

Letters to the Editor

Reaction to 1/11 Editorial I

As I am writing this I am forced to wonder how many articles in *Reporter* have had me on the verge of writing in a reply, and every time I have said, "It's not worth it." However, after reading Mr. Prystajko's editorial titled "False Advertising," I felt that I had finally found an article that was bad enough it deserved a reply.

First of all, I have gone and looked at all the "RIT-published pamphlets, booklets, and promotional materials" that I could find at the admissions office and somehow I couldn't find a SINGLE lie! According to Newsweek, we ARE one of the nation's most-wired campuses, U.S. News & World did rank RIT #3. In fact, for 2001, depending on which reports you look at, we were either third or fourth for the largest co-op programs. Try again; there are no lies in them. Maybe they don't advertise their low points—which no one would expect them to do. So Mr. Prystajko, let's look at your complaints.

The Social Scene: RIT doesn't have the most active social scene—this is true. However, let's not blame the drinking rules-after all, if you need alcohol to be involved, to have a good time, I have one "social" event for you: it's the Rochester Chapter of AA. As for things to do, there's the SAU game room, and I know at least there used to be a game hall under the doors [sic], there's one of the nicest athletic facilities one could ask for which you can access for free! There are many clubs, there's a Formula SAE team, RIT Aero design (which deals with RC planes), there's a Gamers club, there are many intramural sports teams, and I'm sure there are more.

Right off campus we have two movie theaters, a mall (including a lot of other shopping plazas near by), several bars (so if you really do need alcohol to have fun, you're covered), and quite a few restaurants—and I know that Denny's is open 24-7 so you can ALWAYS go there if nothing else pans out. I know that downtown Rochester can be a world away without a car, but there are several theaters, Jillian's, bars, and whatever else you may want. So I'm forced to wonder if you "being crouched up in one's room, alone" is because of nothing to do, or because you just don't want to take the time and effort to find something to do. There is plenty of stuff out there, but it's not going to come to you.

SG: Maybe SG isn't as powerful here as it is at other schools, but that's not because they don't try. They held a Homecoming; even if it wasn't that successful, they tried. They can plan a lot of events, but if no one cares enough to show up, SG members can't be held responsible. The ones responsible are those who don't show up. Why not spend a week trying to build spirit? I'm as guilty as anyone else as having no school spirit but

that's no reason for SG to give up trying. If they only build a little school spirit, that's better then none. You're right, most students don't know how they're being represented, but then again most students didn't vote in the SG elections. SG can only do so much: they can't force people to be involved. Until more students are involved, I think that SG's hands are tied, yet they do a lot of things even that impaired. Every year there's the Brick City Festival, the Snowball, the spring fair, and a number of other SG-sponsored events. I think everyone here, especially those of us who have never shown any gratitude, owe SG a big THANK YOU for working tirelessly to put together things like this for those of us who have never paid much attention to you. Mr. Prystajko, have you ever tried to promote SG and get more people involved to make them more powerful?

Cost: I don't see RIT as much more expensive then any other private institution. You're right, community and state schools are cheaper, but RIT offers you more opportunities than these schools. If you feel that RIT is charging you too much for what they offer, go somewhere else! The administration didn't force you to come here. I also have to say that RIT DOES have financial aid available, however, again, it's not going to come to you. You have to fill out the paperwork; sometimes you even need to be willing to write essays. You have to go get them. I also feel a need to point out that there are a lot of schools that cost more then RIT.

Administration doesn't care: I don't think you could be more wrong. You think the coffeehouse was a bad idea? You were just complaining about nothing to do; they try and provide something and you complain about it! You think renovations to buildings and apartments are a bad idea? I like having somewhere nice to live and work. The new college, which, while it may not benefit everyone, is going to benefit a lot of people. The administration does a good job. Yes. there are still problems, and maybe we disagree with some of their decisions, but I would rather have an administration that does things I don't like rather then one that does nothing. They are at least trying to make RIT better.

Nobody else cares: How would you react if you had to deal with "dozens or hundreds of irate students every day?" I find that MOST of the people do care and are helpful if you go to them with a positive attitude. When you go in there with a bad attitude and are irate and just want them to make your problems go away, who can blame them for being un-friendly? If you go in there and politely explain the problem and talk to them, and see how to get it fixed, most of them are more than willing to help. I will admit that at times I have been one of those irate students, but when you are, you often get less-than-friendly service. Also, if

you feel that the person is that bad, ask for their supervisor. At times I have gone in and gotten poor service, I would tell the person to stop, and let me speak to their supervisor. When I do that, I get the service I deserve and that supervisor now knows that there's a problem with this person. If the supervisors never hear complaints, then they assume that their people are doing well! However, in all my years at RIT I have only had to do this a few times.

Academics are NOT a "priority:" Well, again, if students feel this way, have they gone to the department head of that teacher, or the dean of the college (if the problem is the department head) and talked to someone? I don't know about you, but I have said most of these things at one time or another, but just because the teacher sucked, did that mean I didn't learn anything? No. I still had the textbook, I still could ask other teachers in that department for help, or even ask other students in other classes. If you truly feel that the teachers are that bad, have you complained to someone in a position to help, or just to your friends? If the teachers here are that bad, why stay? If the guarter system sucks, then why come here? I don't know about anyone else, but I came here FOR the quarter system, and if they were to change it I would leave RIT. As for class schedules, I know that department heads do their best to schedule classes at good times, but that can be very difficult, and I think in most cases they do really good jobs. Sometimes there are problems, but they often work very hard to fix those, even if they are amongst different departments. The only department which I have ever had a real problem with was the liberal arts department. I know quarters when I couldn't take ANY class in my concentration because they all meet at the same times as required classes offered by my home department. I went there to see if I could work something out (like missing one class a week and making up the reading on my own time), and they were totally un-open to dealing with me. But except for that I've never had a problem. Yes, 7:00 a.m. exams suck, but you know what? There are a LOT of classes and a LOT of students, and the registrar's office does a good job of scheduling exams so that most people don't have exams that are at the same time. If it means some inconvenience for me one every 10 weeks or so, when I have to get up for a 7:00 a.m. exam, so be it. After all, on one of my Co-ops we had a monthly meeting at 5:00 a.m. so that we could teleconference with a division halfway around the world. If you think that the schedules here are bad, just wait. Here they do care about you; when you get out in industry, sometimes the schedule will be worse then anything RIT ever gave you. I don't know about you, but I have gotten a GOOD education here.

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Editorial

Apology

To RIT's faculty, administration, staff, and most importantly, the students, I owe you all a grand and sincere apology.

In last week's editorial, titled "False Advertising," I made numerous scathing and blatantly offensive remarks towards various groups, clubs, and professions—no doubt personally affecting those involved in a seriously negative manner. In that regard, I overstepped plenty of boundaries, and for that, I am deeply sorry.

What was less readily apparent in the editorial, however, was my intent and goal behind it—and from the tone of the number of responses I've received so far, it worked.

Did you happen to disagree with any of the statements? Did you feel outraged or appalled by the alleged "truths"? You should have. The RIT depicted in the editorial does not exist—not in the least. False advertising. Arguing that every student organization is "pointless and redundant," or that a social outlet like Java Wally's was a "pet project" of the administration—how ridiculously absurd! The entire message was deliberately constructed, not for shock value or to increase readership, but to answer one very simple question:

What do you believe?

The overwhelming response I've received has not been one of agreement, but instead points out the many positive aspects of RIT. The reasons why students *stay here*. In certain cases, the reasons why some students *love this school*.

Wait a sec... the "average" student praising RIT? Is it possible?

It should come as no surprise that the arguments in the editorial are nothing new; I have heard dozens of comments from students in my four years here matching what was printed; I merely condensed them. Yet, when such remarks are traded amongst friends or during a classroom discussion, who feels brave enough to counter? Where are the replies, "There are *plenty* of things to do on campus" and "I learned a lot from my liberal arts classes?" And who would risk telling others, "The administration really *does* care?" Perhaps you wouldn't say it, but do you *believe* it?

Experience has shown me that there's a pervasive mindset here in that it's "uncool" to argue against the negative. A great amount of school spirit does exist here, but it is largely hidden or ignored, if only

to "go along with the crowd."

But now, there is a different crowd. A changing perspective. While only a relatively small segment of the RIT population wrote letters expressing their disgust with me, I have to believe that the large majority of everyone here *felt* betrayed, and disagreed with at least one, if not multiple, arguments I presented.

Of course, it would be difficult to disagree with everything. RIT is by no means perfect; otherwise, the problems/myths comprising my editorial would never have risen. In some cases, I respect students' decisions to leave or transfer from RIT; if making that decision is the best choice, who can truly argue? What I don't respect are complaints like "I hate it here, I can't wait to leave" when the persons making such comments refuse to consider any positive reasons for staying.

So again, what do you believe? If you have any doubts, all you need to do is think back to when you read last week's editorial. What you believe to be true is how *you* felt the instant you finished the

last sentence, and decided for yourself what really matters.

I've been told numerous times, and recognize the fact that, in my position, I have the potential to exert a great amount of influence in regards to the words I write. The idea that I can all too easily abuse such power is not lost upon me. Yet, I've come to realize that while I can sometimes sway popular opinion, what I can't change are people's beliefs. I might be able to convince you that a new construction project will be beneficial or that a new academic policy may have disastrous results, but I can't make you believe that RIT is fundamentally either good or bad. All I can do is shed a light, and make it easier for you to discover your own "truths."

Essentially, despite some very subtle clues to indicate to the reader that my arguments were greatly exaggerated and false, *I lied*. As such, the brunt of people's anger was directed solely at me, and with good reason. I don't fault anyone for it, and quite honestly I completely expected it. If anything, I would ask that you not blame anyone else on staff at *Reporter*, or *Reporter* itself; this was my idea, and I acted alone.

So, in effect, call last week's editorial sensational, a trick, or a flat-out lie. For that, I am guilty, and I am sorry. What I will not apologize for, however, is the fact that for a week after "False Advertising" was published, there has been more vocal and positive dialogue about RIT itself than I think I have experienced in my time here. These students' comments—they are not manufactured, or stated as propaganda—they are heartfelt; they are *real*.

Maybe, just maybe, the administration is not all that bad. Perhaps teachers and staff really do care. What if, the value of our education goes beyond a dollar value? And most importantly, what about the students amongst all the clubs and organizations on campus who relentlessly promote a positive image of RIT? They're the ones who not only deserve an apology the most, but above all require *your* support and spirit.

From the most negative attitudes and experiences imaginable can emerge hope, and a greater sense of purpose...

Sincerely, Jeff Prystajko Editor-in-chief Jeffrey W. Prystajko

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Jeff Prystajko

Managing Editor William Huber

ART DIRECTOR Calvin Gray II

PHOTO EDITOR Chris Ehrmann

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Michael Clervi

AD MANAGER Kelly Nowakowski

BUSINESS MANAGER Bryan Hammer

> News Editor Laura Chwirut

LEISURE EDITOR Jakob Lodwick

FEATURES EDITOR Eric D Nelson

SPORTS EDITOR Aaron Landers

STAFF DESIGNERS Andrew Fisher, Dave Scott, Korinne Fugate

WRITERS

Mark Bollinger, Jesse Borkowski, Antonio Castillo, Ben Gonyo, Peter Gravelle, Ashish Jaiswal, Cameron Kolstad, Matthew Lidestri, Justin Mayer, Everett Religioso, Marci Savage, Samantha Smith, Tiffany Swasta, Jennifer Treuting, Michael Weisenburg, Chris Wiltz, John Yost

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHERS
Edmund Fountain, Kara Fulgenzi, Brian Marcus
Denis Rochefort

Darryl Brathwaite, Michael Freeman, Suzy Fuhrhop Anne Geary, Anna Gniziuk, Catherine Lee

> ADVISOR Rudy Pugliese

PRINTING
Printing Applications Lab

DISTRIBUTION Chris Ehrmann, Alveia Hall

CONTACT INFO

MAIN 475.2212 | reporter@rit.edu

ADVERTISING 475.2213 | reporterads@mail.rit.edu

DESIGN 475.5633 | rdesign@rit.edu Letters have been edited for spelling and grammar. No letter has been altered in any substantial way.

(continued from page 2)

You're right: RIT has problems, and it's been my experience that people love to complain about them. There are so many ways in which people could make things better, and they don't. The only ones who have ANY right to complain are those who work hard to make RIT better and all they get for their work is articles like yours bad mouthing them. I think all the students of RIT should THANK the administration, staff, teachers, SG, RHA, and all many others for trying to improve RIT. If you see problems like you've mentioned here, FIX THEM! Don't just complain to your friends and write editorials. Talk to the people who can help to fix them, and offer to help them fix them. If everyone who complains did that, RIT could be everything that you are looking for.

-Ken Thickman Fifth-Year Computer Engineering

Reaction to 1/11 Editorial II

Since I was invited to disagree with your editorial in the January 11 issue, titled "False Advertising," I feel that I must. Of course, RIT is not paradise but this article makes it out to be a lot worse than it is.

Frankly, the recurring complaint that there is "nothing to do here" is absurd. There is a growing abundance of oncampus clubs and organizations, which give opportunities for students to develop all kinds of interests, from sports to music to politics. These organizations advertise themselves every year at the SAU during "Club Day." God forbid we should stop living vicariously through our TV and computer screens and take advantage of these opportunities for growth. And if you really think that alcohol is a prerequisite for having fun, I am very sad for you. Also, students with cars ARE fortunate. There is plenty to be seen and done outside of RIT's walls as well. Interested in kickboxing? Try typing "kickboxing + Rochester" into a search engine. Something's bound to pop up.

And then there are people who create their own outlets by starting a band or other organization that allows them the opportunity to exercise their non-academic side. Bottom line: The social scene here is not "morbid" because of RIT's policies. It is what we, the students, make of it.

The complaint that Student Government does "absolutely nothing" is equally absurd. I find it interesting that you attacked their efforts to increase social opportunity on campus by providing something like Homecoming right after complaining about the lack of social outlets. Then you asked, "Why spend a week attempting to build spirit when everyone agrees no one has any to begin with anyways?" Didn't you answer your own question there? I know that in the past, SG has

hosted open forums for students to speak their minds and be seen. The only way students can be unaware of how they are being represented is that they did not bother to find out and therefore have no right to complain. I am not involved with SG myself, but from what I have seen, their main focus is to improve the quality of campus life and benefits and their efforts should be applauded, not attacked.

As for the classes, schedules, and assignments that "suck," this is not unique to RIT. I have attended classes at other schools and believe me, the lectures are no less boring and the schedules are no less favorable. Besides, consider the predicament in which the professors find themselves. Are you going to tell me it's possible to have an entire quarter packed with EXCITING lectures on modern physics. organic chemistry, or software architecture? It cannot be done. And for schedules to work at all, they cannot suit everyone's best interests. But one of the great things about the quarter is you don't have to deal with any one schedule for more than ten weeks, which is not that long. Sure, people complain about having finals at 7:30 in the morning. But they could bump that up to 8:30 and people would complain about that. Where does it end?

Despite all its shortcomings (I will even admit to having complained about some of them myself in the past), RIT does, in fact, deserve a great deal of the praise it has received in the press releases and newspaper clippings. Perhaps it does have the nation's most-wired campus and fourthlargest co-op program. Where there are strong points, there are always flaws, but give credit where credit is due.

-Ben Heller

Reaction to 1/11 Editorial III

This past week's controversial editorial highlighted the complaints and negative perceptions that many students have with this campus. However, because it was presented in a matter-of-fact tone, leaving objectivity by the wayside, organizations that were criticized as "pointless," "redundant," and "self-serving" took offenseand rightly so, especially since their collective efforts keep our state of affairs from deteriorating further. Whether or not an apology is issued to these groups, readers of this newspaper should have the common sense to recognize when an opinion is slanted for sensationalist purposes. Granted, freshmen minds are more impressionable since their "RIT experience" is just beginning, so I hope they don't blindly accept the editor's opinion as the unequivocal truth. To Jeff's credit, the editorial was successful in stirring the passions of this community over issues and frustrations that remain difficult to address. As far as I'm concerned, though, the root of the problem is the presence of self-fulfilling propaganda, where students are led to believe that life is supposed to be miserable here, and that there's nothing they can do about it. The editorial certainly did not help in this regard.

-Chris Mamorella Fourth-year Software Engineering

Reaction to 1/11 Editorial IV

Yes Jeff, we all know you hate it here. We know that you consider RIT to be your hell. We know you think it costs too much. We know you think the administration is out to get you. We know your social life stinks. It must, if you need to fill your time by writing editorials, week after week, about how bad RIT's social atmosphere is. Well get this: May people *like* it here. We learn a lot. We've had some great professors (a few lousy ones, but you'll get that anywhere). We have great friends. We're happy. So on behalf of all the RIT/NTID students who genuinely like it here, and I mean this in the nicest possible way, Go get a life.

-Stephen Byrne

Reaction to 1/11 Editorial V

If everyone hated RIT that much, why are we still here?

If life were perfect, wouldn't it be boring? When we come into college, we still had our rose-colored glasses on. We think that college is all about parties, the people, and the fact that you can party all night and still get up for your 8:00 classes. The rose-colored glasses have to come off, and [you need to] realize what college really is about.

As for RIT being the number one photography school in the country: look at all the things the photo students have access to: many cameras to check out, the darkrooms, the labs with the printers and scanners, the studios. I'm not complaining at all! It's all awesome access that we have in the photo building. What other school would provide that kind of accessibility for photo majors?

The social scene: yes, it is morbid at some point. But haven't you heard of actually getting out of your apartments, dorm rooms, and trying to find some way to get to downtown Rochester and find out what actually lives there? There's cool clubs that groove all night long every weekend. You can even chill in cozy places like Java's or at the Spot, and drink delicious drinks (not necessarily coffee.) See foreign films at the Little Theater. There are actually things to do here; it is just a matter of what you like to do. Check out www.rochestergoesout.com.

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01.18.02 ROCHESTER INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY Leisure 06. Crime Watch 10. Advice Column A felony, some misdemeanors, and another Alcohol and pot are bad for you. Mostly, 11. Midterm Stress Relief 07. Crime Watch F llow Up Nothing so fine as a beautiful woman Continuing investigation into rape still with massage oil. continuing. 12. Wu-Tang Cd Review 07. Sloan Foundation Membership Yes, it's a new album. No, I didn't know, either. We are SO kicking MIT's ass. 13. Movie Review: Bully 08. World Askew Fake child porn, along the lines of Kids. Less death, more great taste! 14. Web Site Review: TheSpark.com These guys say I will die on the day I turn 72.

Features

16. Pro-Anorexia Web Sites

Weight loss taken to grotesque extremes. Graphic.

18. Faces of RIT: Kevin Rewkowski

This guy does it all... Except breathe underwater!

19. Word on the Street

What do you do when you're sick as a dog?

20. RAS

One of the most underrated jobs on campus...

21. Asthma

All you need to know about it, except its favorite color.

EDMUND FOUNTAIN / REPORTER MAGAZINE

Sports

22. Hockey News and Notes

Team notes, scores, game reviews—you want it, we got it.

23. Basketball News and Notes

See Hockey subhead: witty scheme to lighten my workload.

24. Women's Basketball Head Coach Speaks

McCaffrey on the season and his favorite brownie recipes.

25. RIT Player Profile: Jen Gorczynski

Offense, defense, she's got it all.



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Crime Watch



December 20 - Janurary 8

compiled by Cameron Kolstad

December 20

Larceny - Wallace Library

A Graduate student reported that her purse with all belongings inside was stolen from the second floor computer area of the Wallace Library. She has canceled all credit cards and a video surveillance tape is being reviewed.

December 20

Harassment

A second-year student claimed his picture and false personal information were posted on an Internet dating website. The profile contained the student's e-mail address, which leads the student to believe it was the work of another RIT student. A follow up investigation revealed the accused is not an RIT student.

December 21

Misapplication of Property - Riverknoll Apartments

A recently-fired student employee was suspected of still having possession of a key that granted access to several computer labs in building 12. The student was questioned at his apartment and returned the key, claiming he had been too busy to turn it back in.

December 22

Dispatch Harassment - Colony Manor

A resident reported he and several friends were making noise while "horse-playing" outside their apartment. They were confronted by two males who broke a beer bottle over a dumpster and told them that they were making too much noise. The group of students apologized and the two males left.



December 28

Criminal Possession of Stolen Property - RIT Inn and Conference Center

An Inn engineer reported finding an "Exit" sign in the room of two students. The sign was reported stolen on November 11.

December 30

Criminal Mischief - RIT Inn and Conference Center

Damage was observed on several other exit signs in the building.

December 31

Unlawful Possession of Marijuana – Perkins Green Apartments

A student and several others were smoking cigarettes and marijuana in his apartment when the smoke activated the building's fire alarm. A bud weighing 7.4 grams, a marijuana pipe, and incense were found and confiscated.

January 3

Other - Campus Safety Office

A student returned a payment slip for a citation at RIT with "Kiss my ass!!! Bloodsucking bullshit!!" written on the payment slip. The word "Bloodsuckers" was written on the outside of the envelope as well. The letter was delivered via US mail. The student has been referred to student conduct.

January 5

Criminal Mischief - Kate Gleason Hall

The words "Looser [sic]," "Faggot," and "G3 Sucks" were written in blue and yellow spray paint in the third-floor elevator lobby of Kate Gleason Hall. No suspects were reported.

January 5

Dispatch Criminal Mischief - University Commons

The doorbells of two apartments in University Commons were stolen over the holiday break. One of the apartments also lost its electricity and heat. Investigation ensues.

January 6

Attempt to commit a felony – Center for Integrated Manufacturing

County Sheriffs arrested four non-RIT students as they attempted to steal four light poles. All four were banned from Campus. No report on their charges.

January 7

Auto Stripping - B Lot

A window of a parked Honda CRX was smashed and damage was sustained to the vehicle's dashboard as the burglars attempted to remove the CD player. A CD carrying case was stolen from the back seat.

January 7

Burglary/Unlawful Entry – University Commons

An unknown person broke into a bedroom at a party and stole a \$400 gold chain and a Guess watch valued at \$130. The victim's roommate, who had arranged the party, agreed to compensate for the losses.

January 7

Criminal Mischief – University Commons

Apartment maintenance reported two "Exit" signs damaged in building seven.

January 8

Larceny - Grace Watson Hall

While attempting to get a meal, a non-RIT student claimed he had lost his meal card and signed for it instead. He was later located and transported to Campus Safety where County Sheriffs arrested him. It was later learned that he has several outstanding warrants for arrest in the state of Maryland. He was in possession of a stolen or forged New Jersey driver's license.

January 8

Theft of Services - Grace Watson Hall

A student reported that he was billed for several charges on his credit card. Apparently, an unknown person somehow acquired his credit card number. County Sheriffs have acquired two shipping addresses for the goods and will investigate further. •

Sodomization case moving slowly

Crime Watch Follow-Up

by Cameron Kolstad

Several weeks ago *Reporter* reported an incident of Rape/Sodimization: on November 17, 2001, a first-year student reported to Campus Safety that he had been raped and sodomized by a friend while both were spending time in his apartment. While information about how the incident developed

is not known, it is confirmed that alcohol was a factor.

The accuser claimed that the incident occurred sometime between 8:00 p.m. on the night of November 16 and 9:00 a.m. the following morning. The student reported the incident to Campus Safety, who then called the

Monroe County Sheriff's office to respond. The sheriff took a report and the victim was sent to Strong Memorial Hospital and discharged later that day.

The accused student was referred to Student Conduct and the validity, and severity, of the claim is still under investigation by the Sheriff's Office. •

RIT Joins Sloan Foundation Rochester now superior to MIT

by Justin Mayer

RIT has joined the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation in a partnership that could further prove RIT as the top printing school in the country. The Sloan Printing Industry Center was established on campus as a result of RIT's joining the Foundation. Conceived in cooperation with the College of Imaging Arts and Sciences and the College of Business, the Center will study major business influences in printing and how the industry is affected by new technologies and a changing society.

According to a press briefing on January 8, 2002, work conducted at the center will be focused on "educating the next generation of print industry managers, conducting applied research, and disseminating findings from applied research for the professional development of print industry managers."

To get approval for the center from the Foundation, it was necessary to first gain financial support and prove that the members of the printing industry were interested. Sixteen companies including Adobe, Xerox, and IBM Printing Systems, agreed to fund the center and oversee research projects. One major goal for the Sloan Center is to improve relations with the sixteen companies funding the center and to therefore attract other companies to RIT as a major center for applied research.

With the founding of the Sloan Printing Industry Center, RIT joins the likes of Harvard, MIT, Columbia University, and 10 other institutions, all of which have centers focused on different industries.

The Sloan Foundation's goal for its industry centers is to "create an academic

community that understands industries and to encourage a direct approach to the companies and people of each industry for data and observations."

The Sloan Center at RIT will provide funding for nine full-time graduate students to work in the center for two years while pursuing their degrees. During the two years, these "Sloan Scholars" will work alongside faculty members on research projects in four proposed areas: industry definition and strategic analysis; digital color printing; processes, productivity, and profitability; and cross-media migration/integration.

January 1, 2002, marked the first day of the Center's operation. It is now in an "exploratory phase," during which it will work with its industry partners to perform initial research. The results of the research will be the basis for the Center's second phase, which has yet to be created.

Graduate students will be recruited during this phase and begin their two years working with the Sloan Center this summer. They will receive a full scholarship as well as a stipend for their work with the Center.

"The ultimate goal [of the Center] is to have an impact on the profitability of the [printing] industry, and to make it more successful," said Frank Cost, Associate Dean of the College of Imaging Arts and Sciences, and co-director of the Sloan Center.

There are nine faculty members participating in the Center's operation: Frank Cost, Bill Fischer, Ed Granger, Mike

Kleper, Barb Pellow, and Frank Romano from the College of Imaging Arts and Sciences; and Pat Sorce, Sandy Rothenberg, and Stelios Zyglidopoulos from the College of Business. Sorce, Associate Professor of Marketing and former Associate Dean of the College of Business, is working as Co-Director with Cost.

The Sloan Center is part of, but not formally tied to, RIT's First In Class initiative, a program designed to make RIT a frontrunner among institutions that collaborate with companies and government agencies. "This is our contribution to First-In-Class, because it will distinguish RIT as the leading institution in this domain," said Cost.

RIT has devoted \$2 million to the project, and it is expected that the Sloan Foundation will contribute an additional \$500,000 over the next three years, and \$25,000 for the first year from each of the 16 participating companies. The development of the Sloan Center is still in its earliest stages since it has only just started operations this month.

"The Foundation will contribute \$500,000 over the next three years"

In an RIT press release dated December 14, 2001, RIT President Dr. Al Simone hailed the founding of the Sloan Center as a "crowning moment for our printing school." Simone went on to say "We're grateful that the Sloan Foundation has chosen RIT to foster cutting-edge analysis and idea exchange with industry partners, a historic focus of RIT's mission." •

World Askew Find the fake news story! See page 30

Compiled by Everett Religioso Illustration by Catherine Lee

True stories obtained from Reuters and ABCNews.com. Fake story from The Stankbox.

KITALOU, Texas: The small town of Kitalou, a suburb of Lubbock, was treated to a brief snowfall when an 18-wheeler hauling several tons of fake snow crashed and spilled its contents onto the road, according to town officials. "The crosswinds caused a temporary whiteout [with the fake snow] for vehicles in the immediate vicinity of the accident on route 62," trooper Frank Marsh stated. There is no word yet on the cause of the crash, although the driver was not hurt.

ROME, Italy: A survey performed by an Italian newspaper found an extra perk for those using the new Euro currency. According to the II Messaggero newspaper, prostitutes are charging 150 Euros instead of the usual 300,000 lire, which is equal to approximately 155 Euros. According to "Francesca," "I'm going to offer a bit of a discount - it will make me feel good."

BERLIN, Germany: A 71-year-old German man stopped a robbery at the store he was working at with an unlikely weapon, police said. The man heard men threatening a female assistant. After one of the robbers pushed her to the floor, they threatened the elderly man as well. He threw a tin of sauerkraut at one of the robbers, hitting him in the head. This startled the robbers who then ran away without cash. They are still at large.

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia: A man set a Guinness World Record by walking five miles doing the hula-hoop. Ashrita Furman, a 47-year-old American who manages a health food store in New York, completed the achievement in two-anda-half hours. Furman is also in the Guinness Book of World Records for 70 other odd accomplishments, such as ascending Mount Fuji with a pogo stick, and walking with a full milk bottle on his head for 33 miles.

VANCOUVER, British Columbia: Three robbers were caught in the act by an unsuspecting listener: a cell phone. According to the Royal Canadian Mounted

Police, one of the robber's cell phones was bumped during the robbery and redialed its last number. On the other end was an answering machine that recorded the men arguing about how to divvy up more than \$100. In spite of this evidence, the Mounties do not know the identity of the robbed victim. who has not yet come forward to press charges against the three.

RENO, Nevada: The fruitcake, one holiday gift "nearly everyone receives and few actually want," can best be destroyed by an SUV, according to Camille Hayes, a Reno Gazette-Journal reporter. Haves bought various store-made fruitcakes and tested various methods of obliterating the beloved gift food. Dropping it off a twostory house onto concrete yielded only a few "fissures," and shooting a cake with two M-11 automatic machine guns resulted in "only minor damage." Next year, Hayes plans to try again with different techniques, such as dropping the cake from a helicopter.

BERLIN, Germany: Over the holidays, snowfall and ice caused Bavaria's worst traffic jam ever, with some 60,000 Germans spending the night in their cars. An official stated that winds blew fourfoot snowdrifts over the roads, trapping people in their vehicles along a 90-mile stretch of the North-South 9 Motorway, and said it was "certainly the worst we have ever seen."

VANCOUVER, British Columbia: Police are on the lookout for a legless man wanted in the theft of 10 pairs of pants. Apparently, the man took off from a Gap store in a wheelchair. According to witnesses, the man was one of two suspects who participated in the heist. Both fled the area in a stolen vehicle.

LONDON, England: A British woman is expecting a big reward for shedding some weight: \$1.500. Deborah Dale made a bet with bookmaker William Hill on 20-1 odds that she could lose 168 pounds - to drop to a weight of 266 pounds - by the end of 2001. However, a doctor has yet to verify her weight loss before any payout can occur.

CALCUTTA. India: An organization pushed for the creation of a zone in Calcutta where lovers can meet in public, hold hands and talk, without being harassed. The Lovers' Organization for Voluntary Exhibition (LOVE) wanted this zone created by New Year's as a gift to romantics in the city, since kissing and holding hands in public is looked down on in India. LOVE states that if a love zone isn't created by January 31, they will protest in front of the mayor's office and police headquarters.

TOKYO, Japan: A Japanese man got more than he expected when he went to check his mailbox: three million yen, or \$22,780 in cash. Police state he doesn't know where the money came from, so the department will take fingerprints and contact local financial institutions. If no one claims it in six months, the man can keep it for himself.

HELSINKI, Finland: A company's innovative way of holding conferences is turning heads in Finland. The digital media development group, Media Tampere, has installed a microphone and webcam into their sauna, plus a window to a computer screen, so business dealings can occur in the steamy room. Odd? Not for Finland, as the sauna has traditionally played an important role in Finnish business and politics.

OMAHA, Nebraska: Judy Money, a Nebraska woman who received an elaborate box with a broken knob last month, returned the gift to Wal-Mart only to find out later that the box contained the ashes of her deceased sister. After learning this from her brother, Money rushed back to Wal-Mart but discovered the box had already been thrown out with the trash. She later found the box at an area landfill..





RIT Now Swings Both Ways RTS Buses to Now Travel in Both Directions

by Laura Chwirut

"Throughout fall quarter, students voiced their concern about the RIT shuttle service, [provided by the Regional Transit Service]," Student Government President Erick Littleford said, in a posting on the SG website. He noted that the majority of the issues centered around the fact that shuttles traveled only in one direction, and circled the entire campus before returning to a pickup area. The situation proved to be most inconvenient for those students boarding the shuttle from University Commons apartments, located in the south-end of campus.

From UC, riders had to first travel through the Colony stops; nearly tripling the time of a trip that should have only been four-minutes long.

The solution students presented was to have shuttles traveling clockwise and counterclockwise around the campus. "Mike Maloney and myself met with Robert Craig, Director of Campus Safety, and Bill Batcheller, Director of Business Services to draw up a solution," said Littleford.

A fourth shuttle has been added to the route to accommodate the change.

The new system now runs four shuttles during peak hours, morning and evening, in both clockwise and counter-clockwise directions. The addition of the extra shuttle allows the buses to arrive in seven-minute intervals at every stop — a three-minute improvement from the previous system.

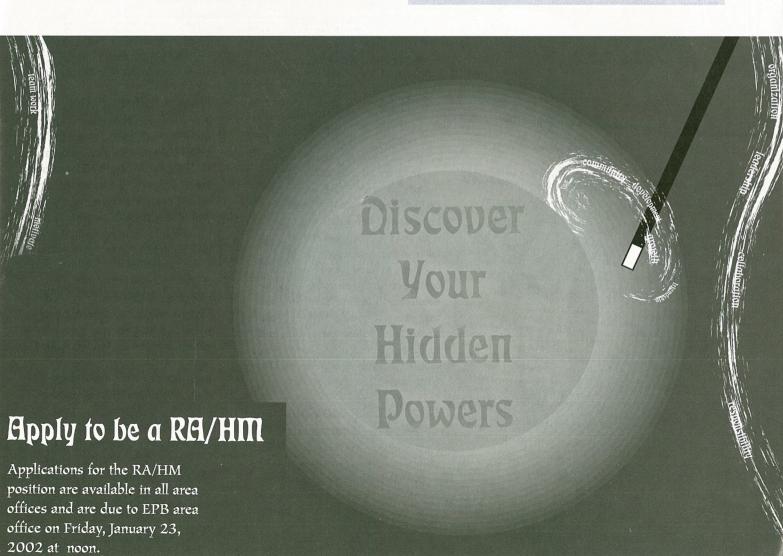
"The new system shall prove to be extremely more efficient, and I am thankful to the administration for showing their commitment to keeping students first," said Littleford.

Schedules for the shuttle can be picked up in the Campus Safety and Center of Resident Life offices in Grace Watson Hall, the SAU Info Desk, and the first floor of Wallace Library, among other locations throughout campus.

Additional transit information is available at http://www.rgrta.com/

"The new system will prove to be extremely more efficient."

- Erick Littleford, SG President



Advice

by Buddy Domanski

Need some advice? Out team of professional sympathizers and problem-solvers would love to help. Email whatever's on your mind to advice@blumpy.org.

Dear The Advice Column.

I thought that when I reached college, I'd be "graduating" into a higher level of beer drinking. Unfortunately, after getting to RIT, I feel like I'm in special ed. Before classes started this year, two guys on my floor got put on probation for having a couple of cases of beer in their room. Since then, I've been wary of partying anywhere closer than Colony. I understand that RIT doesn't exactly have the best social scene in the country, but do I really have to remain sober, day-in and day-out?

-Beerless in Baker

Dear Beerless,

Getting drunk is the key not only to college, but to life itself. Being drunk equals having fun, and having fun is as American as John Ashcroft. The guys you hang out with might normally be unexciting, but imagine how cool they'll seem when you have the spins and are incapable of cognitive reasoning. In addition, you'll make new friends who confuse rambling half-conversation for emotional bonding. So here's my suggestion: acquire a bottle of hard alcohol, get three or four friends, and sit in your locked dorm room taking shots while watching whatever's on TV. That's what a social life is.

Dear The Advice Column,

I feel like I've matured substantially since arriving at RIT last year. I am far more disciplined than I was in high school. My knowledge of academic subjects has grown disproportionately large. I even feel that I know myself

better than before. Unfortunately, this has been the source of a problem. At the end of Spring quarter last year, my ex-roommate was kicked out for smoking pot in our dorm room. I was partially responsible for having him kicked out by reporting him to my RA, which I feel was the right thing. But in the last couple of months, I've been thinking about trying some pot myself. Friends of mine keep talking about what mind-expanding experiences they've had after smoking it, and I almost feel like I'm missing out on something important. What should I do?

-Perkinterested in Trying Pot in Perkins

Dear Perkinterested,

Smoking pot is one of the unspoken secrets of intellectual success. The Japanese attribute the success of Nintendo, Mos Burger fast food restaurants, and Akira Kurosawa films to marijuana's empowering magic. Without pot, the architects behind the St. Louis Gateway Arch, the Golden Gate Bridge, and the Panama Canal would have sat around twiddling their thumbs, stuck with "inside the box" thoughts and tiny appetites. Adding pot to a college education will endow you with a dual sense of open-mindedness and virtuosic technical proficiency. As far as your personal life goes, pot can open doors you previously didn't know existed. Homework becomes an afterthought as your own amazing thoughts and ideas solve problems and explain philosophies in a way that puts you ahead of the soberminded conformists that you'll be competing with in class. Pot is the answer! •

Midterm Stress Relief

Cooped up in a small room with another, probably boring, member of the same sex makes for a good work environment. Unfortunately, it is also a breeding ground for stress and grating feelings of captivity. Here are a few writers' opinions on turning a marathon session of midterm studying into one that triggers slightly less homicidal feelings.

Jennifer Treuting:

Spending time with friends or a loved one can largely help relieve school related stress. Hanging out is not only fun, but it can also help diffuse the tensions of class and work.

In the search for inexpensive ways to relax, I found that board games can be incredibly amusing when played with good friends. Old favorites like Monopoly and Life can be great, but if you're in the mood for something newer and less predictable, a good pick might be Dirty Minds. A guessing-game for "open-minded adults," it finds players guessing everyday objects after hearing suggestive clues and hints.

If spending time with a boyfriend or girlfriend, massage can be a wonderful way to beat stress. There are all sorts of books on the topic if you'd like to do something more than the normal back rub, and many stores carry massage oils. Before buying any oil however, make sure it's a scent tha both of you can stand.

Peter Gravelle:

1 thnig i do 2 releev stress made by middterms i rite reeely bad artikls 4 reeprtr. Sum ppl say me ryte bad thnigs allthe time, butt i Dont thnk so. Me wryt guud rtickles. Evn if i rite baaad artikls, i kno dat me editr wil ficks it. Den eye no thatt meeditr is feeelling wrsse dan meeee. I feal gud den.

Jakob Lodwick:

Nothing affords a better sense of relaxation than dialing 1-800 numbers and just relating to the people on the other end. Because 1-800 numbers are paid for by the recipient, not the caller, you can reach a lonely but interesting employee working at any place, anywhere in the country.

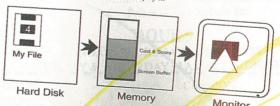
Imagine the effectiveness of this technique: you're sitting at your

desk at 2:00 a.m., struggling to read through 60 pages of a text-book before going to sleep for your 9:00 a.m. class. At an instant's whim, you pick up your phone, dial a number, and a drowsy ex-jock is ready to accommodate you through aggression therapy.

Or, turn on your television. See an ad for collectable plates with Jesus on them? Call up and ask the operator why you can't stop masturbating. Watching a sports show on the Home Shopping Network? You're just a 1-800 and seven digits away from proposing to a stranger! Capable of choosing seven random numbers, or at least smashing your hand all over the dial pad? Great! Now you can challenge a working single mother's belief system and repeatedly offer to dramatically rescue her from her office!

Macromedia Director Lingo Workshop

Let's pretend that we're the computer and that we have to get a file. Starting with a movie file on the hard disk, here are the steps Director takes to play it.



Before a movie is played, it must be transferred from the hard disk into the computer memory, also known as RAM or Random Access Memory. Opening a movie brings only part of the movie file into memory. Cast members are loaded into memory as they are used to draw frames, or explicitly to load with Lingo commands. Playing the movie begins the animation process. Frames are drawn one after the other as the playback heads step from frame to frame. Cast members are first drawn into a work area called the screen buffer according to their order in the sprite channels. The updated area of the screen buffer is then transferred to the monitor.

The About Director option in the Apple menu displays a graphic summary of how memory is being used by your movie. Before continuing, make sure that the Director application is set to a memory partition of 4500K bytes. (Note: You will not be able to set the partition if you are using the save-disabled version of Director included on the CD-ROM.) Set the amount of memory by selecting the application (do not double-click it). Select Get Info from the File menu. A dialog box will open. The box labeled "Preferred size" is the amount of memory that Director will take in kilobytes (1 kilo is 1024 bytes). Enter 4500 in this box.



Wu-Tang Raises the Iron Flag

by Chris Wiltz

Let's face it: anyone who keeps up with Wu-Tang clan has probably noticed that their success as a group has seriously been dwindling since 1997's Wu-Tang Forever. Numerous solo projects, disputes within the group, and a particular incarceration have dealt a serious blow to Wu-Tang's unity and credibility as a group. Additionally, the growing popularity of Wu members such as Method Man and Ghostface as solo artists

even led to rumors of the group dissolving. Despite the critics' rumors, Wu-Tang assures us that the crew from Staten Island is alive and well, and they have set out to prove so with their fourth release, *Iron Flag. Iron Flag* brings back the gritty soul music and kung-fu movie samples that made Wu-Tang's first two albums so great, while at the same time showing off the group's stylistic progression. These qualities all shine though, especially in the first single "Uzi (Pinky Ring)" and other songs like "Iron Flag" and "Soul Power" (featuring Public Enemy's Flava Flav, of all people).

Lyrically, the group is just as good as they've always been, if not better. Anyone who owns any Wu-Tang member's solo album knows that the group is composed of some of the most creative and unique lyricists around, and this shows through even more when they all come together. Each member's own style works to complement

the styles off the other Clan members. Whether addressing the events of 9/11 in "Rules," spinning tales of crooked cops in "Babies," or just telling everyone that they're the best group around in songs like "Radioactive," Wu-Tang by far brings the best delivery of any rap group on the shelves.

The only problem with the album is that it's much too short. *Iron Flag*'s 12 songs, while all awesome, will still leave avid Wu fans longing for much more. When did the idea of having an album that's both great and long become a bad one? Wu-member Rza has commented that *Iron Flag* is composed mostly of redone versions of songs that were originally intended to be on Wu's last album *The W*. Maybe next time around we'll get another double CD album (a la *Wu-Tang Forever*), but for now, *Iron Flag* is the perfect addition to any Wu-fan's collection and would be a terrific introduction to the group for any first-time listeners. •



Movie Review: tale Bully: a and sex of murder, played by youngsters

by Jakob Lodwick

first look, there is little distinguishing Larry Clark's latest film from a typical Cinemax soft-core movie. But after some time with it, a few essential differences begin to shine through. For one, Bully shows actual full-frontal nudity. Female pubic hair and the male penis are both utilized by the director to better illustrate his message ("these people can't stop boinking each other"). The second difference is that Bully feels like child porn. The actors are old enough to be legal, but the girls could probably pass for 16. The third difference is that Bully's story actually starts to matter after a while, despite a meandering, redundant first two-thirds. Bobby and Marty are two guys living a posthigh school, privileged class fantasy life. They both work at a sub shop but drive new, expensive cars as they meet up with girls and have sex with them. Bobby, played well by Nick Stahl, is constantly bullying Brad Renfro's character Marty. They hang out with several other kids, who eventually manage to put sex on hold and come up with a plan to put an end to Bobby and his bullying ways - a MURDEROUS plan.

This film is not a thriller, nor a crime drama, nor a tale of redemption - nor is it necessarily trying to be. Its secondary message seems to be that these kids are really, really dumb and have no idea what they're doing. For example, Billy's girlfriend Lisa (played my Mrs. Macaulay Culkin herself, Rachel Miner) gets pregnant as a result of non-stop unprotected sex. Other kids in the group drop acid and play each other in a Mortal Kombat-style videogame, with one of them freaking out and puking after his character is turned into a baby. But the scene that best exemplifies their incompetence is the

actual murder, as the six or seven disorganized, unprepared teens carry out the least professional crime of the century.

When I saw Larry Clark's first film, Kids, I was basically in the same state as everyone at the party near the end. I do remember a few details, though, and I believe that Bully is shot more like a traditional film than Kids was. Bully looks real, but not in the same way as Kids's quasi-documentary style. Bully also feels real because the story seems like it's right out of real life, and not a work of calculated literature. Even though I felt dirty, sick, and even bored during parts of this movie, in hindsight it was an entertaining and interesting piece. If you don't mind childlike porn and depressingly realistic storytelling, give Bully a watch. •



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The Spark.com

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1,168,851 teken 3,424,708 taken TheSpark.com is a pretty cool website with lots of different features. divided into a few different sections. The Features section of the site includes "The IQ Test" and "SparkNotes." "The IQ test" is supposed to be a real IQ test, though I'm not sure how accurate it is. You can take the test and then send it to your friends. They are told your score and when they finish the test you can look up theirs.

There is one serious side to this section, however, that might actually be helpful to the average college student. There is a section called "SparkNotes" that can provide useful notes on many subjects such as periods in history or calculus. It's listed under the Features area.

There is a "T&A" section next to the Features, which lists many different tests a user can take other than "The IQ Test." Some of these tests include: "The Personality Test," "The Bitch Test," "The Wealth Test," "The Sex Test," and "The Death Test." Each test gives you feedback on where you rate, or in the case of "The Death Test," it gives you a prediction of when you're going to die. These tests can also be sent to friends and the scores can be exchanged. The test questions themselves can be quite amusing and far-fetched and also contain numerous cracks on Canadians. As to the truth of the results, who knows.

The "Science" section is all about the crazy adventures of Christian. The stories included in this section are "The Date My Sister Project," "The Stinky Feet Diaries," "StinkyMeat," "StinkyMeat2," and also "The Fat Project." In "The Stinky Feet Diaries," Christian is trying to make his feet smell as bad as possible and goes through all sorts of disgusting ways to try and achieve the results he desires. In "The Fat Project," he convinces a guy and a girl to gain weight with a promise of \$3000. It's filled with pictures of them in their underwear as they stack on the pounds. "StinkyMeat" is about him buying some meat and putting it in his neighbor's yard to rot and smell. "The Date My Sister Project" is about him setting up dates for his sister with people he knows and documenting them. Each story is filled with pictures and also vivid, humorous descriptions of the things happening.

The last section of the Spark.com is the "Toys" section. This section includes the "Burn Maker." The "Burn Maker" takes some text you have written, perhaps as a letter to someone, and turns it into a letter of hate. The results are funny and filled with obscenities. The "Academic Paper Generator" can be fun to mess around with. You enter in certain information about a paper you want to write such as the subject and length. Then it generates a paper for you on the subject you chose. The results really look like a pre-written paper that just puts the subject into various places within the essay. However, it's not a good idea for a real paper.

The "Bone Easy" category takes you to a page with different strange sentences that are randomly generated to emulate things that men might say. This section is just basically filled with totally outrageous pickup lines for guys. The last part of the "Toys" section is "Deliver the Dis." This is a program that can be downloaded that generates random insults and put-downs. All you have to do is click the button "Deliver the Dis" and the insults just pour out.

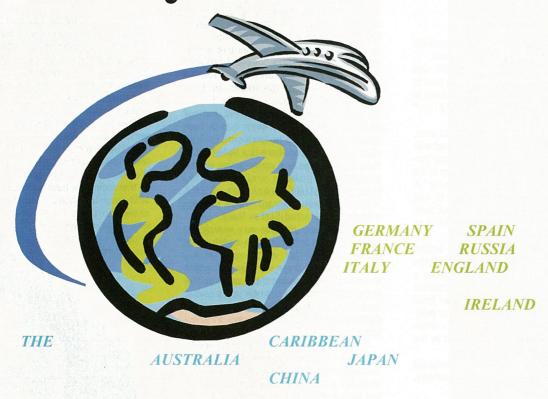
If you ever need to waste a few hours on completely random stuff, or even pick up a hint or a tip or two for a paper, check out The Spark.com. It's completely worth it. •





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The Story of 'Ana' and 'Billy

Sites promoting eating disorders hit the Internet

by Jennifer Treuting illustration by Anne Geary

"please please please...i am 16 years old and in need of help. i feel so lost and so out of control..."

-Posted by "alicesfalling" on a pro-anorexia site

Web sites celebrating those who embrace eating disorders are swamping the web.

At these sites, anorexics and bulimics share "success" stories and tips on how to lose weight, purge, and diet. They refer to their disorders as "Ana" and "Billy," with a form of affection.

www.disappearingacts.homestead.com, which features the slogan, "Nothing tastes as good as thin feels," is one of the many proanorexia websites that have sprouted up in the last few years. The site's message board is full of people asking for hints and help to lose weight, as well as pleas to stop and seek help.

"I love feeling empty," said one of the site's users.

While anyone can develop an eating disorder, college-aged women are among the most at risk. This should not come as a surprise when looking at a list of possible causes; "Sensitivity to separation from family" and "socio-cultural factors," or pressures from the media to maintain a certain appearance, were all on a list put out by the Center for Eating Disorders.

Other causes of eating disorders included by the Center were stressful situations,

trauma, family dynamics, and possible genetic influences. Environment and heredity may play rather large roles in the development and sustainability of eating disorders. At least five to 10 million women and one million men suffer from some form of an eating disorder in the United States.

Despite the fact that females still make up the majority of those suffering from eating disorders, the amount of males being affected is rising. "Everything you turn around and see, there's such an image of the perfect body for a male. So men are out there, getting into this, because they want a buff body, no fat, all muscle. They'll do anything to get to that point," said Florinda Cardenas, the Mentoring Program Coordinator of the Women's Center.

"College does seem to create or intensify eating disorders," said first-year Physics major Josh Pare. "One reason may be the fear of the freshman 15." Anorexic Nation, located at http://plagueangel.com/anorexic_nation/anorexicnation.html, even has a link especially designed to "welcome college students." Located there is a list of more than 30 colleges and universities whose students regularly visit the site, including SUNY Brockport, SUNY Albany, Cornell, Harvard, Tufts University and the United States Navy.

[Editor's note: the site was redesigned prior to this issue's print date and this link was apparently removed. W.H.]

While most of these sites are not meant to recruit people, many of the posts on the message boards are from new users asking for help to lose weight. The sites view eating disorders as fast, cheap ways to shed (dozens of) pounds.

Since these disorders exhibit quick results in the early stages, they can be habit-forming. One of Disappearing Act's users left a chillingly realistic note: "Sad to say, but anorexia and bulimia are by far the most effective ways to lose weight. I'm an addict."

These disorders are exactly that: an addiction. Anorexia is characterized by the intense fear of gaining weight, feeling fat even though the person may be dozens of pounds under a healthy weight, with a very low body mass. Anorexics tend to eat very little, and can slowly starve themselves to

death.

While anorexic/bulimic methods may produce desired results for a little while, they can also cause permanent damage to the body. Ulcers, muscle damage, gum disease, bone loss, and esophageal damage are all medical problems that can result from prolonged eating disorders. 15 to 60 percent of an anorexic's normal body weight can be lost during the course of the disorder. It is dieting gone out of control.

Bulimics, on the other hand, "binge and purge." The Center for Eating Disorders describes bulimia as "recurrent episodes of intense eating, [followed by]... recurrent

hey'll do anything to part that point"

episodes of purging (using laxatives or vomiting) in order to prevent weight gain." Bulimia is the more common of the two disorders, and it can commonly lead to anorexia. Both disorders are very hazardous to a person's health, and have been known to kill.

According to the American Dietetic Association, more than five million Americans suffer from eating disorders. Anorexia nervosa and bulimia nervosa are the two most common disorders, and though doctors and experts have spoken out against these disorders, they still present a threat.

If students are having difficulty adjusting to life away from home, in addition to being under the stress of everyday college life, they may become at risk to developing an



teah Remini reigns "I was taught that eating was a sign of the control of the con

16 | REPORTER

eating disorder. Many attribute messages from the media as giving an unattainable "perfect body image." Additionally, many people, regardless of whether or not they have an eating disorder, feel society encourages them to maintain a certain body image.

"I was taught inadvertently by my mother, from the time I was old enough to talk, that food was bad, fat was bad, and eating was a sign of weakness," said a sufferer of anorexia, who preferred to remain anonymous.

Another admitted that every woman in her family had eating disorders, and the men were addicted to exercise. "I think genes play a much larger role than we really think."

First year Software Engineering major Amanda Berry said, "Look at [the movie] Shallow Hal. In order for a fat girl to find a guy, she has to look thin."

Magazine covers, store mannequins, advertisements, and the Internet all show thin, beautiful women modeling clothes and looking happy. These images can lead others to think that the secret to happiness is found within a dress size. People can feel overweight by looking at these ads, even when they know they aren't. "I wear a five, but I'm still heavier than Angelina Jolie, and way wider than the mannequins they model stuff on," says Berry.

Everywhere one turns, one is bombarded by images of the "perfect body." However, this "perfect" shape isn't obtainable by all, and people shouldn't measure themselves against it.

"The average American
woman is a size 12. The
models that we see
in clothing are
two, if

"The average Americar "woman is a size 12"

that," says White.

Many advertisements are digitally altered. Citing an example of this, White said, "I have on tape an example of a Cindy Crawford shot that was for the cover of Cosmopolitan. They removed any signs of aging; they made her waist smaller; they took a couple inches off of her thigh."

"We're very visual," says Cardenas, "You see all these images of the perfect body—on—TV, the movies, the printed image, on the Internet... In Hollywood, it's glamorized to be very frail, thin, almost to the point where your bones are sticking out, but at home, you're shunned from your community and your family because that's not how you're supposed to look. That's not how the normal person looks."

The Women's Center on campus offers counseling and mentoring services for those looking for help. Open to both men and women, the Center has information on eating disorders and can also provide one-on-one support for those in need.

As always, rather than risk your health, exercise and healthy eating are the best ways to maintain a healthy weight. If you feel the need to lose a large amount of weight, you should consult a doctor first.



Faces of RI

by Eric D Nelson

Third-year Information Technology major Kevin Rewkowski is certainly one of the most active students on campus. Currently, Rewkowski is the Communications Coordinator for the Residence Hall Association (RHA), a representative in the Student Government Senate, the President and founder of the Political Awareness Club (PAC), a Web Designer for the Center for Campus Life, an Interactive Adventures Rock Climbing Instructor at the Red Barn, an employee of Chase Pitkin's corporate office, and a member of the LEAD program.

"I'm a people person," said Rewkowski. "I like people. So I like to have a lot of jobs, a lot of interaction. That's just one aspect. I can't just be bored. It's not really my thing."

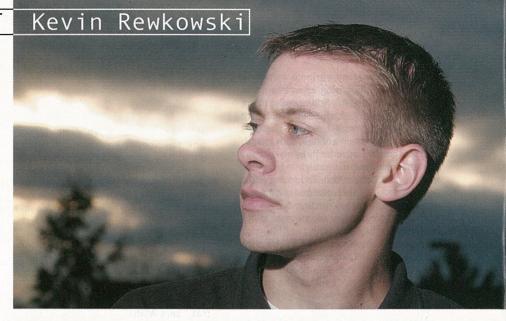
Rewkowski has had a solid impact on the organizations of which he is part. When RHA brought in Lesra Martin and Nikki Giovanni to speak last year, they were events that RHA had never before done. "I worked very long, very hard on that along with the president of BACC... It fell together pretty nicely and we impacted about 600 people who came to our two events." Rewkowski was also partially responsible for having Jocelyn Elders speak at RIT. "I was part of that [Student Government] Committee [responsible for bringing Elders here]. Up to 800 people were affected by that one week of events that I was a part of in some way."

Plenty more people have benefited from Rewkowski's work on the Center for Campus Life web page. "When Ryan [Giglia] hired me, they had this weird looking webpage... Oh man, it was a mess."

Now, Rewkowski said the site covers the Student Volunteer Center, Greek Council, Greek Affairs, LEAD program, SAU Reservations, Big Events Calendar, and more. "I put up a list of all the clubs that we had," said Rewkowski. "In the first three months, we got about 4000 hits to that one section. That one entity of clubs and organizations just blew up." The overwhelming response was due to the fact that there was such a need for it.

Rewkowski maintains high standards in the development of the Center for Campus Life website. "[The website has] useful resources, not just 'here's a page with a guy's phone number on it. Call it for any problems," he said. "We want information so you can download forms, you can search through whatever we have, Student Volunteer Center lists, community service opportunities, agencies you can volunteer with, very in-depth of what's going on over there."

While he further developed RHA and the Center for Campus Life, he helped to actually create the Political Action Club. "There's a study that came out a couple years ago about what people most commonly talk about like on the ride to work, or on a train, or on a plane, or something like that," said Rewkowski, "is politics and government. Not the weather, not sports... Everybody loves to talk about politics."



The PAC features movie nights and round tables. "We had one very good round table. About 20 people attended. The second one wasn't too greatly attended. It's tough to get people out." The meetings usually take place on Tuesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. As for the round table discussions, "All you have to have is one person speak initially, then the floodgates are wide open.

"We're getting it off the ground little by little. We just got recognized in October or November. It's a very exciting venture and I hope it continues.

All these responsibilities leave Rewkowski with a dense schedule. "I have to do very well with time management, obviously," said Rewkowski. "Usually when course registration comes up, I have to grid out everything. Try to find out when my staff meetings are, when my finance committee meetings are... I do build in time for the gym, play some hoops. I usually schedule like half hour, hour blocks where I don't do anything; [when] I

Workingwith people is the long way to move ahead

just sit and chill in the Union... I usually try not to get up too early in the morning and try not to stay out too late at night. Weekends are generally filled with meetings also and late night meetings as well."

Rewkowski does not plan to keep up his busy schedule for long as he is going on co-op in spring quarter. "Now I have to start downsize things. I'm in a lot of roles, which is good. But I've been trying not to make things so that if I left everything would fall apart."

When he leaves, Rewkowski will be fulfilling every sports fan's dream, since he

will be working at the ESPN headquarters in Bristol, Connecticut.

As for the chances of Rewkowski meeting ESPN anchors Chris Berman, Stewart Scott, and Dan Patrick or witnessing a taping of "SportsCenter," Rewkowski doubts it. "The one intern I talked to said some studio and production people do come and go. They do have problems, computer problems, so maybe I'll have an opportunity to check that out."

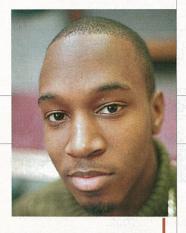
No matter where Rewkowski ends up after he graduates, he will always live by the words of fictional character Dicky Fox, Jerry Maguire's idol from the movie Jerry Maguire: "The key to business is personal relationship."

"I think that is one of the most important things I've ever heard," said Rewkowski. "Personal relationships [are] the foundation to everything. Whether I have an active job, whether I'm a rock climbing instructor, whether I'm doing... a computer person job, relationships and working with people is the only way to really move ahead with anything. You can't just sit there and hack it out all day. You have to talk to somebody about something.

"Things like RHA, SG, LEAD and the [Political Awareness] Club. It's more involvement. Getting out to the community, getting to know people. Trying to advocate change if I see change necessary or [if I see] something bad or something I want to improve on... I've always strived to be involved and have a voice and especially to represent people who are under heard or not represented enough."

He anticipates that after he graduates, he will still try to stay in many activities, but "probably not right away. I'll be getting into the real world. You know, big culture shock there. I might see myself or in the future sometime being on the school board where my kids go to school or something like that."

Rewkowski is a person who will always stay active. "Working in team environments, working with people and accomplishing common goals is really what I'm all about."•



"I don't get sick. I haven't been sick for about six years." Carson McCain Second Year Mechanical Engineering Technology

"I go see the doctor. I would sleep and I would rest, and I would have some tea."

Kate Groves First Year Grad Student MMSF

"Sleep it off." Frank Sanders Second Year Computer Science

"I usually take medicine. I try to figure it out myself. I don't run home to mom. I try to selfmedicate."

Amy Heimburg Second Year Physician's Assistant

"Identify the problem, drink plenty of fluids, get as much sleep as possible, and have chicken soup to top it all off."

Dave Azer Second Year New Media Publishing

"I usually try to have a couple of cups of tea, and sometimes some Alka Seltzer Plus cold medicine. That usually does the trick."

Glenn Robinson Chemical Technician

WORD on the STREET

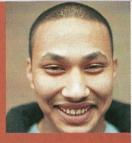
What do you do to care for yourself when you're sick?

Compiled by Jennifer Treuting photos by Edmund Fountain



I don't get sick - and that's how you take care of yourself, so you don't get sick. Plus I see sick day and I've built up antibodies.

Dr. J. Martin Zinaman



Stay home and take medicine. Bigvan Sijapati Third Year Computer Engineering



I go to my apartment, I sleep and I make some Kelly Kim



I sleep all day long and drink lots of orange juice. I laugh hysterically at things that aren't funny, because I'm that sick. I talk to a lot of people on the phone.

Rebecca Streic Third Year Graphic Design



Chris Braunstein Second Year Computer Science



Orange juice. It's got Vitamin C in it. **Aaron Digaudio** Fourth Year Metal Working



Slavina Maneva Third Year



I take Echinacea, orange juice, and chicken soup. Only when I'm sick though, otherwise it's gross. Saltines and coke is the answer to every-

Rebecca Salerno Fourth Year Photography

The Community Eadels by Peter Gravelle photos by Edmund Fountain RAs and the story behind the job

Resident Advisors, or RAs, do some amazing things: they run tremendous social programs, resolve conflicts between their residents. They act as a helping hand, a shoulder to cry on and even as a surrogate parent.

If this sounds like a difficult range of jobs, most RAs say that those are the easy parts. Many people who work as RAs agree that the hardest part, or at least the most boring and timeconsuming, is the paperwork. RAs file requests for room changes, draw up requests for school resources like conference rooms and vans, and, unfortunately, file Campus Safety reports.

So, with all these different and time-consuming jobs, why would anyone want to be an RA? "I wanted to experience the leadership," said RA Anthony Russo, a second-year Animation major who lives and works in Baker Hall. Gleason RA and senior-year Graphic Design major Briana Robbiano, said that she gets "to experience [her] freshman year over again every year."

Many RAs enjoy their roles as a guide to their residents. Because the majority of dorm residents are first-year students, there is a huge demand for help in adjusting to college and dorm life. Robbiano said that helping the freshmen with their problems was "definitely a good life-lesson."

HMs

There is a special type of RA called an HM, or House Manager. Their job is very similar to that of an RA, but with one key difference: all their residents are brought together by a key interest. HM's manage special interest floors, like Photo House or Engineering House.

These houses are not limited to students with a particular major, but rather to people who are interested in the subject. For instance, as Jon Bove, a second-year Software Engineer and HM for Computer Science House (CSH), said, "It's all about community."

He mentioned the diversity of majors in his house, ranging from the expected Computer Science majors, to Business and even Art majors. Bove works on creating CSH's multitude of social events to prove that they are "not just a bunch of geeks."

Mainstream Floors

Everyone knows that RIT has a large Deaf population. However, the RAs who are entrusted with what are called Mainstream floors have to deal with not only the average student problems, but they also have to make an effort to bring together two very different cultures - Hearing and Deaf.

Co-RAs Caya Consunji and Andrew Fisher, who work in Ellingson Hall, do their best to bring together both the hearing and Deaf students on their floor.

Consunji's wing has mostly Hearing students, while Fisher's has mostly Deaf students. Since Consonji is deaf while Fisher can hear, this brings about an interesting challenge for both RAs

- they work together to unite their floor.

Consunji, a fifth-year Information Technology student, pointed out that "it's hard to socialize with both hearing and [Deaf individuals]... because both have different cultures and also different modes of communication." She also noted that "a hearing RA gets along easier with hearing [students], while I get along with Deaf [ones].'

Both RAs try to bridge the gap as best they can. The students were all introduced to each other, and Fisher tries to play interpreter between them. However, "it all depends on [the individual's] effort," said Fisher.

Application Process

Every year around this time, the call goes out for new RAs. The Center for Residence Life (ResLife) asks for people who are enthusiastic, creative, and who have patience and timemanagement skills.

Applications can be picked up in any area office, which are located in Ellingson, Nathaniel Rochester, and Gleason Halls. The deadline for turning in the application, which



requires two references and an updated resume, as well as three essay questions, is January 23, 2002.

After the application is in, a very interesting and hectic time called Group Process Day occurs. Dozens of applicants are placed in the gym together and are given a task. Last year's task was to build the largest tower with nothing more than newspaper and masking tape. The applicants are observed by last year's RAs as well as other ResLife staff.

Following the craziness of Group Process Day is the relatively sedate individual interview. Fisher noted that this was also unlike your normal job interview, as instead of checking his skills, the interview seemed to be checking to see if his personality was compatible with the job.

Then for those few who are accepted and enroll in the program, there is a well-deserved break - at least until two weeks before the first-year students arrive. That is when the RAs, both new and old, come to train. There are lectures on topics ranging from diversity to drugs to sexuality to school policies.

Training alo entails a large amount of problem-solving. One of the activities consists of the new RAs going from room to room in Gleason and dealing with fictional situations role-played by the returning RAs.

This situational practice helps the RAs to deal with uncomfortable situations. For instance, Bove had a situation over the summer where he confronted a "student" who had drug paraphernalia in his room. Dealing with this situation over the summer helped him to manage a similar encounter that occurred during his rounds.

How the RAs Feel

Many returning RAs say they returned because the job helped them in some way, similar to how Robbiano found profound "life-lessons" in the work.

Fisher says that he keeps coming back to the job because of the people. "They're just so different, every year."

Overall, it seems that RAs are a special group of people. They're creative, sociable, intelligent, and above all, they do their job well. So remember, if you want to become one, pick up an application at your local area office (in Gleason, NRH or Ellingson), and hand it in by January 23. But remember, there are only so many spots; do your best, and as all these RAs said, just be yourself..



Top: Art House RA Nicole Killian fills out Room Condition Reports for one of her residents. Left: Rich Trifeletti relaxes on his couch when he is not on RA duty.

Fighting to Breathe Reporter Health - Everything you need to know about asthma

by Cameron Kolstad

In the year 2000. Scottish researchers conducted a worldwide study concerning the spread of asthma. The results of the test showed a dramatic increase of as much as 15 percent in many large population centers - especially in industrialized nations - presumably due to air-pollution. Asthma, as most people know, is a breathing disorder: however, what most people do not know is that it comes in many different forms and is caused by a variety of conditions.

Asthma is essentially the constricting of a person's airways making it difficult and sometimes impossible for him or her to breathe. Many factors including allergic reaction, temperature change, or simple irritation cause the constriction. Just as no two people are exactly alike, every patient suffers on a different level since no two cases are identical. In many people, a genetic condition in which their airways are more susceptible to inflammation causes asthma. In others, asthma is simply the result of a specific environment.

Many people believe that a clean home and good hygiene will prevent asthma. In the sense of irritation-induced asthma, this is correct. However, many scientists have theorized that later in life, a "hyperhygienic" youth could result in a bad case of asthma due to an unprepared immune system. Just as the first time someone gets the chicken pox, the flu, or even a simple cold, it takes a substantial amount of time for the immune system to learn to fight the problem. With asthma, the immune system attempts to remove the irritation through inflammation, excretion of mucus, and constricting the airways the very symptoms of asthma. Through this process, even a perfectly healthy person can develop a bad case of asthma.

Smoking is also a powerful factor in the development of asthma as the inhalation of smoke and subsequent absorption of chemicals can cause severe irritation, which can also quickly develop into a full-blown case of asthma. On the other hand, the same constant exposure of the airway to irritation in other people may actually lessen the chances of developing asthma. This stark contrast is the result of genes as some people are simply more susceptible.

Due to this, asthma is widely accepted to be hereditary. In fact, 60 percent of children whose parents both have asthma will develop at least a mild case of it by adulthood while only six percent will develop asthma whose parents are non-asthmatic.

A person who suffers from asthma can normally breathe without difficulty and can usually take part in any of the activities most other people do. They can ski, bike, hike, and even keep a pet. There is no indication that those afflicted with asthma live shorter lives or are less active. The condition can lay dormant for years before seemingly innocent activity can suddenly rouse it.

In cases of hereditary asthma, the condition is the result of "TH-2" cells, which are a specialized type of white blood cell. These cells are responsible for the creation of interleukins, which cause swelling in the body. In an asthmatic patient, the TH-2 cells constantly overproduce these interleukins, which makes the patient's muscles far more susceptible to inflammation. Once the process of inflammation occurs, the body releases antibodies known as immunoglobulin E, which asthma patients also overproduce. These antibodies during an asthma attack bind with "mast cells" in the body, which are concentrated primarily in the lungs and airways. These combined cells cause nerve endings in the throat and lungs to become hypersensitive and thus even more susceptible to inflammation. The mast cells also cause muscles associated with the airway to spasm and result in the overproduction of mucus, further clogging airways and causing lasting damage.

Asthma attacks can also result from overexertion or even regular exercise, as about 40 to 90 percent of asthma attacks are exercise induced. In this form of attack, uncontrollable coughing and wheezing due mostly to cold and/or dry air grip the victim. Even coughing can cause irritation. This form of asthma differs from both allergic and hereditary asthma in that there are no lasting effects; there is no increase in cell activity or muscle growth along the airways.

The danger of asthma comes mainly at night in nearly 75 percent of victims. Many scientists believe that "nocturnal asthma" is a unique form of the disorder with unique genetic properties that result in less natural steroids, which are one of the body's ways of controlling inflammation. Others, however, believe that it is simply the result of heightened exposure to the conditions that cause asthma attacks. At night, a patient may suddenly suffer the delayed effect of an allergen encountered during the day, much the same way the average person goes to bed feeling fine and wakes up with a cold, sore throat, or some other ailment. Over the course of the night, medicines taken by the patient also naturally wear off making him more likely to suffer an attack. Post-nasal drip, and stomach acid build-up are also causes of irritation and eventually asthma attacks as well.

Normal environmental conditions that affect asthma include the amount of salt in one's diet. Research has concluded that those who have high levels of salt in their body often are more likely to develop asthma symptoms. Lung infections, even in non-afflicted people, can result in sudden or gradual production of asthma, which can remain sometimes permanently. Other conditions such as having a dog in the home during a child's youth actually help to lower the chances of him or her developing asthma, even in those who are genetically usceptible. If the condition hasn't developed, as is often the case with many children, the immune system can sometimes correct its deficiencies through prolonged exposure to asthma causing conditions much the same way a vaccine shot helps the body learn how to fight diseases.

Asthma has been around for longer than anyone can guess accurately and has affected such individuals as John F. Kennedy, Ludwig von Beethoven, and Augustus Caesar of Rome. New treatments for the disorder are being developed almost constantly, each with a new direction of attacking the problem. As the world of science learns more and more about the reality of the human gene, it will be possible to fabricate drugs able of correcting and stabilizing the defective parts of genes that cause asthma to develop. Until then the standard treatment of asthma is the use of steroids, which thin blood and relax the muscles in the throat. Other drugs known as "immune-inhibiters" interfere with the immune system's ability to produce the antibodies responsible for swelling, however

these cause lasting damage to the immune system as a whole. Scientists are searching for a way to correct the problem at the source, the human gene the building blocks of both the human body and asthma. •



January 18, 2002 | 21

Hockey News and Notes

Women's Hockey Ends Skid

After jumping out of the starting gate and posting a 6-0-1 mark by mid-December, the Lady Tigers appeared to have all the makings of a serious contender for the ECAC East championship. However, starting with a scoreless weekend before the holiday break, the team began their first losing streak of the season, dropping three games to the likes of ECAC West powerhouse Elmira and conference foes Manhattanville and Sacred Heart.

The sign of a good team is being able to put stretches like this on the backburner, and that is just what the Tigers did only two days after the Manhattanville clash. On January 8, RIT hosted Hamilton in what turned into an overtime thriller and a heroic performance from one RIT defensive player.

Senior Jen Gorczynski netted a third-period marker and added another in overtime to cap off a 2-1 victory over the visiting Continentals. Her eighth and ninth goals of the season put an end to the losing streak and got the team back on track before entering a tough

weekend of conference play, in which the team picked up two big league wins.

The Lady Tigers dominated Holy Cross on Friday, January 11 at the Ritter Arena to pick up their fourth conference win of the year. This game was a big one for RIT, not only because they had lost their previous two league contests but also because going into the game, the two teams were tied in points.

First year players Erin Topley, Kasie Strong, and senior Tina Bessette all got on the score sheet within a span of 2:49 in the middle of the first period, to put the Lady Tigers ahead and in control of the game.

Bessette scored a goal in each of the next two periods to complete her hat trick. Strong added another goal, as did sophomore Perry Foster and senior Colleen Baude. Gorczynski was the playmaker for

RIT, racking up four assists as the Lady Tigers rolled to * an 8-0 win.

Goaltender Elaine Vondemberse recorded 12 saves for her fourth shutout of the year.

The second half of the weekend was more RIT brilliance, this time at the hands of Salve Regina. Baude and sophomore Alysia Park both recorded hattricks and added two and one assist respectively as the team rolled to a 12-1 victory.

The Lady Tigers are on the road this weekend with games against ECAC East foes MIT and Southern Maine. They return to home ice on Saturday, January 25 when they take on RPI at 5:30 p.m.

Tigers Win Four Straight After the Break

The time off from the holidays seems to have done some good for Wayne Wilson's troops, as the men's hockey team won a pair of conference games and a couple of tough nonconference matchups to open the new year. For the first time in their program's short history, Utica College made the trek across I-90 to the Frank Ritter Arena. It wasn't before long that they suffered the fate of many teams before them: an onslaught of RIT goals early in the game.

The Tigers rattled off three goals in the first eight minutes and one more seven minutes later to go up by four in the opening period. The Pioneers pulled one back with 1:01 left on the clock, but it was all the offense they could muster.

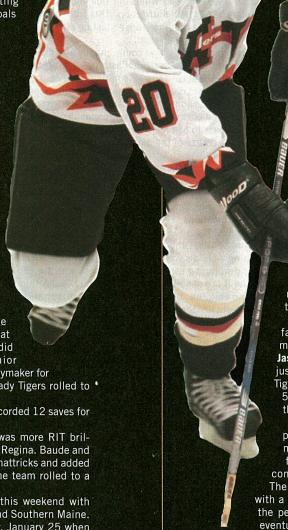
Utica put up a good effort in their first-ever meeting with the Tigers, despite the 7-1 score. In the final two periods, RIT outshot the visitors by a slim 24-22 margin and Utica was able to match up pretty well physically against the Tigers. The Pioneers might just be a team to watch out for in the future

RIT's toughest ECAC west opponent so far has been Manhattanville. The first meeting went down to the final seconds, as Jason Chafe netted the game winner with just four ticks left on the clock to lift the Tigers over the Valients 5-4. Their January 5 meeting proved to be another close one that didn't disappoint those in attendance.

Manhattanville scored an early firstperiod goal and held the lead until six minutes into the second period when freshman Roberto Orofiamma leveled the contest.

The Tigers took a commanding two-goal lead with a pair of goals three minutes apart late in the period from junior David Bagley, with the eventual game winner coming off the stick of

senior captain Jerry Galway on the powerplay.



by Aaron Landers photos by Denis Rochefort

Basketball Notes

by Marci Savage

The Valients produced some power play magic of their own early on in the third period when John Auxier redirected a centering pass from Lee Stubbs past junior goaltender **Tyler Euverman**.

Physical play continued throughout the final period as Manhattanville tried desperately to even the score, but the Tigers put the game away with 49 seconds remaining.

As Valient goaltender Jon Peczka skated towards the bench to get the extra attacker, RIT gained control of the puck in its zone. With Peczka in no-man's land, Mike Tarantino slid the puck in the vacant net for the goal. Pecska made a graceful dive toward the goal to stop the puck but it missed by about a foot.

Euverman finished the night with 18 saves while his counterpart turned aside 28.

The Tigers traveled to Cortland three days later to take on a tough team who currently sits third in the SUNYAC standings. RIT once again had an explosive first period that all but decided the game.

After exchanging goals, the Tigers rattled off three unanswered tallies to close out the first period. Cortland fought back, out-shooting the favorites in the second and beating Euverman twice, but Bagley's powerplay goal six minutes into the period kept a reasonable margin between the teams.

Sophomore **Ryan Fairbarn** sealed the 6-3 victory with a goal four and a half minutes into the third period. Junior **Mike Bournazakis** and Galway both assisted on the goal. It was Galway's third of the game and Bournazakis' second. Bournazakis also scored two of the first period goals to lead the <u>Tigers offensively</u>.

Despite the strong start by the Tigers in the first period, the big story of the game was poor officiating. Wayne Wilson was critical of the officiating crew, and was concerned about several missed calls in the third period when the game could've gotten out of hand.

It got worse.

Cortland head coach Tom Cranfield took a big risk and pulled his goaltender with more than four minutes remaining in the game. Shortly after, a Red Dragon player threw his stick at a puck headed toward the empty net, which, according to the rules, is an automatic goal when the goalie is on the bench. The officials chose to play on.

Shortly after, a Cortland player dislodged his team's net just as a puck was about to cross the goal line, also an automatic goal. The referees blew the whistle and called for a face off.

Then, with goaltender John Larnerd back in goal, the Tigers put the puck in the net and over the goal line a good six inches. With the referee out of position, Larnerd alertly swiped the puck out of the net and the game remained at 6-3.

Luckily for the officiating squad, the game was not at the Frank Ritter arena or they may not

Men's Basketball goes 1-1 in Tournament

The RIT men's basketball team had a rough start to their new year. In their first game of 2002, on January 4 in the Wilkes Tournament, the men lost to Susquehanna with a final score of 72-66. This cut their chances of being in the championship game.

Senior **Brandon Redmond** continued to be the high scorer for the Tigers, laying in 22 points. He also had ten rebounds on the night. Junior **Michael Stanton** was the second-leading scorer for the Tigers with 18 points on the night.

The leading scorer for Susquehanna was Nick Griffiths with 20 points. Zigmas Kaknevicius had eight rebounds in the game.

In the consolation game played the next day, the Tigers faired much better. They beat Baptist Bible College with a score of 75-65.

Redmond led the Tigers greatly with his 31 points and 12 rebounds. Stanton had 13 points, and junior **Nick Panepinto** carried himself well with 12.

Baptist Bible College's leading scorer was Daniel Nietz who had 17 points. Jon Young was the second highest scorer with 14.

The Men will play at the JP Morgan Chase Tournament on January 16, 18, and 19.

Women's Basketball falls 0-7 against U of R

The RIT Tigers were both outscored and outplayed by the U of R Yellow-jackets on January 9, losing to U of R with a final score of 75-41.

Junior Lauren Long once again led RIT's scoring efforts with 13 points, followed by classmate Jen Miazga with seven points. Long also led RIT with eight rebounds in her 26 minutes of playing time.

The leading scorer for the 8-3 Yellowjackets was Erika Smith with 17, followed by Shannon Higgins with 12. Their leading rebounder was Kelly Wescott with nine.

The Tigers are looking forward to the Chase Tournament, which is held this weekend. On January 30, they play Medaille in the Clark Gym. •

Keeping their Heads High

Coach McCaffrey speaks on the women's basketball team

Learning a new style of basketball with a very inexperienced team is difficult. This has shown through for this year's women's basketball team. Even though they are struggling with a 0-7 record, the team is maintaining high spirits. "Quitting is not part of the team," said first-year head coach Jeff McCaffrey.

One of the changes that the team had to get used to was a different coaching style. "I am more of a positive motivator who caters to the players on the team," said McCaffrey. He believes that it is important to also build confidence, even though the team has had a very rough start to the season.

The team is also struggling due to lack of experience on the court. On a positive note, though, McCaffrey said, "There has been a big commitment from both the upper-classmen and the incoming freshmen. Our captains Lauren Long and Jen Miazga have been fantastic with the freshmen and with my coaching style."

by Marci Savage photos by Denis Rochefort

The team is working hard to overcome these obstacles in order to turn their season into a winning one. "The girls are working very hard to succeed and turn it around; losing mentality just is not a part of this team," McCaffrey said.

McCaffrey also made it very clear that winning does not necessarily always mean a win on the

scoreboard. "If we can improve every day, we are winning in the long run, and if we continue to get better and learn, the wins will come."

He went on to say, "We must stay in the game for the full 40 minutes and then we will start to win games." The team has had problems scoring and against the defense of big teams. Because RIT is not as physical as many of the

other teams, it means they must execute the game better.

McCaffrey wants to get respectability back to the women's program. He admits that it will take time and cannot be done in a night, or even in a season. "We are building the team for the future, and only having three seniors on the team helps out our efforts.

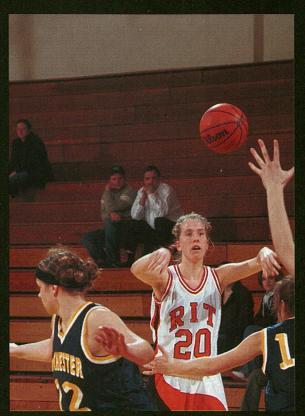
"This year's team is the cornerstone to bigger and better things," said McCaffrey. He also said that he hopes this year's team realizes in the future what they have started.

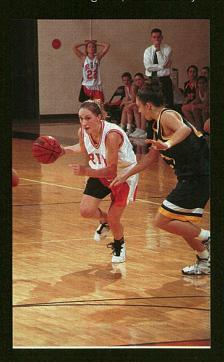
This does not mean in any way he is disregarding this year's team. He believes that the women are working hard to improve. "This team believes and the players are surprising themselves everyday," he said.

McCaffrey demonstrated his confidence when he said, "We will be dangerous in January and February." He also stated how excited the team is about the Chase tournament this weekend and feels that his squad will surprise some teams this year.

The main goal for the Tigers now is to focus on conference play because it is an automatic way to be invited to the NCAA tournament. "We can be 12-13 and still make the tournament, so do not count us out" McCaffrey stated.

Though the team has shown some signs of frustration because they see how close they have been in some games, they are not giving up. "They can see how close they really are and frustration is driving them," said McCaffrey.





She Shoots, She Scores

by Aaron Landers photos by Denis Rochefort

Two-way hockey has been a staple for the RIT women's team since head coach Robert Scuteri took over the team a few seasons ago. He has instilled a total team mentality when on the ice, leading to forwards that play defense and defensemen that can put the puck in the back of the net.

Leading the offensive charge from defense for the past two seasons has been Rochester native Jen Gorczynski. In 13 games this season, the sophomore scored ten goals and assisted on eight others, placing her fourth on the team in scoring.

Her offensive ways stem from her early playing days, when she competed with boys' teams. "For some reason, one of my coaches wanted me to play defense and I've been there ever since," explains Gorczynski. "I really enjoyed playing as a forward so when I was placed back on defense, I kept offense in my game.'

When she first stepped on the ice last season, she showed that she had the ability to greatly contribute to the direction the Scuteri has taken the program. "With the previous teams I have played on, it was a requirement that whenever an opportunity arose, the defense would get involved offensively."

Those opportunities have come often this year for the Greece Arcadia graduate. With ten games left in the regular season, she is well on pace to surpass her total of 22 points last year. If she continues to improve over the course of the next two seasons, there is a chance that the defenseman will be a source of offensive production for the next couple of seasons. That's good news for the Lady Tigers, who will lose three of their top five scorers to graduation after this season.

The defensive half of her game cannot be overlooked. She plays a rugged, hardnosed style and is strong on her team's blueline. Gorczynski has made tremendous contributions to a defense that has only allowed 12 goals all season.

"I think about scoring, but that's not my top priority when I'm on the ice," said Gorczynski. "Everyone wants to score, of course, but there are other things to the game besides that."

Big Goals

The highlight of the season, and possibly her career, occurred a couple weeks ago against Hamilton. She scored both goals, one of which came in overtime, to earn the team a 2-1 victory. That victory broke a three-game winless streak, which got the team back on track in time for last weekend's conference games, which the squad won handily.

With performances like this, Gorczynski might just prove to be a hero down the stretch for the Lady Tigers. As she continues her impressive two-way play, expect her name to be on the score sheet often in the second half of the season.

Gorczynski and company have a tough road ahead of them, with ten ECAC East games in a row to close out the regular season. Though currently in the middle of the pack, expect the Lady Tigers to surprise a few teams in the coming weeks. "Since we just missed the playoffs last year, that is definitely one of the things we would like to accomplish," said the sophomore. •



Letters to the Editor

(continued from page 4)

Student Government does nothing? Where did

that come from? I went to some of the homecoming events—sure it wasn't packed as if it was in high school, but it was fun. It was Student Government's first attempt at having homecoming. Student Government has worked hard on the big events.

Administration simply doesn't care? I personally like the changes that have been happening here since I came here in 1998. Java Wally's is a cool place to hang out; everyone loves to go there because it makes you feel like you aren't at RIT anymore. The dorm renovation: it's nice to live in a place that's fresh.

Nobody else cares, either: I only speak for Residence Life since I work for them. We do our best to get the residents what they want. The professional staff works their butts off to make sure everyone's happy. But unfortunately, not everyone's satisfied. So DEAL with it. Life does not revolve around you.

Academics are not a priority? Dear, dear freshmen, of course your schedules are going to suck. You can't escape those morbid 8 o'clock classes your first year. But as you become a senior, you get privileges.

Wait just a minute! What was that about how the quarter system sucks? Didn't everyone here battle with Al Simone last year to keep the quarter system, instead of changing it to a semester system?

Know what I also realized? It's come to the point where everyone just wants to be in someone else's shoes instead of their own. Of course there are things that we think suck in life. I'm just saying deal with it.

Here's an idea: if everyone could say one positive thing about being here at RIT, maybe we'll be a little bit happier. My personal favorite thing about being here is the awesome friends; where else would I find people like them? It's really what you do while you're here at RIT. I feel sorry for you if you're just sitting there and thinking about all the bad things, maybe you really should just leave. And let the rest of us enjoy our experience here.

-Erin Himmelmann 4th year, Visual Media

Reporter Staff Response I

Eastern philosophies believe that in order for the world to function, both positive and negative forces have to exist. The balance between these two opposing forces is what allows for true progression to occur.

Unfortunately, obtaining this balance and maintaining it are much easier said than done. RIT is a prime example of what happens in the face of an abundance of negative energy. To say that RIT is not the haven of apathy and negativity that it is would be a notion far beyond the concept of mere

optimistic thought. Even the most outgoing and energetic student has been exposed to the plethora of negative emotions that fly around this campus on a practically hourly basis. Everyone has heard the complaints about everything from classes, teachers, and RAs to tuition, food, and social events. Some people agree with the complaints, others disagree, and still others ignore them entirely. But what is it about an editorial in the January 11 issue of *Reporter* that could create so much anger directed towards Reporter's Editor-in-Chief, Jeff Prystajko?

When you think about it, wasn't the editorial just another ranting by another angry RIT student? Why not get just as angry at the countless others who drag the school's name through the mud every day? Perhaps Jeff's position gives him a bit more of an influence than the average RIT student but an opinion is still an opinion and should never be taken as anything more, even if it reaches a larger audience.

But of course I'm just talking about the face value of the editorial. Anyone who wasn't blinded by rage before reading the very last line ("Care to disagree? Please do.") may have seen an attempt to walk the fine line between offense and provoking discussion. There's no question as to whether or not an RIT student has heard the comments in Jeff's editorial before, the only question is how many times over. So what's so special about the editorial? Could it be the fact that it addresses groups by name? Lets pretend the editorial had only mentioned a few of the campus groups. If the editorial had only said: "CAB is pointless" or "BACC is pointless" or "SG is pointless," would there have been such a large response to it? Of course not! No one from BACC is going to defend CAB just like no one from CAB is going to defend BACC and so on. The fact is that people really only care when it more or less involves them directly. No one is going to vehemently defend BACC like a BACC member and the same goes for any other organization on campus. People at RIT definitely have positive things to say but, for the most part, they only have something positive to say about those things that directly involve them.

I believe that Jeff was seeking to provoke a degree of awareness on this campus. An awareness not so much of the enormous amount of negativity on campus but of the fact that positive opinions exist and are at work at RIT as well. People complain that RIT needs more positive energy but no one seems willing to give it. Why does something negative always have to come beforehand?

Compare the number of people who read the Spirit Issue (May 11, 2001) with the number of people who read the January 11 issue. It would be nice to actually hear something positive going on before I hear the negative side of it. I've been hearing complaints about tuition since I enrolled at

RIT a year ago but it wasn't until last week that I found out that RIT tuition is actually 66 percent less than what it could be, and it took an angry SG President to finally bring this to my attention. It seems like a lot of people in positions of power are keeping the positive information about RIT a secret so they can use it later to defend themselves against negative comments. However, wouldn't it have prevented the comment in the first place to just come with the more positive information?

Jeff's editorial could have been exactly what was needed to bring more positive information and actions to come about on this campus. Maybe he could have written the editorial in a more tactful manner, but I don't think the editorial would have been as effective if it had been blatantly sarcastic from the start. I'm sorry that so many people are hurt and angry, but maybe one giant step leap towards the negative is what RIT needed to finally start moving into the positive.

-Chris Wiltz

Reporter Staff Response II

I've only been working for the Reporter for a couple of months, but in that time I must say it has been a great experience. I've worked with administrators from Campus Safety, ResLife, and a few colleges. All of them have treated me with the utmost respect and cooperation. Now, after seeing our Editor-in-Chief's editorial last week, I wonder if it'll be so easy getting cooperation from them. Not everyone will know what he was trying to do, but I hope that people will realize that last week's editorial in no way represents the opinions or attitudes of the staff, and that includes the person who wrote it.

Last week I had a letter printed in the Reporter defending RIT, and this week I'm writing another. I don't know what to think about our Editor-in-Chief's editorial last week. I understand why he did it, I'm just not sure I approve of how he did it. He took drastic measures to get people to finally come forward and defend their school, and to a point it worked. Unfortunately, he stepped on a lot of toes and hurt a lot of people's feelings. I know I don't have the balls to do what he did, and I think it takes someone who is very passionate about their school to suddenly become it's numberone enemy just to get people to say "you're wrong." I only wish that it [were] done some other way. An insult is still an insult, whether it is sincere or not.

In my experience, people are much more willing to put something down before they defend it. To those readers who came to the defense of RIT: I commend you. And to those of you who are reading this issue right now, I'd like to thank you. Thank you for giving

(continued on page 27)



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Reporter a chance. I hope we are able to make good on any wrongs that were done.

If last week's editorial made you angry, then you care about this school. I'd like to encourage readers to speak up about RIT. If you have something great to say about this school, then by all means say it. This is your forum too, so use it. You'll be surprised how easy it is to make yourself heard.

Get involved. Don't just sit back and let your four to seven years here pass you by. Give back to the community. Take advantage of what you've got here. Get your money's worth. Everything you think is missing from RIT is there somewhere, but you have to find it. If you actually try, you'll find what you're looking for.

These are my personal rules for RIT, do what you wish with them:

Rule #1: Be positive. If you think there's no social scene, then you're not social. Smile at people. Introduce yourself. Be friendly. It works.

Rule #2: Be positive. If you hate it here that much, then try and look at the bright side for a change. Stop thinking about the negative things. If you can't find the bright side, find someone else who knows where it is and they'll show it to you.

Rule #3: Be strong. If you can handle RIT, then you can handle anything. Walking that quarter mile every day, you'll do a lot of thinking. Sooner or later you'll start to learn a lot about yourself. You'll realize things you never knew about yourself. Dealing with things you don't like is part of life, and like Calvin's Dad said, it builds character.

Rule #4: Be patient. Everything takes time. Life is one big mess tangled up in bureaucracy and being ignored. If you're having difficulty with the administration, then get on their case. Let them know you exist. If problems persist there is always, and I mean always, someone you can talk to about it.

I've gotten over my gripes and I'm starting to like it here more and more. I hope that many of you will do the same. I hear a lot of negative things about this school. That means a lot of you are breaking the first two rules of RIT. I hope we can change that.

-Justin Mayer

Reporter Staff Response III

When I read Jeff's editorial, "False Advertising," I thought three things:

- 1) It's not that bad here
- 2) He has some valid points
- 3) Why is he doing this?

Let me tackle the third point first. You see, even though I've only been working for Reporter for one and a half quarters, I know that Jeff loves this school, otherwise he wouldn't take it upon himself to work his ass off every week to bring to his fellow students the best newsmagazine he can give them. And I'm not the only one who thinks this. Let's take a look at the tremendous amount of praise that we've garnered under Jeff and his predecessors.

Jeff loves this place, period. He wouldn't be as active here if he didn't.

Which brings us to the answer.

At the Reporter meeting on Friday, January 11, in front of the whole staff, as well as two RAs, the SG President and Vice President, and the Editor of Gracie's Dinnertime Theatre, [among] others, Jeff tried to explain himself. He explained that he wrote this article-which, for the most part, he doesn't agree with—to stimulate a positive dialogue about the school. He said that he's tired of people talking down about the whole school. Last year, he tried to make a "Spirit Issue" last year to bring about a positive dialogue.

The issue was met with silence.

So, to increase awareness, and to get

people to notice, he tried to write a piece, exaggerated in nature, to get people to realize how much they like it here, and to get people to write to Reporter about it.

But Jeff, I'm sure, explains himself better in this week's editorial.

So now I'll move onto point number one. No, it is not as bleak as Jeff put it in his article. But you all already knew that, or you wouldn't be angry about his article. Of course the social life isn't dead, the clubs aren't redundant, the Student Government does important and useful things, and many professors genuinely care. Of course he was exaggerating. Yes he was being sensational, and I disagree with this approach, but there's a part of me that wants to say that you cannot argue with the results.

But the second point is the juicy one.

Things aren't perfect here. If they were, then Jeff wouldn't have been hearing those things that he wrote. If things were perfect, then Reporter itself would be redundant. We wouldn't need a student-run newsmagazine to give independent opinions of the administration's actions.

Jeff does bring up valid points. The social life is as anemic as it is, not because there are no social events, which is pure BS, but because many students are either too lazy to go to the organization-run events, or they are too busy doing things in their own social circles. So, it appears, we do have a social scene. But you knew that too, didn't you?

Yes, it is expensive to come here. But it's a private school, so what would you expect? Anyway, we get plenty of benefits. For instance, everyone remembers that Rusted Root concert we had awhile back, yes? How much did students pay to go? Easily less than one-third than what the ticket would have cost at another venue, like the Blue Cross Arena. And the dorm room charges? We have some of the newest and highest

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Letters to the Editor

(continued from page 27)

quality dorms that I've seen.

Simply put, Jeff, I see what you're trying to do, and it's going to work. But I don't agree with the way you went about it. I just hope that people remember in all the praise that is following in the wake of this editorial, that things are not perfect here, and its our obligation, as current RIT students, to make it better with everything we do.

-Peter Gravelle

Reporter Staff Response IV

Do you love RIT? It's About Time.

In my year and a half of working at *Reporter*, I don't think I've seen such a reaction to anything the magazine has produced as the reaction that I've seen to Jeff Prystajko's "False Advertising" editorial. There have been numerous responses from both students and organizations on all levels, most of them attacking Jeff and praising RIT.

What do I say to this? Mission accomplished! Students attacked Jeff's person, and his abilities. They told him to quit complaining about the school, and leave. Told him to learn how to write. I'll admit I don't agree with Jeff all the time, but I do respect him for what he tries to do, and that is promote RIT. You will not find anyone who loves RIT more than him, and that is a *fact* that speaks for itself. Jeff never says that he actually agrees with the things written in his editorial, and even invites others to disagree with him at the end. Maybe his point should have been clearer, and yes, he shouldn't have pointed to individuals.

I know Jeff will fix those problems on an individual level. But maybe a flawed delivery should be expected, because after all Jeff is not used to picking at RIT's faults. In the past Jeff has been very clear about his love for RIT, and in every *Reporter* he puts out he tries to have articles that promote this feeling as well. The January 11 issue probably shows this better than any other issues because of its coverage of Homecoming, and the letters to the editor that praise RIT.

Did you read those articles? Did you respond to those articles? When Reporter put out the first-ever Spirit Issue, which was a decision made by Jeff Prystajko, did you read that issue? Do you even remember it? In an issue that tries to promote and show the spirit of RIT, there was a less than overwhelming response. Why was that? Why weren't there students writing in, and coming down to the Reporter meetings (Fridays 5:00 p.m.) to thank Jeff and the staff for trying to help improve the attitude that is held by more than just a few students at this school, and that is "RIT sucks." In the editorial Jeff merely collected all the things that students here complain about, and all of a sudden, because they're

printed, people feel offended.

I'm sure everyone has heard one of these complaints; I know I hear one at least once a day. When was the last time you turned to that person and told them they were wrong? When was the last time you stood up to the everyday student who badmouths RIT?

Because that is where the attitude is coming from, and that is where it should be confronted. Sometimes it feels like it is taboo to be happy with RIT, so people stay silent. For those of you who do participate in promoting a good attitude at RIT, such as club members (yes this includes Jeff Prystajko) and administration and staff, thank you. For those of you who do love RIT and are not making it vocal, please do.

Jeff's editorial was an attempt to do something that he has been trying to do ever since he took over as Editor-in-Chief—ignite people's spirit about their school. And while a year and a half of positive contributions has only been moderately successful at best, this sarcastic angle is already seeing results. While we can argue about the tact with which he did it, one thing is clear, there has been a more overwhelming response of support for RIT as opposed to people agreeing with him. I don't believe I've heard one response that said, "Yea Jeff, you're right, RIT does suck!"

So, as it seems, the facts are speaking for themselves, just as Jeff said they would. Students are motivated to write in, and make their opinions vocal, something that I haven't seen yet in my time here at RIT. Hopefully this is a spark, which will ignite a new attitude across this campus, because I, too, am tired of hearing people complain. I am also tired of the high school attitude that someone else is in charge of your happiness. Remember, in the real world, you are the only one that can make yourself happy. I challenge you freshmen to make your decision: love it or leave it. RIT will give you a firstclass education, and prepare you for your future, and it will give you things to do. You just have to find it.

The times of people handing things to you are over; this is where you make yourself-what do you want to be? For the people who take Jeff's words and use them to help change the attitude of RIT: Good for you, and thank you for making Jeff's mission a success. And for those of you who have been convinced of your unhappiness and decided to leave, maybe it's better off for both parties. Because that, too, will help the attitude change for the better, and you will learn that you are still in charge of your own happiness. Either way, I encourage all of you to look at yourselves, at the school, and make a choice to love RIT or leave RIT. Change the attitude of RIT for the better; this is my challenge to you.

Care to take the challenge? Please do.
-Bryan Hammer

Note: All letters which were received between Friday, January 11 and Sunday, January 13 were published here in full. Several more responses can be found at our website, www.reportermag.com.

Our Sports Section Rocks

I first want to congratulate and thank you and your staff for the very fine coverage given to our sports teams at RIT. It is as good a coverage as I have seen in many years. I know the coaches and student-athletes read *Reporter* sports pages and appreciate the well-deserved recognition the publication gives to them.

I read the Letters to the Editor section of the December 14 edition of *Reporter* and wanted to respond to the letter written by Otto Vondrak. In the December 8 issue of the *Democrat and Chronicle* (Rochester, N.Y.), there appeared a letter I had written in regards to the actions the RIT Head Men's Hockey Coach Wayne Wilson took with his team. I would ask that you please print this very same letter as a response to Mr. Vondrak's.

"RIT hockey coach's discipline a winner" It is a rare occasion when coaches at any level of competition are given the credit they deserve when they put the welfare and personal development of their athletes above the need to win. So often, these events go unrecognized or unappreciated until many years later when players have gone on to work, contribute or lead in our society. This is when they realize what the coach did for them as human beings.

Such is the decision that Wayne Wilson, head coach of the men's hockey team at Rochester Institute of Technology, was confronted with last weekend. Coach Wilson and his staff had the courage and conviction to do what was in the best interest of their student-athletes when they suspended several players who had violated team policies (story, Dec. 4). Although it may have cost the team a win or two, it was a sound decision. Sports are a powerful tool that can be used to develop strong character in our youth. However, all too often we see major sports teams that are willing to compromise their standards to keep a star player in the lineup. At RIT, we take our role as a Division III institution quite seriously. We are proud of our student-athletes and fine staff.

I applaud Wayne Wilson and his staff for the decision. They set an excellent example for others. Their action will help the members of the team grow into mature, responsible adults.

-Lou Spiotti Jr.

Director, Center for Human Performance

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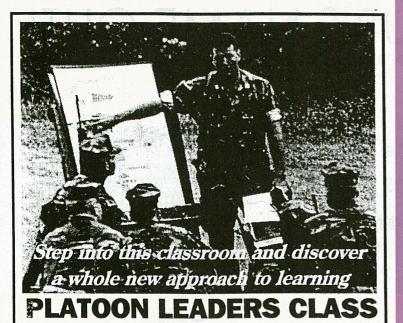
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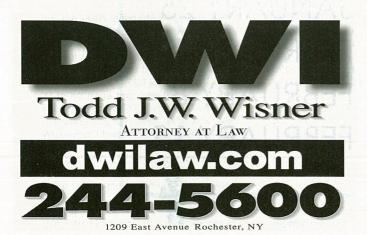
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FAKE STORY (World Askew, page 9): Kitalou, Texas

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CAB

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\$10 Students \$ 20 Staff

Saturday., Jan. 19th

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Thur., Jan. 24th

Thursday in the Ritz

Sarah Slean(Musician) w/ Night Bugs

8:30 pm

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Thur., Jan. 24th

Ralph Tetta

(regular at Comix Cafe)

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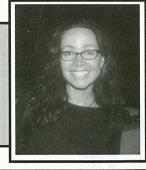
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in the Clark Gym

Tickets: \$5 Students

\$10 Fac-Staff

\$15 Public



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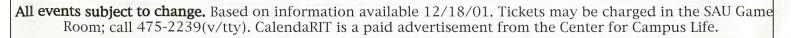
(The Geography of Yearning)

8:00pm

in Ingle Auditorium

Tickets: \$3 Students \$3 Fac-Staff

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SG Retreat

February 1

Interesting in the governing process? The SG Retreat is the ideal event to learn about the state of SG. This event will give you insight on SG's accomplishments, future geals, and previde an eppertunity fer yeu to define the path of SG through your particiaption in fecus groups, and development werksheps.

Lunch previded

Take it to Them II



At the first forum over 200 students took the eppertunity to pick the brain of President Simone and the administration. This time you have the eppertunity to not only ask questions, we want your solution for the problems.

Feed previded



February 3

Q: What de you need for a great SuperBewl Party?

A: Comfertable seating, a giant projection screen, multiple smaller screens, music, free feed and n 5 raffles and tens mere.

This event will be gigantic and you defintely need to be there.









