

REPORTER

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EMBRACING STUDENT INTEREST



Inside Special Interest Housing

REPORTER

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VISIONARIES

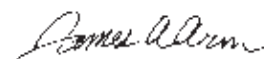
This past weekend, as I sat in the packed Field House after seeing Michael J. Fox give a rather touching talk, I was struck by something. It wasn't the some profound meaning behind the story of Fox's struggle with Parkinson's disease. It wasn't the renewed realization that "Back to the Future: Part Three" really wasn't all that good. It was the fact that we, as a society, have generally forgotten how to ask meaningful questions.

After his speech, the clearly tiring Fox opened to floor up to questions from the audience. Half of the questions he received were, in actual fact, statements; and of the real questions, not a one of them was particularly thoughtful or meaningful. Here these people were, given the opportunity to glean some insight from one of the world most famous actors and activists, and the questions they came up with were all basically pointless. One woman even had the gall to ask Fox if he was aware of the fact that many hospitals have as a budget item, the profit made off of Parkinson's patients. I was, frankly, embarrassed for Fox as he had to shake off the question with some creatively worded response about his foundation's work in general.

While the sample of a few audience members at a lecture in Rochester may not be particularly large or varied, I get the feeling that this response is indicative of our society today. We have forgotten how to ask the hard questions. We have become too comfortable with the easy option of accepting the world at face value. Because of this weakness, we have found ourselves at the fiscal and political mercy of mega-corporations, and are only now stopping to ask how the heck we got here. (See "Occupying America" on page 29.)

"Everybody lies." Ironically, this motto, which has become a tagline for one of the most popular shows on television, manages to tell a fairly accurate truth. No one is going to tell you the truth when a lie benefits them more. The world is filled with half-truths and closed doors, all designed — maliciously or not — to keep information from us. The truth is: if we want the real truth, we're going to have to remember how to ask the hard questions.

While the facts we ask in our daily lives may not be of world-changing importance, we would be wise to remember how to question them. Because sometimes a well timed, well thought out question can make all the difference in the world.



James A. Arn

EDITOR IN CHIEF

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cover design by Bradley Patrie

BEYOND THE BRICKS

compiled by Nolan Harris Jr. | illustration by Kayla Tucker



NASA AWARDS LARGEST PRIZE IN AVIATION HISTORY

Pennsylvania's Pipistrel-USA.com was awarded \$1.35 million at NASA's 2011 Green Flight Challenge. The competition, sponsored by Google, was held to encourage innovation in the green aircraft development field, and drew 14 teams to the contest. Pipistrel-USA.com engineered an aircraft, the "Taurus G4," which "flew 200 miles using just over a half-gallon of fuel equivalent per passenger," according to a NASA news feature. The team's aircraft attained twice the fuel efficiency required by the challenge. The team received the reward on October 3, 2011 after two years of development, testing and the successful faring at the competition.

TOUGH ANTI-BULLYING LEGISLATION IN WORKS

In the wake of 14-year-old Jamey Rodemeyer's recent suicide, lawmakers in Albany are pushing for tougher penalties for bullies. Sen. Jeff Klein (D-Bronx) and the Senate Independent Democratic Conference have proffered legislation that would include "cyberbullying" as an offense equivalent to third degree stalking. Another, more contentious, directive is the addition of a crime labeled "bullycide," which would be legally classified as second-degree manslaughter. According to Klein, "bullycide" is outlined as "...When a person engages in cyberbullying and intentionally causes the victim of such offense to commit suicide." This latest push for anti-bullying legislation arrives on the heels of the openly gay Rodemeyer's mid-September suicide, after years of being bullied.

NOBEL PEACE LAUREATES ANNOUNCED

The 2011 Nobel Peace Prize has been awarded to three women: Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Leymah Gbowee and Tawakkul Karmen. In a press release issued October 7, the Norwegian Nobel Committee commended the three women for "their non-violent struggle for the safety of women and for women's rights to full participation in peace-building work."

Sirleaf is Africa's first democratically elected female president, having assumed Liberia's highest seat in January 2006. Gbowee is a Liberian peace activist who helped bring an end to the Liberian civil war in 2003. Karmen was a prominent women's rights activist and peace leader in Yemen leading up to and during the events of the "Arab Spring."

The three join 12 others who have been selected for the honor. Their joint award marks the second time the Prize has been shared by three recipients in its 110-year history.

10.21.11

JOBS BILL VOTED DOWN IN SENATE

The U.S. Senate voted down President Obama's controversial American Jobs Act on Tuesday, October 11. The vote was a required procedural measure to take the bill up for debate on the Senate floor. The final count stood 50-49 in favor of the bill, falling short of the 60 votes Democrats needed to advance the legislation. Though the vote spelled a sound defeat for Obama's economic plan, he has announced his intent to redouble efforts following the vote, saying, "In the coming days, members of Congress will have to take a stand on whether they believe we should put teachers, construction workers, police officers and firefighters back on the job."

The \$447 billion jobs plan aimed to spur job growth through a blend of public works projects and tax breaks. The bill's key selling point was its bi-partisan proposals. To fund the bill Senate Democrats would have instituted a 5.6 percent surtax on millionaires. This taxation was met with stern resistance from Senate Republicans, who accused the president of engaging in class warfare. For now, the bill will go back to the drawing board with unemployment rates stalled at 9.1 percent.

SG UPDATE

by Ali Coladonato

CHANGES COMING TO SIS AND MYCOURSES

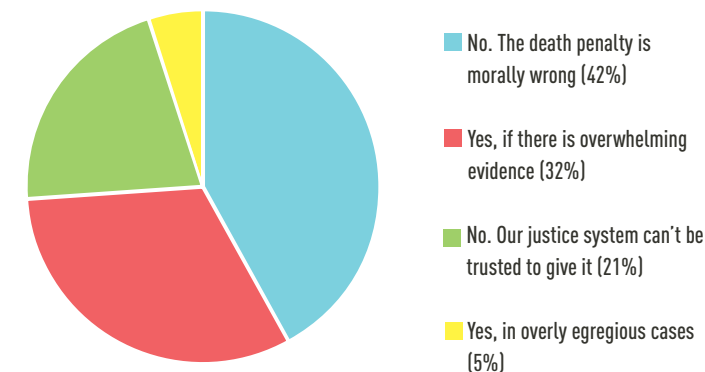
At the Friday, October 14 meeting of the Student Government Senate, Director of Services Robert Watson announced changes coming to SIS and MyCourses. Watson stated that registration changes could occur as early as this year, but is ultimately expecting them to take place during the semester conversion. Among the changes mentioned were a format that will clearly present pre-requisite requirements and a wait-listing option for filled classes. Additionally, winter break will see many new updates to the MyCourses system. More notifications will come from MyCourses via email and text message on certain course updates, such as project assignment and upcoming deadlines.

POTENTIAL CHANGES TO CLUB USE OF FMS AND TECH CREW

Global Union Vice President Darshan Doshi began a discussion of clubs' dependence on FMS and Tech Crew. Several senators having noted an increase in the cost of hiring these organizations while club budgets stayed the same. Tristan Wright of OUTspoken proposed a credit system that would allot clubs and MSOs a certain yearly limit on how often they could use FMS and Tech Crew services before paying additional funds. The senate will discuss possible actions plans in the coming weeks.

POLL RESULTS

Last week on our online poll we asked you if you supported the death penalty. Here's what you said:



To vote in this week's poll head to <http://reportermag.com>

FORECAST

compiled by Chelsea Watson

21 FRIDAY

Cab Presents: Poetry Slam with Signatures

Java Wally's Cafe, Wallace Library (WAL, 05). 9 - 11 p.m. Are you a poet and you didn't even know it? Show off your way with words or just lend your support. \$50 in prizes will be awarded to the top three performers!
Cost: Creativity.

22 SATURDAY

RITGA Fall Drag Show

Ingle Auditorium, (SAU, 04). 8 p.m. - 12 a.m. Let loose and watch some of your fellow students unleash their inner diva!
Cost: \$3.

23 SUNDAY

New Moon Holistic Healing Expo and Psychic Festival

Dome Center, 2695 East Henrietta Road. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Do you believe in fate, fortune telling or the power of spiritual energy in healing? Then check out this mystic fair
Cost: Students: \$5. Others: \$7.

24 MONDAY

Manic Monday's: 80's Dance Party

The Bug Jar, 219 Monroe Ave. 11 p.m. Get your groove on with the music of the most dance-tastic decade ever.
Cost: Your dignity.

25 TUESDAY

MCAS Cultural Film Series Presents: The Price of Sugar

Campus Center (CPC, 03), Room 2610. 6 - 8 p.m. This film explores the exploitation of dispossessed Haitian immigrants harvesting sugar cane in the Dominican Republic.
Cost: Free!

26 WEDNESDAY

CAB presents: Frank Warren of PostSecret

George H. Clark Gymnasium, (CLK, 03). 8 - 10 p.m. Frank Warren is the creator of the popular blog, "PostSecret." See him discuss his blog and why he has made it his mission to promote suicide awareness.
Cost: Students: \$6. Others: \$8 - \$11.

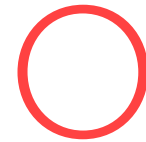
27 THURSDAY

Halloween

Global Village Plaza. 4 - 7p.m. Celebrate the spirit of Halloween and sustainability with costume contests, pumpkin painting and free food!
Cost: Your appetite.

GRAY MATTER: TOPICS THAT MATTER

by Brendan Cahill



On the afternoon of October 14, over 40 people gathered in the Idea Factory at the back of the Wallace Center to ask questions; questions designed to be timely, interesting and potentially provocative. Among the attendees and panelists were Deborah Stendardi, vice president for

Government and Community Relations; William Johnson, currently a professor of public policy and former mayor of the city of Rochester; Kenneth Stewart, president of ACA; and Phil Amsler, Student Government vice president. Joining them were several professors from the College of Liberal Arts' Department of Political Science. They were there for the second Gray Matter discussion, part of a monthly series of discussions that has so far tackled relationships on a tech campus and whether or not voting matters in today's society.

Colette Shaw, a student support specialist and one of the organizers of the series, related an open discussion about controversial speakers as her inspiration for Gray Matter. Shocked by the positive interaction between faculty, staff and students at such events, Shaw and her colleagues wondered if there was any way they could recreate that atmosphere. "Brains had come back to life," she recalled.

Shaw recruited assistance from faculty and staff across the campus, including Lee Twyman, an ombudsperson; Adwoa Boateng, the College of Science librarian; and Dr. Rebecca Johnson. Together, they assembled a test group and started crafting what would become Gray Matter. The team, Johnson in particular, would become interested in using Gray Matter to promote civility and diversity on campus. As Shaw said, "One of the principles of the [RIT] community as drawn out in the diversity platform is civility and having ... democratic conversations." In facilitating this goal, Gray Matter is almost as thought provoking as the questions it poses. **B**

CHANGES COMING TO GENERAL EDUCATION

by Christina Belisle | illustration by Shin Wakabayashi

With the semester conversion fast approaching, departments across the Institute are working to revamp their curricula. One of the most noticeable changes for students will be the coming overhaul of the General Education (GenEd) program. "This conversion is an opportunity for positive change," said Dr. Richard Doolittle, assistant provost for undergraduate education. Doolittle's goal is to bring that mantra of positive change to the GenEd program, and he's leading the way to see that this new system is designed to prepare students for the future.

To meet New York State and RIT mandates, Bachelors of Science degrees require 60 credits from liberal arts classes. For Bachelor of Fine Art degrees that requirement is 30 credits. The new General Education Committee is designing a curriculum to serve RIT's students, intended to fit in with RIT's mission and diversity. The committee consists of Doolittle; Anne Wahl, the director of student learning outcomes assessment; certain academic representatives; and a faculty member from each college.

The biggest change to GenEd will be a division of the program into three sections. The first, known as Foundations, requires first year students to take a writing class and a first year seminar class. The second section, Perspectives, provides students with the opportunity to explore their individual areas of interest — from human issues to scientific inquiry. The final section, called Immersion,



is where students will complete their liberal arts concentrations and minors. The system will work the same way for BFA students but with fewer Perspectives courses. Associate degrees, which are only available in certain NTID programs, have the Foundations and Perspectives requirements, but fewer than the four-year programs.

Now, instead of a student having to take an introductory class in many different disciplines, classes can fit together in a theme, better integrating them into the educational framework. GenEd classes can be chosen to reflect a student's interests or integrate them into the student's major or college. To this end, concentrations will no longer be based on a single discipline like communications or international relations; they will now be based on a theme such as globalization or sustainability.

The new GenEd classes will be easily tracked and explored via GenESIS, the new Student Information System currently in the works. Students will be able to see which classes fit into which themes and perspectives, giving them a much wider range of options than with the current system.

Arts of Expression and First Year Enrichment classes are noticeably absent in the new plan. Arts of Expression classes were always in-depth writing courses, and with the new GenEd plan, students can take a class that fits their major and possibly interests them more than current Arts of Expression offerings. FYE will continue on in some form, as it helps students integrate with RIT, but where exactly FYE will fit is still up in the air. **B**

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• I AM THE AVALANCHE •



AVALANCHE UNITED

I AM THE AVALANCHE

Album | Pop-punk | 38 minutes

RATING: **SKIP IT!**

by Evan Williams

First spin: Skip it. Second spin: Meh. Third spin: Skip it. Fourth spin: Meh. This was the pattern that took shape after listening to I Am the Avalanche's latest pop-punk effort, "Avalanche United." The Brooklyn based band has received a great deal of press and hype from rock blogs and magazines since their inception in 2004, and the release of "Avalanche United" was no different. But after running through it multiple times, it's tough to see what all the fuss is about.

It's got to be tough when your front man sabotages your record. While the guitarist or bassist can sometimes get away with being the weak link in a band, when the least impressive member is the one you can't ignore, the odds are stacked against you. Vinnie Caruana, formerly of The Movielife and Head Automatica, does his best Chuck Ragan impression with his throaty post hardcore shouts and screams, and for the most part his voice sounds great and fits the band's sound perfectly. But it's not how his voice sounds; it's

what he does with it that's the problem.

Caruana's lyrics and vocal styling are often awkward and uninteresting, which is disappointing because what he's saying is truly heartfelt and genuine. For the most part, he's just talking rhythmically. While he can craft the occasional big hook, most of what he does runs on, and falls apart with each tacked-on line. When that cadence continues throughout the record, it becomes hard to invest in the songs, no matter how passionate they are.

On the upside, when the "Avalanche United" is good, it's really good. "Brooklyn Dodgers" is the album's best track, along with "Is this Really Happening", "Casey's Song", "Gratitude", and "The Place you Love is Gone." But these are less than half of the record and with more competent acts like Banner Pilot and Title Fight releasing material this year, and the ever-present discographies of forefather acts like Hot Water Music and The Lawrence Arms, you can do better than "Avalanche United." **R**



"SNUFF" by Terry Pratchett

Novel | Fantasy | 416 pages

RATING: **DIG IT!**

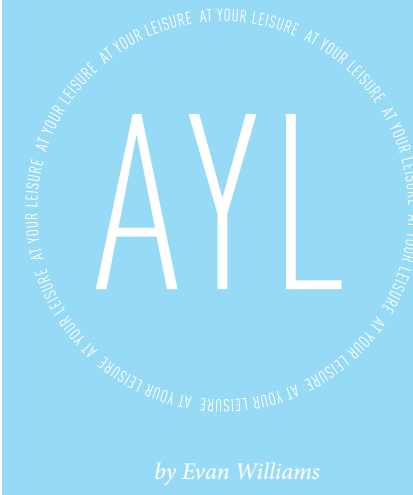
by Adam Watts

Terry Pratchett's "Snuff" is the latest in his "Discworld" series, the franchise that got its author knighted by the Queen of England "for services to literature." In "Snuff," Pratchett brings back his old character Sam Vimes, of the Ankh-Morpork City Watch, for a story that starts with a holiday to the countryside and ends, as is usual in Vimes' experience, with crime and conspiracy. The book is ripe with Pratchett's trademark wit and brilliance with words, which is always a pleasure to read.

If you aren't the patient sort, you might want to skip "Snuff," as it starts off slow. Very slow. The setup, which shows the countryside of the fantastical Discworld setting through the eyes of suspicious city boy Vimes, is full of hints that something might not be right behind the façade of humble villages and estates, but continually fails to deliver anything specific.

As with all the Vimes books there is a mystery to solve, but there comes a point where there is too much buildup — there are only so many times that Vimes can look someone in the eye and say he can tell something suspicious is happening around here, before it becomes somewhat trite. Things pick up in a big way once Vimes finds the first corpse, which leads him along a path that ends with angry mobs, assassinations, and desperate fights in the rain.

If you can work your way through the first half, the second is well worth the wait. The writing is clever and funny in Pratchett's signature style, the mysteries are sinister and the crimes are terrible to behold. Despite its flaws, the book does justice to its almost thirty-year-old series, and comes highly recommended for any fan of Pratchett's work. **R**



by Evan Williams

REPORTER RECOMMENDS

Self Hypnosis

Ever want to learn a new skill, but don't have the time to commit to actually learning it? How about improving your confidence or sexual attractiveness, without putting in the effort to work on your personality? Enter the world of self hypnosis. It's simple; just pop in a CD on whatever subject you feel you're lacking, then relax and let your brain do all the leg work.

A soothing voice over even more soothing music will lull you into a deep slumber, and from then on, your brain will be flooded with the positive thoughts and energy to reshape your being from the inside out.

From quitting smoking, to increased brainpower, to learning how to make the perfect soufflé, you can become anyone you want to be - all while taking a nap. Does it work? No idea. But it's worth a shot, and if nothing else, it makes for one hell of a sleep aid.

QUOTE

"God help us; we're in the hands of engineers."

- Dr. Ian Malcolm from "Jurassic Park"

COMIC by Amber Gartung



OVERSEEN & OVERHEARD

"I'm on the Liberal Arts victory lap now. All I have to do is have opinions about stuff and try not to snore in class."

- Fifth year student on his current curriculum.

"I don't know about all of these people. I got sick of them about seven hours ago. Cheers for homecoming I guess."

- Student grows tired of the Brick City Weekend crowd before sundown Friday.

STREAM OF FACTS

Persian soldiers in 522 BC used cats to capture the ancient Egyptian city of Pelusium. The Persians knew that because of their religious reverence of cats, it was illegal for Egyptians to harm or kill them. The Persians held up cats as shields and let others loose on the battlefield until the Egyptians were forced to surrender the **CITY**.

Istanbul, formerly Constantinople, is the only **CITY** located on two continents. It is the largest city in Turkey and sits on a tip of land that serves as the **BRIDGE** between Europe and Asia.

The world's longest **BRIDGE** over open water was opened in China in January of 2011. The Jiaozhu Bay Bridge is 26 miles long and links

WORD OF THE WEEK

Janissary n. - A deeply loyal follower or supporter.

The charming politician had gathered quite a following, and appreciated the support of each loyal **janissary**.

HAIKU

Need project partner
But odd number of students
Forever Alone

the eastern port city of Qingdao to the island of Huangdao. It broke the record previously held by the 24 mile long **LAKE PONTCHARTRAIN** Causeway in Louisiana.

LAKE PONTCHARTRAIN is the focus of a number of songs and popular culture references, including tunes by the self-proclaimed creator of jazz Jelly Roll Morton, alternative rock band Ludo, and Americana performers Sheryl Crow, Lucinda Williams, Hank Williams, and Johnny **CASH**.

CASH Rules Everything Around Me is the meaning behind the acronym "C.R.E.A.M.," the title of a popular song by the hip-hop group Wu-Tang Clan. The song samples the 1967 song As Long as I've Got You" by the Charmels. **R**

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ROCHESTER FALL CONCERT PREVIEW

We've all heard it before: "no good bands ever come through Rochester." For people who don't know where to look, that might be the case, but the city has hosted many notable bands in its history that people only hear about until the day after the show. So here's a handy guide to some of the notable artists who will be visiting the ROC in the next couple of months.

TUESDAY 25 OCTOBER

THE FLAMING LIPS
The Main Street Armory (900 East Main Street)
Doors at 6:30, Show at 8:00 p.m.
\$37.50 - \$45.00

After doing a track-by-track cover of Pink Floyd's classic 1973 LP "The Dark Side of the Moon," The Flaming Lips took their lush, psychedelic sound to the road, touring for the last couple of years in support of that project and their 12th LP, "Embryonic." Joining them for their first surreal, visually-aided performance in Rochester are openers Kurt Vile and Talkdemonic.

TUESDAY 25 OCTOBER

MISFITS
The Montage Music Hall (50 Chestnut Street)
Doors at 7:00, Show at 8:00 p.m.
\$20.00

The legendary and influential horror punk outfit the Misfits is hitting Rochester for the first time since 2000 in support of "Devil's Rain," their first album of original content since 1999. The band's three decade career has seen multiple lineups, and they're currently led by original member Jerry Only.

SUNDAY 30 OCTOBER

WALE
Waterstreet Music Hall (204 N. Water Street)
Doors at 8:00, Show at 8:30 p.m.
\$24.00 - \$30.00

After his critically acclaimed debut LP "Attention Deficit," and a little help from Lady Gaga on single "Chillin'," Wale became the most recognizable face of Washington D.C. hip-hop. Now he's bringing his go-go-music-inspired sound to Rochester, touring in support of his new album "Ambition," which lands in November.

WEDNESDAY 02 NOVEMBER

TAKING BACK SUNDAY
Waterstreet Music Hall (204 N. Water Street)
Doors at 6:30, Show at 7:00 p.m.
\$23.00 - \$25.00

Formed in Long Island, N.Y. in 1999, Taking Back Sunday has been churning out alternative rock for more than a decade, and they are making yet another stop in Rochester. The Maine and Bad Rabbits are opening.

WEDNESDAY 02 NOVEMBER

PIXIES
The Main Street Armory (900 East Main Street)
Doors at 6:00, Show at 7:00 p.m.
\$42.50 - \$50.00

The influential alternative rockers are here to celebrate the 20th anniversary of their seminal second LP "Doolittle." The band is currently on a leg of the tour that hits cities that they have never played before. They intend to play the entirety of the album, as well as many other fan favorites. Florida indie band Surfer Blood is opening.

SATURDAY 05 NOVEMBER

MAYHEM
The Montage Music Hall (50 Chestnut Street)
Doors at 7:30, Show at 8:30 p.m.
\$20.00

It is difficult to talk about the early 90's Norwegian black metal scene without mentioning the controversial band Mayhem. Their sound is dark and furious, their live shows are violent, and their personal lives are tangled in murder, suicide, arrest and arson. This is Mayhem's first ever visit to Rochester — go see what their name is all about.

WEDNESDAY 16 NOVEMBER

JUDAS PRIEST
The Main Street Armory (900 East Main Street)
Doors at 5:30, Show at 6:00 p.m.
\$47.50 - \$55.00

Dubbed the "Epitaph Tour," this will be the legendary heavy metal band's final trek around the world, and thus to Rochester. Come out to headbang and support their remarkable career with openers Black Label Society, Thin Lizzy and Lady Starlight.

**All times and information subject to change.*

by Vasia Ivanov

MONSTER MASH

by Evan Williams | illustration by Amber Gartung

Every Halloween sees a plethora of parties thrown all across town. If you plan on having one as well, you need to make sure it stands out. Taking a few risks and thinking outside the casket can really pay off. Light the place with candles, break out the fog machine and take a look at this list of ideas designed to make your shindig rule the night.

■ CRIME SCENE PHOTOGRAPHY

With as much effort as people put into their costumes, it makes sense to document their labors. Set aside a small space, like a bathroom or the corner of a garage and transform it into the scene of a crime for party guest to pose in. Think “prom photos from Hell”.

Bates' Bathroom

This Hitchcockian setting is nice and easy to pull off. All you need is a shower, preferably in a bathroom that won't see too much traffic, and a butcher's knife. Then step back and let folks explore their inner Psycho. Fake blood and homicidal mommy issues are optional.

Dexter's Den

A sturdy table, a little basement space and some clear plastic tarps are all you need to recreate a “Kill Room” from TV's “Dexter.” Have one guest lie on the table wrapped in the tarp while the other plays the killer. Then let your imagination take over.

Silver Platters

The old sticking-your-head-through-a-hole-in-the-table trick is a classic, but chopping up your furniture might not be a great idea. Substitute some oversized cardboard boxes for a table and decorate them with table clothes or bed sheets and let your guests get their Marie Antoinette on.

■ LEAVING A MARK

Any good party requires a little courage and creativity, and that goes double for Halloween. If your patrons are willing to let loose a bit, try these activities to give them something to talk about come sunrise.

Chalk Outlines

All this one requires is a ton of sidewalk chalk and a little blacktop space. Have your friends lie about and see who can trace up the most creative police chalk outlines. The more absurd the outlines are the better. Plus having a driveway or sidewalk covered in corpse outlines looks pretty wicked come morning.

“I'm so scared!”

Looking for a use for that old digital camera you never use? Give it to your guests with a flashlight and see who can record the best “Blair Witch Project” style confessions in a dark room. Edit them together and show them off. Put it on Facebook and let your friends feel the fright.

It's not Lupus

Put your creativity to the test with DIY zombie getups made from household products. Cotton balls, food coloring, cornstarch, corn syrup and a little costume makeup are all you need. Either have someone volunteer to zombie-fy the already dressed up guests, or let them try it themselves. After all, the only thing better than House is Zombie House.



■ TRICKS AND TREATS

Grown up Gummies

Take some gummy candy — bears, worms, snakes, fish and the like — and place them in a glass container. Fill the container to just above the candy with the vodka of your choice. Cover the container and refrigerate for a couple days. The result: gummy treats with an alcoholic zing.

The Jack O' Lantern

Mix one and a half ounces of orange juice, a half ounce of ginger ale, and another ounce and a half of whatever libation you desire. Shake and serve on ice in a lowball glass with an orange wheel over the top of the drink. Use a small, twisted lime peel for a pumpkin stem and *voilà*. **R**

MIX-AND-MATCH HALLOWEEN COSTUMES

by Amanda Imperial | photograph by Juan Madrid

It's almost that time again. Halloween is just around the corner, and you have no idea what you're going to do for a costume. But at RIT, you will never have an easier time deciding what to be; we're all mad here.

“Alice's Adventures in Wonderland” jokes aside, what are you going to do? Believe it or not, you have articles of clothing and miscellaneous objects lying around that just might save you from being that boring mooch at a Halloween party. Or you can make a quick trip to Goodwill or Plato's Closet to find something to throw together. Here are some ideas for easy costumes you might never have thought of.

If you have a **lab coat**, you can pair it with:

- A black shirt and skirt to be Abby from “NCIS.”
- Rubber gloves, boots, a collared shirt and a tie to be The Medic from “Team Fortress 2.”
- A red collared shirt, tan pants, and brown shoes to be Professor Oak from “Pokémon.”
- Black pants, a white collared shirt, and a black tie to be Professor Utonium from “The Powerpuff Girls.”

If you have a **plain, gray, zippered hoodie**, you can pair it with:

- Brown pants, black shoes, and duct tape to be a Hunter from “Left 4 Dead.”
- Black sweatpants, sandals, and a blue beanie to be Retired Phoenix from “Phoenix Wright: Ace Attorney.”

If you have a **pair of overalls**, you can pair it with:

- A colored shirt to be either Mario, Luigi, Wario or Waluigi from any “Mario” game.
- A white tank-top and brown shoes to be Audrey Rocio Ramirez from Disney's “Atlantis: The Lost Empire.”

If you have a **wig of any color**, you can pair it with:

- A hoodie, shorts, colored leggings, and boots to be Ramona Flowers from the Scott Pilgrim series.
- Anything you wouldn't see on a normal human being to be Lady Gaga.
- A leather jacket and black leggings to be Nicki Minaj.

If you have an **old black suit and tie**, you can pair it with:

- Black gloves and black shoes to be Agent 47 from “Hitman.”
- A mask to be The Spy from “Team Fortress 2.”
- Dark tinted sunglasses to be Agent Smith from “The Matrix.”

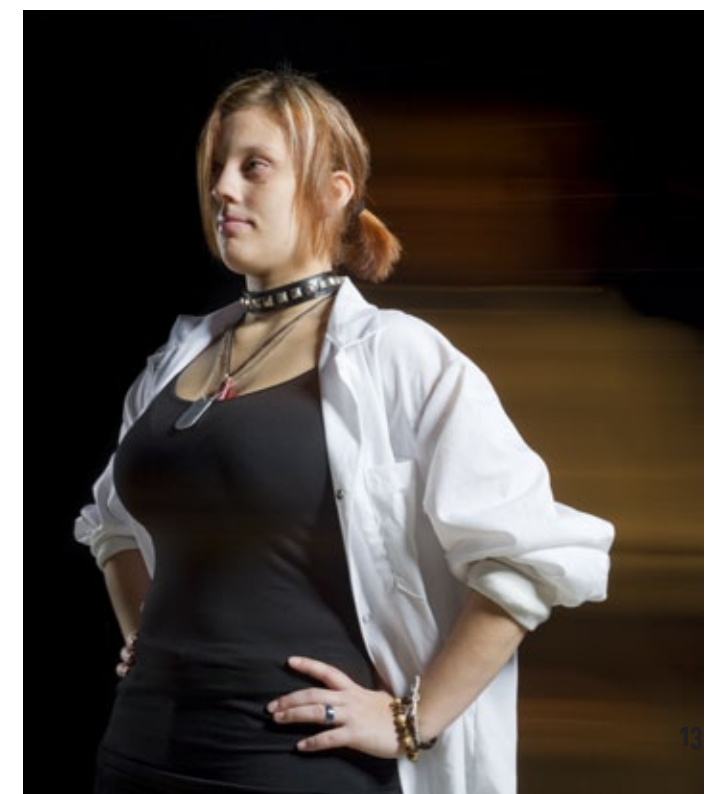
Remember, costumes don't have to be perfect. It's just Halloween. Feel free to take creative and financial liberties when choosing what character to dress up as. If you get any stubborn-Stanleys coming up to you and harping on any details not done perfectly, just tell them to fork over the money it would cost to buy the rest of the costume. Or better yet, just ignore them. It's Halloween — have fun, be creative, and be smart about your shopping.

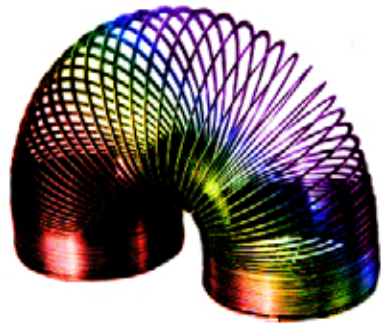
If you have a **trenchcoat or duster**, you can pair it with:

- A fedora, gloves, and black and white splotched mask to be Rorschach from “Watchmen.”
- Black pants shoes to be Frank Castle from “The Punisher.”
- A hoodie, jeans and a baseball cap to be Silent Bob of Kevin Smith's famous trouble-making duo, Jay and Silent Bob.

If you have a **plaid, collared button-down**, you can pair it with:

- Jeans, cowboy boots and a cowboy hat to be Woody from Disney's “Toy Story.”
- Jeans and cowboy boots to be any Duke from “The Dukes of Hazzard.” **R**





fun for a
girl & a boy!

EventsAtRIT  

EMBRACING STUDENT INTEREST.

by Alex Rogala

For over 40 years, RIT's Special Interest Housing system has provided a way for students to unite under a common interest. Each of RIT's eight Special Interest Houses has left its own indelible mark on the Institute. Some have provided a place for students to share their interest in art, science or certain cultures. Through their events, community service and projects, others have had a great impact on RIT and the Rochester community.

While part of a system, each Special Interest House has its own culture, and they each face a unique set of triumphs and challenges. Engineering House and Photo House are celebrating 40-year anniversaries while, after a quarter century, Unity House is going back to its roots. The following profiles represent a cross-section of RIT's Special Interest Housing program and some of the people who make it possible.



DEVELOPING INTEREST

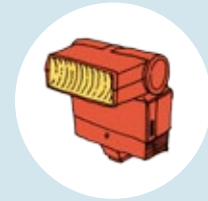
by Steven Markowitz

“SOMETIMES YOU’LL WALK OUT OF YOUR DOOR AND SEE A LIFE-SIZED MANNEQUIN,”

SAYS EVAN ORTIZ, A SECOND YEAR ADVERTISING PHOTOGRAPHY MAJOR AND PRESIDENT OF PHOTO HOUSE.

The mannequin’s name is Kenny. He is the mascot of Photo House. And according to Ortiz, he is “very creepy.” Yet walk up and down the halls of the floor, located on the fourth floor of Nathaniel Rochester Hall, and one will be witness to an explosion of color. Photographs, paintings, drawings, murals and other works of art lines the walls. Light dances on the walls as it reflects off the student equipment. It is truly a different floor. Not to worry though — visiting is safe, for Kenny is currently locked in the closet.

Last weekend, during Brick City Homecoming, Photo House celebrated its 40th anniversary, holding an open house for alumni and guests. Over time, the floor has grown to provide a community for RIT students interested in photography. Through their events and community service, they have left an impact on Rochester. Forty years and still together, the house now has over 60 on-floor and 20 off-floor members of all different majors, all bound by the love of photography.



FROM THE GREAT WAR OF 1994 TO THE MODERN ERA

Founded in 1972, little is known about Photo House’s first two decades. Documents from 1994 reveal that in October of that year war broke out with neighboring Computer Science House. Water balloons were fired. The damage was unknown. The war ended with a fire alarm.

One month later, Photo House briefly dissolved due to organization problems. However the new president Jason Mancine, with the help of the eBoard, rewrote the constitution.

In 2000, Photo House expanded to the entire floor and purchased a 4x5 camera for members to use. Two years later, members set out to modernize Photo House. Using fundraising money, they purchased brand-new equipment — including a Macintosh computer, mat cutter and 1280 printer donated by Epson — for the print finishing room (which later became an all-purpose computer room).

Over the years, Photo House members have continued to make the floor feel like a modern environment. Many of the facilities have been upgraded and repainted, and new equipment is constantly being purchased or donated. According to Ortiz, there are currently no plans for large renovations or additions to facilities for the next few years.



IN THE HALLS OF PHOTO HOUSE

Photo House offers tools for students of all levels. The floor is home to a studio complete with lights, strobes and blank walls, where photo shoots occur almost every day. The floor’s other unique facilities include a darkroom, which is currently under renovation, and a gallery featuring students’ work. Due to a flood of light this gallery is perfect for studying. The facilities are open to all on and off-floor members and alumni, and eager photographers use them daily.

In order to use Photo House’s facilities, some simple training is necessary. This training is one of the requirements to be a member. Each student is required to participate in community service events, as well as help with social events, fundraisers and lecturers. The house tries to give back to the community by collecting cans, organizing food drives and, currently, arranging a bingo night.



THE FLOOR FOUR EXPERIENCE

Each year, first year students are required to participate in the Freshman Project, a group building exercise that also benefits the floor. In 2003, first years installed display cases outside of each door for students to hang their work. Last year, they painted a filmstrip down the hall. The eBoard has not yet determined what this year’s project will be.

Photo House emphasizes a sense of community. Of the over 60 members, about 75 percent are photography majors of some sort. All of the different photography related majors are represented, including Fine Art Photography, Advertising Photography, Photojournalism, Visual Media, Biomedical Photographic Communications, and Imaging and Photographic Technology. There are an increased number of Film majors this year. The remaining members round out the spectrum of majors.

Photo House takes several annual group trips. Each fall, members load up into their cars and drive an hour to beautiful Letchworth State Park. The group also travels to Lake Ontario in April.

A majority of the floor also attends First Friday bus trips, which are hosted by the College of Imaging Arts and Sciences and visit galleries in the Rochester area.

Photo House works hard to not just build a network of friends, but a community in which people can rely on each other and grow together. Whether a student is studying to launch his or her career in photography or simply enjoys it as a hobby, they are part of one group. One group under the awe-inspiring art of photography. One group under Kenny. **R**

RENEWING INTEREST HOW UNITY HOUSE IS REVITALIZING ITSELF

by Tia Long | illustration by Dan Alshiemer

The lounge is a common gathering area for members of Unity House. It's where they study, socialize and advertise events. It's also where they placed a poster detailing one of their goals for the year. It reads "House of the Year" and is surrounded by members' descriptions of the house: "Home away from home," "Leadership starts with us!" and "The house promotes academics while stressing the importance of family values."

“We want to win House of the Year,” said Unity House President Jordan Rawls, a second year Information Technology major.

When Unity House celebrated their 25th anniversary last year, they won an award as the most improved Special Interest House. Now in their 26th year, Unity House is starting over.

Its eBoard members, all second year students, have taken on the task of reviving interest in the house, reinforcing their focus as a house founded around the concept of family and togetherness. Rawls credits these newer members with saving the special interest house. He says that without the younger generation, Unity House “would have had no eBoard and hardly any floor members.”

House historian Jalexis Smith, a second year Fine Art Photography major, agrees that there is a lot more support from first years and off-floor members. According to Rawls, applications for both on and off-floor members have come in almost every day this quarter.

But this interest wasn't always there. Rawls said the biggest struggle during his presidency has been eliminating negative word-of-mouth. “We have had to eliminate stereotypes that we are just for black people and that we are just a social floor,” he said.

Rawls said that all the negative publicity was hurting recruitment. That is also why this year Rawls said that Unity House has had to reintroduce themselves to other organizations, such as the Multicultural Center for Academic Success. “We want to [collaborate] more with other special interest houses,” Rawls noted.



Rawls commented on how important it is for members of Unity House to want to create a helpful community. “We were founded on the principles of unity and togetherness,” he explained.

Floor member R'ryona Thomas, a first year Computer Engineering Technology major, said she talked on Facebook with most of the eBoard members prior to the beginning of the school year. It was during those conversations that she noticed Unity House's family-oriented community.

Rawls said that Facebook is helpful to eBoard members when searching for students who apply to be a part of the house, in order to get to know future members.

When it comes to members, Rawls noted that Unity House is looking for people who want to be future campus leaders and also make a better environment for themselves and others.

Thomas said that there is always energy on the floor. Many of her friends who would come to hang out on the floor have since become off-

floor members. “We are all a family,” she said.

“We try to incorporate family into everything we do,” Smith said. “For example, [we are] always traveling to social gatherings together, having movie nights on floor during the weekends, or just simply having dinner with each other.”

Nurturing this sense of community is one of Unity House's missions, and they hold many events throughout the year to this end. They established a mentor/mentee program and also recently hosted a student/faculty mixer with Phi Beta Sigma fraternity and the AALANA Collegiate Association, which saw about 80 attendees.

On November 6, Unity House will be hosting Soul Food Sunday in the Brick City Café from 6-8 p.m. Open to everyone, this free event will feature the cooking of Unity House members' family. “I wish it was once a quarter,” Smith commented, “because it tastes so good.”

Unity House's biggest annual event is a talent showcase called Tribute, which always takes place in February. It includes performances by fraternities, dance teams, floor members and others. Thomas and two other members from the house are already planning to perform in this year's show. During last year's Tribute, entitled “Back to Basics,” all the house's eBoard members performed in skits where they traveled back in time to relive the significant history of their group.

over 20 showed up to help. “I was really proud of Unity House and all the members that showed up to volunteer,” she said.

Rawls said that another house goal is to keep grades up, something they have struggled with in the past. Smith said that Unity House now offers tutoring at study jams three times a week. Thomas said that Unity House has been very supportive with her academics. “I'm taking circuit theory now and three other people already have taken it and they [gave] me a crash course,” she explained, “If you need support, this is the place to be.”

Smith sat down to eat lunch in the lounge and recalled how she became part of Unity House. “Last year I was one of only three freshmen,” she said. “I didn't get to tour the school before I came so I really joined on a whim.”

“I was surprised mostly by the truth behind the motto: One House, One Love, One Family,” Smith said, “They're my brothers and sisters.”

“WE TRY TO INCORPORATE FAMILY
INTO EVERYTHING WE DO”

“We want to pass on our history and make sure Unity House keeps going,” Rawls said. “We put it in motion and want to be involved.”

Smith said that Unity House not only encourages members to be active on campus but to also make sure they have a presence in the Rochester community. Recently Unity House teamed up with Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity to serve dinner at the Open Door Mission in Rochester. According to Smith, the mission only needed five volunteers but got

THINKERS, TINKERS, AND TRICKSTERS: ENGINEERING HOUSE

by Patrick Ogbeide
illustration by Zac Retz

It's a warm, sunny Rochester day, and you and your floor mates decide to make a Slip 'N Slide right outside your dorm. Everyone puts on their bathing suits and runs outside, eager to relive childhood memories full of summer activities and Nickelodeon marathons. After a few minutes of setup, the Slip 'N Slide is finally completed, and you decide to take the initiative, christening it with your first turn. With a small running start, you take a leap and land belly first on the yellow slide, winding down the watery path and laughing until you can no longer breathe. You reach the end of the slide, smiling from ear to ear and urging the others to hurry and take their turns. As they join in, you begin to reminisce on a time when this, not long hours spent studying, was what living truly meant.

Then you wake up. It's not a warm and sunny day, but rather frigid winter when the heater is cranked to obscene levels. What about the Slip 'N Slide that you and your floor mates took the time and effort to build? It still exists, but something has changed — it's not outside. Instead, the Slip 'N Slide is right in your dorm hallway. The only thing true from your dream is the laughter and joy shared by everyone around you.

While such events are normally only experienced during a long hot summer, as second year Electrical Engineering student and Engineering House Treasurer Jordan O'Connor explained, "Beach Day" is only one of the many ridiculous events that has happened in Engineering House. As they celebrate their 40th anniversary, the students of Engineering House all share a bond forged by the thrill of education, passion for success and, above all, love for one another.

THE BEGINNING OF IT ALL

As one of the oldest Special Interest Houses at RIT, Engineering House started out the same way as many others: as a place for students with shared interests to live together by providing an academic focus to residence hall living. Since its inception in 1971, Engineering House has expanded into an environment where engineers of all types can come together and form relationships that last even after graduation.

Engineering House has a colorful past. House President Jesse Follman, a second year Mechanical Engineering major, briefly explained the history. "There's that ruffian side to E-House legacy where we're always causing a raucous," said Follman, "But there's the focused side where we strive to be good at what we're doing, regardless if it's academics or hobbies."

That 40-year legacy causes everyone — not just Follman — to consider their actions carefully and represent the floor as one that represents rigorous academics, not just good times. "It motivates us not to screw it up," said Follman, "We were placed on probation last year, and something like that threatens 40 years of history. With such a legacy, it carries on and makes us stronger as a floor." Each year, memories of good and bad events on the floor are passed on, allowing those who come after to recognize mistakes and prevent trouble.

WE ARE E-HOUSE

Throughout the years, Engineering House has remained a haven for aspiring engineers who want to have a good time at RIT while embracing the glow of innovation the university embodies. One floor tradition is the Freshmen Project, an event where the floor's first year students are required to build something that benefits the floor as a whole. Follman's own project was a bench that provided extra seating space in their projector room — another freshman project. Other projects have included a giant table in the study room and a sound system in the lounge.

Events are also an important part of floor life. The floor just recently went to the Rochester Ronald McDonald House to help serve meals. They use their own money to pay for all their in-house events by making jackets and general items they sell to the floor residents. Sports are also prominent on the floor, which has intramural teams for volleyball, ultimate Frisbee and broomball.

THE FAMILY THAT THINKS TOGETHER

Family is the one word Follman believes describes the atmosphere of Engineering House. "Everything we do as a house has everyone involved," says Follman. "Whether it is a trip or hanging out during the week, we maintain a constant communication." First years Perri Weinstein, a Chemical Engineering major, and Samantha Degerick, a Biomedical Engineering major, formed a close friendship because they live on Engineering House. "I've known this girl [Degerick] seven weeks, and she's probably my best friend. We been through a lot already and I feel like she's the closest thing to home I have," said Weinstein before she and Degerick embraced each other. Degerick also has fond memories of orientation week, when the entire floor helped her move into her room.

Regarded as a family, Engineering House also has a reputation for being pranksters. Playing pranks on one another is certainly commonplace among floor members. Follman described a time when he and a couple of floor mates filled one friend's room almost entirely with newspaper, "She got in and she was up to her waist in crumpled newspaper. I even have pictures of it."

Engineering House is full of rich history and even richer friendships. The bonds formed in the house last beyond RIT and give students the opportunity to not only receive academic help from their own peers, but unite themselves under the sphere of curiosity and fun. A Slip 'N Slide in the hallway may be a rare occurrence anywhere else, but in Engineering House, it's just another day living on in the eighth floor of Nathaniel Rochester Hall. **R**



The RIT Men's Hockey team salutes the Corner Crew after the thrilling Brick City Homecoming game at Blue Cross Arena in Downtown Rochester. RIT won the game, scoring 14 seconds into the sudden-death overtime after keeping themselves alive with a goal in the last ten seconds of regulation.

SWEET VICTORY

by Jeff McKinzie | photographs by Joshua Barber

Compared to a lengthy battle over three periods of play, 14 seconds seemed like a tiny speck of time. But in this speck, the uphill battle of the previous 60 minutes was forgotten as something happened that brought joy to every RIT hockey fan's heart — a game-winning goal.

Tied at 5-5 and heading into sudden-death overtime against the St. Lawrence Saints, there was clearly tension in the crowd. You could see



RIT goal tender Shane Madalora deflects a Saint Lawrence shot sending the puck flying high over the net during the third period.

the nervousness in their faces, and there was much doubt that RIT would pull out a win. But when second year Business Management major Adam Mitchell scored the goal that would seal the Tigers' first victory of the regular season, the sellout crowd of 10,556 packed into Blue Cross Arena burst into cheers. This was the kind of win parents and alumni had come to see.

A major event of Brick City Weekend, the homecoming game started quickly as the Tigers scored not four minutes into the game. The goal came when fourth year Marketing major Cameron Burt, who proved to be a star of the game, scored off a rebound shot fired by fourth year Environmental Sustainability major Daniel Spivak. Burt would go on to achieve an RIT Division I team record with five points on two goals and three assists. It is the second time in his career he has reached that milestone; both times at Blue Cross Arena.

Five minutes after Mitchell's first goal, the Saints answered back when Kyle Flanagan stole the puck in the defensive zone and fed it to Jacob Drewiske, who played the give-and-go, getting the puck back to Flanagan for the score.

Coming into the game, RIT head coach Wayne Wilson had a very simple strategy for his team: "We wanted to move our feet, get the puck deep, and create excitement and momentum. The strategy was to get a



RIT players (from bottom to top) Adam Mitchell, Daniel Spivak and Brad McGowan watch a face off during the first period.

few points early on, get the crowd involved and keep them involved with as many goals as we could."

And that's exactly what they did. The crowd, loud and orange-clad, was tuned to the Tigers' every move. Every goal was celebrated with screams of surprise, and "ohhs" were heard with every missed opportunity and bad penalty.

The two teams maintained a close score throughout, with each period ending in a tie. In the third period, St. Lawrence jumped ahead as Patrick Doherty scored twice in a span of 1:41 early in the period to give them the lead, one they would hold for nearly half the third period.

The Tigers' comeback run began when third year Criminal Justice major Bryan Potts scored his second goal of the game on a power play, after an attempted centering pass went off the skate of a Saints defender and past Weninger. Second year Packaging Science major Greg Noyes and Burt assisted on the goal.

The game was tense at 5-4 in the third period with nine seconds left in



With only nine seconds left in the third period RIT's Adam Hartley (22) slips the puck past the St. Lawrence goaltender to tie the game at 5-5, keeping the Tigers alive for sudden-death overtime.

the game when Burt leapt toward the puck to keep it in within shooting distance, and fired a shot that deflected off a St. Lawrence defenseman and the skate of Noyes. Third year Business Management major Adam Hartley, who was alone in tight, shot it past Weninger on the open right side, and sent the crowd into a frenzy and an already exciting game into overtime.

Immediately after the face-off in overtime, Spivak forced a turnover in the neutral zone, leading to Burt carrying the puck into the St. Lawrence zone and skirting around a forward. Burt passed the puck to first year Business major Brad McGowan, creating a 2-1 match-up with Mitchell, who was able to slide the puck past Weninger.

After the game, Burt acknowledged that St. Lawrence really tested the Tigers. "It was a very offensive game, they played hard and kept on us and they really gave us a chance to learn. All of the team stepped up to do their parts. We know they have some dynamic forces and can score at any point; we really had to contain them and play hard man-on-man defense.

While Burt was pleased with the offensive effort, he also acknowledged there was a lot that could've been done better. "We got the win today but we're not going to win many games letting in 5 goals... and we have to try to stay out of the penalty box."



Brian Potts and Matt Garbowski embrace as Ryan McReynolds skates to join them in celebrating Potts' second period goal.

Coach Wilson mirrored Burt's comment: "We scored on the power plays, but we need to do a better job not giving up those shorthanded opportunities ourselves." With the win the Tigers are 2-7-0 against the Saints, with their last win against them occurring on October 28, 2005.

The Tigers return to RIT on October 22 at 7 p.m. at the Frank Ritter Arena.

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Michael Peterson, a second year Glass Sculpture major, finishes the Yellowjacket Invitational held on October 15th at Genesee Valley Park. Peterson finished 69th overall with a time of 28:40.

NEITHER RAIN NOR MUD...CROSS COUNTRY COMPETES WITHOUT FAIL

by Ali Coladonato | photograph by Jonathan Foster

Saturday, October 15 saw rain in buckets and mud in gallons; winds to knock you on your back; and puddles you could drown in. But despite the cold, the wet and the mud, RIT's men's and women's cross country teams dressed down to their shorts and wrung out their socks to compete. An impressively dedicated few were there to watch.

Hosted by the University of Rochester at Genesee Valley Park, the 2011 Yellowjacket Invitational was a friendly meet intended to offer some experience to younger runners, as well as get the veterans geared up for championship season. The course consisted of several loops around the park, amounting to a 5k race for the women and an 8k for the men. The course boasted slippery pavement and muddy obstacles throughout.

On the men's side, the top three finishers for RIT were first year Undeclared Engineering Technology major Kyle Reid, third year Electrical Engineering major Michael Krenzer, and second year Photojournalism major Josh Barber, helping lead the team to a seventh place finish out of 16 teams. The women's side also saw a seventh place finish out of 13 teams as fourth year Photography major Erin LaFave completed her fifth straight race as RIT's top finisher. Coming in 12th overall out of 170 runners, LaFave completed the course in 19:10, just half a second behind the top runner from Western Ontario. The women's side also saw strong performances from fourth year Computer Science major Kate Dubuison and third year ASL Interpreting major Amanda Dole, finishing with times of 20:48 and 20:50, respectively.

The course covered both grass and pavement, making it a struggle for many runners to keep their footing throughout the race. Several competitors reached the finish line with mud down their backs from spills taken over the messy terrain. Many of the teams were well prepared for the conditions, though, as they have to face chilly, wet Rochester

weather in practice. RIT's men's and women's team practice together every day — and in all conditions — often heading into Rochester for 10 or 12 mile runs once a week.

The cross-country season generally starts in mid-to-late August and goes until late November with championships. Having such a long season makes it difficult to stay focused and continually try to improve, but the Tigers have shown that they're up to the challenge. Team leader and fifth year Mechanical Engineering major John Holleran commented on the makeup of the teams, saying, "We're a very traditional team; believe it or not, we have our own niche here and we actually get some good support."

Huddled in puddles and shivering through parkas, the small crowd the invitational drew kept in good cheer with signs, shouts of encouragement and even the occasional pom-pom. RIT fans produced a particularly strong show of support, as Prefontaine noted, "I think because this is technically our home course, this was one of the better meets for RIT fans."

Being a Tiger Den Event, the race drew some support from other student athletes on campus, and rewarded friends and families showing RIT cheer with goodies and pizza. Teaming up with the Center for Campus Life this year, the Student Athletic Advisory Committee is looking to promote athletic support through giveaways and events at various sporting events throughout the year.

The Cross Country teams will be competing at the New York State Collegiate Track Conference hosted by St. Lawrence on Saturday, October 22. The men and women's team are ranked 7th and 6th, respectively and will be running against such rivals as University of Rochester and St. Lawrence.

The next Tiger Den Event will be a Ladies Night at the Women's Hockey game vs. Utica on November 5.

What's one thing you would change about your college experience?



"I wish I could have gone to RIT. I'm impressed with the facilities and programs."

Charles Wells

"I was a serious student. I wish I'd have taken the time to have more fun."

Deany Blades



"I would finish college. For me, right now it's more self-fulfillment. I have a good job and make good money. Or take a calligraphy class."

Aimee Mangold

"I would probably go on to graduate school because I graduated in '72. It would have made my life easier."

David Cardillo

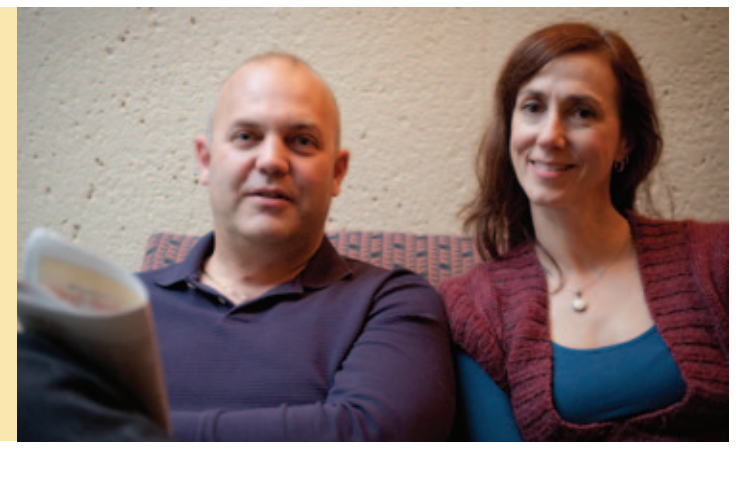


"I'd probably look for a different major. I'm in consulting engineering and I'm tired of the rat race that goes with it."

Jeff Krall

"I'd re-think my major. I went into speech/communication, broadcasting. Maybe that wasn't my passion, I like helping people."

Ellie Krall



"If I had a choice, right now I would totally come to RIT."

Denise Ziatyk

"I would go to live-on-campus (school)."

"You lived with me" -Denise

"I know! That's why..."

Michael Ziatyk



"When I went to school, the drinking age was 18, so that wasn't an issue. Maybe I would have played a sport or done extra-curriculars."

John Michalakakis

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Marco Golandrea waves an Adbusters corporate American flag along Broadway, near Zucotti Park in Manhattan on Saturday, September 17th, 2011 during the infancy of the Occupy Wall Street protest.

Occupying America story and photograph by Jonathan Foster

As a photojournalist, I am not allowed to actively participate in events that I cover; I am there to find and tell stories. This is difficult when I believe in the cause, and Occupy Wall Street resonates deep within me. I have photographed a handful of protests and usually they don't generate much attention, from the media or the public. Occupy Wall Street, however, stems from the same mindset of the Tahrir Square, London, and Libya protests. It is slowly influencing everything from overtime pay to police officers to the Presidential race.

Having spent only twelve hours at Occupy Wall Street on its inaugural day, I am drawn back to Manhattan to continue telling the story. It has the ring of true democracy to it; not the American sort of democracy indoctrinated into school children; not patriotism or nationalism; but authentic, participatory democracy.

New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg said last week in his weekly radio appearance that “The protests that are trying to destroy the jobs of working people in this city aren't productive.” Bloomberg must choose: let the protestors demonstrate within their rights, or risk losing tourism and tax revenues for the city. Meanwhile, the American people must choose whether corporations may dictate the future of their existence — something that outweighs any amount of money.

The founding fathers of the United States sought economic sovereignty from the British 235 years ago. This nation was not founded on the ideas of liberty, peace, equality, justice, and freedom. That was what we were told growing up, because it makes a pretty story, and as the saying goes, “history is written by the victor.” The American Revolution was fueled largely by economic motives and a desire to expand westward — tangible things — not for political ideals. Those ideals merely gave support to the argument and structure to the movement.

I do not believe that we are entitled to these rights. The only rights you have are the ones you practice daily, because in practice there will be conflict and you will have to defend those freedoms. Occupy Wall Street and the ensuing protests are not only the call for Americans to defend the ideals we share with our founding fathers, but also to illuminate them in the light of a new era.

Walter Cronkite once said, “There is no such thing as a little freedom. Either you are all free, or you are not free.” There is a collective guilt with the problems Occupy Wall Street is addressing. As consumers in a capitalist economy, we sat by and gave our freedoms away in exchange for possessions and entertainment. Now, the corporations that gave us these material objects are jockeying to control resources vital to human life. Growth is not an infinite model. The age of consumerism is quickly drawing to an end, and Occupy Wall Street (and the derivative protests springing up in its wake) gives me hope that this end may not be as precipitous as I often imagine.

What we need is a revolution of thought, something the occupiers (the 99% of the middle and lower classes) are striving towards. The culture of capitalism is dying. Life is not about wealth, property, or happiness, but about human interaction, stewardship, and community. Leaving the lights on, littering, letting the water run... to some people those are silly things that cannot change the world; to me, they are vestiges of a former society that is passing.

But no one can make this change alone. For these protests to succeed, for this change to be affected, the movement needs the support of the people. As the Occupy Wall Street protestors put it, “The people, united, will never be defeated.”

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

Frank Warren of Post Secret



Wednesday, October 26th

8pm (doors open at 7pm)

Clark Gym

*interpreted

Students \$6

Staff \$8

Tickets on sale at the RIT Gordon Field House Box office.

SPECIAL events

Major Events

Information is subject to change. Go to events.rit.edu for updated info.

RINGS

585.672.4840

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

Monday, 10:01 a.m. (from text)

I've lost count of how many Geo Metros I've seen floor it out of Kate Gleason Circle. Look at me! **I can go 5 MPH!**

Monday, 8:13 p.m. (from text)

Hey Rings, if you are supposed to wash your hands for a full minute, how come the **[flowing]** automatic sinks only stay on for 30 seconds?!

Monday, 9:01 p.m. (from text)

Dear Rings, sometimes I wish the **Matrix** was real so I could reach through the internets and **CHOKER A [CYPHER]!**

Tuesday, 12:23 a.m. (from text)

I just woke up and went to get a glass of water from the kitchen. My door shut behind me and it locks automatically. I'm locked out of my room with only a T-shirt **[no bra]**, my underwear, and my cell phone...I have class at 8 AM. FML!

Tuesday, 9:43 a.m. (from text)

Rings! Whoever thought of putting a piano in the Fireplace Lounge needs to be **SLAPPED!** I'm tired of listening to people slamming keys while I'm trying to study!

Tuesday, 2:14 p.m. (from text)

I heard a freshman qwtalking today about how excited she was for the football game and dressing up for a dance. I wish I could be there to see her face when someone breaks the news.

Tuesday, 10:42 p.m. (from text)

BEARS.
BEETS.
BATTLESTAR
GALACTICA.

Wednesday, 6:28 p.m. (from text)

YOU KNOW RINGS, EVERYONE SENDS YOU **PROMISCUOUS REQUESTS.** Can I just take you out on an old fashioned date?

®



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now hiring photographers, designers, and illustrators