbing and scoring is mostly self-judged. With a record-breaking 82 competitors clamoring around 70 unique climbs or problems, it would be nearly impossible to officiate each individual climb. Climbers keep track of their own climbs, getting witnesses to sign off on and validate their successes.

Each problem has two point values associated with it. The first, flash points, are awarded when a climber completes a climb on the first attempt. The second are called red points and are awarded for completing the climb after several attempts. Flash points are given a 10 percent bonus over the red points. If a climber flashes a problem worth 1000 red points, they receive 1100 points for the climb. “Most of the climbers will be getting the red points,” said Seann McArdle, the assistant coordinator for Interactive Adventures and the climbing club’s advisor and coach. “Typically a climber will flash a few easier climbs to warm up, then work on some more difficult problems to rack up points,” explained McArdle. At the end of competition, a climber’s top five climbs are summed to get

their total points.

When the final standings were announced, it was clear that RIT held their own, even though it was their first time in this competition. Lindsay Reardon, a third year Marketing major, and Brennah Rosenthal, a first year Advertising Photography major, took first and second place respectively in the women’s division, and West Point’s Nicole Siegrist rounded out the top three. On the men’s side, Scott Meade and Daniel Thuenemann snagged the top two positions for West Point and RIT’s Taylor Rose took third.

“This is only the second year that the CCS has been around. I didn’t really know about it last year. I saw this [hosting a CCS competition for the first time] as a great opportunity to grow interest [in] the series, and RIT’s climbing club,” said McArdle. The RIT Rock Climbing Club, whose numbers fluctuate between 10 and 15 students, is always looking for new members to join the climb. **R**

WORD ON THE STREET

WHAT IS THE MOST *INNOVATIVE* THING YOU’VE EVER DONE?

compiled by Alexis Lambrou

ANNIE COURTO
Hospitality and Service Management
Second year

“I built a clock once. I gave it to my grandma.”



ADITYA KOTA
Information Technology
Second Year

“I built my own bench with side tables that rotate.”



SERGEY CHIRIPKO
Mechanical Engineering
Fifth Year

“Global Village should have been built using recyclable shipping containers.”



YASMINE BOUDHAOUIA
International Studies
Third Year

“Honey nut cheerios, coco puffs and a banana with two percent milk.”



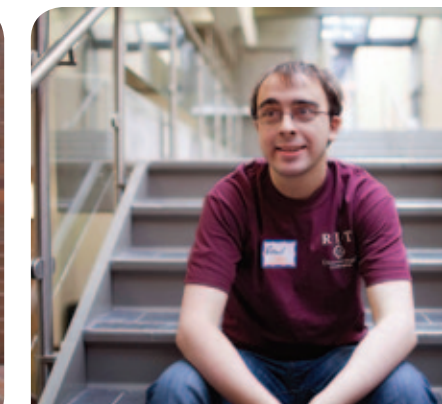
ADNAN JEHAN
International Business
Second Year

“I want to create a trick shot for billiards that looks cool.”



JOHN LAFRANCE
Sandwich Artist/
SAU Staff

“I made a pot rack for my kitchen made out of 1 inch steel tubing and hooks made out of coat hangers.”



RICHARD LATHAM
Electrical Engineering
First Year

“I did a research project titled ‘Efficiency Enhancing Device for Photovoltaic Solar Panels.’”

RIT RINGS

585.672.4840

compiled by Amanda Szczepanski & Moe Sedlak
All calls subject to editing and truncation. Not all calls will be run.
REPORTER reserves the right to publish all calls in any format.

FRIDAY, 6:37 P.M.

IT'S NOT A PARTY 'TIL SOMEONE DRAGS A TREE LIMB THROUGH YOUR LIVING ROOM.

(from text)

SUNDAY, 12:18 A.M.

I'M TOO BUSY TO PARTY; I JUST MADE AN EPIC BED FORT. PRIORITIES RINGS, PRIORITIES.

(from text)

MONDAY, 1:01 P.M.

So, I just ate a bowl of blueberry muffin squares and beer... and actually enjoyed it. Gracie's has severely lowered my standards of quality food.

(from text)

SUNDAY, 12:28 P.M.

Hey **RINGS**, I don't think girls like it when you scream "Beastmode!" when switching to doggy style. Awkward.

(from text)

MONDAY, 4:55 P.M.

I'M TIRED OF BEING ON MY KNEES THROWING UP... I FEEL LIKE MILEY CYRUS.

(from text)

MONDAY, 11:41 P.M.

What the hell, dude? I just saw a Monroe County sheriff giving a Public Safety officer a ticket! Nice job.

(from text)

TUESDAY, 12:30 A.M.

IT'S HARD FOR ME TO BRUSH MY TEETH WHEN SOME DEAF KID IS JERKING OFF IN THE SHOWER.

(from text)

WEDNESDAY, 2:09 P.M.

I JUST SAW A POCKET ROCKET ON THE QUARTER MILE! IF THERE IS A GOD, PLEASE BLESS MY FOURTH YEAR WITH A POCKET ROCKET AND SECURITY SEGWAY HIGH-SPEED CHASE.

(from text)

WEDNESDAY, 9:43 P.M.

I pay over forty thousand a year to wake up to the smell of semen. Seriously, RIT. Those trees need to go.

(from text)

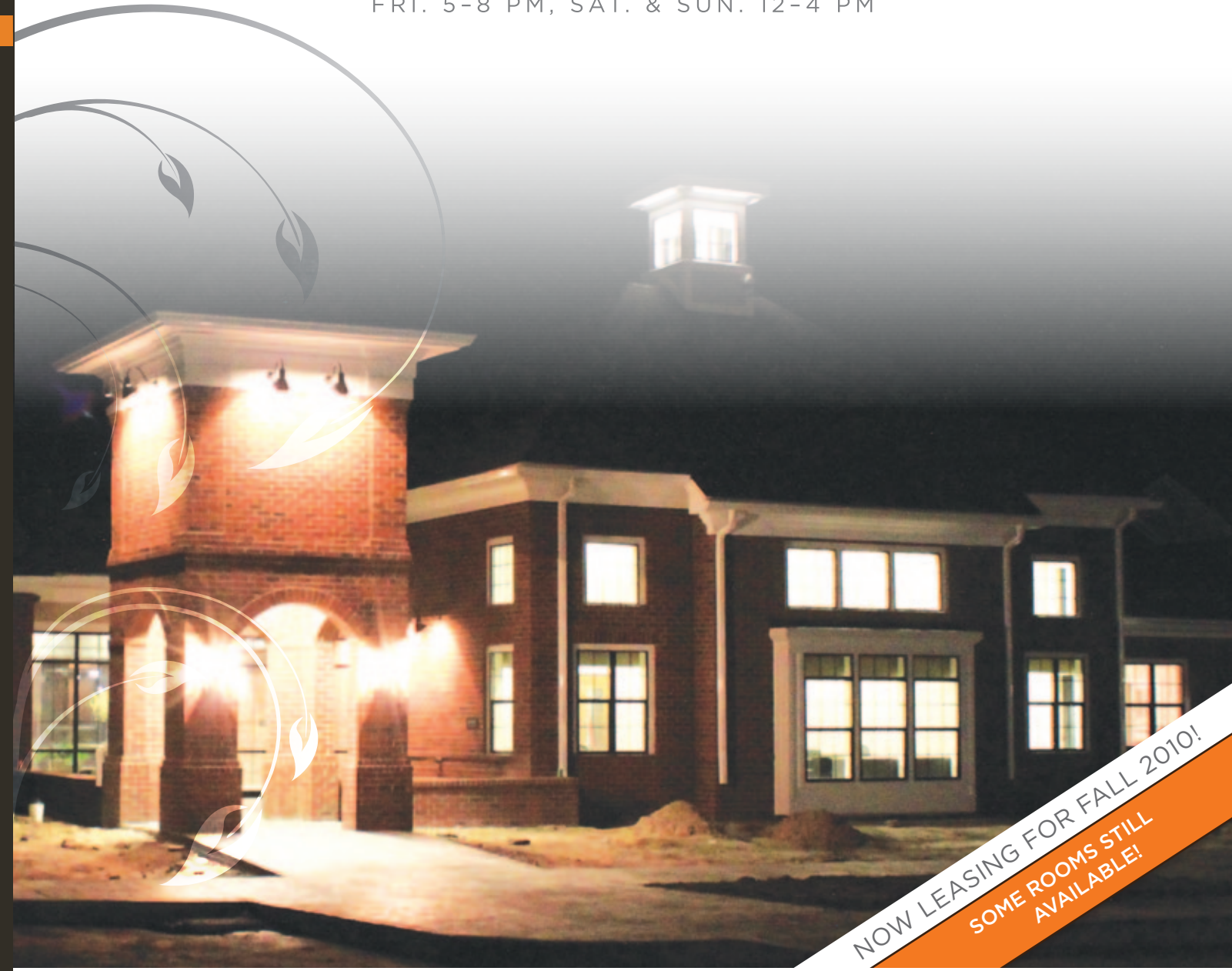
THURSDAY, 9:08 P.M.

I have a present for you, and it might be my [bologna pony].

(from text)

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OUR PARKING LOT IS STILL BEING FINISHED, PLEASE PARK ON CAMPUS.

see you there!

IMAGINE RIT

INNOVATION + CREATIVITY FESTIVAL

FREE! 10 A.M. TO 5 P.M., SATURDAY, MAY 1, RIT CAMPUS



Where else can you touch an idea? You and your classmates have worked all year—it's time to check out the results! Join us at the Imagine RIT: Innovation and Creativity Festival on Saturday, May 1. Demonstrations, interactive exhibits, live performances, and hundreds of examples of innovation and creativity will be on display. It's all free and open to the public, rain or shine.

Where: RIT campus, Jefferson Road

When: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, May 1

Admission: Free

Parking: Available on RIT's campus on a first come first serve basis. Parking is also available at MCC with a free shuttle service to RIT.

What you'll see: Hundreds of interactive presentations, exhibitions, hands-on demonstrations, research projects and live performances.

Plan your day: Build an itinerary of your favorite exhibits and check out the entire festival program by visiting www.rit.edu/Imagine.



Enjoy live performances throughout the day. A wide variety of musical performances, plays, poetry readings and other shows will take place on stages across campus.



Witness a concrete canoe float. RIT's concrete canoe team will have its vessel on display. Also, be sure to check out our student designed and constructed Formula race car.



Learn about the technology that helps create award-winning films. Go inside RIT's world-class film and animation studios and witness how the magic happens.



R·I·T