

Reporter

May 31, 1974



Reprofile

This issue represents a number of anniversaries for publications on this campus. This is the fifth year of *Reporter's* existence as a weekly magazine, and is the 23rd year a publication on this campus has carried that name. This issue concludes Volume 50. When *Reporter* was originally started as an alumni newspaper in 1950, it kept the volume number of the alumni publication it was replacing. Thus the reason behind this golden anniversary edition. And if all that were not enough for a celebration, this issue concludes 65 years of student publications at RIT.

With this 50th anniversary issue, words of appreciation are in order. So kudos to the following:

To the Graphic Arts Research Center (GARC) for their council in preparing this issue. This special number has been under discussion throughout the year with the staff at GARC showing as much enthusiasm for this project as the *Reporter* staff itself. They have earned both our respect and deep appreciation.

To Margaret S. Vetter, manager of the bookstore, who offered her early support by agreeing to grant gift certificates to the students whose work was selected for the centerspread of this publication. Her early encouragement helped the staff realize the potential of this issue.

To Mariann Teuber, George Forbes and Rick Kase who acted as special correspondents in writing about three decades of student publications.

And most appropriately to the staff of this magazine, whatever their role. The constant display of their many talents is continually amazing, and certainly without their dedication this publication would not exist. This editor has nothing but the highest regard for and sincere appreciation of their efforts.

James E. McNay

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Reporter Magazine

May 31, 1974
50th Anniversary Issue

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Reviewing The Reporter

Those Involved Recall The Past

Throughout its long history changes that have taken place in *Reporter* and its predecessor publications compare in number only with people who have been involved with its evolution. Administrators and faculty alike remember, more than anyone else, the different phases that the publication has gone through. Those who remember the most are those administrators and faculty members who during their stay at RIT have been affiliated in one way or another with the various *Reporter* staffs.

Three persons who have seen many staff members come and go are Hector Sutherland, professor in the College of Graphic Arts and Photography; Herbert Phillips, director of the Graphic Arts Research Center; and Dr. Paul A. Miller, president of RIT.

Sutherland was faculty advisor to *Reporter* from 1954-65. He stated that at that time the *Reporter* was the official Institute publication. Having had prior journalism experience Sutherland took the job and enjoyed it. He insisted his job at that time was to merely help the students and not to put out the paper for the Institute. "The students did it but someone had to run interference for them," he said.

Sutherland has many fond memories of his days with the *Reporter*. He recalls when one staff scooped all the Rochester papers when it worked late into the night following a Board of Trustees meeting, and prepared a special issue which announced that RIT would be moving from its downtown campus to a sight in Henrietta. "This 'first with the news' thing did a lot for the student morale," he said.

During this time *Reporter* was a newspaper and a leader in its field according to Sutherland. "Once at a meeting of the American Collegiate Press Association the *Reporter* was cited for 'general excellence' and was called the 'New York Times of College Newspapers'". This Sutherland admits was one of his greatest thrills. "As their advisor this was one of the greatest things for me especially since there was no journalism school here."

"I think Reporter has reached a whole new level in size and variety and I'd hope it would continue."

—President Paul A. Miller

Herb Phillips came to RIT in 1955 and has been familiar with the *Reporter* ever since. He along with Sutherland was mentioned in a January 16, 1959 editorial, which announced that *Reporter* would become a weekly publication, as being one of the people who made the paper possible.

Phillips said that in earlier days the production of *Reporter* played a significant role in the Graphic Arts Research Center. "Since GARC was involved in ink and paper tests the *Reporter*

played a significant role as an experimental model," he said. Both the physical and editorial make-up of *Reporter* has changed since Phillips first became involved. "Today there is a greater editorial stand—more information from the students editorially about campus functions," he stated. He feels that this shows a transition in society and its thinking.

Although not involved with *Reporter* for as long as Phillips or Sutherland, RIT President Dr. Paul A. Miller, has had a great effect on the publication. With the distinction of having stopped publication of the magazine twice in his five years at the Institute for what he terms "matters of taste," he has become a person that the staff knows it may have to reckon with.

Miller said that he doesn't dwell on these bad memories of the publication and doesn't use them to judge the present publication. He feels that the publication has improved greatly since his move to his present job. "I felt that when I came here the *Reporter* was more of an instrument for individuals and not always a medium of communication," he said. He remembers that one of the first calls he got as president was from the *Reporter* editor who, because of the arrest of the previous editor the year before, was worried that the magazine "wasn't going to make it."

Miller's attitudes on the magazine have changed and he said that as time has gone on he has seen a steady increase in variety in the publication. "There are more newsworthy topics. There used to be just a few long stories and no variety," he said. Asked how he would improve the publication he said that he would like to see it figure out some way to help him reach one of his strongest goals—that of strong student involvement in the governance of the Institute.

While they respect the *Reporter* today both Phillips and Sutherland expressed a certain yen for the "good old days" of former times. Sutherland remembers when the *Reporter* did not take up social issues and played the important role of keeping a record of Institute happenings. He feels that comparing the old and new *Reporter* would be like comparing apples and oranges. Phillips and Sutherland agree that the reason for the change is society. "It can't be now what it was then and it should definitely serve today's needs," Phillips insists. This he feels the magazine does.

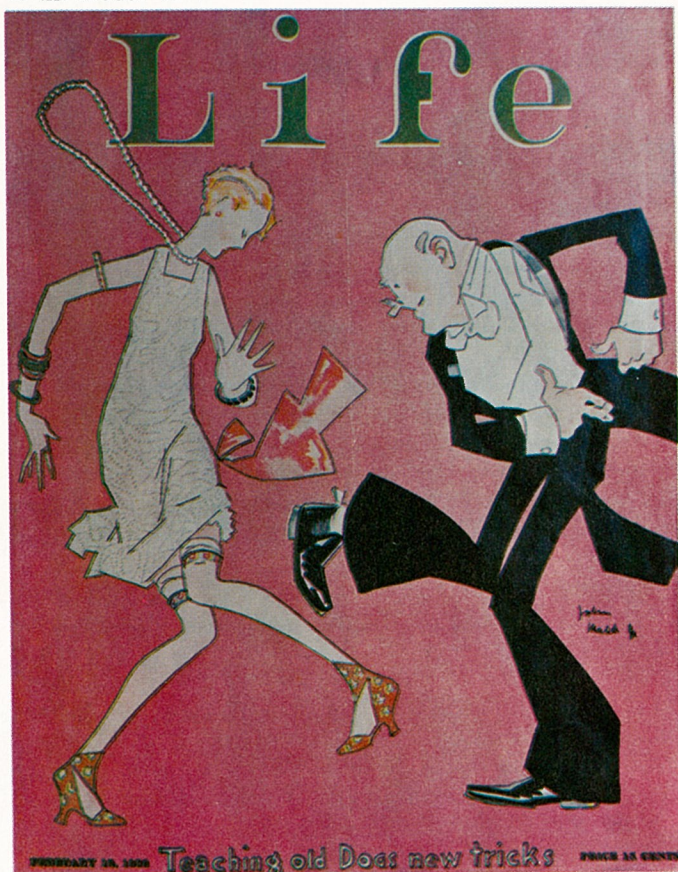
When reflecting on the future of the publication Miller stated that his hopes that it will continue publishing stories that dig into various aspects of Institute life. "I have applauded fair stories on a number of Institute areas even those in which the administration was involved in," he said. According to Miller this type of story serves to keep in the public eye items of controversy in which he likes to see students become involved. "I think *Reporter* has reached a whole new level in size, and variety and I'd hope it would continue," he said.

We couldn't have said it better ourselves.

The Twenties

BY GEORGE B. FORBES

In any game of asking questions, a good place to begin is the time slot. RAMI was in its hey-day in the Roaring Twenties. It was somewhat overshadowed by such developments on the national scene as flapper girls, the first “talkies” on the movie screens, the dance craze named Charleston. If you wanted anything stronger than 3.2 beer you had to find a “speak-easy,” for this was Prohibition. Henry Ford switched to the Model “A”.



The Yanks had come marching home from World War I to Irving Berlin tunes. Woodrow Wilson’s dream of the League of Nations had foundered in a Congress steeped in isolationism. Warren Harding, messed up in the Teapot Dome Scandal involving some of his cabinet, died in office—to be succeeded by “Silent Cal” Coolidge, prosperity and then the Great Depression of 1929.

Charles Lindberg made his solo flight from New York to Paris in 1927. The sun still never set on the British Empire; France built its Maginot Line and felt secure. A man named Benito Mussolini made the Italian trains run on time and became dictator; a housepainter from Austria was building a base in Germany for world domination.

These were the Twenties. But, you say, you still have a problem with RAMI? So did Dr. Mark Ellingson. . . “I’m president of the (expletive) place, and I always have trouble spelling it!” R-A-M-I: Rochester Athenaeum and Mechanics Institute was a merging of two streams that have been the

essence of Rochester Institute of Technology from the beginning and into the foreseeable future.

The Rochester Athenaeum was founded in 1829—almost 150 years ago—to improve the life of a raw frontier village through forums, concerts, lectures and the arts. This candle still burns brightly at RIT and in the city where it has always been a leader in innovation.

By the 1880’s Rochester was a thriving city of diversified industry; the need was for skilled technicians to operate its factories and manage its businesses. In 1884, under the leadership of Colonel Henry Lomb, Frank Ritter—and others memorialized in roads and buildings on our campus—Mechanics Institute was created to fill this need. This is the other principal stream. The merger of 1891 provided the matrix in which the present RIT has been molded.

Enough of beginnings; let’s get to the Twenties again. The Institute already had established a role in education and its relationship to the community: a “shirt sleeve” approach which easily accommodated the cooperative education plan which it had helped to pioneer. Lest the principal mission of career education be diluted by ivory tower aspirations, the Institute administrators—in a December 1922 conference on the “Educational Needs of Rochester”—agreed *not* to grant collegiate degrees. This policy, reversed in 1950, gave RAMI a unique strength: free from restrictions as to what it could do and in what manner it would be carried out to meet external criteria, the Institute could embark on experimental programs geared to individual progress and community benefit that were not possible for other less independent institutions.

One example was the program established for soldiers and citizens during World War I, and particularly for returning veterans. The rehabilitation classes for disabled soldiers—for which the Institute was a recognized regional center—could in one sense be considered a forerunner of RIT’s present concern for students with physical handicaps, as exemplified in NTID.

While the Institute has not been considered a “teacher-training school” as such, it did engage through the early Twenties in cooking, sewing and homemaking for both teachers and students in local public schools. Since a degree was often important, teachers who had received most of their education at the Institute could have the degree conferred by cooperation of the University of Rochester.

The basic policy of RAMI, as stated in the Twenties, was to render services that were *local* in scope, *specific* in aims, *timely* in meeting current needs, and *unique* in that they were not being undertaken by any other agency in the community. It is interesting that 50 years later, the only difference of significance is that RIT has become a national institution.

With all the continuity that marks the evolution from RAMI of the 1920-30 era to RIT of 1974, one looks for something that is distinctively different. The state of New York provided us with one. Until 1920, the Erie Canal bisected the center of Rochester, following the route which is now Broad Street. The old RIT campus was thus separated from Main Street and the center of the city by the canal, spanned by drawbridges. Many a student, dashing for class, could be stymied by an open drawbridge. An episode involved a professor—perhaps more concerned about punctuality than his students—trying to make it across a bridge already in the process of being raised. His desperate leap for the RIT bank fell short. Standing waist-deep in the murky waters he said, with complete composure, “Gentlemen, today’s class is canceled.”

The Thirties

BY RICHARD J. KASE

Students at Rochester Institute of Technology (it was called Mechanics Institute then) started the decade of the 1930's like most other Americans—hopeful for the future and confident that America, the richest nation in the world, would survive the recent economic setback.

But they weathered the decade, America's lean years, no better than most, and by 1935 many knew what it meant to be poor. More still knew what it meant to have to leave school.

After the stock market crash of 1929 paralyzed the country's economy, industrial output plummeted, and by 1933, 25 per cent of the work force was unemployed and hourly wages for those who still had jobs were only 40 per cent of what they were in 1929.

And to make hard times harder, there were natural disasters unmatched in the nation's history: in the mid-30's, floods made almost one million people homeless and destroyed millions of dollars worth of agricultural products, while droughts made a large portion of the Southwest a barren wasteland, unable to be farmed. Almost 40,000 farmers were forced to abandon their land in Texas alone.

The lean years brought a new phenomenon to America—the migrant workers. Forced by lack of work to leave their homes in cities across the nation, they set out in cars or on foot on journeys that most often brought them to Southern California.

But if the decade was dreary economically, it was also exciting, particularly socially.

The 1930's were the years of media. Radio brought the decade in and movies took it out, and shortly after, television revolutionized the whole industry. The 30's were also the years of Amos 'n' Andy and Orson Welles' "War of the Worlds" and Kate Smith on radio and Tom Mix, Buck Rogers, and Shirley Temple on the movie screen.

And finally, they were the years of the daredevil crooks: Bonnie and Clyde, John Dillinger, Pretty Boy Floyd, and Ma Barker, all of whom became folk heroes in their own times.

At Mechanics Institute, the decade was ushered in with a new student publication—*The Psimar: An expression of student opinion...a reflection of student life*. The *PSIMAR*, (a reversing of the letters of the Rochester Athenaeum Mechanics Institute School Paper) made its debut in 1928, after the Institute had been without a student publication for nine years. A monthly, the paper cost 5 cents and was six pages long.

Although the world outside may have been bleak, those early student writers spent most of their time covering social events on the downtown campus.

Early in the decade, the paper reported that Mechanics Institute had its own new Literary Guild, "formed to present the best in magazine literature and current books" to students. In the same issue, editor-in-chief Elizabeth Hunt ran an editorial deploring the Institute's lack of "some good peppy school songs...that will give us enthusiasm and pep..." In a

later issue, arguing against a new administration policy that severely limited freshman orientation by upperclassmen, she urged first year students who disliked current orientation procedures to "get out and make room" for other, more spirited students.

By 1933, *The Psimar* had increased both its regular size and price—to 8 pages and 10 cents monthly. The editors had also begun to use their editorial power to influence campus decisions. Early that year, for example, the paper undertook a campaign to gain administration support for an Institute smoking room on campus.

But the social notes continued. One columnist, after noting that Glee Club attendance had fallen off sharply, went on to urge "the girls in the dorm that their reputations are at stake. Because too, too many fellow have come to say that the dorm is nothing but a gossip factory."

By 1936, the student paper had taken a marked move toward more serious news. In that year, Mark Ellingson was named Institute president, and a front page story and accompanying editorial appeared in *The Psimar*. In the issue after his selection, Ellingson reminded Mechanics Institute students that they "have gained the reputation locally for being sincere and diligent in the pursuit of career objectives."



In 1937, when the Institute's Department of Publishing and Printing opened, students began printing their paper on campus presses and distributing it free. The paper returned to a tabloid format and editors made much of national and world developments. Society news was compressed into one column, and stories on Japan's new emperor, the new King of England, and various political issues began appearing.

By the end of the decade, editors were urging a student boycott of Japanese goods. In the same issue, an almost full-page story urged students to "Join the war against venereal disease—take the Wasserman test as almost 200 of your fellow students already have."

The decade of awareness had arrived.

The Forties

The '40's. A time of bobby sox, slumber parties, "Mairzy Doats" and "messaging around." Also of Pearl Harbor, war bonds, "I Want You for the U.S. Army—Enlist Now" and Executive Order No. 9066. Like students elsewhere, those at the Rochester Athenaeum and Mechanics Institute were affected by the events of their world.

The '40's opened quietly enough with students playing a role in a ten day fund drive to raise \$1 million for the endowment. That same year the Registrar wrote a long letter to *PSIMAR* the student publication, explaining draft and deferment regulations.

PSIMAR's tone changed somewhat following Pearl Harbor in 1941. Blood drives and news about them appeared frequently on the front page. In conjunction with this, one headline read,

Times-Union Invaded by Neo-Printers

The rambling rovers of the Publishing and Printing Department, led by their instructor, "J. F." Grace, invaded the inner sanctum of the renowned Times-Union.

The curiosity and inquisitiveness of these itinerant neo-printers and publishers caught the old-timers off guard with their fourth-dimensional interrogations.

On the whole, the capably conducted tour was replete with highly enlightening data and informative and broadening observations.

The Times-Union personnel was not gracious and accommodating, and surely the printers were amply rewarded for their visitation by learning more about the editorial and mechanical phases of producing a large daily newspaper.

Art Students Hold Sausage Feast and Sketch Trip

What's cooking? It smells like something juicy and intangible. At last the scent has been identified. A hot dog roast. Not innocent supplies, but honest to goodness sausages all sizzling and crispy.

Yes that was what occurred last Thursday with the art students. Better yet the event had a double feature for the sketch trip was combined. The reason was to save our Uncle Sam some gas. The destination of this outing was at Aling Clements' country home.

Rambling around the grounds,

"Dorm Girls Unanimously Vote 'No Corsages'". Money that would have purchased flowers for dorm women to wear at their dance was given to the Red Cross.

While FDR was heading the war effort and the nation was singing "He's I-A in the Army and He's I-A My Heart", an editorial urged students to "climb out from behind our Maginot Line Mentality." Elsewhere in the paper the push was on to buy war bonds—"Let's All Get the Habit". By 1942, enrollment, which had been 1000 at the start of the decade, had fallen to 650.

By December, 1942 a variety of metals were needed for the war effort, and readers were asked to put coins from piggy banks back into circulation. The dorm formal for that year was still publicized as "a heavenly time and an evening that will go down in our little book of perfect nites," but by this time "warsages" were the order of the day. A warsage included two 25 cent war stamps and two carnations. It sold for one dollar.

A story in February, 1943 announced "20% of War Workers to be Women by '44." The need for manpower was such that

another article noted that Federal agencies needed engineers, draftsmen and radio inspectors and were willing to accept people without any written tests and no maximum age requirements.

This tone continued to the end of the war. By fall, 1944 the old Rochester Athenaeum and Mechanics Institute had changed its name to Rochester Institute of Technology and a new student publication, *SPRIT* appeared.

With peace and the Ruptured Duck veterans' insignia came a return to the usual flurry of social events and the call both for a varsity basketball team and a new gymnasium. The following dialogue also appeared at the bottom of page one in the spring of '46: "How are you this evening, honey?" "All right, but lonely." "Good and lonely?" "No, just lonely." "OK, I'll be right over." More sedate times had indeed arrived.

Frank Sinatra was "The Voice", Milton Berle was "Mr. Television", Mr. Kinsey wrote his report, and *SPRIT* dealt with another eternal problem in a photo with this caption: "Agnes' a familiar figure in the RIT store, hits the jackpot and gets a coke. The first one in days, probably."

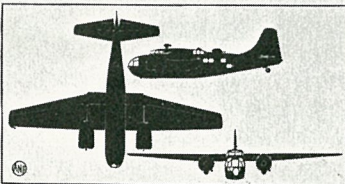
In 1947, *SPRIT* ran an article by Walter Winchell urging support for the Marshall Plan to rebuild Europe. In baseball, Jackie Robinson was Rookie of the Year. October of '48 produced a headline that read "Dewey Wins in RIT Poll." He was favored 49-36 per cent over President Truman in the November elections. The decade was drawing to a close.

One incident occurred right at the end of the '40's that perhaps pointed towards something that was not due to appear widely for 15 years or more. On November 8, 1949, *SPRIT* published a special edition noting that for non-financial reasons the Student Council had refused a \$25 donation to Jefferson Military College in Natchez, Mississippi. The college, on the verge of closing, received considerable attention nationally the week before when it refused a \$50 million endowment if the school would adopt a policy of admitting "white Christians only". Although state law prevented black students from attending the school, academy officials still refused to formally adopt this policy. The *SPRIT* staff held a rally that raised \$125 which was donated to the school. Although the paper apparently never disclosed whether the academy was able to continue the following year, ever so briefly a portion of the student body had given the campus a glimpse of one direction the country would take many years in the future.

4 THE PSIMAR Oc

Know America's Planes

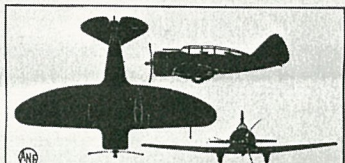
BOEING AT-15 TRAINER



The new Boeing high-wing AT-15 crew trainer is shown above by the Aeronautical Chamber of Commerce of America as another in its series of American planes. Powered by two Pratt & Whitney air-cooled Wasp engines, the plane may be recognized by the slight taper of the leading edge and the forward angular sweep of the trailing edge. Its lines in general resemble those of a small twin-engine bomber. There is a noticeable taper of the fuselage to the high rudder and tail surfaces. It is especially designed and equipped for the integrated training of pilots, co-pilots, bombardiers, navigators and gun crews.

Know the Enemy's Planes

JAPANESE NAVY 98 "S" FIGHTER



MSA Bloc Chief: Plac

Galley Pask, student of the Bloc Mechanical Shop at a business Thursday, Oct. 8 named Francis, student, Richard M. Fran Ryek treat. The association two divisions, es officers. Dick Block A division.

Picnic The annual picnic is to be held Valley Park, she October 22, 1942. has been worked o-war and base ball.

Refreshments, will be cooked an eral well know Extra food has 1 the members of will put in an a sound of the dinner

Movie to Members and f in automatic light to watch the bul announcements of the showing of film produced by Spark Plug Comp

Chess Chun

Chess is again a orite sports at Cla

November 15, 1940

THE PSIMAR

Center Haps

Next Center Matinee Terpar on Frolic here November 20 from four to six. Plan to trip the at fantastic too at that time. During the Thanksgiving recess, at next Wednesday noon until the following Monday morning the Center will be closed.

Please do not ask to use the typewriter. Please Mr. Ellington has received the following communication that will cover numerous queries concerning the music unit that is to be held here: "Under date of September 18 we advised you that we will begin shipment of the Carnegie Music Sets about November 15. We have been giving our close attention to the preparation of the six sets, but for reasons beyond our control, we find that we will not be able to commence shipment before December 15."

ned, Lyon & Healy, Inc. judging from the number of nts and beggars who daily come to the Lounge and Office, there will be a "No Agents Allowed" sign out in front. Selling the capitals of the states became a popular pastime, and surprising how many will in that Albuquerque is the head of New Mexico, and Datta of Utah. One guesser, when asked to name the capital of

"DORMITES" by JIM STEG



Home Ec Students Prepare Luncheon

The General Home Eco students prepared and set luncheon for the interest groups during Open House last weekday afternoon.

The class was divided into groups, with Jean Bruce, P. Nixon, and Mary Hayes as man. The decorations were Autumn mode, two tables decorated with chrysanthemum and the center one with g

Miss May D. Benedict, G. and Miss Eunice Strickland structure, were luncheon. The menu included noodle creamed mushrooms, fruit with Paradise dressing, an

GARGYLES HAVE RADIO NIGHT

The Gargyles held a night at a recent club in Impromptu advertising skit put on and everyone agree the sound-effects man in ear formance did a wonderful j

Oh, Boy, It's Wet



... and there we sat in the moonlight, while he told me all about how a Greflex

The Fifties

While students at RIT during the 1950's may not have been in the vanguard of their generation, most of the concerns of that decade were, to a greater or lesser degree, reflected in their campus publications.

In September, 1950, RIT President Dr. Mark Ellingson welcomed students to the campus "...under the clouds of a serious international situation..." He was, of course, referring to the trouble brewing in Korea, which was to have an even greater effect on the student body as the conflict grew.

SPRIT, the bi-monthly student newspaper, announced in October that RIT has been chosen as one of several schools to select a co-ed to compete for the title of "Miss Esquire Calendar Girl of 1951." The winner would receive a screen test from MGM, along with numerous TV and publicity appearances. Judges in the final national competition would include such stars as Bing Crosby, Horace Heidt, Ralph Edwards and Fred Waring.

In describing the type of girl being sought after, *SPRIT* stated, "The big selling point today is not on curves, but that pretty face, that sweet smile and that certain something that make you the kind of girl some fellow would like to take home to mother." Several weeks later, RIT found their candidate when Ruth Farley was chosen "Miss RIT" and given the chance to pursue the Esquire title.

The Korean situation continued to be of concern on campus. January 1951 brought a headline that read "War Threat Causes Campus Jitters." The story noted that the reverses in Korea had helped bring about a "what's the use" attitude on campus, as many students wondered if they would be allowed to complete their education.

In spite of these difficulties, students still found time to look forward to the big campus social events. An announcement for Spring Weekend, 1951, noted this event would feature a "World's Fair" on campus based on the fair in New York. Campus organizations would represent the various nations of the world. Even bigger news about the weekend was the announcement that Count Basie had been signed to play for the Weekend dance entitled, "Mississippi Mood." Tickets were to sell for \$3.60.

During the 1950-51 academic year *SPRIT* obtained a competitor of sorts, and the *Reporter* made its first appearance in the form of an alumni newspaper aimed at the "family and friends of the Institute" both on and off campus. Their stated aim was to discuss, "What's happening to RIT and what's happening outside that affects RIT?" The publication covered some student events, and began "An Alumnus' Day" series that focused on graduates of the Institute. The *Reporter* also saluted the Graflex and McCurdy Company for their 25th and 50th anniversaries respectively.

October of 1951 brought about a merger of *SPRIT* and the *Reporter*. While maintaining the latter name the first issue stated that both student and alumni needs would be met in the new format.

That same issue carried a report of the National Student Association Congress, a group holding substantial interest for

students of that day. The keynote speaker was University of Pennsylvania President Harold Stassen who had shared the podium with retiring NSA President Allard Lowenstein.

Photo journalism was added as a course that same year at the Institute. In addition, there was the announcement of a \$30 million fund drive for modernization of the campus. A portion of the funds were to go to the construction of a new Graphic Arts building. The structure would also house the School for American Craftsmen, which had moved to RIT from Alfred University in 1950.

A special edition in October of 1952 was headlined "Reporter Survey Shows Students Like Ike 3-to-1" and reported that of those students polled, 63.3 per cent favored Eisenhower, while 22.6 per cent favored Adlai Stevenson in the presidential elections less than a month away.

RIT celebrated its 125th anniversary during the 1953-1954 academic year and the Institute was honored by the Chamber of Commerce which cited RIT for "125 years of distinguished service in the field of education."

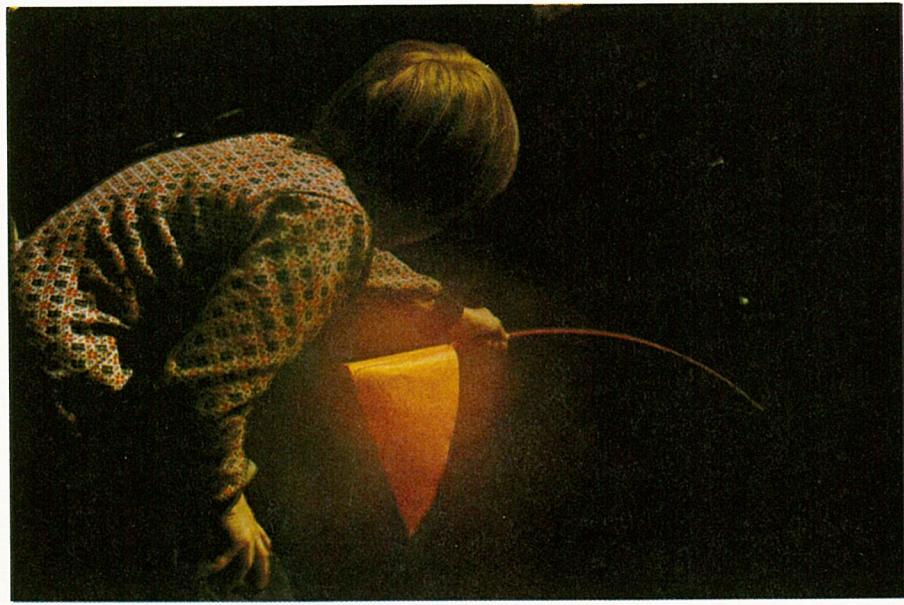


The *Reporter* published two letters to the editor in January, 1956—the first they had received since the beginning of school.

If it appears that the early fifties were a period of innocence for the RIT community, over the next several years the *Reporter* was to reflect events that marked a new awareness on the part of students, both about themselves and their world. In November, 1956, the Hungarian revolt drew attention as students in that country faced Soviet tanks in widespread street fighting. A student who had recently been in Hungary wrote of his experiences and the relief effort for refugees received campus attention. That same month brought about a discussion of the Suez problem by the International Students Club. Later in the year a referendum was passed bringing about campus wide student elections for the first time.

Indicative of such changes, an editorial appeared the following year which took note of the Sputnik launching and asked, "Why weren't we ahead?" and questioned the wisdom of being put in the position of having to catch up.

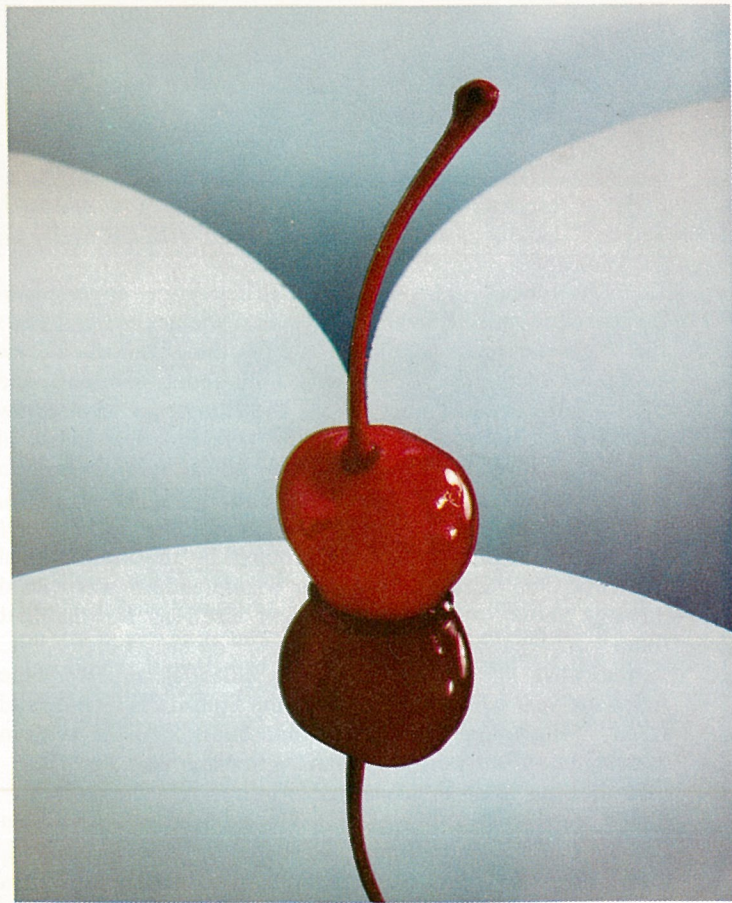
Following these events a first occurred on campus as Kay Finley received 894 votes and was elected Student Association President in the first campus wide contest in April of 1958. Coinciding with the 130th anniversary of the Institute in January of 1959, the *Reporter* shifted from the bi-weekly format it had followed over the years and began to appear on a weekly basis in the hopes of bringing more frequent and improved coverage to the campus.



Randy Wright



Bensen Caswell



Stephen Diehl



Girard Mouton



John Bussman

The Sixties

BY MARIANN TEUBER

As students emerged from the apathetic 50's, *Reporter* editors urged: Let's be for something instead of against.

Among the things RIT students seemed to be for at various times in the 60's were Spring Weekend, Miss RIT, Mr. Campus, civil rights, religion and religious organizations, Brotherhood Week, fraternities and fraternalism, the war in Vietnam (that support would change), beer and later marijuana, and fewer in loco parentis regulations.

The biggest event of the 60's at RIT was the move to the new campus in Henrietta. The problems of growing enrollments and diminishing classroom space were studied for

"Why is there so much concern over the removal of cigarette machines when there are issues like Vietnam, civil rights, and elections to think about?"

two years. The board of trustees had to decide between expansion downtown and a move. In November 1961, trustees announced their decision to move.

RIT students were by no means in the vanguard of what was happening on campuses in this country in the 60's, but neither were they totally unaware. In the same idealistic spirit with which they participated in civil rights marches in the early 60's, they supported the U.S. war effort in Vietnam until disillusion set in with growing casualties and the notion of forcing U.S.-style democracy down somebody else's throat.

Full-color photographs were commonplace in *Reporter* in the early 60's. In that pre-Ralph Nader era, one two-page photo spread proclaimed the beauty of a red Corvette. Women were still on a pedestal. An editorial in 1962 railed against the crude drinking songs that were becoming more popular on campus, and put the blame on women: "Without the coeds' sanction, this practice would never have started."

"Minority groups which have protested United States policy have, in effect, undermined the morale of United States soldiers in the Far East and, even further, draft card burners have taken it upon themselves to undermine the national purpose."

In 1963, Student Council was in the spotlight, although not for its good qualities. "Why do we have Student Council?" asked an editorial which concluded its supposed functions were being handled better by other organizations. Four improvements were suggested: 1. establishing definite objectives; 2. spending less time at meetings on trivial things;

3. eliminating the deadwood of the membership; 4. examining the organizational structure.

Also in 1963, an \$18.8 million fund drive for the new campus was announced. And two couples danced 21 hours and 43 minutes in the first annual marathon dance. And reflecting the times, RIT accepted from Civil Defense leaders a sign designating 50 West Main as an official fallout shelter.

In 1963-64, concern over traffic at the corner of Main-Plymouth-Broad reached a high point, and students demanded action on the part of the city. Students were also obligated to the city for a lot of parking tickets. Also that year, the school colors were changed to burnt umber, orange and white. The administration banned the sale of cigarettes on campus; students thought that decision should have been left to their government.

The cigarette machine issue raged through the next year. "Why is there so much concern over the removal of cigarette machines when there are issues like Vietnam, civil rights, and elections to think about?," some asked. But others thought the issue was serious because of the implications of students versus administrative authority.

Speaking of Vietnam, an editorial in November 1965 supported the United States war effort: "Minority groups which have protested United States policy have, in effect, undermined the morale of United States soldiers in the Far

"My life at college is like my kid brother's dog...It howled and cried all night long, begged and smelled, but after the dog died, it was another story...It was a good dog."

—Frank Canzano class of '64

East and, even further, draft card burners have taken it upon themselves to undermine the national purpose." It would be a couple of years before RIT caught up with the anti-war mood on other campuses.

Student activism was commended and put down at the same time. Let's be for something instead of against, an editorial said. "With our slide rules in hand no task can be too great."

The increasingly visible minority of students who were shedding dresses and ties in favor of grubbier garb were asked by the student press: "Can you afford the luxury of being nonconformist?" A four-part commentary noted that there was too much drinking, language was too "liberal," and the double standard was breaking down, but concluded that you can't legislate morality. The Institute was castigated for trying through such things as dormitory curfews. Concern grew over increased vandalism, threats, scares and attacks which came from being "located in a major trouble area of the city."

As the administration continued to try to increase RIT's academic standing and get away from the vocational school image, major academic changes were implemented in 1965-66 designed to make for more intensive study; a maximum of

four courses and 18 quarter hours a quarter, and a minimum of 192 credits for a baccalaureate degree.

Mark Ellingson was honored on his 30th anniversary as president in 1966.

Reporter displayed a commendable objectivity in 1967. A month after giving top play to a story about Timothy Leary's "tune in, turn on, drop out" appearance here, it covered Bishop Fulton J. Sheen's speech "In Defense of Idealism." In December of that year, a third of 2,000 students surveyed said they'd smoked marijuana, and student opinion was split about evenly on the legalization of the substance.

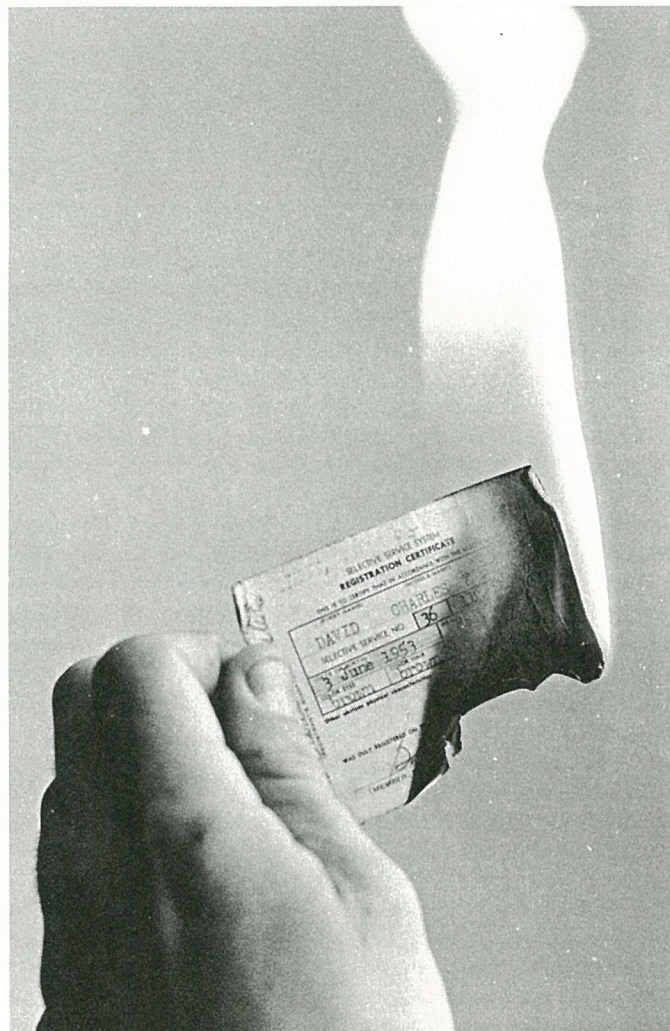
In November of '66 came the announcement that the National Technical Institute for the Deaf would be located on the campus of RIT.

By the mid to late 60's, the war started to hit closer to home. The January 19, 1968, *Reporter* carried a story about two RIT alumni killed in Vietnam.

When the 1967-68 school year started, the *Reporter* staff listed what it felt should be the major objectives on campus and nationally. At RIT, those were a "guaranteed tuition" system, a plus and minus grading system; elimination of upperclass coed curfews; inviting more name speakers to Activities Hour; repeal of the much-disliked graphic identification mark; formation of a football club and a marching band with Student Association funds.

National objectives sought by RIT students were a peaceful and honorable solution to the war; voluntary peacetime military establishment providing the use of the Selective Service system only under the condition of war as proclaimed by Congress; a lower voting age; and increased National Defense Act Student Loan program ceiling, to keep pace with the skyrocketing tuition and other costs.

When RIT made its long-awaited move to the new campus, the *Reporter* staff planned its best issue ever for dedication.



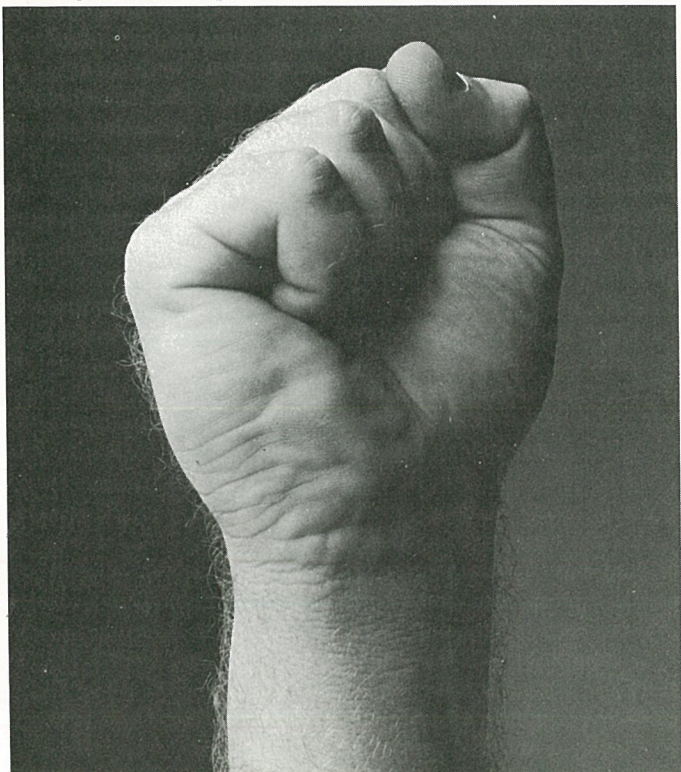
But the "Dedication Weekend" issue of Oct. 18, 1968, contained four blank pages out of eight, and the excuse that facilities weren't quite ready for a major job. Only months after *Reporter* switched to a magazine, the publication faced what was probably its biggest controversy.

On April 6 and 25, 1969, Wonder Woman, clad in bunting, met GI Joe. Shortly thereafter, the editor, photographer and author of the satire met legal action. Bob Kiger, editor; Neil Shapiro, writer; and Rober Keough, photographer, were

"With our slide rules in hand no
task can be too great."

arrested for "exhibition, display and defiling the flag of the United States and casting contempt on said flag." But Thomas O'Brien, *Reporter's* adviser, defended the series as "a superb lecture on our major American anxieties—war, justice, sex, women, mothers, patriotism and ultimately perhaps our damnation." A majority of the *Reporter* staff resigned in sympathetic support of their censored cohorts, and Greg Enos took over as editor.

As the decade ended at RIT, Mark Ellingson retired after 33 years as president and Paul A. Miller took over the helm.



Turmoil

It is not known for certain how many times in the past an article published in *Reporter* has brought someone's wrath down on the staff. Certainly few Friday mornings go by when the editor, tired from a hard week's work and in the midst of working on copy for the following week's edition, is not besieged by at least one person upset at something that appeared. In the past five years, however, there have been a few cases where stories that appeared almost brought the publication to an end.

The most celebrated case of turmoil to touch the *Reporter* began on April 25, 1969 when the staff printed a centerfold story entitled, "Wonder Woman Meets GI Joe." The story, which had a photo accompanying it depicting a nude woman wrapped in red, white and blue bunting, infuriated three fellow students who filed criminal charges against those responsible. As described in the accompanying article, reprinted from the May 2, 1969 issue of *Reporter* the editor of the magazine, two other RIT students, an RIT faculty member and a University of Rochester co-ed were arrested.

Three years and many court appearances later, the case was dismissed. The defendants pled guilty in Monroe County Court on August 30, 1971 to a charge of disorderly conduct. The charge had been reduced from one of "exhibition, display, and defiling the flag of the United States and casting contempt on that flag." The group was sentenced to write a letter of apology for their act to the Rochester *Democrat and Chronicle* and the *Times-Union*.

The case was appealed and finally the New York State Court of Appeals overturned the decision of the Monroe County Court and a subsequent ruling by the Appellate Division. In dismissing the case the judge stated that the "photos in question did not offer the likelihood of incitement to disorder."

A lower court decision on the case had upheld the Monroe County Court's decision on the case by saying that the "legitimate public interest in preventing a breach of peace and an outbreak of violence was threatened." A few weeks following the arrest of the editor, almost the entire staff quit the publication in protest.

One of the most ironic situations of the case appears in the reprinted story accompanying this article. It involves a trip to London that the editor and co-defendant Neil Shapiro were going to take with the School of Photography. The judge presiding over their case was worried that if the two left the country they would not return to face trial. Despite the fact that the families of the two lived here the judge refused to let them go. He finally consented to allowing them to go on the trip when it was agreed that former RIT President Dr. Mark Ellingson would write a letter to the judge stating that if the two did not come back for the trial they would be expelled from RIT.

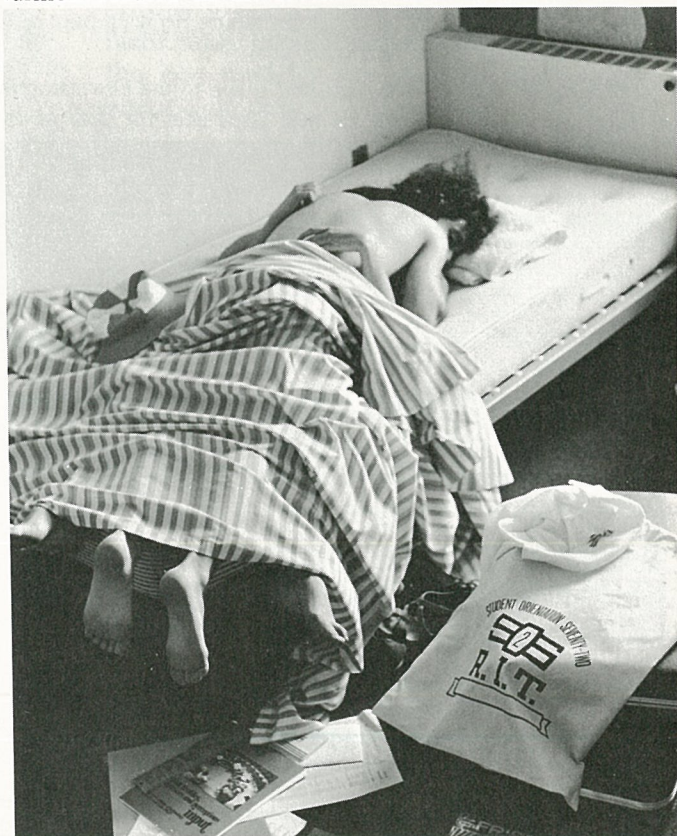
When he learned of the decision of the State Court of



Appeals dismissing the case, Neil Shapiro, editor at the time, said that he felt that the court had upheld and vindicated freedom of the press.

Another incident in turmoil occurred a year later when the then editor, Greg Enos, wanted to print a cover of a burning flag. The Institute refused to print the picture on the cover although it did appear inside the issue.

Another incident involving a cover and the latest case of turmoil occurred in the second issue of the 1972-73 school



Cover photograph for the orientation issue of *Reporter* in the fall of 1972

year. In what was an attempt to make fun of the "pairing" which occurs around student orientation time, the staff attempted to print a cover (see accompanying photo) which depicted a young man and woman in bed covered with a sheet. The cover was entitled "Student Orientation Seventy-Two." Members of the Graphic Arts Research Center staff took the photo to Dr. Paul A. Miller, president of RIT and he banned the issue.

In the wake of Miller's decision came another. The *Reporter* budget was frozen until an agreement on an advisory Board could be made with the Institute. An agreement was reached with the Institute four days later. Among other things the agreement stated that the *Reporter* Editor in Chief would inform the chairman of an Advisory Board which was subsequently set up, of any material in the publication that could be considered "sensitive." The decision was mostly to prevent the use of obscene or sexually suggestive material in future issues.

Following the reinstatement of the budget both sides in the dispute stated that there was not any attempt to censor the magazine.

The magazine published an issue the following week.

Reportage

THREE ARRESTED IN FLAG CONTROVERSEY

by Dean Dexter

Two top ranking editors of REPORTER magazine and an RIT faculty member turned themselves in for arrest last Friday night to State Police officials on charges of "exhibition, display, and defiling the flag of the United States, and casting contempt on said flag in violation of Section 136, Sub-division D, of the General Business Laws of the State of New York. The charges were brought by three fellow RIT students as a result of a photo-feature which appeared that morning in the magazine, entitled "Wonder Woman Meets G.I. Joe."

The defendants contend that no flag was used in the article and that the material used for "Wonder Woman's" costume was a bunting. They also state that in no way did they intend to defile or deface the flag of the United States in fact they believed the issue of nudity would prove more controversial.

Those arrested were Robert M. Kiger, 23, editor of the student weekly; Neil Shapiro, editor-at-large and author of the piece; and Robert F. Keough, instructor in the School of Photography and photographer of the article. The three heard reports over Rochester radio station, WBBF, that a warrant had been issued for "three editors of the RIT Reporter", and after checking with the station and police headquarters decided to submit to arrest and appear in court that night.



Bob Kiger, Neil Shapiro

Kiger is a veteran of five years in the Air Force, and was honorably discharged in 1967 as a sergeant. Keough is a veteran of Viet Nam and is presently a Lieutenant in the United States Naval Reserve.

The RIT students who swore out the warrants were Robert R. McGuire 24, of Framingham Mass., George J. LaCourse 20, of Plantsville, Conn. and Edmund Leavitt 21, of Lincoln, Mass.

The students were to be arraigned before Peace Justice John Johnson at Henrietta Town Hall but arraignment was postponed until May 8, at 8 a.m. on motion of defense council Julius H. Michaels. They were allowed to go on their own recognizance after a lengthy hearing that lasted into the early hours.

The controversy arose over the fact that Kiger and Shapiro would be leaving that Monday for Europe on a special 7 day visit to London under the auspices of the School of Photography. The Justice needed some "tangible assurance" that the two would return to the states to face the charges, regardless of the fact that Kiger's wife and daughter would remain in Rochester, and that Shapiro's family would also.

After several hours, the Justice submitted to a suggestion by the defense to have an officer of the Institute appear in court to vouch for the two defendants. Institute vice-president Dr. James Campbell appeared, and again, after a lengthy debate it was decided to let Kiger and Shapiro leave for London, the stipulation being that Institute President Dr. Mark Ellingson write a letter to the court stating that the two would be expelled from the Institute if they failed to return in time for the May 8 hearing. Dr. Campbell guaranteed that such a letter would be written. Since Keough was not leaving for London, he was ordered not to leave Monroe County.

The editors left for Europe Monday afternoon and will return May 5.

G.I. JOE GOES TO JAIL

Richard Schaeffer, the male counterpart of Wonder Woman, who appeared in the April 25 issue of REPORTER, was arrested and held in jail for nine hours on Tuesday.

Schaeffer posed with Wonder Woman as G.I. Joe. The pictures were used with a satirical text, written by Neil Shapiro, editor-at-large of REPORTER. Shapiro, editor Bob Kiger, and photographer Bob Keough were arrested for desecrating the flag.

A State BCI investigator, who has been working on the case, arrested Schaeffer on the Tech campus around 1 p.m. Tuesday afternoon. He was taken to the Monroe County Jail, where he was held in lieu of \$500 bail. He was also charged with desecrating the flag.

Fellow photo illustration students, when they learned of the arrest, organized a drive for the funds for the bail. Four faculty members and eleven students contributed the money. One person donated \$200 to the cause.

Willie Thompson presented the bail money at the county jail, and G.I. Joe was liberated at 10:50 p.m. Julius Michaels,



"What's all the talking?" Wonder W asked. "Yield or die!" Thus saying she began stroking his body in the Seven Insidious Movements of Desire. As love, the prime enemy of militarism, entered G.I. Joe's body he could feel himself reverting to his dual identity of Mortimer Snurd.



The Seventies

Like the rest of the country, *Reporter* entered the 1970's on rather shaky ground.

In the Spring of 1969 the editor and three other staff members had been arrested as a result of the publication of a photo depicting a girl, "Wonder Woman," wrapped in red, white and blue bunting. Following the arrests most of the staff resigned and the magazine began a down hill turn from which it did not recover for almost two years.

When the staff resigned two persons remained. This skelton crew flipped a coin and the new and inexperienced editor was chosen. What followed was almost a year of more opinion than journalism in a well-designed publication. Many of the problems arose from a need to rebuild the image of the publication in the Institute's eyes following the flag incident.

The topics of the publications were in keeping with the times. Ironically, the April 3, 1970 issue had a cartoon of Spiro Agnew stopping a protestor while expounding the wisdom of parental discipline.

March 27, 1970 brought the appearance of two new co-editors to the *Reporter* and an announcement of the appointment of RIT's first provost Dr. Todd Bullard. The new editors pledged that they would make the magazine something to be anticipated every Friday.

With foresightedness the editors wrote an editorial on April 10, 1970 protesting the presence of firearms on campus. These were being used by guards protecting a valuable coin exhibit. The editors pointed out that the use of these guns in a crowded campus could "very likely have resulted in multiple deaths or injuries." Almost one month later, the staff sadly printed another story calling for moderation in protest following the death of four students from National Guardsmen's guns on the Kent State campus. "Recognize your sorrow, give name to your grief. Take action, but take action realizing why you are doing so," the editors wrote. The issue also carried an account of the shooting from three Kent State students.

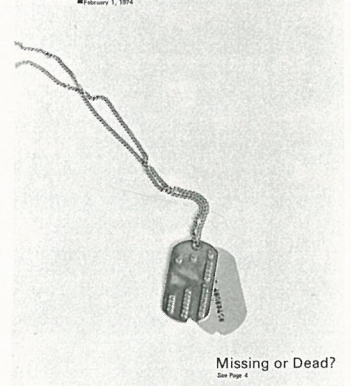
What followed was a series of accounts of how RIT joined in the student protest. The feature story the following week told of how the RIT ROTC building was damaged by protestors. Other stories in the issue told of strikes by RIT students protesting continued U.S. involvement in the war in Vietnam. The publication ended the school year describing the United States as a country "wrenched and torn by dissent and violence." It called on each person to "examine our own motives, to take stock of the goals we are trying to reach, to articulate to ourselves what, in fact, we believe in."

The threat of violence by police, and the fear of undercover narcotics agents was by now deeply seeded in American college life. This came across in a somewhat light hearted yet digging story on the hiring of James Riley, director of Protective Services, and a former FBI agent. "And if you steal hubcaps, stereos, Nikons, records, lounge chairs, ashtrays, candy out of vending machines...if you blow pot, grow pot, fondle pot, put pot in brownies, brew pot with tea—if you do drugs...hah...well...ah...James P. Riley, late of the US Navy, GE, FBI and Nazareth College (Nazareth?) will do all he

possible can to stop you." the story read.

The fear of mass arrest of students by undercover agents that might be serving for Riley continued and the students established a bail fund (which was never used) and sold buttons to raise money for it. What was written on the buttons you ask? Nothing more than a picture of Riley himself and a quote "I don't expect to be popular."

Reporter
February 1, 1974



Throughout the 70's there has been a great push for more student involvement in the policy making of the Institute. Stories in various issues questioned what the student was getting for his money and pushed for student input on decision making, an evaluation of the teachers, revamping of housing and Food Services and the quality of Married Student Housing. Along the same lines the push for alternative forms of education resulted in the creation of FREE University. And like the rest of the country concern over the rights of arrested persons hit RIT. At present, many of these questions remain unresolved.

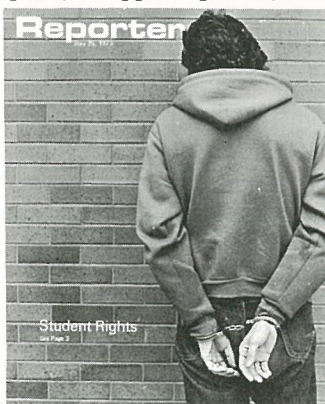
The Fall of 1971 brought a lighter side to campus life. In October for the first time in RIT's history a male attempted to run for Homecoming Queen. The election committee would not allow him to run so a write-in election was held along with the official contest and Steve "Tex" Neuman received more votes than anyone else.

A series of meetings followed and finally the dispute was settled in student court. "Tex" was named the queen but not until after a girl had been crowned at the Homecoming football game.

The 1971-72 school year was one of growth for *Reporter*. During the year the staff which grew from 10 in September to 50 in January, published its first 24 and 32 page issues. By the end of the year 32 page issues were commonplace. The trend continued and during the 72-73 year 32 page issues were published every other week. During the past school year a problem developed with the budget of the Graphic Arts Research Center which prints the magazine and it was learned that no more 32-page issues would be printed. With a \$6,000 budget addition from the Vice-President for Academic Affairs the staff was able to produce a 24 page issue every week.

Problems of censorship and who would control magazine policy cropped up many times during the '70's. Early in this

period a communications board set up under Student Association attempted to have a say in the governing of the magazine. This was later abolished. In the Spring of 1971 personal feuds ripped the staff and half the staff quit and started another publication, *Imprint*. *Imprint* tried and failed to get half of the *Reporter* budget. A committee was set up
(continued on page 15)



Past Editors

Former editors of various RIT student publications have gone on to many endeavors since serving at the editor's desk. A number of them responded to a query by the current staff to comment on their experiences.

Ms. Rosann P. Langhans was editor of *PSIMAR* around the time of the Depression. Not surprisingly her term was filled with activity centering on the publication. "I was involved with the eternal problems of recruiting and keeping fellow students who could and would produce news, cartoons, and advertisers to put it all together into a four page bi-monthly edition," she wrote. "As editor, I found it necessary, sometimes, to dash out to nearby places like the old Hotel Rochester to acquire just one more ad to fill space before putting that edition to bed." In response to a question about censorship problems of that day, she commented, "In my undergraduate days there, no censorship problems arose. (Depression era students did have other problems.)"

The Reverend Nelson B. Hodgkins, the last editor of *SPRIT* and the first student to head *Reporter*, also commented on the question of censorship. He wrote, "There was no censorship but quite often the administration expressed disapproval after the paper was out." With his letter, Reverend Hodgkins included a cartoon which he said some faculty members found vulgar when it was first published. As the young man pours his female friend a drink he says, "Say when," to which she responds, "Oh, right after this drink."

Robert F. Garty, another former editor from the 1950's described the episode that culminated his term in office. "We all experienced many happy events," he noted, "but probably the most satisfying, certainly the one requiring the most effort, was our staging of a beauty pageant to select Miss RIT." This competition, well within the mainstream of college students' concern during that period, was one of the social highlights of the year. "Twelve finalists were selected from the many applicants," recalled Garty. "At one of the major dances, each of the twelve was presented costumed to represent a month of the year. As I recall, Miss June won. This was our last journalistic 'first' before graduation..."

Because of the unique opportunities at RIT to reproduce color images, *Reporter* received considerable attention due to this aspect alone. Robert Jankowski wrote of that time, "The RIT *Reporter* in the 60's enjoyed an enviable position among college newspapers because of its process color work. Because of the pioneering web offset color on newsprint done at RIT, the experiments with the *Reporter* made us look great visually."

Like many of the other former editors who responded with comments on their experiences, Jankowski recalled a sincere concern with the content of the publication and a deep respect for the staff that made the paper possible. "The greatest challenge of the time," he noted, "was trying to present administration views, alumni news and views and subject matter of importance to students all in the same issue, with a responsible attitude..." Although student participation was far from overwhelming, he recalled, their involvement did pick up when the paper moved towards "...special columns and the

like to shift the content more toward student interest...where students would participate preparing the content, both written and photographic. Student involvement increased greatly," he noted, "and circulation increased sharply, too. I was fortunate in having a very talented and creative staff and any success we enjoyed was all a result of the staff's dedication."

Other editors from the 60's reflected on issues that drew significant attention across the campus. Harold C. Garfinkle reported that "...the burning issue at that time was a question of segregated college enrollment..." He added that "...the student newspaper ran both a special edition and a fund raising campaign to raise money for a small college in the south that had turned down a huge grant that carried with it the proviso that only white students would be admitted."

Perhaps the most celebrated controversy surrounding the *Reporter* was recalled by Bob Kiger. The flat centered around a two part series entitled, "Super People are Different From You and Me," or "Wonder Woman Meets GI Joe". While the article was designed as a satire aimed at showing the ridiculous nature of war, the young woman draped in bunting, bare breast exposed, aroused the ire of three fellow RIT students. Their reaction was to bring charges for desecration of the flag against editor Kiger, along with the writer, photographer, and a model who posed for the essay. Nearly four years later, those concerned were found innocent on all counts. Time has given Kiger some perspective on the incident, and now the whole affair has given him the idea for a film he would like to produce, entitled, "If It's Got Stars and Stripes, It's a Flag."

In spite of problems whenever they occurred historically, the consensus among past editors was that the publication was well worth the effort. Reverend Hodgkins especially appreciated the opportunity to meet "...people in other departments I would not have known otherwise..." When the whole experience is weighed, perhaps Jankowski offered the single comment that best summed up the thoughts of former editors as a group. "I'll always," he wrote, "remember my days being associated with the *Reporter*."

The Seventies (continued from page 14)

by Dr. Paul A. Miller to study the relationship between *Reporter* and RIT.

Before the advisory board's suggestions could be implemented another controversy arose in the Fall of 1972. The attempt to print a cover of a man and woman in bed with the title "Student Orientation '72" caused Miller to shut down the magazine until a definite agreement on content could be reached between the administration and staff. The issue was solved five days later and the publication resumed.

Later in that school year on May 11, 1973, the *Reporter* made the national news wires when it published a story telling of the theft of final examination papers by a student security guard who later sold them to other students. The guard and two others on the force were fired after an investigation.

The 1973-74 school year brought controversy over the *Reporter* Lampoon published by Techmila and Student Association. The controversy grew to cripple SA and talk of impeaching the SA President once made headlines.

The future of *Reporter* is unknown. It's biggest problem now appears to be where it will obtain funds and whether that amount will allow them to continue the same size and flexibility of recent years. Unless more funds exist the magazine could easily lose three years of growth.

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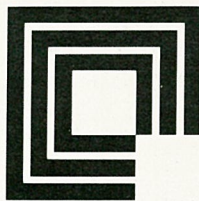


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