

# REPORTER

09/24/10 | [reportermag.com](http://reportermag.com)

## MIND VERSUS MACHINE

WHAT YOUR BRAIN HAS BECOME.

### TECHNOLOGY PAINS

BLURRY VISION IS THE LEAST OF YOUR PROBLEMS.

### DISCARDED DINOSAURS

FOSSILS AND FANTASY DISTORT REALITY.

Jon Kruger

Carl Atkins



# New Energy Jazz Orchestra

## Friday, September 24, 2010

8pm Ingle Auditorium

Photo: A. Sue Weisler/RIT

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**11am - 4pm**  
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# EDITOR'S NOTE

## DARWIN AND THE DINOSAUCERS

In 1987, DIC Entertainment released an animated television series featuring dinosaurs in space. The show featured two groups of anthropomorphic prehistoric reptiles, the Dinosaucers and the Tyrannos, battling it out for no reason clear to my child self. The exact plot is still a little fuzzy to me, but the characters still stick out in my mind.

I vaguely remember that the Dinosaucers had a technological advantage that the Tyrannos wanted to steal. The Dinosaucers had the ability to *dinolve* by pressing a red button on the front of their uniforms. What exactly *dinolving* involved escapes me, but I do know that it was essential in helping the Dinosaucers trump the Tyrannos every single time. I mean, how can you go wrong with dinosaurs, crazy technology and outer space?

Unfortunately, the series only lasted one 65-episode season and we won't be seeing any more walking, talking humanoid dinos in the future. However, here's a thought triggered by much boredom on a restless night: If the dinosaurs never became extinct, would intelligent dino-humans exist today in place of us regular humans? I guess we'll never know, but on the flip side, you can learn a little bit about the creatures that anthropologists and scientists thought had once roamed the earth (see "Discarded Dinosaurs" on page 14).

If not dino-humans, what lies ahead? Could cyborgs be a reasonable bet? Cochlear implants, artificial heart pumps and regulars, and robotic limbs are just a few examples of how medical technology is changing the world. None are exactly cyborg level, but imagine if we kicked it up a notch. What if 50 percent of your body was replaced by machine? What if instead of returning regular human functions, technology enhanced them? Would it be mad science or would it be adaptation? Evolution? Would what's left of your body deteriorate? Technology does have its negative effects (see "Mind versus Machine" on page 16 and "Technology Pains" on page 22).

I suppose you can go wrong with dinosaurs and crazy technology. Now, if only someone can find me a few aliens.

Madeleine Villavicencio

EDITOR IN CHIEF

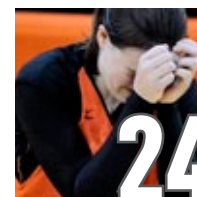
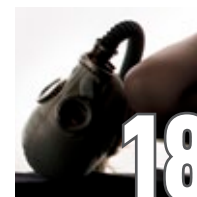
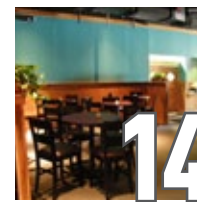
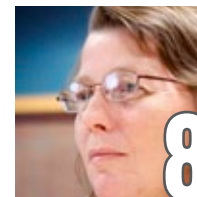
Reporter Magazine is published weekly during the academic year by a staff comprised of students at Rochester Institute of Technology. Business, Editorial, and Design facilities are located in Room A-730, in the lower level of the Campus Center. Our phone number is 1.800.970.5406. The Advertising Department can be reached at 1.585.475.2213. The opinions expressed in Reporter do not necessarily reflect those of the Institute. "I hired a group of fairies to sneak into your room at night and knock you on the head with a bunch of tiny hammers. Every time they do it, you lose 1/10 of an IQ point. It may not seem like much, but they're doing it all night long!" -L.M. Letters to the Editor may also be sent to reporter@rit.edu. Reporter is not responsible for materials presented in advertising areas. No letters will be printed unless signed. All letters received become the property of Reporter. Reporter takes pride in its membership in the Associated Collegiate Press and American Civil Liberties Union. Copyright © 2009 Reporter Magazine. All rights reserved. No portion of this Magazine may be reproduced without prior written permission.

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Alpha Sigma Alpha sisters hug new members chosen through the fall formal sorority recruitment. | photograph by Chris Langer



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I'll make a man out of you.

Cover photograph by Joi Ong

## CANTINA AND GRILLE OPENS AT GLOBAL VILLAGE

by James Arn | photograph by Michael Conti

Amidst the continuing construction at Global Village, RIT's newest eatery opened its doors early last week. In keeping with the international theme of Global Village, the cantina and grille offers selections of foods from the far corners of the earth.

The Cantina houses three separate counters, each of which offers options from a different part of the globe. The first and largest of these counters is that of Salsarita's. As a franchise of the popular Mexican chain, Salsarita's offers standard Mexican fare, including burritos, quesadillas and nachos. In addition to these more traditional options, Salsarita's offers Mexican pizzas.

For students looking to take their palates east rather than south, the cantina and grille offers fresh sushi. The sushi counter, Oishii Sushi, is owned and operated by the same people behind Park Point's Wok With You. At Oishii, they offer many varieties of fresh sushi and, for those willing to wait, will even roll sushi to order, right at the counter.

The last counter, the Global Grille itself, offers a wide variety of cuisine. Each meal is grilled to order on a grill identical to the Mongolian Grill found at Gracie's. The grill's menu, which will be constantly rotating, uses fresh produce and meat.

Paul Smarsh, assistant manager of the cantina and grille, said that the new eatery has been a great success. "Since we've opened, we've been really busy. The Salsarita's concept has been well-received," said Smarsh. This was evident even at 3:00 p.m. on a Friday: A line of eight students had formed at the Salsarita's counter.

To fit with RIT's green initiative, Smarsh says that the cantina is looking for cost-effective ways to stay green. Currently, the Salsarita's takeout containers are made from recycled materials, as is the plastic silverware. "We're always looking for more green opportunities," said Smarsh.

In addition to the cantina and grille, the Global Market opened right next door. The market is a combination convenience store and ethnic market. In addition to many of the products that can be found at Bytes on the Run or The Corner Store, Global Market sells many specialty items. The produce section includes foods that might be unfamiliar to many students, including okra, jicama, tomatillas and lemon grass.

In addition, the market sells a variety of local products, from maple syrup made in the state of New York to fresh bread from local bakeries. A small selection of gourmet and organic products are also available, including chocolates and cheeses. 



William Rollins, second year industrial design student, cooks fresh chicken daily at the Global Village cantina and grille.

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# WORLD NEWS

by Tom Sciotto



Members of the RWDSU Local 220, who were previously on strike, march down Main St. Rochester during the Labor Day Parade on September 6. photograph by Michael Conti

## MOTT'S STRIKE ENDS

On Monday, September 13, the strike at the Mott's plant in Williamson, N.Y., which lasted 112 days, was finally brought to an end. The Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union (RWDSU) Local 220 voted to accept the contract proposed by the parent company of Mott's, the Dr Pepper Snapple Group, by a margin of 182 to 65. The three-year contract will freeze wages as well as reduce the company's future contributions to retirement and health benefits. Mott's contended that the cuts are meant to bring compensation levels in line with similar industries in the Rochester area. The workers were scheduled to return to the plant floor on September 20.

## APPLE RELEASES REVIEW GUIDELINES TO APP DEVELOPERS

Faced with growing competition in the smartphone market, Apple announced that it would relax its standards for developers of applications for the iPad and iPhone. The research firm Canals reported that, in the second quarter of this year, smartphones running Google's Android operating system grew by 866 percent from the same quarter in 2009.

The changes included publishing detailed guidelines explaining Apple's app approval process through its app store and allowing applications to display advertisements from sources other than Apple's iAd service. Apple will also allow the use of third-party tools during development of applications for its iOS mobile operating system. Many veterans of the mobile application development industry have lauded the news of these changes.

## TAX BENEFITS FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS SET TO EXPIRE AT END OF YEAR

The American Opportunity Credit, which was part of last year's stimulus package, is set to expire at the end of the year. The credit provides a maximum credit of \$2,500 per student. To get the full credit, students would need to spend at least \$4,000 on qualified expenses, which include tuition and books.

## TEA PARTY CANDIDATE WINS GOP PRIMARY IN NEW YORK

Buffalo real estate developer and tea party member Carl Paladino defeated Rick Lazio in the Republican party's primary for governor on September 15. Paladino is one of several Tea Party candidates who won big this primary season. He polled particularly well in Monroe County, garnering 79 percent of votes cast. His home county of Erie saw 30 percent of registered Republicans turn out for the election, an unusually high number in a midterm election year. Erie voters returned 94 percent of the vote for Paladino. Lazio went into the race as the party favorite and had previously lost to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton in the 2000 race for the U.S. Senate. Lazio will be on the Conservative Party's ticket for governor.

## ROCHESTER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IMPLEMENTS FULL-BODY SCANNER

On September 17, the Rochester International Airport began permanent operations of a "millimeter wave scanner" which generates a 3-D image of a passenger going through a security checkpoint. The controversial technology faces strong opposition due to alleged infringement on personal privacy because of the machine's ability to generate an incredibly detailed image of the traveler's entire body. The scanner is meant to alleviate congestion during periods of peak demand as well as provide an added degree of safety from non-metallic security threats. Passengers are not required to pass through the device but, if they opt out, must submit to additional security screening.

# RIT NEWS

by Brendan Cahill and Amanda Imperial

## SG APPOINTS STAND-IN GCCIS SENATOR

Student Government (SG) representatives elected Alex Shick, a fourth year game design and development major, Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences (GCCIS) Senator as a temporary replacement for Matthew Reed. Reed is currently away on an extended co-op, and will not return until the first week of November. Dave Mullaney, vice president of SG, stated, "I am confident [Shick] will be an excellent replacement."

## SEMESTER TRANSITION BRINGS CHANGES TO GENERAL EDUCATION

Dr. Elizabeth Hane, chair of the General Education Committee and professor of biology, gave a presentation about the changes planned for the general education system. In particular, she discussed the upcoming semester conversion and its effects on the general education system.

General education, or "gen ed," refers to the courses that a college or university requires all students to take. Gen ed courses at RIT must meet New York State Education Department (NYSED) requirements and must support each student's major while allowing them to integrate learning from outside of their major.

Once the switch to semesters takes place in 2013, a total of 60 gen ed credits will be required to earn a Bachelor of Science degree, while a total of 30 gen ed credits will be required to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree. Once the new student information system is up and running, it will be clearer which classes are part of the general education curriculum.

The institute-wide change will allow classes to be submitted for review to become accepted as general education. Instead of having students feel the need to "get [their] gen ed [courses] out of the way," said Hane, the change will allow for integrated knowledge — what students learn through general education can be applied between different courses. Efforts will be made to assure that course material is not redundant, but reinforces material previously covered in other classes. Some of the other proposed changes include the integration of First-Year Enrichment into First-Year Seminar and the opportunity for interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary experiences.

The board — which is made up of one representative from each college, the assistant provost, an Academic Dean and Academic Senate representative, and the director of Student Learning Outcomes Assessment — has grouped all general education classes into five

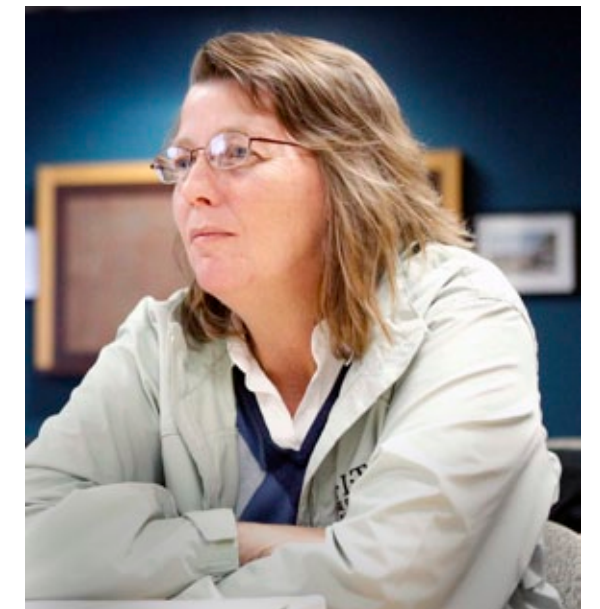
categories. All students will complete six credits of Foundation courses, which will include First-Year Seminar and a writing course. All students will also fulfill 15 credits of Perspective courses, which are still to be determined and may include Arts of Expression. Bachelor of Science students will take 12 credits of math and science courses. Finally, all students will complete a nine-credit Immersion course. All remaining credits will be filled with general education electives.

Advising for general education credits will no longer be done through the College of Liberal Arts, but under the Provost's Office. Additional staff members and dean delegates will handle advising and provide assistance.

## REVIEW POLICY SHAKE-UP

Kathleen Martin, chair of the University Policy Review and Development Project, provided an update on the project to the staff council. The project started 18 months ago in order to update the procedures for approving and publishing policies as well as the online version of the Institute Policy and Procedures Manual (IPPM).

As Martin explained, many of RIT's policies date from years ago. Some haven't changed in over 20 years and were created when RIT was a much smaller university. As such, the IPPM and the policies in it are being updated, with a focus on improving the consistency of the language and preventing duplication so that, if a policy is modified, it only needs to be updated once. Other new additions include an archive of former final versions of policies, a glossary of terminology for policies and procedures, and a new website. **R**



Marcia Carroll from the School of Print Media shares her concerns about the current system of adding and dropping classes once the quarter has begun. | photograph by Ted Syslo

# FORECAST

compiled by Nick Buonarota

## RIT

### Friday 24

#### PERFORMING ARTISTS CONCERT SERIES

Ingle Auditorium. 8 – 10 p.m. RIT's 16th season of the Performing Artists Concert Series will open with the New Energy Jazz Orchestra, led by RIT professors Carl Atkins, head of the music program, and Jonathan Kruger, associate professor of music. **Cost: \$5 for students, \$15 for faculty, staff, and alumni, and \$20 for the public.**

### Saturday 25

#### MUD TUG

Behind Grace Watson Hall. 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Teams of ten face off in an epic game of tug of war. Losing means falling into an enormous pit of mud, which means having an enormous bunch of fun. All proceeds will be donated to the Hillside Children's Center in Rochester. **Cost: \$5.**

### Sunday 26

#### WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL VERSUS STEVENS

Clark Gym. 12:30 – 2:30 p.m. Come and support the Women's Volleyball Team as they beat down the ducks in the Empire 8 Tournament. **Cost: Free.**

### Monday 27

#### CAREER FAIR WORKSHOP – RÉSUMÉ REVIEWS

Bausch and Lomb Center. 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Interested in getting a job? Having a good résumé is critical! Walk in and get your résumé reviewed by Career Services staff members. No appointment necessary. **Cost: Printing out your résumé.**

### Tuesday 28

#### OPEN MIC NIGHT

lovin' cup. 8:30 p.m. Are you bursting to show the world your musical talents? Have you just perfected your latest Justin Bieber cover? Then head down to lovin'cup and prove it to the world. Well, at least to Park Point. **Cost: Free.**

### Wednesday 29

#### FALL CAREER FAIR

Gordon Field House. 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. This is your best chance to meet possible future employers and snag awesome opportunities both for careers and co-ops. Don't forget to bring your shiny new résumé. **Cost: Free.**

### Thursday 30

#### CAB PRESENTS: SCHINDLER'S LIST

Ingle Auditorium. 10 – 11:30 p.m. In this heart-wrenching classic, Oskar Schindler witnesses the horrors endured by the Jews of Europe during the Holocaust, and starts to save them. **Cost: A large box of tissues.**

## ROC

### Friday 24

#### WALL STREET: MONEY NEVER SLEEPS

Your favorite local movie theater. Times vary. Every dream has a price. "Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps," starring Michael Douglas and Shia LaBeouf, hits theaters today as the sequel to the popular 1987 movie, "Wall Street." **Cost: One movie ticket and a tub of the world's most expensive popcorn.**

### Saturday 25

#### VILLAGE IDIOTS IMPROV COMEDY

Village Idiots Pillar Theater, 274 North Goodman St. 8 p.m. The village idiots are one of Rochester's premier comedy troupes. Be prepared to laugh. **Cost: \$8 at the door.**

### Sunday 26

#### FALL HARVEST CELEBRATION

Brown's Berry Patch, 14264 Roosevelt Highway. 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. Nothing quite says Fall like a delicious pie. Head to Brown's Berry Patch to stock up on all the apples, raspberries and pumpkins your heart desires. **Cost: How big is a bushel, anyway?**

### Monday 27

#### TALKS WITH GARTH

The Dryden Theater, 900 East Ave. 7 p.m. Garth Fagan, renowned choreographer, and Jack Gardner, film critic, explore how dance in films has influenced popular culture. **Cost: \$15 for students, \$25 for adults.**

### Tuesday 28

#### 45 CENT WING TUESDAYS

Buffalo Wild Wings, 780 Jefferson Road. Buffalo Wild Wings is offering their deep-fried goodness for the insane price of 45 cents per wing. Reporter dares you to down the dreaded blazin' wings. **Cost: Number of wings x 45 cents + tax and tip.**

### Wednesday 29

#### WHIMSICAL ART EXHIBIT

Strong National Museum of Play, One Manhattan Square. 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. A playful and inspiring display of work by local artists Dianne Dengel, Nancy Wiley, Craig Wilson, Brian Wilson and Albert Wilson. **Cost: \$11 (includes admission to the museum).**

### Thursday 30

#### DAVE RIVELLO ENSEMBLE

Village Rock Cafe, 213 E Main St. 8 p.m. The Dave Rivello Ensemble is a 12-piece jazz group that has been a staple of the Rochester jazz scene since their formation in 1993. Don't miss this one. **Cost: Free.**

# AT YOUR LEISURE

09.24.10

by Alex Rogala

QUOTE

"We are the music makers, and we are the dreamers of dreams."

– ARTHUR O'SHAUGHNESSY

#### HAIKU

**FALL IS HERE AGAIN,  
FMS HAS LEAF BLOWERS.  
MAN, WHAT A BUZZ KILL.**

#### REPORTER RECOMMENDS

##### DUTCHING IT

It's Sunday night. Your roommate is squirreled away doing homework, and you're sitting around with a few friends trying to remedy the lull that's fallen over your apartment. The solution? Get yourself out of this rut by joining your mind in the gutter.

The rules are simple: Add the word Dutch in front of any word or phrase to instantly coin your own dirty deviations. Although it's not entirely clear why the Netherlands maintains such a devious reputation, it works. For starters, try Dutch mailbox. Think you can handle it?

Most words work, but some lead to considerably better results than others, such as the Dutch handstand, Dutch forklift or Dutch chimney sweep. Or perhaps you're looking for something just plain weird, like the Dutch social worker. Regardless, you're well on your way to the best procrastination you've had in a long time. **R**

#### OVERSEEN AND OVERHEARD

"I'm just gonna stab it a few times and then shove this in."

– Male student in Province

Students outside the SAU using empty bike rack as a makeshift ladder

"Mostly humans congregate at Gracie's."

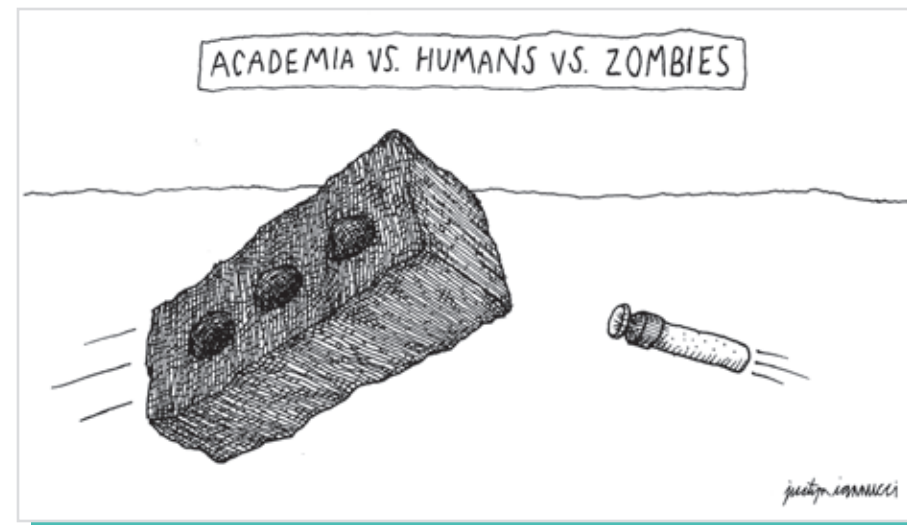
– Male student outside Golisano Hall

Send your Overseen and Overheard entries with the phrase "Overseen and Overheard" in the subject line to [leisure@reportermag.com](mailto:leisure@reportermag.com). Or submit them via Twitter by directing submissions to @reportermag with #OnO. Now accepting cell phone pics!

#### SUDOKU DIFFICULTY RATING: EASY

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

#### CARTOON by Justyn Iannucci



#### STREAM OF FACTS

When it was originally invented in 1856, **CARDBOARD** was used to line the inside of hats.

In 2006, the U.S. Army introduced *Flat Daddies*, life-sized **CARDBOARD** cutouts of deployed National **GUARD** members designed to help children cope with the absence of a parent.

Since the mid-1980s, North American farmers have begun raising **GUARD** llamas to protect sheep from **DOGS** and coyotes.

Hot **DOGS** didn't sport that classic bun until street vender Antoine Feuchtwanger began selling his dogs on split rolls to combat theft of the **GLOVES** he leant customers for eating them.

During 1995, latex surgical **GLOVES** stored in several warehouses and **MEDICAL** facilities spontaneously combusted due to poor storage conditions.

In **MEDICAL** slang, "LOL" used to represent "little **OLD** lady."

In July, a distillery near Mount Vernon, Va. began selling whiskey based off of a 213-year-**OLD** recipe from George **WASHINGTON**.

There are more escort services in **WASHINGTON**, D.C. than there are McDonald's **RESTAURANTS**.

According to a 2010 study, women who live close to convenience stores and **RESTAURANTS** have a higher BMI on average than those who don't.

#### WORD OF THE WEEK

**RUBICON** *n.* - a point of no return.

By accidentally igniting his friend's girlfriend during the bonfire, Daniel knew he had crossed a **RUBICON** towards a world of pain.

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

## HALO: REACH



GAME | FPS | XBOX 360  
by Nick Buonarota



"Halo: Reach" is a title ten years in the making. As a prequel to "Halo: Combat Evolved," the game that launched the Halo franchise, the ending is clear even before the console turns on. A compelling tragedy, the game tells the story of Noble Team, a highly trained commando squad composed of six Spartans, during the fall of the planet Reach. The protagonist, Noble Six, joins the team on the first day of the Covenant invasion on Reach and must overcome insurmountable odds against overwhelming opposition.

Despite the strong campaign mode, the multiplayer element of Reach is just as addictive, if not more so. With the classic matchmaking — incorporating the old time favorites such as slayer and capture the flag, along with new game types such as invasion — competitive play will never get old. And returning from "Halo: ODST" is the more recent firefight mode, ensuring a solid multiplayer cooperative play that promises unique and challenging encounters for years to come.

One new element to the multiplayer experience is the addition of "loadouts," a preset selection of weapons and grenades, as well as an armor ability. These selections provide a very convenient way of adapting to the changes in a competitive environment. Among the coolest loadouts are the Airborn Loadout, which gives the player a jet pack, and the Stalker Loadout, which gives the player active camouflage.

Forge, Halo's map editor, has also received an upgrade. The abilities given to the pseudo-designer in Forge are unbelievable. Tricks to fine-tune the map exactly the way you wanted it in "Halo 3" are now standard tools. These tricks include the phase tool, which allows the player to build objects that can intersect or merge, ensuring that your new structure is 100 percent secure, and the new map, Forge World, is a veritable designer's paradise.

Even ten years into the franchise, "Halo: Reach" is both a triumph and a fitting tribute to all the great moments of the Halo series. So grab a copy, kick back in your favorite chair, and I'll see you online.

## J MINUS - "DEVIL MUSIC"



ALBUM | INDIE POP | 51. MINS.  
by Evan Williams



With album artwork scrawled in frenzied Crayola and an opening track titled "Congratulations, You Suck," J Minus's "Devil Music" could have gone in quite a few different directions. Luckily, the band manages to not fall prey to its own irony on this charming 13-track journey through radio-friendly indie pop. The record flows almost startlingly well, tying together a myriad of genres and styles with impressive ease.

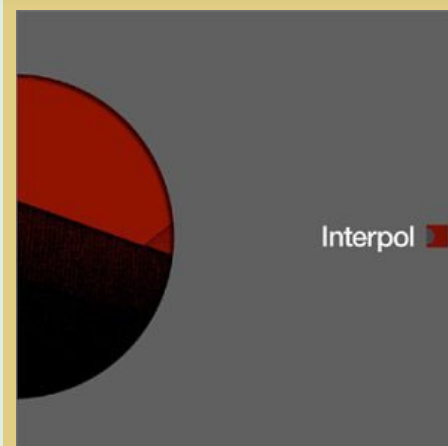
Their label states, "This is not your typical rock group," which is pretty easy to do when you're not actually a rock group. What J Minus does is a blend of indie, pop, alternative rock and hip-hop that's accented very tastefully with folk, lounge, country, soul and even a little emo pop thrown in for good measure. By the time you're halfway through, you almost don't realize that "The One," a full-on alternative rock banger, is starkly different than the banjo-led, hip-hop-infused folk of the opener. Although this transition should be jarring, the boys of J Minus handle it quite smoothly.

The secret lies in J Minus's core sound — which is poppy, groovy and soulful — that they then accent with whatever outside style they want. It's the perfect indie answer to hybrid-pop acts like Maroon 5 and the Script, and you can't help but think that the next "Breakeven" might be in here somewhere. The vocals are soulful, yet not overdone, similar to Teddy Geiger or Michael Bubl , and the lyrics are impressive at times, like on "Who We Were": "Johnny was a young boy / without much of a family / six friends to his name / made of steel and harmony."

Yet even this great of a record has its flaws. "Devil Music" suffers from an inconsistency, in that the first two-thirds are clearly stronger than the final third. Additionally, the lead vocals, which are split up across the record, favor one of the three singers.

Besides the album's weak tail end, J Minus has put together a fluid record that is fun, unique and surprisingly endearing. It's an album you can run through over and over, and once it gets in your head, you find that "Devil Music" is a helluva good time.

## INTERPOL - INTERPOL



ALBUM | INDIE | 46 MINS.  
by Sam Angarita



New York indie rockers Interpol have often been likened to post-punk revival bands like Joy Division and The Chameleons; but four albums into their nearly decade-long career, it's difficult to think of a more suiting point of reference than their younger selves to understand just where their new self-titled album leaves them.

As it turns out, where exactly this leaves them isn't very clear. Their previous album, "Our Love to Admire," was released in 2007 with mixed reviews and a generally lukewarm reception. While punchier with songs like "The Heinrich Maneuver" and the epic opener "Pioneer to the Falls," the album maintained a mostly unvaried sound and tension throughout, something that must have been surprising — if not disappointing — for fans of their earlier, more diverse releases.

Despite that, Interpol suffers a different, but not a more fortunate, fate. On first listen, the album's most memorable tracks seem to be "Summer Well" and the album's singles "Lights" and "Barricade." But after that, there is a plateau in the prominence of the band's newly-explored beats and bass lines that makes the aforementioned tracks stand out as dynamic, leaving an unexciting indistinguishable noise.

That four-song staleness is relieved with the concluding "The Undoing," an almost nightmarish and stormy track that shuffles in bits of earlier songs in the album before fading out hazily. A decent ending song nonetheless, but nothing comparing to what songs like "The New" and "Leif Erikson" did on their debut album, "Turn on the Bright Lights."

The never-quite-screaming voice of singer Paul Banks and the tunnel-like quality of the band still remain, but with several recent record label changes, the absence of bassist Carlos Dengler, and frontman Banks putting quite a lot of energy into his solo project, the band seems to have lost the charm that won over all but its most diehard fans. If they want to rekindle that vitality and emotion, it seems the band should sit down and consider what they really want Interpol to be.

## ISLAND FRESH CUISINE



JAMAICAN | \$10-\$30 ENTR ES | 382 JEFFERSON ROAD  
by Alecia Crawford



As soon as you walk into Island Fresh Cuisine, the Caribbean music greets you before the host or hostess ever gets the chance. Upon sitting down, the chill atmosphere makes it hard to do anything but relax, have a drink, and let the good times roll.

When Island Fresh Cuisine says they serve authentic Jamaican cuisine, they mean it! After staring at the huge selection, I started off with fried plantains and an order of their complimentary festival sticks, which consist of fried dough with powdered sugar. Both were highly addictive, as I quickly found I couldn't stop eating either. The plantains were fried perfectly with a lightly caramelized crust and a soft yet delectable inside. The festival sticks were sweetened just right and struck an ideal balance of firm yet spongy.

For my main course, I ordered the chef's signature curry chicken with rice and peas, homemade cornbread and steamed cabbage. The rice and peas complemented the full flavor of the curry chicken wonderfully. The cornbread, with its unique texture, was a pleasant contrast to the southern-style cornbread most are accustomed to, although the fried plantains may have been a better choice for the entr e. Despite my general aversion to vegetables, I couldn't stop eating the steamed cabbage.

For those who are wary of trying Jamaican food, a few American dishes are also available, such as the standard burger and fries combo. Entr e prices range from \$10 to \$30 with a few \$9 deals. For more social patrons, every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 4 to 7 p.m. is "Happy Hour on the Island." But perhaps the greatest perk is convenience: to partake in the Island Fresh Cuisine experience, all you have to do is venture three to five minutes from campus and enjoy. **R**

For more deals and promotions check out the Island Fresh Cuisine website at <http://islandfreshcuisine.com>.



# DISCARDED DINOSAURS

by Liz Shaw  
illustration by Joanna Eberts

The dirt wakes to the sound of a pneumatic hammer, a constant meditative flow freeing every trace of itself from the fossil's core. As fragments of the specimen are revealed, the investigator's mind fills in the details: A long, sinuous body suggests the image of a serpent; an imprint of tentacles could only belong to a Kraken; a colossal beaked skull triggers sketches of griffins. A mythical creature is born.

During the first half of the 18th century, such creatures were of great concern to researchers. Seemingly everyone was determined to find the beasts that produced these fossils. Remarkably, their ideas were not always so far-fetched. The unicorn, for instance, may have been based on the fossilized remains of a real animal: the *Elasmotherium*. This animal had an equine build with slender legs appropriate for galloping, and it possessed the signature single horn. Similarly, the source for tales of giant sea serpents may lie with the washed-up carcasses of basking sharks, an intimidatingly long species (23 to 30 feet, on average) with a serpentine appearance.

In 1784, one naturalist set out to prove that unicorns and giant sea serpents did not exist by publishing a series of letters as a plea for reason. These claims were met with so much contention that the author was forced to remain anonymous. By that point, the public's imagination was too captivated. It — not science — influenced the very direction of discovery.



This insistence fueled the creation of yet more monsters. In the late 1700s, naturalists in Philadelphia began to assemble “the great American incognitum,” a towering, elephantine creature with horrifying claws and “the agility and ferocity of a tiger.”

The claws actually came from a giant ground sloth found nearby, and the monster's build was overestimated by a factor of six. Later restorers jammed other elements into the structure so as to increase both ferocity and museum ticket sales. Tusks were forced and screwed into the head portion, then flipped over to resemble the canines of a saber-toothed tiger. In 1795, the jigsaw puzzle of a beast was formally described by French paleontologist Georges Cuvier and termed mastodon, which means “nipple-teeth.”

No one could quite unearth and correctly piece together monsters like the least-renowned paleontologist of all. If anything, Mary Anning is better known for inspiring the famous tongue-twister, “She sells seashells by the seashore,” than for her paleontological exploits. Spending each day meandering on the English coast, Anning would extract and collect various artifacts, then sell them to researchers. She is responsible for having discovered the first plesiosaurus fossils, an intricate project that took over 10 years, as well as one of the first pterodactyl fossils. Unlike many, she was able to skillfully extract fossils and solve their elusive puzzles.

Since excavations took a considerable amount of time, financial opportunities were scarce. Researchers who could quickly produce tantalizing results — usually by piecing together a grab bag of different remains — received the most profit. A smattering of fossils that Anning sold often wound up in such careless hands.

Enter the iguanodon, an awkward-looking creature displayed in the world's first exhibition to contain life-sized models of dinosaurs, Crystal Palace Park in London. Although the animal's parts mostly came from the same creature, they, too, were positioned together more on the basis of fantastical notion than reasoning. One of its thumbs was fastened atop its nose to form a clumped spike. Its spine was modified in such a way that the creature hunched over on four legs — even though the real dinosaur was bipedal. Nonetheless, the exhibition was a success. The public fell for a stout, abnormal iguanodon.

One of the plights of recent paleontology has been taxonomy, the categorization of organisms into different groups. In 1877, Professor Othniel Charles Marsh discovered an incomplete skeleton of a new dinosaur: *Apatosaurus ajax*. A mere two years later, he unearthed an even larger monster with different dimensions: *Brontosaurus excelsus*, which would soon come to adorn the shelves of children's toy departments everywhere. Yet the 1900s brought grim news: The *Brontosaurus* was an adult version of the *Apatosaurus*.

Such mistakes have yet to leave the world of taxonomy. As recent as July of this year, the *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology* published an article by two researchers, who implied that *Triceratops* dinosaurs are but juveniles of the *Torosaurus* genus. These findings were based on the results of a 10-year study of more than 50 specimens and over 30 skulls, an impressive amount for one geographic location. For diehard dinosaur fans, the news was shattering.

With an ever-increasing number of fossils to pore over, it would be foolish to believe these shocking realizations have come to an end. Environmental conditions must be perfect for a fossil to even form, and remains are occasionally scattered or incomplete. Oftentimes, a researcher is left with fragments that don't divulge much — unless to a curious mind. Yet the diversity of fossils and the ways in which they form is so impressive, it's no wonder our imagination still gets the best of us. **R**



# MIND VS. MACHINE

by James Arn | photography by Joi Ong

As denizens of an industrialized society, college students would be completely incapable of leading lives without the constant assistance of technological aid. From the alarm clock that wakes students up in the morning to the iPod that lulls them to sleep, and every step in between, they are consumed by technology.



Students cannot avoid it. Technology has become so engrained in their daily lives that they interact with it without thinking about it. Everyday, students drink water filtered through massive water treatment plants; they eat cereal made from wheat that has never touched human hands; they eat chicken nuggets made from birds that have never seen the light of day; they turn on their computers and flood their brains with a wealth of information that is expanding at an inconceivable rate. Digital content created this year alone is expected to exceed 1.2 zettabytes. That's enough to fill every hard drive in the state of Minnesota to capacity.

The technological revolution has transformed human existence on an incomprehensible scale and it has done so in little more than a century. Progress of that magnitude has never been seen before in history. Yet for the wealth of benefits technology has brought, it is also, undeniably, killing the generation of technologically-dependent people.

College students have heard thousands of times that they are lazy, and how sitting in front of the television and eating from the drive-thru is turning them into a nation of obese hippos with clogged arteries. From how students get their food to how they get news, their technological lives are having a devastating effect on their health, and the health of the planet.

## REPROGRAMMING COLLEGE BRAINS

College students have become a society of on-demand. From I-want-it-now television offered by TiVo and Hulu, to frozen, ready-to-eat food available at any gas station, they have become accustomed to having everything they want at their fingertips, ready in an instant. All of this instant gratification has begun to rewire their brains. The frontal cortex, the part of the brain responsible for reasoning and self-control, is stimulated every time you reach for something on-demand. As the act of wanting something is repeatedly associated with the act of gratification, humans are slowly but surely decreasing their patience for all things slow. The brain is rewiring itself to hate waiting.

The more connections made in the brain, the more effective the neurological response is. What used to annoy you now makes you outright angry. Anger erupts if a computer takes more than a few seconds to perform any given task. And again, if there is a line, or a guy on the thruway in the left lane going 65 mph. With all this anger comes a surge of adrenaline.

Adrenaline, the hormone responsible for the "fight or flight" response, is incredibly useful when contemplating fighting that giant grizzly bear, but much less so when stuck behind that customer intent on paying in loose change in the check-out line. Adrenaline has several effects on the body that can, over time, cause serious health problems. Adrenaline increases blood pressure, which is already a prevailing problem, and it constricts blood vessels. The combination of these effects can lead to coronary problems and heart attack.

## DISTRACTED TO DISTRACTION BY DISTRACTION

College students are a distracted lot. Everywhere they go, the world is competing for their attention. Most Americans are exposed to over 3,000 advertisements per day, through billboards, television and print ads. As prolific internet users, college students are bombarded with even more ads online.

Internet advertising, however, has a few positives: It's what allows many web companies to offer the services they do for free. Without web ads there would be no Twitter, Facebook or Google. The nasty downside is that they add even more distractions to already distracted lives.

Chronic distraction can have serious effects on both mental and physical health. According to Dr. David Meyer, a psychology professor at the University of Michigan, chronic distraction can cause diseases similar to those caused by chronic stress, including cardiac problems and irreversible brain damage. Meyer says that Americans working in offices who use computers most of the day are showing the same kinds of mental breakdown by middle age as those working high-stress jobs, such as air traffic controllers.

According to a 2009 web survey by America Online and Salary.com, Americans waste an average of two hours per day on tasks resulting from distraction. Forty-four percent of Americans cite surfing the internet as their biggest distraction at work. For college students, who spend more time than average online, that number is presumed to be much higher.

Many college students pride themselves on their abilities to multitask, but research out of the École Normale Supérieure, an institute for higher learning in Paris, shows that the brain isn't actually capable of focusing on two separate tasks at once. What happens is that the brain continuously switches back and forth between two different operations. So not only must the brain cope with two separate operations at the same time, it must also put effort into switching between goals. This is a very inefficient use of the brain, and causes drastic decreases in the quality of both tasks.

While that loss in quality is hardly important if the tasks in question are doing the dishes and listening to music, it can be the difference between life and death when performing critical tasks like driving. College students are some of the most distracted drivers on the road — between making phone calls, answering text messages, looking at a GPS, and adjusting the stereo, their minds don't have a lot of processing power left for driving. The consequences are often fatal.

## WHERE DID THE TIME GO?

Technological advancement has long been spurred on by the promise of making life easier, of speeding things up and giving people more time. In many ways, that goal has succeeded. A trip from London to New York, a

voyage that took months by ship a century ago, can now be accomplished in a few hours. Email can whisk a letter across the globe in seconds, far faster than Ben Franklin could have ever hoped for his postal system. Somehow, society has ended up not with more time on their hands, but less. Where did it all go?

Technology ate it up. According to numbers released this January by Nielsen, the same company that monitors how many people watch television shows, Americans spent over seven hours a day on Facebook. On top of that, gamers spend roughly 18 hours a week playing video games — easily enough to qualify as a part-time job.

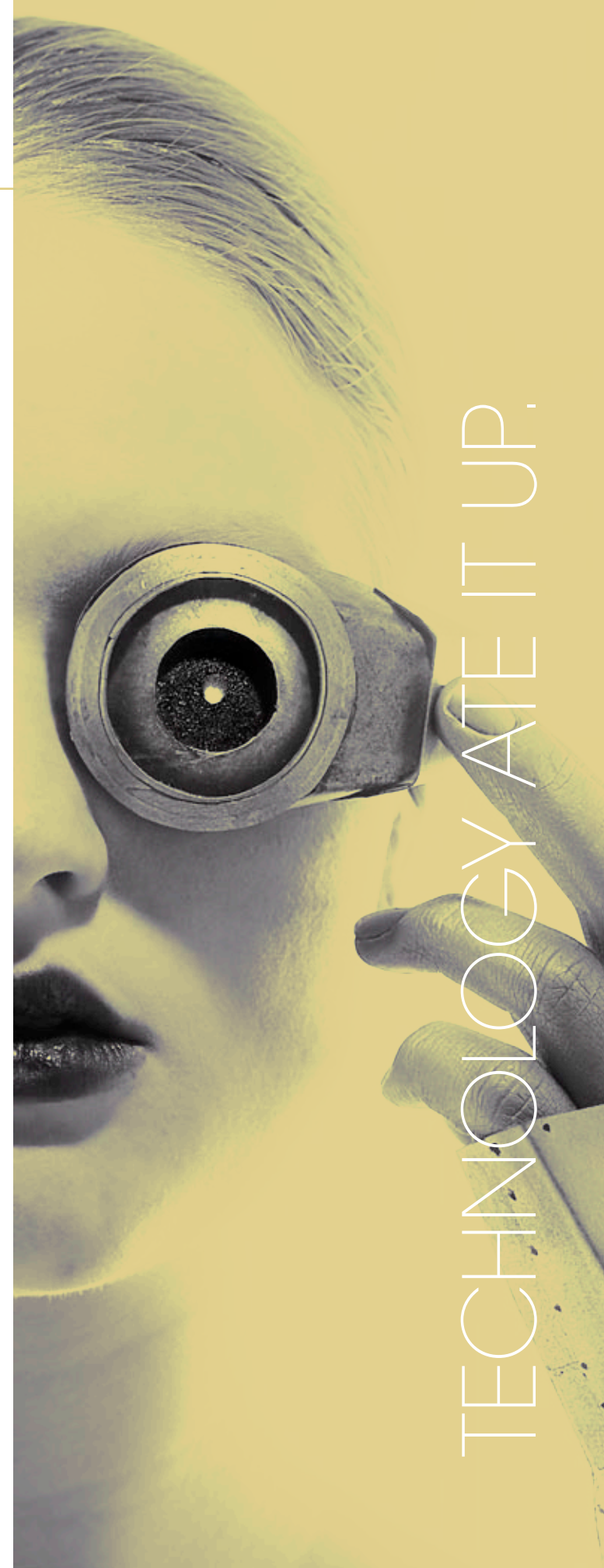
Yet Americans spend more time at work than Europeans. They also take about one-third as much vacation time than their European counterparts.

Americans are so busy, in fact, that they have begun to abandon what was once considered a cornerstone of the American way of life: the family dinner. The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University found that eating dinner together is one of the healthiest things a family can do. Families tend to eat healthier varieties of food, especially vegetables, when eating together. Family dinners can also have great developmental benefits for children. Children who regularly eat dinner with their parents are less likely to smoke cigarettes or develop substance abuse problems later in life. Communal meals are also a great way to reduce stress and tension within families by providing a forum for family members to air grievances and discuss the troubles in their lives.

## DESPAIR NOT, CHILDREN OF THE WEB

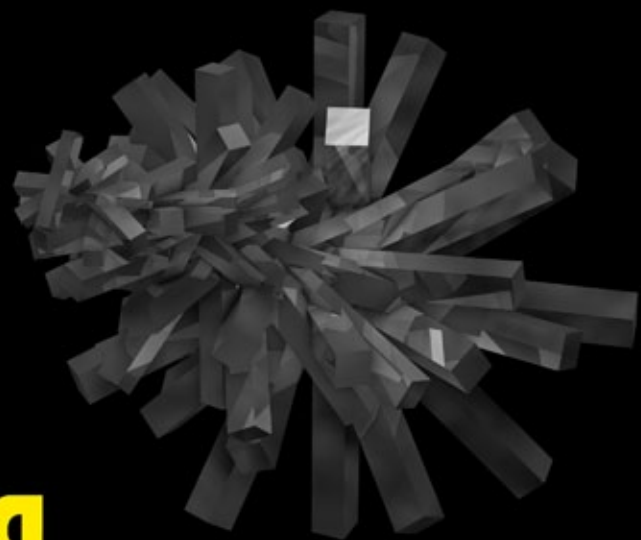
College students, and Americans in general, face a multitude of challenges in their paths. Some of these are caused by the natural environment, others by people looking to do them harm, but many people bring it upon themselves. That is the blessing and the curse of the modern technological world. It brings with it the ability to solve many problems — from food production to worldwide communication and everything in between. But it also brings many unforeseen challenges that must be dealt with in their own turn.

We must be vigilant that what we've produced to make our lives easier doesn't come back to bite us in the end. **R**



# REPORTER

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# TECHNOLOGY PAINS

by Evan Williams | photography by Robert Bredvad | illustrations by Justyn Iannucci



For those who have grown up in the digital revolution of the past two decades, the increasing role of technology in our lives has begun to display very real side effects on the bodies of its more avid users. Ironically, while these advancements grow more and more intent on aiding us, the swell in our dependence on technology has begun showing signs of its disservice to our physical well-being. Americans, specifically young ones, are spending more and more time wired into devices like computers and video game consoles, and it's changing the way their bodies develop.

The realization that America's increasingly sedentary lifestyle is generating massive health problems for its citizen is nothing new. It is suggested that the commercial availability of the automobile and the television midway through the 20th century have lead to an American way of life that enables people to be more content with moving less. Americans are now watching more TV and spending more time online than ever.

According to the Nielsen Company, 99 percent of American households own at least one television and watch TV around seven hours a day. Americans also lead the world in the amount of time spent online, coming in at over 27 hours a month. Additionally, at any given moment of any day, at least 1.6 million people in the U.S. are playing video games.

With all this time spent being stimulated by television, computer screens, video games and other entertainment means, the healthy balance of physical exercise becomes more and more lopsided. The way our bodies adapt to these changes can result in a serious physical toll. Here's a look at some of the more prominent issues and what you can do to fix them.

## Obesity

Obesity is defined as having excess fat deposits to the extent that it might have an adverse effect on health. The basic cause of obesity is simply a numbers game. If the body continually takes in more calories than it burns on a daily basis, over an extended period of time, it will gain weight and continue to gain weight. Poor dietary habits and a lack of exercise can result in this but, on occasion, genetics can be to blame.

The Center for Disease Control claims that obesity is the cause of many fatal health problems and is quickly catching up to smoking as the leading avoidable cause of death in the U.S. Every year, hundreds of thousands of Americans die due to causes stemming from

poor diet and lack of exercise. Obesity can lead to a number of serious life-threatening health conditions, including diabetes and cardiovascular disease, plus an increased risk of cancer. It also has a hefty financial cost. According to Reuters, "On average, persons who are obese have medical costs that are \$1,429 more than persons of normal weight."

The best way to prevent or combat obesity is to reverse the behavior that causes it. A healthy diet and regular exercise can go a long way. The goal is to reverse the ratio of calorie intake to calories burned. Many people will attest that weight loss can be very difficult and that the lifestyle change requires a great deal of commitment. However, this is the best way to tackle the problem. Consulting a physician or a personal dietician are first great steps to serious change.

## Eyesight

Gazing at a computer screen or television monitor for extended periods of time has been linked to a condition known as Computer Vision Syndrome (CVS). Staring at a monitor all day requires a great deal of focusing and eye movement, which can tire out the muscles in the eye. Pre-existing eye vision problems, such as astigmatism and farsightedness can compound the issues. The symptoms include dry eye, eyestrain, light sensitivity, fatigue and headaches.

CVS symptoms can be divided into three categories: eye-related symptoms (such as dry eyes and burning eyes), vision-related symptoms (such as blurred vision and double vision), and posture-related symptoms (such as neck strain and sore backs). Thankfully, the effects of CVS aren't permanent, yet they can decrease productivity and plague the user for the remainder of the day. If the behavior continues without being checked, the symptoms will grow more intense over time.

About 47 million Americans reported symptoms of CVS in 2007, and a great deal of those cases can be corrected by using a number of techniques to rest and relax the eye muscles. Adjust the lighting in the room so as to reduce glare on the screen. Change the distance from the screen you're working at frequently, making sure not to get closer to what you're looking at. Every half hour, close your eyes for 20 seconds. Also, remember to blink. As simple as that sounds, many computer users forget to blink, resulting in irritating, dry eyes. Keep these things and mind and you can spare yourself a headache or two.



## Hearing Loss

These days, the ears of American youths are exposed to more stimulation than ever. But it's not just that they're listening to more, it's the way that we're listening. The extended amount of time we spend listening to loud music and the prevalence of extended headphone use is leading to hearing loss in younger and younger individuals.

A study by the American Medical Association shows that 6.5 million teenagers are suffering from some form of hearing loss. In extreme cases, prolonged exposure to loud music has lead to permanent, irreversible hearing loss. Since many people listen to music through headphones everyday at unsafe levels, temporary and permanent hearing loss are very real consequences.


The most serious problem with hearing loss as a result of overexposure to loud noise is that it's irreversible. Once certain frequencies heard by your ears are lost, they are gone forever. The best way to avoid this is to practice listening at a safe volume — 60 percent of your player's full volume — and limit the amount of time spent pumping sound directly into your ears.



## Writer's Cramp

Not to be confused with carpal tunnel syndrome, writer's cramp is a condition stemming from repetitive hand motion such as typing. It results in mild to severe pain in the wrist or fingers and, in some cases, a persistent tremor in the affected hand while performing the triggering task.

Writer's cramp generally occurs later in life, in 30-to-50-year-olds, but a study done by Dr. Yusuf Yazici, a researcher at the New York University School of Medicine, has shown similar symptoms in people who play video games for extended periods of time. These cases may not be a direct result of writer's cramp, but the circumstances surrounding them are the same. The condition can persist for years and treatment is often complicated and difficult.

To prevent writer's cramp and similar discomfort disorders, make sure to take breaks from typing or playing video games when soreness becomes noticeable. Be sure to stretch and massage your wrist after extended periods of use. If the condition becomes severe, treatment often involves extensive physical therapy or chemical treatment. The best way to avoid these issues is to keep them from developing in the first place. 

## RIT VOLLEYBALL INVITATIONAL HELD ON SEPTEMBER 17

by Justin Claire  
photographs by Chris Langer

From Friday afternoon to Saturday evening, eight teams volleyed, spiked and scored their way through set and match at the RIT Women's Volleyball Invitational. The Tigers, led by fifth year chemical engineering major Jessica Schaffer, battled New York University (NYU), St. John Fisher, Nazareth College, the University of Rochester and the State University of New York Geneseo and won three of four games. Over the two-day tournament, the solitary loss against NYU was enough to place RIT in third across the field of eight, behind NYU and Nazareth. Women's volleyball returns to action Saturday, September 25 at 1 p.m., when the Empire 8 crossover will be held in our very own Clark Gym. **R**

# SPIKE AND SCORE



1

1 Rebecca Moore jumps up to spike the ball against University of Rochester in the second round.

2 Jessica Schaffer (right) looks back at the ball before it hits the ground at the RIT versus University of Rochester volleyball game.

3 Megan Henriksen buries her head in hands after missing the ball in the second match against St. John Fisher. RIT won against St. John Fisher 27-25 in the second match.

4 Katie Sessions jumps up to block the ball from Rochester's Katie Kao. RIT beat the University of Rochester 3-1.

5 Jim Lodes, head coach for the RIT Tigers Women's Volleyball Team talks to the players on the team during a timeout against University of Rochester.



2



3



4



5

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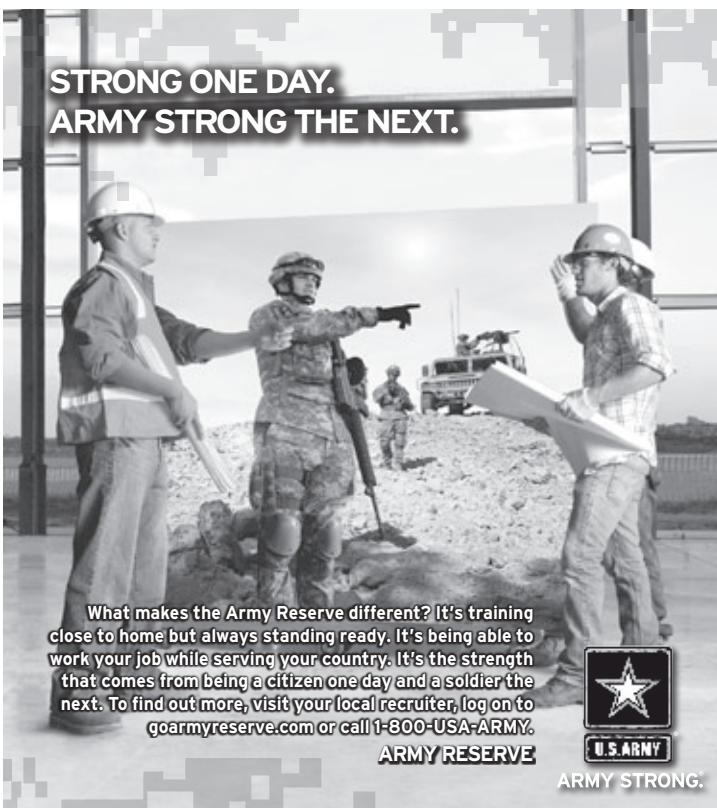


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If you could replace one part of your body with a robot, what would it be? by Robert Bredvad **?**

# WORD on the STREET

**1. John Ganz**  
*"Legs, so I wouldn't need a car."*

Applied Networking & Systems Administration  
 Second Year



1

**2. Ian McCune**  
*"A penis. Obviously."*

Mechanical Engineering  
 Third Year



2

**3. Jessica Abbott**  
*"Breasts. I think that would go over well at a nerd school."*

Advertising & Public Relations  
 First Year



3

**4. Mike Ferry**  
*"Arms. I could write very swiftly. I could write non-stop."*

Electrical Engineering  
 First Year



4



5

**5. Kursten O'Neill**  
*"Eyes for x-ray vision."*

Mechanical Engineering  
 Fifth Year



6

**6. LEFT: Andrew Bedia**  
*"Right arm."*

Information Technology  
 Second Year

**RIGHT: Andy Krawczyk**  
*"Left arm."*

Applied Networking & Systems Administration  
 Third Year



7

**7. Thomas Cantone**  
*"Stomach. I could eat everything."*

Fine Art Photography  
 Fourth Year



8

**8. Alex Kahn**  
*"Left arm. I'm right-handed, a robotic left arm would make me more ambidextrous."*

Computer Science  
 Second Year



THE CENTER FOR  
WOMEN & GENDER



You are invited to attend our  
Open House in recognition of our new name,  
*The Center for  
Women & Gender!*

Wednesday, September 29th  
from 12:00-2:00 pm  
Campus Center, Room 1760

*Refreshments are provided!*

*Come meet our staff!*

**The Center for Women & Gender is looking  
for a new t-shirt design!**

Pick up your t-shirt contest packet at the open house.

The winner will receive a gift certificate  
to *Lovin' Cup!*



# RIT RINGS

## 585.672.4840

compiled by Amanda Szczepanski and 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.

SATURDAY, 4:06 P.M.

I JUST HEARD A FRESHMAN TELLING OTHER FRESHMEN THAT THERE IS A "SECRET" FLOOR IN THE WALLACE LIBRARY ... WHICH IS JUST THE FOURTH FLOOR. OH, FRESHMEN.

(from text)

WEDNESDAY, 12:01 P.M.

My 2-D Design teacher saw ladybugs humping and called it "mini-porn."

(from text)

WEDNESDAY, 8:02 A.M.

YOU KNOW WHAT'S A GREAT IDEA? REPAVING ALL THE WALKWAYS IN ONE AREA WITH BRICK RIGHT AS SCHOOL STARTS.

(from text)

SUNDAY, 3:04 P.M.

I FOUND OUT YESTERDAY THAT YOU CAN CALL THE REAL COPS AT THE PROVINCE. So now the loud [hooligan] on the first floor can SUCK MY JUDICIAL [baton]!

(from text)

SATURDAY, 8:16 P.M.

DURING THE POWER OUTAGE, A GUY STANDING OUTSIDE UC FREAKED OUT AND SCREAMED, "QUICK, WE NEED TO DRINK ALL THE BEER BEFORE THE FRIDGE GETS WARM!"

(from text)

SUNDAY, 2:18 A.M.

Dear RIT, Please make "Microwaving Popcorn 101" a required course. All you can ever smell in these damn dorms is burned popcorn! Thanks.

(from text)

MONDAY, 12:55 P.M.

I'M WALKING BY [ORANGE HALL] AND THEY'RE PUTTING UP FAKE BRICK ON THE SIDES. FAKE BRICK. [CURSES BE UPON YE], FAKE BRICK!

(from text)

WEDNESDAY, 3:00 P.M.

A girl outside of Crossroads said, "Let's get down to business," and it took all my willpower not to sing back "TO DEFEAT...THE HUNS!"

(from text)

TUESDAY, 8:30 P.M.

DEAR RINGS, I'M AFRAID I HAVE CAUGHT THE RIT SYNDROME. I HAVE STOPPED WEARING MAKE-UP AND TWO GUYS WALKED BY ME AND I KNEW THEY WERE QUOTING "LORD OF THE RINGS." HELP ME GET MY FEMININITY BACK!

(from text)

WEDNESDAY, 11:49 P.M.

Rings, Cosmo is super knowledgeable. Did you know you could kill a girl by blowing into her [hooha]?? You can call me the oral assassin.

(from text)





Pringles

# XTREME CAMPUS TOUR

POWERED BY  
LATE NIGHT  
REPUBLIC



WE the Kings



J. COLE



FRS  
healthy energy®

Friday,  
**October 8<sup>th</sup>**  
**8pm**

**\$16 Students**

**\$21 Staff/Faculty/Alumni**

Tickets available at [ticketmaster.com](http://ticketmaster.com) &  
Gordon Field House Box Office

**RIT Clark Gym**  
**Doors @ 7pm**

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