

REPORTER

09/23/11 | reporteromag.com

Healthy on a Dime:
Budget Friendly Ways
to Avoid Ramen





Performing Artists Concert Series

Presented by the Center for Campus Life

17th Season

The ARGOS TRIO

Friday, September 23, 2011
8pm Ingle Auditorium
Rochester Institute of Technology

Program will include the Brahms
Trio No. 2 in C Major and Schubert's
Trio in B-flat Major.

Unreserved seating: \$5 Students; \$15 Faculty/Staff/Alumni; \$20 General Public.
Tickets: Bytes-on-the-Run, or the Field House Box Office, or at the door on performance
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Lars Kirvan (cello) and
Liana Kirvan (violin)
[Members, Rochester Philharmonic]

Chiao-Wen Cheng (piano)
[Doctoral candidate,
Eastman School of Music]



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THUS SPOKE THE PUPA

I don't know what to say. This is an unusually experience for me. There are plenty of people who will tell you that I don't always know the *right* thing to say. They will tell you that I am often too pithy, or too trite, or too snide, or too uncouth, or too inflammatory or too ingracious or too honest, but most will agree that I am rarely at an utter lack for words.

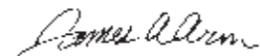
This weekend I endured, if that's the best thing to call it, an experience that could be described by many adjectives. I'm going to choose transformative. I entered this weekend as a bit of a caterpillar. I was moving along, accomplishing what seemed to need to be accomplished, naively content with my worldview and life goals.

As the weekend progressed I made, with the help of some truly dedicated and selfless friends, some rather discomfoting realizations. Suddenly my world of grass and dirt and branches was truly revealed to me, in all its gritty, slimy detail.

At that moment I realized that I'm not meant to be crawling around in the dirt and leaves; that with a good deal of effort and a little time, I could soon be flying brilliantly through the treetops, enjoying the full bounty of the world and adding to it myself.

But the metamorphosis is not instantaneous. Armed with my new paradigm I've now taken the first steps of my journey. For now I have become the pupa; outwardly quiet but inwardly alive with transformation, waiting to burst free and embrace the world.

In closing I'd like to apologize for my rather saccharine metaphor. I suppose it's just one more adjective I should add to my list.



James Arn

EDITOR IN CHIEF

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A protestor raises his fist in anger in Bowling Green Park, New York City, Saturday, September 17th, 2011, during the "Occupy Wall Street" protest. To read more on the attempted Tahrir Square style protest, visit <http://reportermag.com>. photograph by Jonathan Foster

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cover photograph by Kyle Jackson

BEYOND THE BRICKS

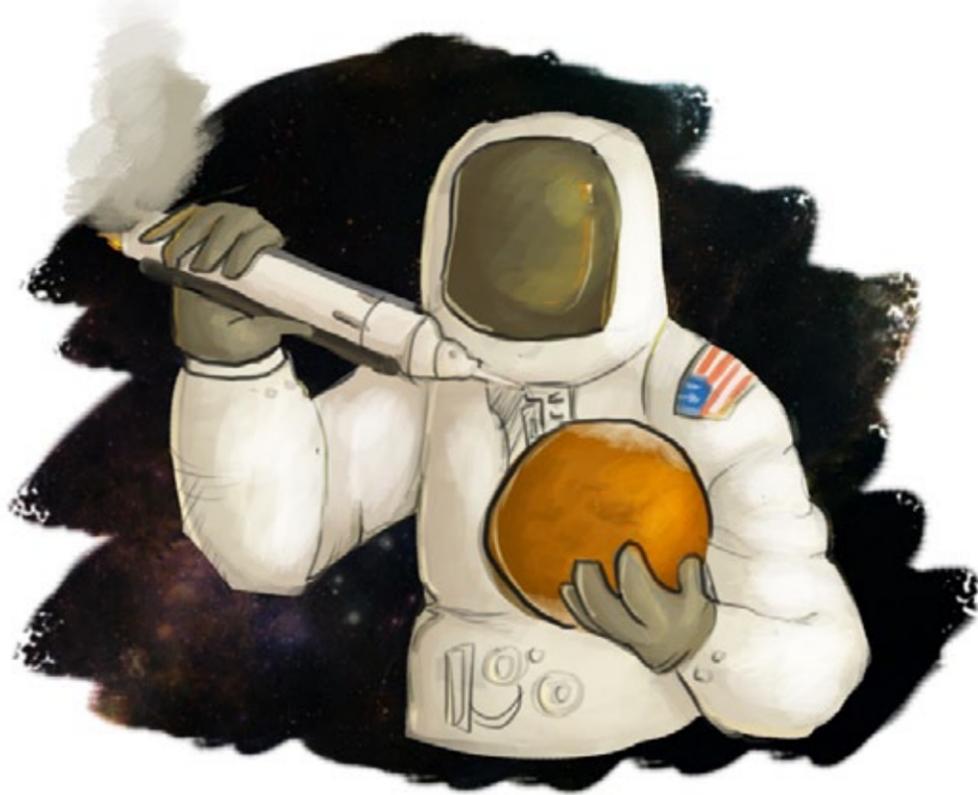
by Alex Rogala | illustration by Justine Raymond

NASA UNVEILS NEW ROCKET

NASA unveiled plans, Wednesday, September 14, for a new rocket designed to aid manned deep space exploration.

Speaking at Capitol Hill, NASA General Charles Bolden presented plans for the Space Launch System (SLS). Capable of lifting 70 metric tons into orbit — several times more than the current largest unmanned rocket — it is intended to carry humans to nearby asteroids and eventually Mars.

NASA plans to allocate \$3 billion annually to the project over the next six years. The first unmanned test is tentatively scheduled for 2017. The rocket will later be upgraded to eventually support at least 130 metric tons and, in conjunction with the planned Orion Multipurpose Crew Vehicle, will hopefully carry passengers by the early 2020s.



POSTAL SERVICE REPLACING OFFICES

Amongst a slew of cost-cutting measures, the U.S. Postal Service has initiated a program designed to integrate smaller, rural post offices into shops and other buildings.

Dubbed “village post offices,” these new centers will be integrated into other buildings, such as convenience stores, gas stations and libraries. In exchange for an annual stipend, stores would house mailboxes as well as sell stamps and other shipping supplies. These village post offices are aimed at replacing low-traffic offices in small, rural towns.

With the rising popularity of online communication and a decline of the profitable first class mail service, the Postal Service has been operating at a loss and is expected to lose roughly \$9 billion this year. Earlier this month, Postmaster General Patrick Donahoe addressed Congress concerning the Postal Service’s future. In particular, Donahoe pointed out that the service is required to pay \$5.5 billion annually towards retiree health benefits, and expressed his fear that it could lead the Postal Service to default.

The first village post office opened last month in a Malone, Wash. convenience store. By the Postal Service’s estimates, it is saving \$42,000 in Malone alone. The Service is currently watching 3,654 poorly performing stores. It plans to eventually close or replace these stores with village post offices, many of which are expected to open within the next few months.

FOUNDATION RESCHEDULES MLK MEMORIAL DEDICATION

According to officials associated with the Martin Luther King Jr. National Memorial Project Foundation, the dedication of the newly completed Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial has officially been rescheduled.

In a Washington Post interview, Executive Architect Ed Jackson stated that the dedication ceremony would begin at 11 a.m. on Sunday, October 16 in Washington D.C. President Barack Obama has already confirmed that he will speak on the newly scheduled date. Celebrities, including musician Stevie Wonder and film director George Lucas, may also be presenting.

Crafted by Chinese sculptor Lei Yixin, the 30-foot tall, \$120 million statue named the “Stone of Hope” sits near the Lincoln and Jefferson memorials. Plans for a memorial commemorating Dr. King date back to 1984, when members of King’s former fraternity, Alpha Phi Alpha, presented the idea to their board of directors. However, the bulk of the project’s work occurred within the past decade, and the monument’s final design was approved in May 2008.

Although the sculpture was opened to the public on August 22, plans for an August 29 dedication were postponed due to concerns over Hurricane Irene. While the new date has been set, Jackson stated that the scheduled program might vary, as the foundation must confirm whether the planned speakers are still available.

SG UPDATE

by James Arn

RETURN OF VARSITY FOOTBALL CONSIDERED

The primary topic of discussion at the September 16 meeting of the Student Government Senate was centered on a proposal to investigate the possibility of varsity football returning to RIT. Robert J. Pollard, the current head of RIT’s flag football club, brought the proposal to the Senate.

Pollard’s ultimate goal is to establish a varsity football team at RIT that would play within the Collegiate Sprint Football League. The league, which is not affiliated with the NCAA, is designed to highlight the finesse of “textbook football,” which is achieved through its strict weight limit of 172 pounds.

The CSFL is also set up to have a very low cost of entry and maintenance compared to traditional, NCAA leagues. According to Pollard, a CSFL team at RIT would cost roughly \$200,000 to create and an additional \$160,000 per year afterward.

After a lengthy discussion, the Senate unanimously voted to form an exploratory committee charged with further investigating the proposal. The committee is looking to work out where the team would play and practice; what additional facilities it would need; and what costs, if any, would be borne by the student body.

BRICK BEAT

by Vasia Ivanov

RIT EMPLOYEE FACING CHARGES DIES

The body of Robert Jason Fain, an instructional technologist at the Wallace Center, was found on a road by the Lake Ontario shoreline on September 9. Fain had been suspended in August for allegedly receiving, possessing and distributing child pornography using an RIT internet connection. The Cayuga County coroner’s office determined that the cause of death was suicide.

Fain, who was the third member of the RIT community in as many years to face child pornography charges, was looking at “a maximum penalty of up to 20 years in prison, a \$250,000 fine, and lifetime supervised release,” according to Assistant U.S. Attorney Richard Resnick in an article for the “Democrat and Chronicle.” His death came 15 days after his arrest, and the U.S. Attorney’s office says the charges have since been dropped.

FORECAST

compiled by Michael Roppolo

23
FRIDAY

CAB Friday Night Live Presents: Steps of Culture Global Village. 7 – 10 p.m.

Enjoy salsa dancing? An instructor will be on site, showing you how to move to Latin DJ Aneudys & Duran. A prize will be awarded to the best performer at the end of the night!
Cost: Your dancing shoes

24
SATURDAY

CAB Late Night Presents: Marcus Monroe Ingle Auditorium. 10 – 11:30 p.m.

Wowing audiences with amazing feats of juggling, Marcus Monroe has been called the “rock star of jugglers” by the New York Press. *Cost: \$1*

25
SUNDAY

Guided Tour: Freedom Trail/Underground Railroad Washington Square Park, 80 Woodbury Blvd. 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Rochester Tour, the last remaining walking-tour company in Rochester, is committed to educating people on the city’s history. Learn more about what Rochester has to offer.
Cost: \$7

26
MONDAY

September 11, 2001: A Global Moment Rochester Museum and Science Center, 657 East Ave. 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Come explore the significance of September 11 attacks through rare and important artifacts from the World Trade Center, a timeline of the day, personal stories, and audio-visual displays. *Cost: \$11*

27
TUESDAY

Veritas Exchange Ingle Auditorium and Campus Center Reading Room. 7 – 9 p.m.

Local professors and thinkers lecture on scientific, philosophical, and religious topics, followed by a Q&A and group discussion. *Cost: Your brain*

28
WEDNESDAY

RIT Fall Career Fair Gordon Field House. 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Looking for a job or co-op? Employers from over 200 different companies are looking for you! Check out job descriptions and other information through RIT JobZone/Events.
Cost: Your impressive resume

29
THURSDAY

Social Media And Communication Symposium (SMACS) II Ingle Auditorium, SAU. 8 a.m. – 5:15 p.m.

Sponsored by the Department of Communication, SMACS is a day of learning how social media has changed businesses and communication with additional tracks in academia and skill development. For more information, and to register, visit <http://www.rit.edu/smacs>
Cost: Students/Faculty: Free, others: \$35

Dr. Esther M. Conwell: Conductive Properties of DNA

by Danielle Delp | photograph by Jonathan Foster

A

As part of the Caroline Werner Gannet Project to attract innovators in art, science, and technology, RIT hosted Dr. Esther Conwell for a presentation on her research into the conductive properties of DNA. Conwell is one of the world's foremost female physicists and has had a long career that stretches back to

WWII. She has worked as an assistant to several Nobel Prize winners and has done extensive research work for Xerox. In 1994 she became the first, and thus far only, woman to win the IEEE Edison Medal for her research of semiconductors and organic conductors. Last year, President Obama presented her with the National Medal of Science for her contributions to the understanding of electron transport and encouraging women to enter scientific fields. She is presently a professor at the University of Rochester in the Chemistry and Physics departments.

During her talk on Thursday, September 15, Dr. Conwell chose to discuss her most recent research, some of which has not yet been published due to ongoing experimentation. The goal of her work is to determine if unaltered DNA can conduct an electric charge and how the DNA could be modified to increase that ability. In the past, conductivity tests of DNA were wildly inconclusive, but more recent studies have determined that it is in fact a semiconductor with a moderate ability to transport electrons.

Dr. Conwell's research suggests that DNA could potentially be used to make microcircuits. Unfortunately, the current measurements of electron transport speed are simply too low to be of much use. She explained that "there are ways of making DNA imperfect so that it can conduct." One way is by modifying the sequence of nitrogenous bases, since different sequences will affect the speed of the electron transport in different ways. Cytosine-guanine pairs will transport the fastest, but their presence poses a risk because they can react with oxygen during the experiment and disrupt measurements,

so only adenine-thymine pairs are used right now. Alteration of the molecular structure of the DNA has also proven helpful, as it creates a better environment to encourage electron transport. The flexibility of the structure of DNA, the ease with which it can be replenished and repaired, and the very low cost of mass production make it an excellent material to work with. If the speed of transport can be raised to a level that rivals that of the silicon currently used in microcircuits, DNA could potentially replace silicon in computer construction altogether. If her research can manage to increase the conductivity of DNA as she hopes, it may be the first step in making the smallest circuits in existence.

The evening concluded with a question and answer session. There was a significant amount of interest in the potential applications of DNA microcircuits. Interestingly, questions for Dr. Conwell were focused



on both her research and the challenges she has faced as a woman in a male-dominated field. She explained how her mentor in graduate school didn't take her seriously because of her gender. Later in her career, when she requested a few months of maternity leave from her company, she was taken off payroll because "they didn't think I was coming back." The interesting combination of scientific discussion and Dr. Conwell's perspective as one of the few women in her field made for a unique and memorable kick off to the fifth year of the Gannet Project. **R**

Goins Gets Grant for Medieval Museum Mod

by Evan Williams | photograph by Marcus Elliott

\$25,000 is a lot of money.

Thankfully for Elizabeth Goins, an assistant professor in the Museum Studies program of the College of Liberal Arts, that's the amount she'll get to put to use on her latest project. The money, in the form of a grant from the National Park Service and the National Center for Preservation Training and Technology, will go to developing a one-of-a-kind game designed to give students a hands-on approach to museum studies and art preservation. Goins is working in collaboration with Andrew Phelps, the director of the School of Interactive Games and Media, and Chris Egert, associate director of IGM.

"My research focuses on the design and development of video games for museums," Goins explains. "It's kind of my niche," she adds with an amused grin. An avid gamer, Goins got the inspiration from the popular swords-and-shields RPG "The Elder Scrolls IV: Oblivion." "I remember thinking 'Wow, these quests would be a great way to teach people in the humanities and art conservation,'" Goins recalls.

The game will cover a number of real-world museum studies challenges such as art material identification, age dating, environmental monitoring and lab health and safety. Quests will center on a castle full of valuable art pieces and involve tasks like identifying the age of a statue or painting; maintaining appropriate temperatures and humidity for exhibits; or saving important works should war or disaster break out. The plan is for the game to be an "Oblivion" modification or "mod," which can be developed outside of the game. The mod is then installed within the game, so that anyone with a PC copy of "Oblivion" can add this new world to his or her existing game.

This isn't Goins' first go-round with educational, or what she calls "serious" interactive media. In a previous job as a research scientist, she was responsible for teaching science-heavy material to students who weren't scientists. "Their eyes would glaze over, no matter how interesting I would try and make the lecture, so I started making flash games." The games, which Goins referred to as "goofy," used B-horror movie themes and haunted houses to keep students interested in the material.

Among Goins' other previous projects is a Facebook application that would serve as a prototype for the "Oblivion" mod. The application, "My Museum," has already gathered interest from the Smithsonian Institute, the J. Paul Getty Museum and the Strong right here in Rochester, and is currently looking for funding. Goins is still sending out grant proposals for the "Oblivion" mod, but the gift from the NCPTT is a good step forward.

In the next week or two, Goins and her team will begin hiring students to help move their project along. They will be looking for artists, game designers, programmers and people with experience creating "Oblivion" mods. The students will begin doing research, coding and participating in the design process. "Part of the challenge is figuring out how to make this fun," Goins adds. Along with Phelps and Egert, she will be working out narratives and quests to make the game both engaging and informational.

Goins' goal is to create a game that will be free for anyone with a PC version of "Oblivion." It's the rare kind of project that melds both passion and progress. In the near future, the quests and storylines will begin to take shape; characters and challenges will be developed; and the world of "The Elder Scrolls IV: Oblivion" will welcome a unique addition to its universe. **R**





THE UNIVERSE
TV SERIES | DOCUMENTARY | HISTORY
RATING: MEH...
by Michelle Spoto

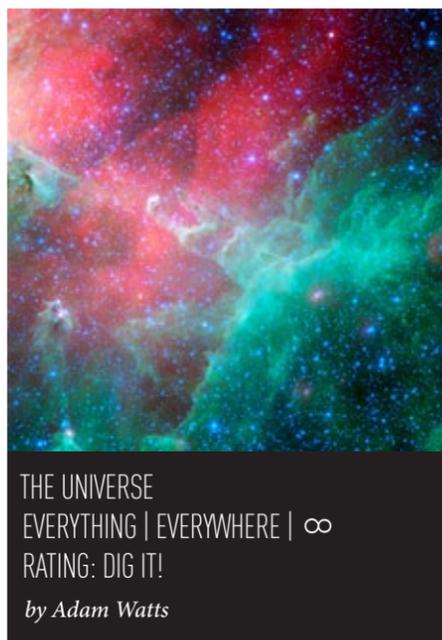
An effort to learn something new this summer landed me browsing through the limited selection of the Netflix instant streaming library trying to find something a little more educational than “Family Guy.” Finally, I settled on the series “The Universe.” With 64 episodes available whenever I wanted, this series was sure to cure summer boredom.

While the show was certainly interesting to watch, it seemed, at times, to focus more on mesmerizing the viewer with its colorful graphics and computer generated animations than on educating. There seemed to be a lot of useless fluff mixed in with the actual science. Even when the show was tending toward the more education side, the majority of the 64 episodes included interviews from the same four or five astrophysicists. While this lack of variety was bearable for the first few episodes, it became irritating to hear the same

few people speak over and over again. While this didn’t prevent me from watching most of the series, it certainly wasn’t the learning experience I’d hoped it would be.

Despite its flaws, the series did redeem itself when it came to the number and variety of shows available. With episode topics ranging everywhere from black holes to parallel universes to dark matter, there was certainly a lot to choose from. Due to its availability on the Netflix instant streaming library, that’s exactly what I was able to do. If the first few minutes of the show didn’t hold my interest, I’d change the episode without ever worrying that I’d run out of things to watch.

Overall, the series was fun to watch and has certainly helped me save up a bank of “interesting astronomy facts” to use for whenever the situation calls for it. Due to its instant online availability, there’s no real reason not to give this series a shot.



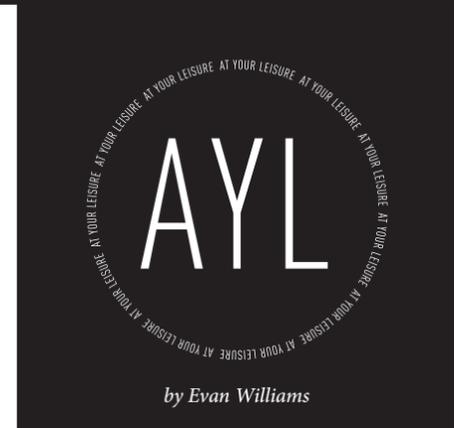
THE UNIVERSE
EVERYTHING | EVERYWHERE | ∞
RATING: DIG IT!
by Adam Watts

The Universe — usually defined as the totality of everything that exists, or just “everything” — has been around for about fourteen billion years, give or take a couple billion and a few religious disputes. In that time, it has mostly been taken as-is, without thought of critique. That ends now.

The Universe gets points for sheer size, at the very least. Being a theoretically infinite expanse of space, it’s hard to imagine anything larger. But while its scope is certainly impressive, the Universe goes too far when it comes to complexity. That infinite space does need to be filled with something, I suppose, but once you get to a certain point it becomes impossible to keep track of it all. The insane number of bodies — stars, planets, asteroids, and otherwise — that inhabit the Universe make it difficult to comprehend, or even

map out. This is not helped by the fact that an arbitrary limit has been set on the speed of light, which makes it impossible to see many of the stars in the sky simply because their light hasn’t reached us yet. And as for the laws of physics, well, you practically need a college degree to understand them properly.

Still, despite its flaws, the Universe does offer the discerning user an experience unmatched by anything else on the market. For every world-threatening asteroid and expanse of cold, merciless vacuum, there is a rock where, against all reason and all odds, life has managed to rise up. There are beautiful sights in the depths of space, there is love and kindness in the midst of war and tragedy, and of course there is coffee. For that, if nothing more, the Universe deserves some measure of credit and, indeed, praise. **R**



by Evan Williams

REPORTER RECOMMENDS

Getting Unplugged

I know this is a tech school, and I know that most of us have jobs and majors that revolve around using some sort technology, but I’ve been staring at this laptop screen for a ridiculous amount of time and I’m pretty sure I’m hallucinating. And if I’m not, I’m going to have to get an exterminator to take care of the rainbow colored fairies hanging out in the corner of my left eye. They’re distracting.

The way that we experience the world through technology can take away from the way we interact with the world in front of us, or in most cases behind us. This isn’t a new concept, but I think it’s an important one that often gets lost. So this week, try something simple that takes you completely off the grid and lets you get in touch with your mind and body. Climb a tree, look at the moon, or just sit in silence for a spell. Do anything that allows you to slow down and forget about the flashing lights and loud sounds of the 21st century. Spend some time with your thoughts and sensations and remember how good it can feel just to feel.

STREAM OF FACTS

On August 30, a 21-foot saltwater crocodile was captured alive in the village of Banuwan in the southern Philippines. The reptile weighed in at 2,370 pounds and is the largest crocodile ever held in captivity. The impoverished villagers voted to build a nature park to display the animal. The **BEAST** is just nine feet shorter than the fictional man-eating croc in the film “Lake Placid.”

BEAST is the codename for Dr. Henry Phillip “Hank” McCoy, from the X-Men comic book franchise. He first appeared in X-Men #1, released in 1963. Before he transformed into the furry form that most associate with his character, his appearance was relatively normal, except for his unusually large hands and feet, which drew **RIDICULE** from the other children in school.

The word **RIDICULE** comes from the Latin word “ridiculum”, which means “to jest.” Ridiculum is also the name of a punk band from Connecticut. They are signed to **NOXIOUS** Records.

Volcanologists are considered to have one of the dirtiest and most dangerous jobs on the planet. They are constantly exposed to **NOXIOUS** gasses, ash, extreme heat and dangerous environments. The job

of a volcanologist is to study the patterns of active and dormant volcanoes, a task that necessitates at least a decade of training and requires lots of time spent in dangerously **VOLATILE** situations.

Onion prices are seven times more **VOLATILE** than oil prices. Because of these extreme fluctuations, onions are the only commodities where futures trading is banned. In 1958, onion growers believed that trading stocks based on speculation was hurting their business, so they petitioned then Michigan Congressman Gerald Ford to pass the ban. It still stands to this day.

QUOTE

“Because there’s no such thing as rock stars, there’s just people who play music. And some of them are just like us, some of them are dicks.”

– Frank Turner, “Try This at Home”

OVERSEEN & OVERHEARD

“Boxers and pockets are not mutually exclusive concepts.”

- Male student in UC suite

“Give me half an erection so I can put out this fire.”

- Male student to female student in the woods.

WORD OF THE WEEK

necrographer n. – Someone who writes obituaries.

Ben was less than thrilled that the best job he could get with his English degree was as a **necrographer**, writing obituaries in his hometown. **R**



cartoon by Amber Gartung

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TKE/EDM BASEMENT BASH PART DEUX

by Ali Coladonato
photograph by William Ingalls

When someone asks you to party in a basement, you say hell yea!

I was never correctly taught the rules of the week. It was always my impression that the weekend lasted from Friday night to Sunday afternoon. But in college the weekend starts on Thursday, and what better way to kick it off than with the smooth spinning of a pair of DJs and a little dancing to get the blood flowing. On September 15, Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity and the Electronic Dance Music Club teamed up to bring RIT a good time complete with music, dancing, and enough strobe lights to induce a seizure in a blind man.

The aptly named TKE Electronic Dance Music Basement Bash, asked a \$1 cover charge, which will directly benefit both groups and allow them to put on similar events in the future. TKE provided the venue — the darkened basement under their house in Residence Hall A, and EDM provided the music. The DJs played everything from top 40 pop to techno to a mishmash of electronica I'm told is dubstep. As has come to be expected at these sorts of events the dancing was slow to get started. Much like a high school dance, people

stood around in their circles of three or four, looking around and awaiting an icebreaker. The music was comfortably loud; thumping through the room to make people aware there was a party but not so loud that people couldn't converse outside the main dance area. Largely populated by the TKE members residing upstairs, the bash had a very casual feel to it, something to start shaking off the blues of the waning week and gear up for the collegiate weekend.

Two hours after the event started people just arriving asked, "Why is no one dancing?" and those who had been there all night had to wonder the same thing. But eventually that magic song of the night came up and provoked people to dance. It was Beethoven's 5th strangely enough. As those four notes pounded through the speakers, something finally clicked. It was crowded enough that one person dancing wasn't distinguishable from another, and as soon as a small group of students began to move, the beat became infectious and mob mentality took over as everyone started to pulse to the music.

The bash now in full swing, the DJs had a chance to really show their stuff and whip the crowd of about 100 into a frenzy of limbs and glow-sticks. As they led everyone out of any initial hesitation, the energy in the room

increased ten-fold and each new request from the DJs was met with greater and greater enthusiasm. By the end of the night, people were thoroughly spent and sweaty but nonetheless happy and buzzing with the music still ringing in their ears.

Events like these are a great way to blow off steam and get familiar with the myriad groups on campus. Anna Whistler, a third year animation student and the president of the Electronic Dance Music Club, ensures that the club will be putting on many other events, pairing with various organizations to bring their unique style of music to as many people as they can. The club itself is a group of students who are interested in DJ-ing and producing music electronically, as well as many who simply enjoy listening to and discussing the genre. Last year EDM was a huge presence at FreezeFest, holding the Point Zero Dance Party, an all-night glow stick extravaganza that the club hopes to repeat several times over this coming year. Events will feature some guest DJs as well as students, so next time someone asks if you want to party in a dorm basement, don't be so quick to condemn — you may just end up having fun. 🎧

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THE BEST OF NETFLIX

by Vasia Ivanov

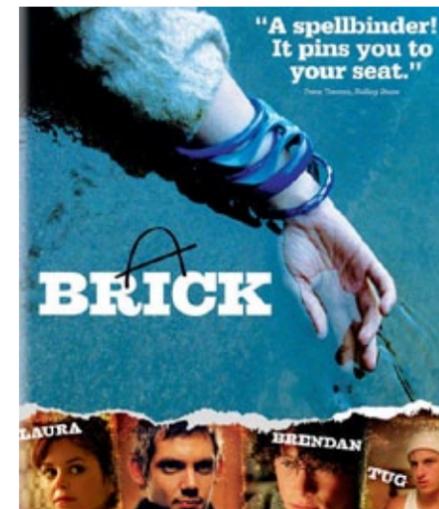
I would like to think that, like me, you a lot of you spend your free time on Netflix, blazing through their instant watch library. So I thought I'd give you a hand and suggest some possibly overlooked titles for those wonderful, care-free nights, or those nights when you just don't want to do homework anymore. I don't judge.



"LOUIE"

Comedian Louis C.K. has always been something of a "comics' comic," never going far outside of his comfort zone or breaking out into the national spotlight. That changed last year, when the cable channel FX agreed to an unheard of deal: offering C.K. \$250,000 to film a pilot for a TV series. C.K.'s only condition? That he wouldn't have to submit his scripts for network approval, giving him a unique opportunity that happens so rarely: complete artistic freedom. That pilot was then picked up and turned into a successful, untraditional sitcom that has recently finished its second season and was nominated for two awards at this year's Emmys.

Almost entirely ignoring continuity (and sometimes realism), C.K. instead chooses to tell any story he pleases with a fictionalized version of himself, a stand-up comedian who is seemingly incapable of change. Reflecting on friendship, love, family and religion, the majority of C.K.'s episodes are incredibly emotional and touching. It's easily the funniest tragedy (or the most tragic comedy) on TV right now. If you ever want to look at the world through a genius' eyes, put on "Louie." He'll make you laugh, cry and think, all within 22 minutes. Let's hope that never changes.



"BRICK"

Rian Johnson's 2005 debut film may have gotten a positive critical response, but made very little at the box office. It's certainly not the first time this has happened to a film, and it probably won't be the last. In this case, it happened to a film that needs to be seen. "Brick" is a riveting, beautiful, funny, and original detective story set in a modern high school.

The characters and dialogue are straight out of an old, gumshoe film noir. And while the premise — high school students solving mysteries — sounds corny, the film earns its R rating and subverts typical high school drama tropes by providing the characters with real personalities and goals, then thrusting them into the kind of dangerous situations. Joseph Gordon-Levitt plays the lead character with confidence and grace, hitting all of the comedic and dramatic bits with impressive gusto. Watch it with a bunch of friends, and hopefully you'll see it for what it is: a modern classic.



"SHERLOCK"

Speaking of modern takes on more traditional stories, you owe it to yourself to check out the BBC's "Sherlock," an adaptation of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's classic "Sherlock Holmes" stories set in 21st century London. In this retelling, Holmes is able to supplement his famous skills of deduction and logic with modern technology. Co-created and co-written by Steven Moffat, the showrunner of the last two seasons of "Doctor Who," the series undoes the action movie aesthetic of the recent Guy Ritchie film and replaces it with the twists and characterization that made the original stories worth reading.

Benedict Cumberbatch, as Holmes, and Martin Freeman, his faithful sidekick Dr. Watson, create a perfectly mismatched pair. Both actors bring their characters to life with unique and engaging performances. The first season is three 90-minute episodes, making it more of a trilogy of films than a typical television series. Check it out when you've got 90 minutes to spare, and good luck not getting hooked immediately. **R**





Healthy on a Dime: Budget Friendly Ways to Avoid Ramen.

by Amber Wilson-Daeschlein | photographs by Neal Danis



hen I first heard about the assignment to write this article, I was excited. Have **REPORTER** pay for my lunches for a week? Sweet. I, like any college student, can

benefit from a free meal now and again. And this sounded like fun.

I had twenty bucks to spend on food for five healthy, packable, easy to make lunches. Being the fantastic chef I am (barely able to survive if not for a microwave and “homebody” roommates) and having superb planning skills (I forget to pack my lunch on a daily basis), one would think that I, of all people, would have an easy time with this. Well, it was a bit more challenging than I thought.

Last Saturday, I went shopping for groceries, armed with only a Wegman’s shopper’s club card and a few vague ideas that can hardly be considered a plan. I knew I wanted to try my hand at my mother’s homemade chicken noodle soup (only without the chicken because I’m terrible at cooking meat) and that I would be making a sandwich. Beyond that, I just

grabbed stuff that looked healthy and was made painfully aware at my lack of grocery shopping skills. As my roommate and her boyfriend made bets on whether or not I could stay under budget, I realized that I probably should have looked up recipes online and checked grocery prices. Poor planning aside, I ended up only slightly over budget at \$21.91; took home more than enough healthy staples; and had a tentative menu for the week.

The original idea was that I could make a few meals Sunday and Wednesday nights, stick them in the fridge, and take them for lunches throughout the week. That didn’t happen. Monday morning around 6:30, my roommates awoke to the sound of cutting vegetables. There I was hacking away at the vegetables that would become my lunch when I became conscious of the fact that I was even more out of my league than I had originally thought. Back home, my dad did most of the cooking, unless my mum decided to make her soup or her “tuna, noodle, and pea casserole.” As the girl who has very few intuitive cooking skills and almost managed to cause a fire with Easy Mac, I was in for an interesting and challenging week.



MONDAY

The first day, I decided to make a banana and peanut butter sandwich on a whole wheat bagel; avocado and corn salad; and for an added snack, a bag of carrots and celery pieces. The sandwich was simple. I toasted my bagel (though I'm not sure why, since it wasn't going to be warm by the time I ate it at noon), slapped some peanut butter on both sides and added a few banana slices. The original version includes an open faced variant on toast with honey, so if you need a filling breakfast, that's an option as well. For the avocado and corn salad, I adapted a friend's recipe. I took half of an avocado, half of a can of corn, diced onions, salt and pepper to taste, and threw it all together in a Tupperware container. If you want to get creative, you can add beans, nuts, or a variety of different ingredients to create your own avocado, corn, and whatever else salad.

That afternoon — after a fantastic lunch, I must say — I decided I would cook soup for the next day. Then I got distracted by physics class, homework, and drumming. By the time I remembered that I had cooking to do, it was eleven at night and I had class at eight the next morning. Not to be deterred by the fact that my roommates were already asleep and that I was pretty tired myself, I grabbed a pot and started boiling some water.

My plan for making the soup was to call my mum and have her tell me how to do it, but since she was already asleep, that was out of the question. Half an hour later, I had chopped and cooked some carrots, made half a box of noodles, and was in the process of cooking the celery on the stove. Half an hour after that, I had caught up with some friends back home, studied organic chemistry, looked over my physics notes, and the celery was still not done. Take note: It is much faster (and easier!), to cook carrots, celery, and other vegetables in the microwave than it is to cook them on the stove.

When the celery was finally done, I added some chicken bouillon for the broth, salt and pepper to taste (because "salt and pepper to taste" is in pretty much every recipe, everywhere), the carrots and noodles that had been ready for an hour, and the half can of leftover corn that I used previously in the avocado and corn salad. As far as soups go, this one is pretty simple. If you make it at home, feel free to add chicken, peas, or any other soup-like ingredients or spices you can think of. In addition to being really easy to make, you can whip up a bunch of soup at one time and stick it in your freezer for later. I did this and I still have a freezer full of soup.

TUESDAY

On Tuesday, I brought my lunch of soup, the rest of my avocado and corn salad, and celery pieces topped with peanut butter. For the celery, I would suggest using a Tupperware container if you can find one. I didn't have any and ended up with a Ziploc bag full of peanut butter coated celery. While it still tasted good, I had a hard time eating while keeping my fingers peanut butter free. Because of my sub-par soup packaging skills, I spent the day spilling broth everywhere as the container failed in its basic mission of containment. By the time I was done for the morning, I only had a few minutes to eat lunch before my next class so I didn't get a chance to try that soup that had taken up so much of my time. Despite going home hungry and covered in soup, I did not feel that my late night soup making was in vain. My roommate had some that evening and proclaimed satisfaction.

WEDNESDAY

Wednesday brought organic chemistry, analytical instrumental chemical analysis, project based calculus three, university physics, and a sore throat. I was halfway through the second week of school and I was sick. The good news was that I had chicken noodle soup waiting for me in the freezer. However, after Tuesday's Tupperware fiasco, I decided against bringing anything liquid for lunch. That morning, I packed a turkey and avocado sandwich on a whole-wheat bagel, carrots, and a banana. I was in a hurry that morning, so instead of actually making the sandwich, I threw the components into a Ziploc bag, grabbed a knife, and ran out the door to catch the bus. Because of my late start, I forgot to get breakfast so I ended up eating the carrots and banana in the ten minutes between my morning classes. By the time calculus ended at noon, I was hungry again and hurried to meet some friends at the Brick City Café for lunch. They gave me some skeptical looks when I pulled out half of an avocado, a bagel, and a bag of sliced turkey but after the sandwich was assembled, they understood.

THURSDAY

On Thursday I had pasta with cauliflower and melted cheese with a side of turkey rolls. To deal with pasta transportation, I grabbed a Tupperware container and threw in some cooked pasta, veggies and cheese. When I went to lunch, all I had to do was microwave it and I was done. The turkey rolls were made with the leftover turkey from the previous day's sandwich. I spread a very thin layer of cream cheese on one side of the turkey slice and rolled it up. Pretty simple, right? After having to make my lunch at 6:30 in the morning, encountering difficulty with peanut butter and celery, and spilling soup everywhere, I was glad to have a meal that was easy to make, pack, and eat.

FRIDAY

On Friday, I was still sick and had six hours of class, which I was less than enthused about. Even though I packed a lunch, I didn't bring it with me because I decided to go home to take a nap during my mid-day break. When I got back to my apartment, I had a baked potato. Though I had packed carrots and celery, I was so full after the entree that I just left the side dishes in the fridge. For my lunch, I nuked the potato for a few minutes then added broccoli, chopped onions, and shredded cheddar cheese. After a few more minutes in the microwave, I had way more food than I needed. The only downside was that during the time it took to bake, I got a text from a friend asking for help on the calculus homework so I had to miss my nap. Oh well, at least I had a healthy lunch.

My week of healthy lunches gave me a new found respect for my dad when he would pack lunches for my sister and me when we were little (or not so little, as was often the case). Thinking of and creating a menu of different, nutritional meals every day was not as easy as I thought it would be. In the end I saved a lot of money and never had to go hungry due to a forgotten meal. Even though I was over my budget for the week, I now have at least three meals worth of frozen soup and leftover bagels, cream cheese, carrots, celery, and shredded cheese. If you plan accordingly and make the effort, eating healthy is a simple task. **R**



RECIPES

(in order of appearance):

Banana and Peanut Butter Sandwich

1 whole wheat bagel
½ of a banana
4 - 5 tablespoons peanut butter
Toast bagel, cover with peanut butter, add banana slices.

Avocado Salad

½ avocado
½ can of corn
¼ cup chopped onions
Salt and pepper to taste
Mash avocado then add corn, onions, salt, and pepper and mix.

Chicken Noodle Soup

Water
Chicken bouillon to taste
½ cup of pasta of your choosing
½ can of corn
½ cup cut carrots
½ cup cut celery
Boil the water while cooking the vegetables in the microwave and the pasta on the stove. Add all ingredients to the water and keep boiling for a few more minutes.

Turkey and Avocado Sandwich

1 whole-wheat bagel
2 - 3 slices turkey
½ avocado
Mash the avocado and spread it on the bagel. Add turkey.

Pasta Dish

½ cup pasta
½ cup cauliflower
¼ cup shredded cheese
Add all ingredients and microwave until cheese is melted and pasta is warm

Turkey Rolls

1 - 2 slices of turkey
1 - 2 table spoons cream cheese
Spread cream cheese on turkey. Roll up slices of turkey and cut into 1 - 1 1/2 inch pieces.

Baked Potato

1 potato
½ cup broccoli
½ cup chopped onions
¼ cup shredded cheese
Puncture potato with a fork and microwave for about 4 minutes. Cut into pieces and add all other ingredients. Microwave until cheese is melted.



HEALTH COURSES *at* RIT

It's no secret that staying fit and healthy in college is a challenge. Finding time to work out or cook healthy meals can be difficult with the constant pressure of class and work. Fortunately, RIT has many options available for the health-conscious. Of particular interest are the health and fitness classes available to students. These fall in to two major camps: academic and wellness. On the academic side, health and fitness courses are designed to educate about healthy lifestyles or prepare students for employment in a fitness-related field. Wellness courses, on the other hand, are designed to provide hands-on exposure to a sport or activity.

by Danielle Delp | illustration by Justyn Iannucci

Two academic programs are designed specifically for the study of health and fitness: a bachelor's degree in Nutrition Management and a minor in Exercise Science. The Nutrition Management program is offered through the College of Applied Science and Technology and provides training to students interested in careers as dietitians. It is a nationally accredited program that mixes biology courses with an intense focus on nutrition and food chemistry. The first year of the program provides a foundation in organic and biochemistry and introductory courses in nutrition, food production, and sanitation. From there, the curriculum builds with courses on anatomy and physiology, microbiology, and food management. Everything revolves around educating the student on how nutrition affects the health of the human body. A strong emphasis is placed

physiology are required. Three additional classes in nutrition, life fitness, and exercise prescription, or sports nutrition are also taken to help with the process of diagnosing fitness regimens. By the end of the program, the student should be able to examine personal fitness data to provide an assessment of a client's health.

But what if you don't want to get involved in an academic program for fitness? That's where the wellness courses come in. They offer an extremely wide variety of programs available to all students, who must take a minimum of two as a graduation requirement. Dozens of classes are available.

Ever wanted to try dodgeball? There's a class for that. Interested in learning how to juggle? Yup, there's one for that too. Tennis? Archery? Volleyball? You got it. If you can think of a sport or activity, odds are good that it is offered as a wellness course in some form or fashion. There are seven categories that the courses are sorted into: health and wellness seminars, dance, fitness, life support and safety, lifetime

The newest addition to the building promises to be of great use to the students and faculty of RIT: a **completely computerized fitness lab.**

on courses in human culture management, since a dietician must be able to work effectively with diverse groups of people. Three quarters of co-op must also be completed to provide necessary work experience. To become a dietician following graduation, the student must take and pass the National Registration Exam for Dietitians.

For those interested in pursuing employment as a personal trainer, RIT's College of Health Sciences and Technology offers an Exercise Science minor advised by Dr. William Brewer. The program is designed to prepare participants for a national certification exam as a personal fitness trainer and is available to students of any major. A full sequence in biology and courses in anatomy and

recreation and leisure, interactive adventures, and martial arts.

Health and wellness seminars are lectures about improving health through education, holistic therapy, spirituality, or meditation. Dance, as its name suggests, encompasses all of the dance-related courses available. Fitness contains workout programs designed to improve the physical fitness of the student. Lifetime recreation and leisure contains all of the sports and activities that don't quite fit anywhere else. Interactive adventures take the students into the field for everything from hiking to ice climbing. Six varieties of martial arts are taught, with classes available in self-defense and sparring as well.

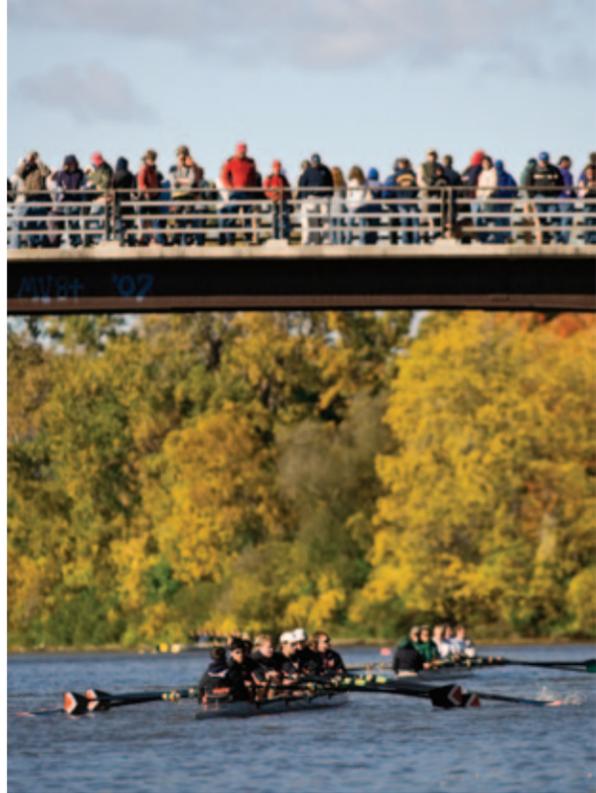
Wellness courses generally do not provide any credit, so a student can take as many as they wish each quarter. Most of the classes offered are available at beginner level, so previous experience with the material is not necessary. Advanced students can take a higher-level section for practice, while beginners can take the course for fun or as an introductory lesson. Some wellness courses charge a small additional fee for the quarter, but most are free.

A number of facilities support the health and wellness programs, with several thousand square feet of exercise space and a variety of equipment available in the Student Life Center. The newest addition to the building promises to be of great use to the students and faculty of RIT: a completely computerized fitness lab. Located across from the CPR room and the dance studio on the lower level of the building, it serves as a lab for studying the mechanics of fitness in the human body. For a fee of \$50 for students and \$75 for faculty or staff, the lab provides a full fitness assessment based on parameters of muscular strength, endurance, flexibility, aerobic capacity, and body composition. The new lab is a modernized version of the previous facility, which processed manual measurement data by hand. Appointments for assessments are made via an online queue, but there is a limit of nine assessments processed each week. Dr. Brewer mentioned that, "the lab received 10 appointments within two hours" following the e-mail announcement of its opening, indicating that there is a large student interest in use of the facility.

RIT is constantly developing new ways to help students stay fit, active, and healthy. The sheer number of options available means that there is quite literally something for anybody interested in health. No matter if you're looking for a career in health services or just want to give a sport or activity a shot for fun; you can definitely find something that will keep you active. **R**

THE HARDEST WORKING TEAM YOU'VE NEVER HEARD OF

by Jeff McKinzie | photograph by Robert Bredvad



You know how the childhood song goes: “Row, row, row your boat, gently down the stream.” That’s not crew. Yes crew is rowing, but the rowing of the RIT men’s and women’s crew teams is anything but gentle. Crew is a sport many are still unfamiliar with, but those who have participated know of the hard work and rich history behind competitive rowing. Despite its obscurity, the sport has a long history and is in fact one of the oldest in the world. With origins as a collegiate sport in 18th century England, competitive rowing spread to America as one of the first intercollegiate sports in the U.S. in the 1800s. In 1852, the first regatta, a series of races, was held between Harvard and Yale. Less than a half decade later, the sport made its Olympic debut at the 1900 Games in Paris.

Fast-forward to 1993, and you’ll find the inception of RIT’s very own varsity crew team. It has since become an elite program in division III — achieving top finishes at such prominent events as the Head of the Charles Regatta, the New York State Collegiate Rowing Championship, the Dad Vail Regatta, and the Intercollegiate Rowing Association Championship Regatta. However, the RIT crew team lost the majority of their rowers after the 2010 season, and is looking to their newcomers to step up and perform.

“I think that rowing is a very unique sport, and I think RIT could bring more of it to the community, explain what it is, and bring a little more attention to it,” says second year Industrial and Systems Engineering major Samantha Deakin. Second year Management major and women’s co-captain Devan Musa laments crew’s reputation, saying that, “People don’t think it’s a lot of hard work and that it’s a joke

sport; I don’t think people understand what we’re doing.” Men’s captain and third year Mechanical Engineering student Chris Guerra doesn’t beat around the bush: “It’s just not a hugely popular sport,” he says.

Yet for the people involved in RIT crew, passion for the sport is part of their lives. They take pride in their accomplishments and feel that the work they put in pays dividends, though they say it can be very intense. When asked what they felt were their best accomplishments thus far in crew at RIT most of them stated career accomplishments. Fourth year Mechanical Engineering major Stu Burgess said when he started he was a scrawny freshman, and thought he didn’t have what it took to compete in college. He was also worried about keeping up with academics, but credits his teammates and coaches for getting him through it all. “The coaches and teammates really pushed me to achieve things I never thought I could. Today, I’m feeling great — I’m at 170 pounds and in the best shape of my life.”

Head coach Jim Bodenstedt, who has spent almost two decades coaching crew at RIT, says that rowing in college takes a lot of discipline as well as a strong commitment to the sport. He also says that people who want to row must also be able to balance an academic life with a sports life. When asked which team was going to outshine the other, he said “I think they are going to shine on each other; we have one boathouse, so I always think of us as one team. Yes, we have female athletes and male athletes, but when we’re at a regatta, both crews are cheering each other on, like we’re just one strong family.” **R**



WOMEN'S SOCCER FALLS TO CROSS-TOWN ROCHESTER

by Evan Williams | photograph by Neal Danis

The University of Virginia and Virginia Tech, Georgia and Georgia Tech, Texas and Texas Tech; the list goes on and on. There’s just something about the rivalry between Universities and Tech schools that share a location that makes them hard to look past. It’s the fight for bragging rights perhaps, coupled with the “this town ain’t big enough for the both of us” attitude — where the loser skips town and all that jazz. And while the rivalry between RIT and the University of Rochester doesn’t necessarily carry the bravado of other such pairings, the match-up between the RIT Tigers (2-3-0) and the Rochester Yellow Jackets (5-0-0) was still a spirited one.

If I had to decide which of the two teams got off to a better start Wednesday, September 14, the bid would go to the #8 ranked Yellow Jackets. They were the first to take a shot at the goal and would end up out-shooting the Tigers 14-9 before the game was over. Though the first shot didn’t score, it showed early on the kind of pressure that U of R would be putting on the Tigers that afternoon. Throughout the first half, the Jackets showed a more aggressive edge, chasing down balls and winning their match-ups. When it came to jumping up for headers, the Jackets won more than their fair share. There just seemed to be a general lack of hustle from the Tigers. However, several members of the team still managed to play with enough intensity to keep things competitive, including second year Psychology major Rachael Bromson, second year Graphic Design majors Alexa and Jamie Martinez, and first year Accounting major Ashley Carrington, among others.

The U of R was first to score, tipping a long pass into RITs goal in the 20th minute — not the start the Tigers were looking for. With the score

at 1-0 after half time, the Tigers attempted to adjust their play, hoping to proceed with a little more urgency. With the tempo increase things began to get more competitive as each team battled for field position. The play became more balanced as possession went back and forth between the teams evenly. Unfortunately, even with the new vigor from the Tigers the Yellow Jackets managed to extend their lead.

With 38 minutes left in the half, Yellow Jacket Grace Van der Ven nailed a long shot that sailed from the midfield and sank right into the far upper corner of RIT’s goal. With the Jackets up 2-0, things were looking pretty bleak for the Tigers. As a result, the tempo seemed to elevate again, and the Tigers grew more physical. With just under half an hour left in the game a decent uproar began when an RIT player came in contact with a U of R player without drawing a penalty. The Rochester fans, of whom there were many at the game, began to boo, shout and heckle the referees. “Get the hair out of your eyes, you’ll see better,” a Rochester parent screamed at an official who was very clearly balding. The Yellow Jackets’ coach even slammed his cup against their bench and appeared to be on the verge of storming the field.

A bit of redemption for the Tigers came about when Carrington kicked a pass from Bromson mid-air past the U of R defender with six minutes left. The goal sparked the team as they fought to tie things up, but there just wasn’t enough time to put a scoring effort together. Despite their sprinted final surge, the Tigers would go on to lose 2-1. **R**

The Tigers next match is September 20th against Nazareth in Pittsford, N.Y.



MEN'S RUGBY: FIRST GAME IN FIVE YEARS

by Amanda Imperial | photographs by Joshua Kuckens

It was the first week back in class at RIT, and someone, somewhere must have known it. The weather couldn't have been more fitting; it was cloudy and raining all through the week to welcome in the new school year, along with thousands of freshmen. Perfect.

But Saturday was different. The clouds had blown away, the sky was blue, and the grass was green. Yes, it was a great day for rugby. For the first time since their ban five years ago, the men's rugby team had a game to play: RIT versus Paul Smith's College, in the middle of a perfectly sunny Rochester afternoon.

With more than fifty students on the team, the guys ran, hit, passed, and conditioned during the week prior to the game in preparation for this momentous match. A standard game of rugby, with no interruptions (injuries or other emergencies), lasts for a solid eighty minutes of play, with only a five-minute half time to catch lost breathe and hydrate. Play is continuous, stopping only for penalties, lineouts (when the ball goes out of bounds), and scrums (where the teams compete for possession). Rugby is truly a battle of the fittest — the longer you endure, the more times you can run up and down that pitch faster than the other guy, the higher the chance of victory. The rough nature of the game, along with the lack of padding or protection, adds another dimension of play to the game. Players must tackle or be tackled, donning only a uniform, cleats, some tape, and plenty of audacity.

RIT's Christian Blank muscled through several Paul Smith's College defenders during Saturday's game.

At 1:00 in the afternoon on September 10, a crowd gathered on both sides of the street to watch as the Tigers kicked off to start the game. As soon as the ball came down, both teams clashed. Tackle after tackle, the ball was moved down the field, primarily by the Paul Smith's College Bobcats, who managed to keep the Tigers near their try zone — analogous to football's end zone — for most of the first half. Try as they might, the Bobcats couldn't manage to get past the Tigers' strong defense. The Bobcats attempted a conversion — in which the ball is placed at a point on the field where a penalty has been awarded and attempt to kick the ball through the uprights. If successful, they'd be given three points, if not the ball is still in play. The flags went up — Tigers 0, Bobcats 3.

By this point play had become very centered. Neither team was letting up, but neither side made any real progress. A scrum and a few lineouts later, second year Mechanical Engineering Technology major Alex Mikolajko scored a try, successfully making it to the try zone with enough control of the ball to set it on the ground. The conversion, however, was unsuccessful. The half ended without further score, leaving the match at Tigers five, Bobcats three.

The Tigers kicked the ball to start the second half, which again saw play primarily in the middle of the field. After about ten minutes, a battle of defense and quick maneuvers honed in weeks of practice, second year Mechanical Engineering Technology major Liam Costelloe scored for RIT. Off to a strong lead, the Tigers stayed relentless. Then, as the end of the game approached, the Bobcats made a final strong push through some quick passing down the back line and into the try zone. After another successful conversion, the Bobcats nearly evened the score: Tigers 12, Bobcats 10. But even with this pressure now against them, the Tigers were not ready to give their inaugural game to the other team.

RIT's tenacity really showed through during scrumming — arguably one of the most energy-draining aspects of the game. A scrum consists of nine of one team's players against a line of nine opponents. The first eight bind onto each other to offer the greatest resistance possible to the other team. The ball gets fed through the scrum by the feet of the players as both sides try to gain an edge and push the other team over. After the ball comes out of a scrum, the scrum half (the ninth player who participates in the scrum) takes the ball out and puts it back into play. The Tigers worked together to put every player's power and focus into winning that ball. With perfect form, the men won many a scrum



throughout the game, which was ultimately what scored them their final try against the Bobcats. The ball flew out of the scrum and found its way down the back line, eventually reaching fifth year Medical Studies and Philosophy major student James Brown who reined the ball in for the last try of the game. Final Score: Tigers 17, Bobcats 10.

But the best part of rugby is not just the feeling of victory, or the thrill of making that impossible tackle, but the social the home team hosts after the game is over. At the end of the match, both teams held a B-side game, featuring shorter halves and several newer players. Once this was over, the Tigers put out of pizza for all to enjoy. Both teams shared fun and laughs, almost as if a family had come together for the first time in years. The spirit and camaraderie that surrounds such an event is enough to make a crowd forget that minutes earlier these two sides were trying to pummel one another.

After many years of bad reputation and a struggle to get the team back, this men's rugby squad sees their season — and their team — started with a great record. With a clean slate, they start from the beginning with a new team full of excited spirits ready and willing to give it their all for the thrill of rugby. **R**



RIT's Alex Mikolajko reaches to intercept a pass between Paul Smith College players.

(from left to right) RIT's Christian Blank, Tim Hogan, Nick Cazer, and Jason Jenkins get into position for a scrum (faceoff) during Saturday's game against Paul Smith's College.

WORD ON THE STREET

by Jonathan Foster

What is your best characteristic and why?



"Self doubt. It allows me to view other perspectives on a regular enough basis to keep myself in check."

Michael Nuzzo, fifth year Software Engineering



"I always laugh all the time, because I love laughing."

Mark Bermuder, first year Information and Computing Studies



"Creativity. I wish it were my sense of humor, but it makes life a bit more interesting."

Elizabeth Wells (left), first year Graphic Design

"Creativity... I look at the people & things around me in different ways."

Felicia Baa-Adomako (right), first year Graphic Design



"I'm organized; it keeps me ahead of the game."

Joe Hudden (left), first year Engineering Exploration

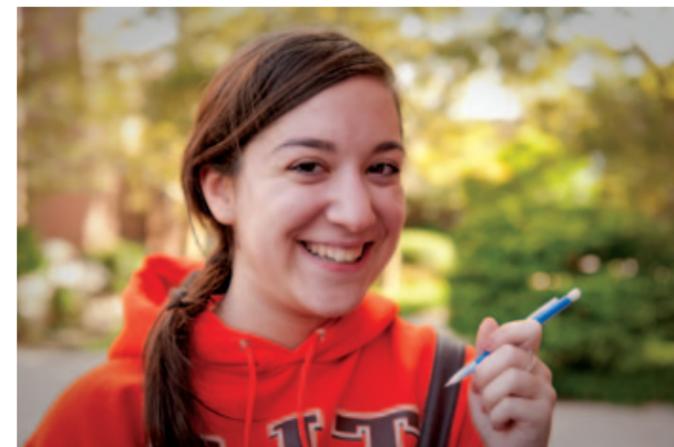
"I'm athletic, so I stay fit & healthy."

Kyle Bossung (right), first year Engineering Exploration



"The ability to act under pressure... it's helped me get out of unsavory situations."

Devin Murray, first year Biotechnology



"Being LEFTY!"

Rachel Terragnoli, second year Interior Design

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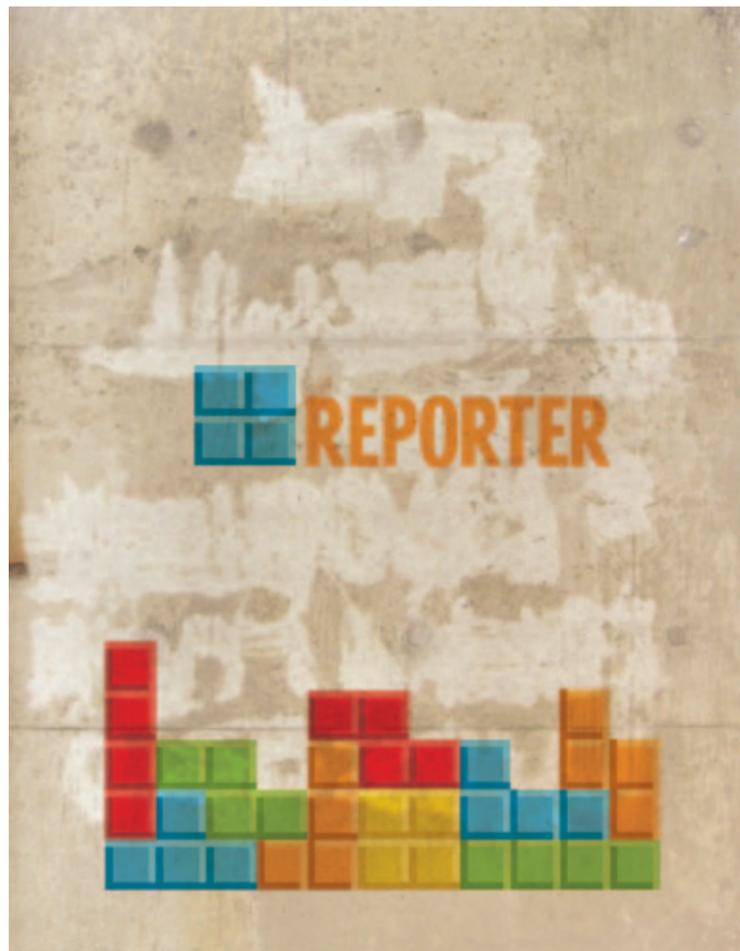


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GAMING UNPLUGGED

by Brett Slabaugh | illustration by Jai Kamat

T

here's no doubt about it — the video game industry is booming. What began as a niche hobby has grown over the past few of decades into a cornerstone of modern entertainment that rivals even the feature film. However, just as the movie industry can trace its history back to traditional theater, gaming has its own nearly forgotten roots. Before there was Xbox Live, before there was a movement to three dimensions,

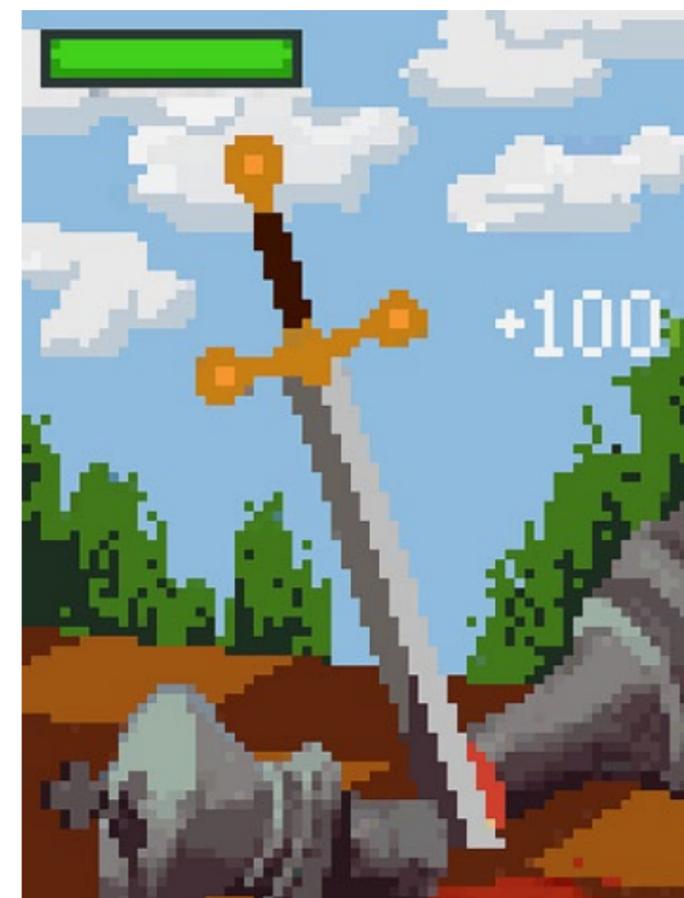
even before there was Mario, there were board games.

Most people hear “board games” and think of childhood classics like “Monopoly,” or “Sorry!.” The common line of thought is that these games are for kids, and that by the time we're in college we should have moved on to more “mature” forms of entertainment. This is because most people have an incredibly narrow familiarity with board games, whether they realize it or not. Here's a hint: if you think that board games don't get more strategic than “Risk” or “Battleship,” then you're only looking at the tip of the tabletop iceberg.

New board games are released far more often than you might suspect. The only problem is that it's difficult for non-digital games to catch any mainstream attention. When was the last time you saw a commercial for a board or card game? It's a form of entertainment that has been largely left behind by our tech-obsessed culture, because we believe that we've seen all there is to see from board games. That idea couldn't be more wrong. Modern board game companies are brimming with innovation, far more so than high-investment mediums like movies and video games. Board game designers can still afford to take risks, and as a result there are still fresh and interesting games being released even now. Even decades-old classics are kept alive through re-releases that keep things from getting stale.

Take “Cosmic Encounter,” for example. Originally released in 1977, it's been revised and refocused enough that it still feels like a new experience (the latest expansion hit the shelves earlier this year, adding variety to the 2008 reboot of the game). It pits five players against each other in a struggle for control over the galaxy, but it's a far cry from “Risk' In Space.” The game includes 50 vastly different playable alien races, with each player representing a different species. Each alien has unique abilities that drastically

If the market for these kinds of products was just a little wider, they might stand a chance of getting the recognition they deserve.



change the way the game is played, ensuring that no two games play out in the same way.

A more recent release, “Dominion,” was created in 2008 and has since won multiple awards for its enthralling gameplay. Still, you'd be hard pressed to find it on the shelf of anyone but an active board game enthusiast. These kinds of games simply cannot break into the public view. If the market for these kinds of products was just a little wider, they might stand a chance of getting the recognition they deserve. As it stands, though, they still remain esoteric and relatively unknown.

In an age where most forms of entertainment make tens of millions of dollars on release day, board games remain woefully underappreciated. They aren't very flashy or well-known, but try going out on a limb with a new game and you may end up with one of the most original gaming experiences available today. It's an entirely unique feeling to sit across the table from your opponent, and who knows? You might come to prefer doing your gaming unplugged. **B**

The opinions expressed are solely those of the author and do not reflect the views of the REPORTER.

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RINGS

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All calls subject to editing and truncation. Not all calls will be run. REPORTER reserves the right to publish all calls in any format.

compiled by Victor Group

WEDNESDAY, 1:53 P.M. (FROM TEXT)

If it doesn't taste good when it's warm, it's not a good beer.

WEDNESDAY, 8:48 P.M. (FROM TEXT)

Spotted: a new barefoot kid. The only good thing about freshman is that we get a new shipment of weirdos to watch.

SUNDAY, 8:06 P.M. (FROM TEXT)

Rings, it's not my 22nd birthday... it's my **second** 21st birthday!!!

SUNDAY, 8:06 P.M. (FROM TEXT)

Drunk me is such a [nincompoop]. I spent two and a half hours trying to find my glasses.

TUESDAY, 11:02 A.M. (FROM TEXT)

Gen Bio 1 Lab is so boring. If I wanted to watch random splotches of color come in and out of focus I would drop acid and watch Teletubbies.

MONDAY, 10:18 P.M. (FROM TEXT)

Just stole a Razor scooter because I was too drunk to drive home. Grand Theft Auto: RIT. Level one complete.

WEDNESDAY, 8:48 P.M. (FROM TEXT)

Why does Public Safety leave an empty vehicle next to Andrews Drive? **Do we look like crows to them?**

TUESDAY, 11:38 A.M. (FROM TEXT)

Dear Rings, I just saw a dude riding solo on a bicycle built for two... **Welcome to RIT.**



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