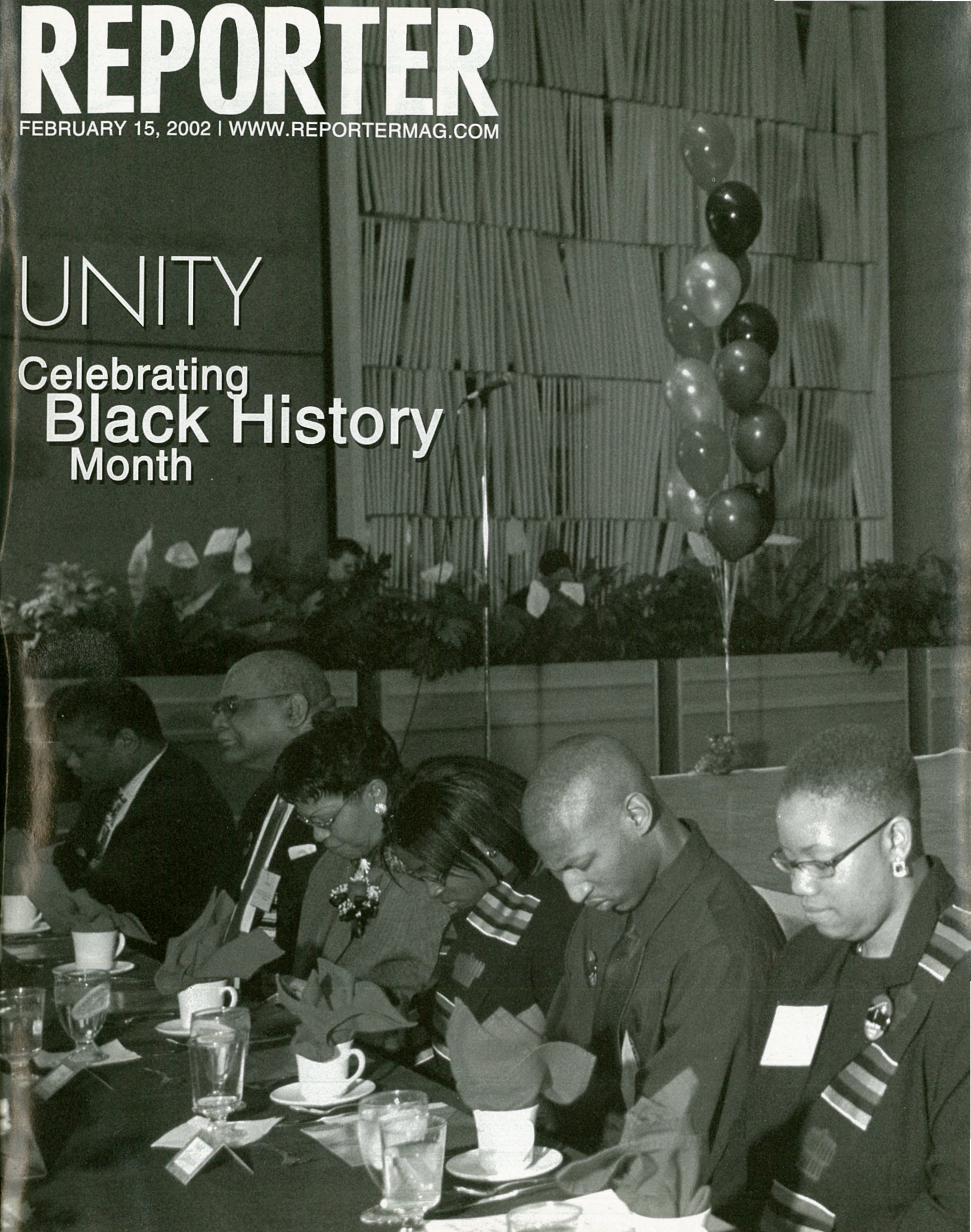


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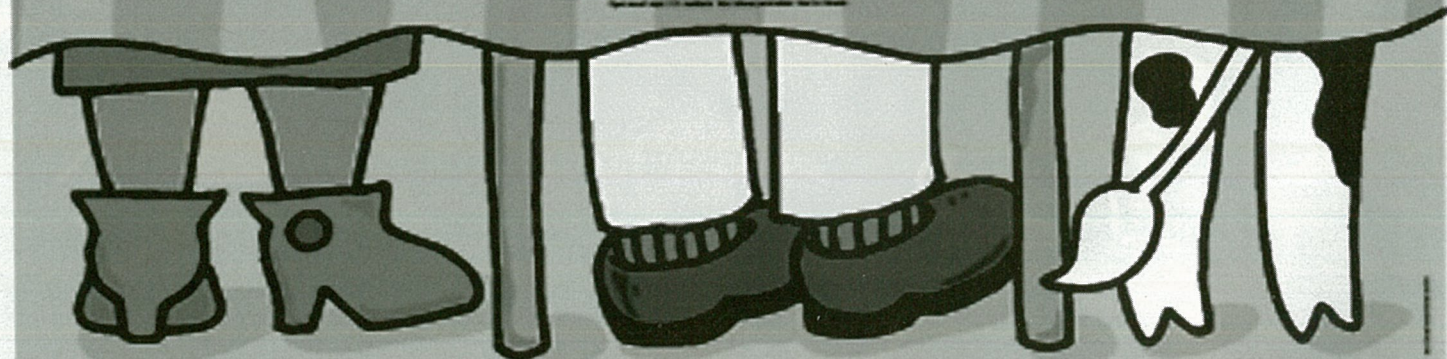


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Feelin' Licky?



Editorial

Speaking Volumes, Saying Nothing

Arguing is an aspect of everyday life. We use it to express our views or to merely hear ourselves talk. I tend to believe that, when it revolves around major social or political issues, we favor the latter. When fighting verbal wars, sides of which are composed mainly of left and right extremists, points are won not on the battlefield, but by the debate team. Arguments are often futile, waste time, and accomplish nothing.

Take an oft-debated but never-resolved, complicated issue—say, the death penalty. At what point in your life did you begin discussing the topic in an open forum—college? No. High school? Perhaps, but I doubt it. Elementary school? Church? At the dinner table? Chances are, you've expressed your feelings about how criminals should be punished *dozens* of times, in front of *hundreds* of different people, and you've probably convinced *zero* people to change their views. Realize that such conversations rarely ever even take place before public officials who have the authority to cause change, mind you.

Just for fun, as another example, let's use the term "Ethics." Can you count the number of times you've heard, in one class or another, the words, "*What are ethics?*" or "How do we *define* ethics?" I can't, and if I hear it again, I'll be thinking about doing something quite agreeably *unethical*. When this question is asked, is there ever any hope of reaching some sort of consensus? Will a group of people, combining a mix of cultures, values, and upbringings, all come to a common conclusion of what constitutes right and wrong, in quantifiable and exact terms?

And most importantly, if that does happen, will it make any difference?

I'll admit, there is a time and place for such debate, but I find it is rarely in liberal arts classes or even in casual banter—unless the end result is expected to be minutes wasted, characterized by little to no insight. The inherent problem I have is that, during the majority of these conversations, there are no drastic or even modest changes in policy afterwards. There are no further actions taken in response to the debate. Not a bit of positive difference has been made, and thus we are free to later argue the exact same topics, incessantly over and over again.

If you know your words will fail to have *any* effect amidst those listening whatsoever, what reasons are there for the meaningless debate other than to incite more? For generally not taking extreme points of view, I've been labeled as a "passionate moderate,"—inherently an oxymoron of sorts—but I take a certain pride in the moniker. Admittedly, it makes for more boring and less volatile conversation, but I feel it's more responsible to respect a variety of viewpoints, and conclude that one action or decision does not always constitute to be the best for every scenario.

Instead, there are a variety of issues closer to home—debates raging on concerns which can and should be addressed, because there are persons of influence willing to listen. Why not debate more issues relating to RIT, or the local community? Why not address those concerns, and then supply those arguments to area leaders? Instead of wasting time fruitlessly debating matters out of our control, let's concentrate on using our unlimited ability to argue to push for better solutions to our more immediate problems.

Some battles can't be won overnight, but others can. Perhaps we just need to choose our "fights" more carefully.

Jeff Prystajko
Editor-in-Chief

Jeffrey W. Prystajko

One last aside: Every year, we organize an all-opinion issue, where students and staff are free to submit an opinion on any topic of their choosing, be it RIT-centric or not. While *Reporter* always reserves space for the public to speak their minds, this is, more than any other issue, an opportunity for all readers to express the words that go beyond the facts—it is truly "everyone's" issue.

If you wish to contribute, please submit your opinion (400-1000 words) electronically to reporter@rit.edu or bring a hard copy to room A426 of the SAU. Please include your full name, e-mail address, and phone number. Submissions are due by Thursday, February 19.

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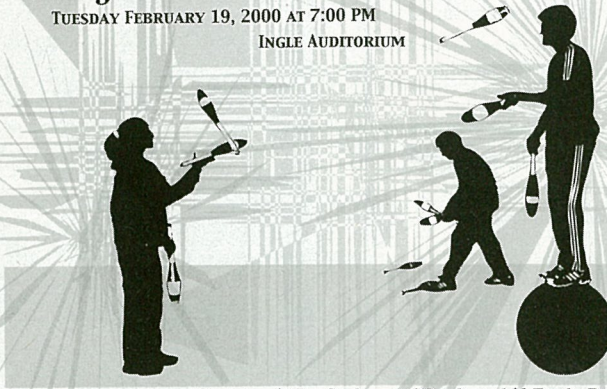
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Sophomore Meghan Lessard, freshman Kim Larson, and sophomore Kimberly White ride the escort shuttle home from a Greek function early Sunday morning, February 10, 2002.

Edmund Fountain / REPORTER

> NEWS

06 Shuttle Service

Most know it better as "The Drunk Bus"

07 Task Force: Bravo

"Proactively facilitating personnel utilization" since 2002

08 Crime Watch

Light on the shenanigans this week—what gives?

08 Did you know?

All about the Break Shuttle—and a little extra for the kids

09 World Askew

Diseased rat store? No, thanks—I already ate

> LEISURE

10 Independent Theatres in Rochester

Where to go, in case the blue neon Regal sign creeps you out

12 Music Industry Wars Explained

No more paying \$20 for a crummy CD! Maybe...

13 Weezer Rocks Rochester

Killer show, from "Buddy Holly" and all the way to "Dope Nose"

13 Finman is a Narc

Sound tax advice, made incredibly stupid

14 Your Buddy, Buddy

Guest-starring Superman and Robert A. Heinlein

> FEATURES

16 Black History Month

February isn't JUST for Valentines!

18 Faces of RIT

He's a cool teacher. *Need* another reason?

20 Word on the Street

Hey, sweetie, what's your perfect Valentine's Day?

21 Ben & Jerry's

So sweet, so tasty. WHY SO TASTY?!

> SPORTS

24 Sports Desk

Hockey and basketball = so happy together

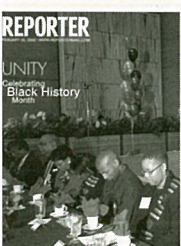
26 The Tiger's Voice

Speaking with the men behind the mic

28 Kevin Barton at the X-Games

Last time I checked, skiing wasn't a contact sport

Cover Photograph by
Kara Fulgenzi
Guests bow in prayer
during the Black History
Banquet, which was held
in the SAU cafeteria on
February 8, 2002.



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LATE NIGHT SHUTTLE SERVICE FOR A "DRY CAMPUS"

"The Drunk Bus" Gaining Popularity
by Justin Mayer



ILLUSTRATION BY PHILIP MONTELONE

Here's the scenario: it's one o'clock on a Thursday morning, and you just left your friend's Riverknoll apartment. It is dark, cold, and you're slightly intoxicated. Knowing you can't drive, you realize that you have a long, potentially dangerous trek to your apartment in Perkins Green. Just before you lose all hope and pass out in a snow bank, you see a Campus Safety shuttle pull up not too far from where you are trying to stand. You hop aboard, and as the shuttle takes you safely back to your apartment, you mumble to yourself, "So this is the drunk bus."

The "drunk bus," as some RIT students call it, is officially known as the Late Night Shuttle Service, a free transport provided by Campus Safety that runs from 11:30 p.m. to approximately 3:00 a.m., seven days a week. Its purpose is to ensure that students safely reach their destinations on campus. This includes students who are potentially intoxicated, but the shuttle is not meant solely for those students.

"The primary reason [for the shuttle] is there are a lot of students who don't feel comfortable walking around campus late at night," said Gary Caton, Parking and Transportation Services Manager for Campus Safety. "The shuttle gives them another option in getting around campus."

The Late Night Shuttle was previously known as the Escort Service, but, according to Caton, the name was changed this year because "people didn't like the idea of it being called an escort service because they didn't feel they needed to be escorted."

Caton believes that the amount of riders on the shuttle has increased since the name change, but he has yet to do an official study, and the increase could be coincidental.

In addition to the on-campus Late Night Shuttle, there is a second Escort Shuttle that travels to the RIT Inn. The RIT Inn shuttle runs on a similar schedule to the on-campus shuttle. While Campus Safety student employees drive the on-campus shuttle, contracted drivers drive the Escort Shuttle to the RIT Inn.

The on-campus shuttle is an integral part of RIT's safety system, giving students a safe way to get around late at night and an alternative to getting behind the wheel after a night of drinking. If the shuttle was not available, Caton said "the students that use this service would be forced into either walking or driving [while intoxicated]."

Based on this use of the shuttle by students, some may see it as contributing to successfully reducing the number of DWIs on campus.

In 2000-2001, there were five reported DWIs; four have been reported so far for the 2001-2002 period. These cases did not all involve students, so the actual number of students charged with DWI is significantly lower than it may seem. The correlation between the Late Night Shuttle and the number of DWIs cannot be confirmed at this time.

One word students associate with RIT is "dry," referring to its stringent alcohol policy. If statistics are any indicator of the real situation at RIT, then it may appear to some that the campus has become saturated.

According to the 2001 Safety and Security report published by Campus Safety, the number of reported liquor law violations has increased each year since 1998, the year RIT became a "dry campus."

This does not specifically indicate an increase in alcohol use on campus, but rather the results of the stricter student alcohol and drug policy. The real indicator that the policy is being violated more this year came in the form of a letter to RIT apartment residents from the Office of Student Conduct in November of 2001.

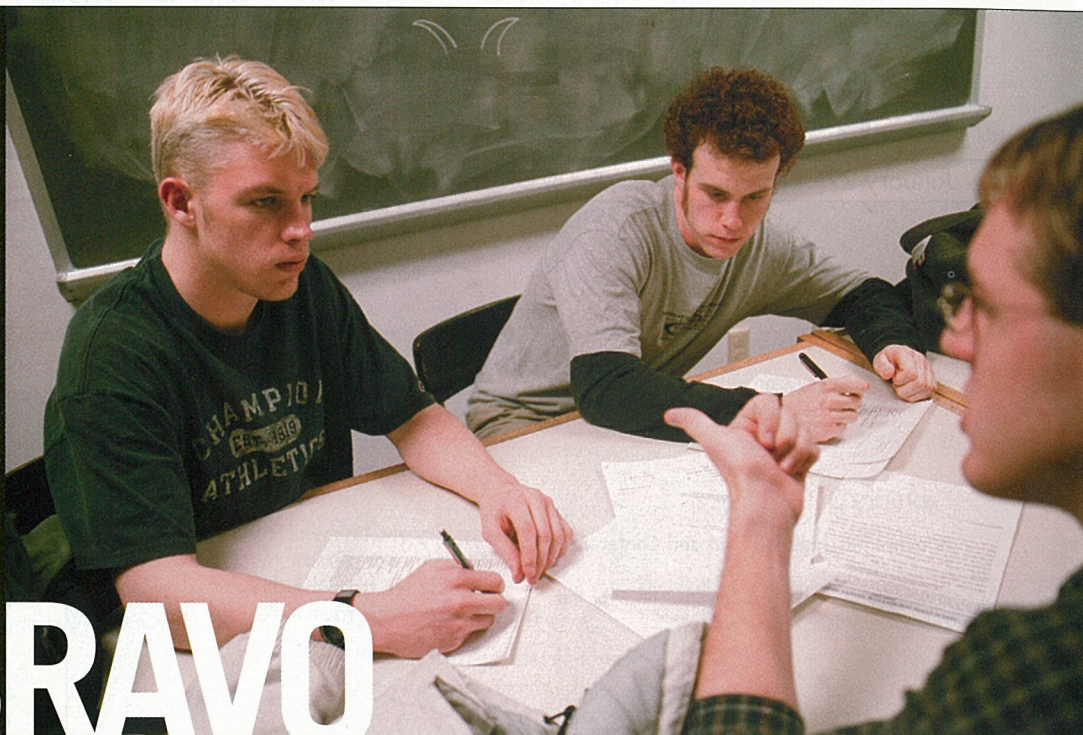
The letter cited an "overwhelming number of incidents in the RIT apartments involving alcohol, kegs, supply of minors and apartment residents charging money [for admittance to parties]" during the first quarter.

Student Government President Erick Littleford reacted to this letter by saying "it is alarming but I think it is part of the [college] culture." Littleford explained that Student Government does not condone this behavior and members of the SG Senate have been told to "lead by responsibility" and "practice responsible behavior when drinking." Student Government is willing to focus on alcohol abuse education and is open to suggestions.

One thing students can count on, drunk and sober alike, is a safe way of getting around campus late at night thanks to the Late Night Shuttle Service. •

A full schedule for the shuttle can be found at the information desk in the Student Alumni Union.

Jeremy Kuster (far right), Bill Dowdle (middle) and Justin Sickles gather in the Wallace Library for their weekly Task Force: Bravo meeting.



Task Force BRAVO

ACTION IS A GO

BY LAURA CHWIRUT

PHOTOGRAPH BY DENIS ROCHEFORT

Get ready, residence halls. During the third weekend of spring quarter, on March 23, the dorms will battle it out, Task Force: Bravo style. Planned for the weekend are 16 events, plotting the dorm clusters against each other in such competitions as dodgeball, mural painting, and video game competitions. This effort is being led by the newly-formed Task Force: Bravo.

The task force, currently in the process of applying for club status that will earn them funding, was formed on the idea of improving the social atmosphere of RIT. It plans to offer an open forum for students to voice their opinions on how to make positive changes.

Its core members, Matt Nicole, Bill Dowdle, Jeremy Kuster, Justin Sickles and Dave Scott, said their meetings on Wednesday nights at 9:00 p.m. in Java Wally's generally begin with brainstorming, and the subsequent steps to begin planning activities or changes. Last Wednesday, details for Dorm Wars were drawn out.

Because the core of the Task Force is made up of Resident Advisors from the dorms, the activities and reforms are currently focused within the dorms. However, with the pending club status, TF: B hopes to broaden the social atmosphere of the entire campus.

"Our very first planned activity is Dorm Wars, but we will not be limited," said Dowdle. "There is always the potential of bringing these changes to a larger scale—what about College Wars or Apartment Complex wars?"

"You can't tell someone, 'Go have fun now,'" said Nicole. "You have to show

them they can have fun." With this thought, TF: B focused the activities for the Dorm Wars weekend on diverse interests. Among the physical activities in the plans (as of press time) are kickball, dodgeball, ultimate frisbee and Ping-Pong competitions.

Depending on room and equipment availability, the competitions are subject to change. For those of the artistic bent, a mural competition will be held, in which each dorm plans out and paints a giant wall picture in the tunnels underneath the residence halls. Scott also wants to plan outside activities, such as sidewalk chalk competitions or canvas graffiti for the hip-hop folk.

Kuster is working out the logistics for the gaming competition. Four X-Boxes have been secured and there is a possibility of a LAN-type console. Details are to be ironed out closer to the event.

There are several other competitions that TF: B is keeping as possibilities. For instance, Karaoke, Trivial Pursuit, and a Scavenger Hunt Fashion Show have all been mentioned.

The competitions will be scored, and winners will be determined with a point-formula, sort of like the Stanley Cup, with Bowl Championship Series. Points will be awarded for how many people participate.

The idea behind the dorm wars, ultimately, is to generate spirit and get people to work together and socialize. Task Force: Bravo hopes the wars will help them gain impetus for future plans.

The organizers are teaming up with other clubs and organizations such as RHA (Residence Halls Association) to ensure the event is successful. With RA staff there, they

hope communication will open up residents, especially with the inclusion of dorms such as special interest housing, Deaf and mainstream floors.

The Task Force, who recently gained the advising support of Mary-Beth Cooper, the new Vice President of Student Affairs, believes that, as support grows, more of the brainstormed ideas will become a reality.

Nicole said, "My vision is to have three divisions of Task Force Bravo. First, there are events. Second, 'The Chill,' and third, a communications focus. It will end up that there will be set things, events every year, as well as any other social issues students bring to the table." He added, though, "We do not represent students, we are just a group of students. Everyone is welcome to join us and add input."

Following the Dorm Wars plan is an effort dubbed "Operation: The Chill," by those at the February 6 meeting. The goal is to acquire running control of "RITChies" in the tunnels underneath Gibson Hall. Currently under the control of RHA, the room has been closed since late last year, after a short-lived game-room run.

If efforts are successful, TF: B will be able to acquire the room and restructure the setup. Members hope to clear out the broken equipment and add new entertainment features to make the area a place people will want to go.

"As long as people have it in their head that RITChies sucks, when we reopen it, it will have to be better," said Nicole. Possibilities for the area include a photo booth and a corkboard for display, and a projection TV with VCR, DVD, and video game access. •

CRIME WATCH

January 29 - February 3 compiled by Cameron Kolstad

January 29

Criminal Mischief – University Commons

A Campus Safety officer noticed the grass near a University Commons apartment had been damaged. Tire tracks led up to a parked, unattended SUV.

February 3

Criminal Mischief – RIT Inn and Conference Center

The elevator button on the third floor of the hotel was pulled off the wall.

Harassment – Ellingson Hall

A student, angry over being cut from a basketball team by two fellow students, posted a negative "profile" of the two students on AOL Instant Messenger.

Burglary and Unlawful Entry – Peterson Hall

An unknown person removed a Canon Camcorder from the desk of a student's unlocked dorm room in Peterson Hall.

DID YOU KNOW?

Break Shuttle

by Laura Chwirut

In a collaborative effort between Student Government and Campus Safety, a new shuttle service has been implemented for the quarter break. Shuttle buses will transport students from campus to the Rochester Airport, as well as local train and bus stations.

The service will be running on a trial basis in the weeks before and after breaks for this quarter and spring quarter, and will continue with the same schedule next year. The permanence of the shuttle will be determined by student use. Student Government will post a survey on their website to get an idea about how many students will use the service.

Because the shuttles' schedule will be determined by information provided by students, SG and Campus Safety are urging students to respond to the survey. No schedule had been published at *Reporter* press time but the service will be available during finals week prior to spring break, and a schedule will be provided in an announcement from Campus Safety in an all-students e-mail. Check the Student Government website (www.sg.rit.edu) for more information and watch for a schedule from Campus Safety. •

Clarification

As mentioned in the February 2 issue of *Reporter*, students are free to park in short-term parking spaces any time after 4:30 p.m. (the rule is 4:30 p.m. for now, but will change to 5:00 p.m. next year). However, as implied in the article, there are subtler layers to the rule. For example, some short-term parking spaces are still restricted after 4:30 p.m., such as the spaces outside the Gannett Building, Wallace Library, Student Life Center, and the Ross Building, which are needed for nighttime vendor deliveries. Consult Campus Safety if there are further questions. *Reporter* apologizes for any action taken due to unclear information.

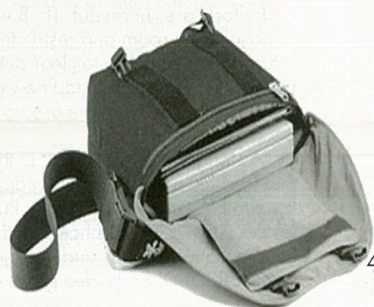
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WORLD ASKEW

compiled by Everett Religioso Illustration By Chris Mamorella

Find the fake news story! See page 30.
True stories obtained from Reuters and
ABCNews.com. Fake story from The Stankbox.

MESA, ARIZONA » Worst Thief Ever Award: Michael Anthone Jacobs dropped his fake gun and broke it while trying to rob a Walgreen's. The following day, Jacobs and an accomplice tried to rob an Albertson's supermarket by spraying the cashier with pepper spray while she was getting change for \$20. However, the woman closed the register before Jacobs could grab any money. He then had an asthma attack and his accomplice ran off at the same time. Jacobs fled to his rented getaway car only to find that his keys were locked inside. He broke the window with a rock and proceeded to drive away without his lights on but was pulled over by a police car. He is charged with one count of armed robbery and two counts of aggravated robbery.

SELANGOR, MALAYSIA » According to a recent study, the number of choking cases has increased 75 percent from the previous study, completed in 1999. One official from Selayang Hospital stated, "Since the movie theatres starting offering chocolate covered chicken legs a few years ago, I've seen more cases than I can count." Movie theaters are considering putting a warning label on the packaging on how to eat the food, which is mainly for tourists. "It's a great idea, telling them they should break the leg into small pieces instead of eating it whole," the hospital official said.

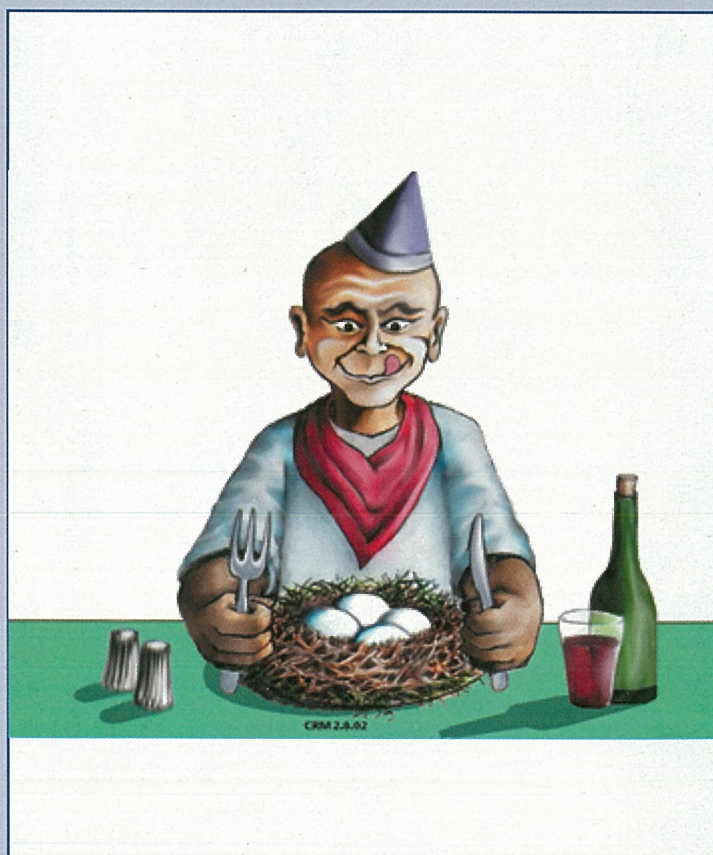
JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA » Annetjie Mienie of Johannesburg was photographing a hippopotamus calf at Kruger National Park when the mother hippo attacked the woman, biting her in the stomach. Mary Gama, a police spokeswoman, said that Mienie died while being rushed to the hospital. Hippos kill more people in Africa than any other wild animal, and are extremely aggressive when protecting their young.

TAMPA, FLORIDA » Even after getting a bad rap from a series of attacks last summer, sharks are getting help from some environmental groups. The National Audubon Society, Earthjustice, and The Ocean Conservancy are filing suit against the National Marine Fisheries Service. The environmental groups say that the NMFS is not preventing the overfishing of sharks, whose meat is becoming progressively more popular. One statistic that displays shark overfishing is that of the sandbar shark, which has declined in population 80 percent since 1970, according to fish conservation manager Sonja Fordham.

ZURICH, SWITZERLAND » An inmate escaped from a southern Swiss prison in a daring fashion that only Hollywood could match. The convict, a 38-year old Albanian imprisoned on drug offenses, broke through the reinforced glass of his cell door. The man then climbed along barbed wire to reach the roof, where he tied his bed sheets together, secured them to an antenna and climbed down the other side of the wall. The convict is the second to escape from the prison in four years.

SINGAPORE » With the Chinese New Year approaching, thieves with high taste stole high-quality birds' nests worth \$38,250, while leaving the lower-grade varieties behind. The popular seasonal delicacy, often cooked in soup, is made of solidified bird saliva, twigs, and grass. In addition, the thieves made off with pineapple tart molds and the contents of the cash registers. An assistant at the shop said, "Chinese New Year is coming. Bird nest is very popular during this season. Who wouldn't want a good meal?"

WASHINGTON D.C. » The new "shop" at the University of Missouri in Columbia will offer special breeds of rats to research facilities. For example, a scientist could purchase a type of rat whose brain has been chemically damaged to reproduce symptoms of Parkinson's disease or a rat that has been bred to be obese. The administrators of the shop are currently deciding what kinds of rats to stock, and scientists from around the country are sending in their nominations. •





Independent Theaters in Rochester

by Jakob Lodwick
Photography by
Edmund Fountain

Heather Sabin, who works at the Dryden Theatre says that "All of the film series we show are generally really good."

The Little was founded in 1929 as part of the "little theater movement," a reaction to the large, highly commercial venues that were vastly popular at the time. According to The Little's website, the movement aimed to foster "art films that appeal to the intelligent and sophisticated." Such pretentiousness would be laughed at today, but the fundamental principle of artistic freedom over commercial appeal still stands. This doesn't mean that the films screened are inaccessible; in fact, many of them have a warm, human element that is rarely found elsewhere.

It would be unfair to say that The Little only shows independent films and the Regal only shows Hollywood smashes, especially since three of the former's current five films are also showing at the latter's. But the Regal tends to adopt the films that have already proven their popularity at the smaller houses, eliminating some of the adventure that comes with almost any visit to The Little.

The Little is currently showing *Monster's Ball*, *In The Bedroom*, *The Shipping News*, *Amélie*, and *Gosford Park*. Details and more show times can be found at The Little's website (<http://little-theatre.com/>).



The Little Theatre plays a wide variety of films that are not usually found in larger theatres.

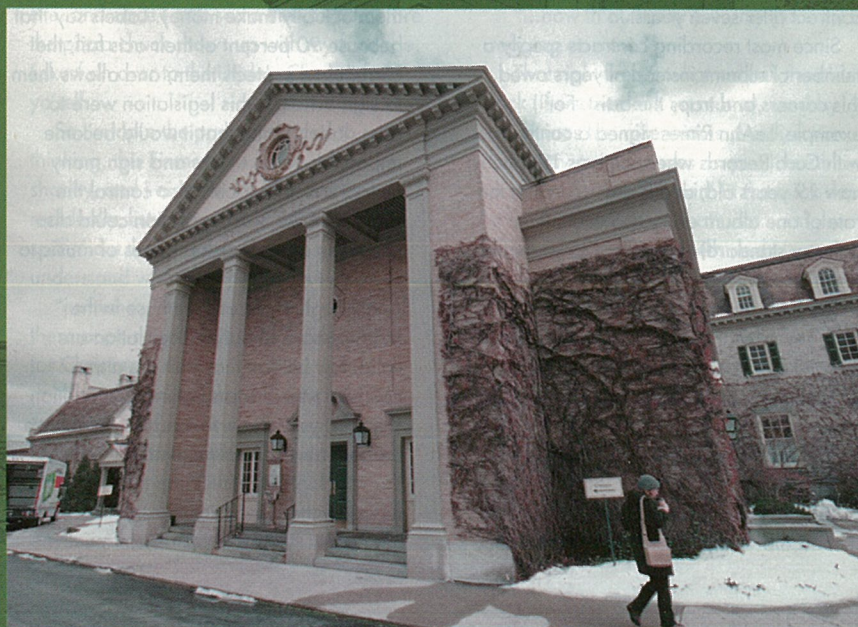
Independent movie theaters are nothing to fear. Sure, it's comforting when the Henrietta Regal shows movies you've seen TV ads for, but there's another layer of the film world that deserves a closer look.

The Little Theatre and the Dryden Theatre are two small, historic movie houses in Rochester. They offer a refreshing, alternative lineup of films from a variety of times and places, and are both within a 12-minute drive from RIT on East Avenue.

Located on East Ave. in the George Eastman House, The Dryden Theatre shows a variety of international and independent films.

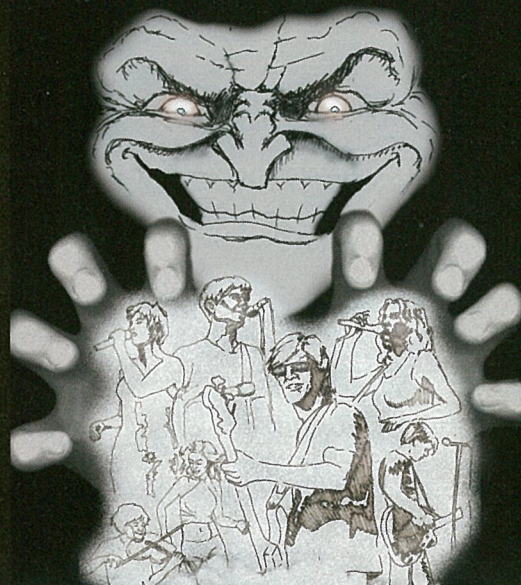
Delving even deeper into the world of international, obscure, and independent cinema is the Dryden Theatre, part of the George Eastman house. It features a showing of a different film almost every night. Recent screenings have included John Waters' 1972 Baltimore trash-core masterpiece *Pink Flamingos*, Takashi Miike's 1999 Japanese / South Korean psychosexual thriller *Audition*, and even Sam Raimi's *Evil Dead* trilogy, which were shown on three consecutive nights in January.

Movies at the Dryden are typically preceded by an oration from one of the theater's film experts, or sometimes the directors themselves. The introductions sometimes give away surprises or plot details that should really be told by the films themselves, which is sometimes annoying. However, the Dryden is a great theater and one of the only places you'll ever have the chance to see many of its films. •



RECORDING ARTISTS FIGHT BACK

RAC combats crushing contractual obligations
by Bryan Hammer Illustration by Anne Geary



Right now music is in trouble.

For years, recording artists have been subject to the mercy of recording companies. Big record companies have the power to dictate their own contracts with new artists, and in the process deceive and trap the artist in long-term agreements. On January 23, 2002 the Recording Artist Coalition (RAC) made its latest attempt to change this situation.

The RAC was founded by Don Henley, Sheryl Crow, and Alanis Morissette; some of its other members include Billy Joel, Elton John, Bruce Springsteen, and some 55 others. The RAC is organizing a trade group that will represent recording artists interests, not unlike a union. Right now there are several organizations representing different types of artists; The American Federation of Television and Radio Artists covers vocalists, and the American Federation of Musicians is for non-singing musicians and session players. Only recently has there been an effort to combine into one group.

Record companies like having many signed groups, as it's easier for them to put down lawsuits. Basically, artists are angered at the fact that record companies can fire them, but yet they can't fire the record companies, even when the record companies breach their contract. Many labels have a "Catch 22" clause, saying that no matter what happens, the artists are still responsible for their obligation. It seems unfair, but a starving recording artist can be

easily tricked into signing this kind of deal. Artists believe that record companies should look at and treat their artists like business partners, but this rarely happens. The RAC are looking to improve conditions for the already difficult life of the beginning-recording artists.

The RAC and Senator Kevin Murray are looking to help pass Senate Bill 1266, which will repeal California Labor Code 2855, subdivision B. This bill, which was amended in 1987, is known as the "De Havilland Law." It was pushed to help protect recording companies, and states that all entertainers and workers in California, except recording artists, have the right to terminate a personal service contract after seven years.

Since most recording contracts specify a number of albums instead of years owed, this corners and traps the artist. For example, LeAnn Rimes signed a contract with Curb Records when she was 12. She is now 19 years old, and if she records at the rate of one album every two years (the industry standard) she will be 35 years old when her contract is over.

The RAC wants to change this so that after seven years the artist would become more like a free agent. This way successful artists could renegotiate their contracts or move to a different label while still in their prime, instead of at the end of their career. Imagine if a multi-platinum artist could renegotiate their contract after their second album broke big. A large band

could then sign with an independent label, and that would give more power to new labels. This would take the monopoly out of the larger corporate-owned record labels. It would also allow more artists to be discovered and signed. More record labels would be out there willing to take bigger risks if they knew they already had a solid act to back them up.

The legislation would definitely be in the artists' favor. Although the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) has not made many comments about the subject, they do have one solid argument: they take a huge amount of risks. Hundreds of albums are released in a given year, yet only about five percent of them actually make money. Labels say that because 90 percent of their acts fail, the current law protects them, and allows them to sign artists. If this legislation were to pass, labels claim that it would become impossible to take risks and sign many new artists. The labels also control the prices of CDs. This legislation could also cause the already rising prices of music to skyrocket even further.

Although the fears that those in the industry have about this legislation are valid, few believe that they are a true concern. Many artists believe that relationships between the artist and the label have become almost contemptuous. Hopefully, this new legislation will bring the next great movement to the music industry. •

Weezer

[ROCKS ROCHESTER]



Opener bands of varying quality

BY WILLIAM HUBER

Weezer took the stage at the Blue Cross Arena at 9:30 last Thursday night, dishing out a surprisingly large dose of alternative-pop-rock-emo-punk that kept the crowd hopping—surprising, because the band played for about an hour and 15 minutes, which is almost as long as all three of their currently-released albums combined.

At any rate, the band offered a good mix of older and newer songs; both self-titled albums, *Weezer (Green)* and *(Blue)*, were heavily represented. However, *Pinkerton* was represented by only two songs, “Why Bother?” and “Tired of Sex.”

Another surprise was that they also played quite a few songs off their as-yet-unreleased album, *Maladroit*. These songs included “Burndt Jamb,” “Keep Fishin’,” and the potential new single, “Dope Nose.”

The show itself was packed with energy: the band took the stage and the crowd went absolutely wild. Unfortunately, seeing as

how they changed guitars after almost every song, it took a while for the guys to get warmed up. On one occasion, they misread setlist sheets and started playing different songs. Also, the guitarists (Brian Bell and lead vocalist/guitarist Rivers Cuomo) ham-fisted their way through guitar solo after guitar solo.

None of that mattered, though. The crowd jumped, screamed, whistled, crowd-surfed, and shouted the lyrics to every song, including the not-yet-released ones. The sheer frenetic excitement conveyed by the relatively simple songs came through in massive style. After their initial missteps, the band members themselves soon got into the vibe, shedding layers of typical emo-wear clothing and sweating over their instruments. Overall, their set was incredible.

Ozma opened the show, with songs that ranged all the way from absolutely terrible up to not-quite-mediocre. The only really rocking tune they played was a cover of what I’m pretty sure was the theme song to the original Nintendo game “Tetris.” One of

their vocalists couldn’t sing half the time, and the other one couldn’t pretty much any of the time.

Then *Saves the Day* came out. Suddenly, the crowd in front of the stage was crushed under the weight of unrequited 13-year-old love pouring out of the girls in the house as the pretty-boy lead singer whined/crooned his way through their songs. Despite the near-mortal crushing, though, the crowd went crazy, and the energy in the arena jumped.

The crowd got so whipped up during *Saves the Day*’s set that the safety barricade between the pit and the stage started to break down. This was the reason it took Weezer so long to come out—the security guys were busy shoring up the grating so the crowd didn’t bash a path all the way back to the drum set.

Saves the Day and Weezer put on a great show. However, Ozma might as well have stayed in Pasadena. •

A complete setlist is available at the band’s website, www.weezer.com.

FINMAN IS A NARC

WWW.NELLIEMAE.COM/FINMAN/TAX.HTM

BY DALAS VERDUGO

Yo. So the office of financial aid sent me (and many others I’m sure) this totally wack email ‘bout filing my taxes and shiznit. The email says I should peep this wiggityweb-site, and since I gots some time to kill before the pizza chuck shows up with my foodage, I skurf on over to the URdE. Check it for yo’self.

So I’m op’n the page and I gets to thinking, this Finman kid seems a little shadey, and I ain’t talkin’ slim. On the for realdeally, listen to some of the jing-lingo spillin’ out the kid’s mouth and I think you’ll understand what I’m spittin’:

“just when I’m mellowing out, playing these dope new PlayStation 2 videos I got for Christmas...”

What the jerk chicken? PlayStation 2 “videos”? That’s on a whole new solar view, know what I mean? How I’m supposed to take that crunk seriously? Nah, back-daskunkup, how I’m supposed to take anything this kid says seriously when he’s

all shirt with no pants? He’s some kind of kink freak or something and that fin piercing ain’t helping the case. But I press on like Lee.

“...now th’authority (i.e., my parents) is ragging on me...”

That right there’s what we call the oldest trick (if we overlook ya moms), used by magicians for millenniums. Misdirection, kid. They get your eyes on ya ol’ earth and pops, while they sneakin’ in the back door, snatchin’ ya crops. If that’s not enough, check what he hits ya with next:

“...lemme share a few tax tips I learned by surfing around the very cool (no joke!) IRS web site...”

Gimme some cred, jed. I could have let this kid slip by before, but he’s one step over the line on the floor when he starts calling the IRS cool. Does the IRS wear wallies and walk with a gangsta lean? Does the IRS roll fatties and and sport a gold grill like *bling*? Yah, I thought not. Need more

‘dence (as in evi)? Scope the cheque he’s holdin’. The kid’s pullin’ 100Gs and that ain’t Warren. I’m tellin’ ya, there’s something real M.I.B. about this Finman kid. So keep ya eyes open and ya wallet in ya front pocket when he’s around.

The kid’s a NARC. Fah reeeeeeeeeal. •



Your Buddy, Buddy

by Buddy Domanski

[Note: These letters are printed as received.]

Mr. guy that I write to about my problems,
I got a problem that's been keeping me up, well for at least a while, actually **two problems now**. Number 1, ever see *Superman I*, that movie is ridiculous, how could making the earth spin in the opposite direction make it go back in time, I mean this was **only like 1970**, people weren't that stupid were they. What were these writers thinking??? The other problem, ever hear of shirt garters? **How the hell are you suppose to wear them**, they are suppose to go from my socks to my shirt, but it just doesn't make any sense, and how come there are **no directions** on the box either? There are directions on that thing people put on their windshield to keep the sun out, it says **"do not operate vehicle while that thing is up"**. How come they don't give directions for shirt garters, why? **I don't get it.**

-Illiterate in Illinois*

Dear Illiterate,

Theoretical physics dictates **that time is directly related to the direction something is spinning**. This is why when you drive somewhere in your car, you arrive at your destination before you even left, but **when you're backing out of a parking spot, several hours elapse**. Also, blenders change the outcome of World War II. It was interesting in *Superman I* that after reversing time, **all he did was save Lois Lane** from her car. What about the dam that broke and the earthquakes and **all the other terrible, chaotic death-causers?** Why didn't he go **back in time to Lex Luthor's childhood** and give him a foster home so he turned out normal, or perhaps

drown him? As far as shirt garters, they need no instructions because, unlike windshield shades, they don't involve our sun – the deadliest star of all.

-Buddy

Dear Buddy,

I **dumped my girlfriend** a few nights ago. We had been growing further apart for the months **leading up to the dumping**, and now I'm finally single again. **She started dating a new guy right away**, and she hasn't called me or **emailed** or anything. I honestly don't think she **misses me**, which is something I was secretly hoping for. **How can I get her back?**

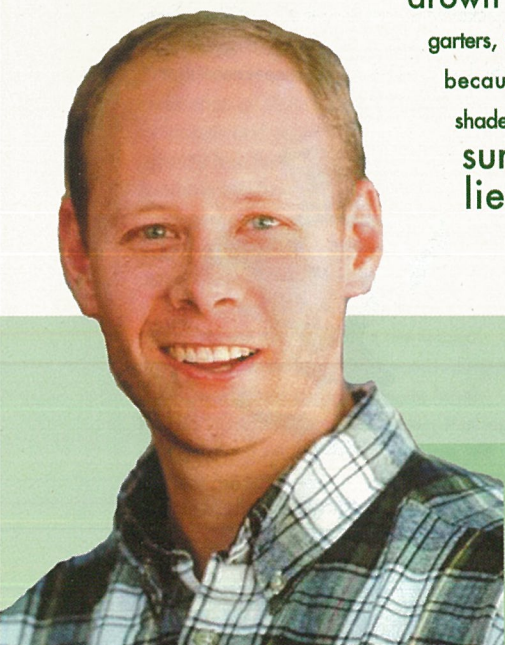
-Coloneedy in Riverknoll

Dear Coloneedy,

Although your father Jor-El warned you **never to interfere with the history of mankind**, you must remember what your adoptive father Jonathan told you: **"Son, you were put here for a reason."** You yourself said that you **"had all these powers and couldn't do anything"** when he **died of a heart attack** shortly thereafter. Coloneedy, it is now time to jump into the edge of the atmosphere, fly around the Earth thousands of times at close to the speed of light, **and set things back to how they used to be.**

-Buddy •

* denotes the preceding word is a lie



Please send your
requests for advice to
buddy@blumpy.org



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 - The quality of leadership shall be determined by holding a high elected or appointed office for the total term of that particular office (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Chairperson, Director, Captain (Co-Captain), in a club or activity.
 - Both paid and voluntary activities will be considered.
 - Citizenship and service to the Institute community will also be considered in the selection process.

Additional information is available on the application.

Deadline for applications is Friday, February 22, 2002

Applications are available from:

The Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs, SAU, Rm. 2410,
or on the web at

<http://www.rit.edu/~230www/asl/>



Diversity at Work

Celebrating Black History Month

by James P. Selby
Photographs by Kara Fulgenzi

Celebrating Black History month gives the African American community a whole month to promote culture and togetherness within themselves, while at the same time enabling the surrounding community a chance to celebrate along with them.

Currently, the vision of RIT's Commission for Promoting Pluralism is to make an inclusive community, within which there is equality and justice for all members to live in an academic learning environment, where people are free to be themselves.

One of the figures in which we celebrate black history was Frederick Douglass (1818-1895), who was born a slave in an era when blacks were given no respect. Douglass pushed the black community ahead by leaps and bounds by escaping from his chains of servitude and becoming a prominent 19th century African American orator, journalist, and antislavery leader. He campaigned for the end of slavery, while publishing three versions of his autobiography. Later in life, he continued to work for full civil rights for blacks and held several government positions.

Commission Chairperson Alfreda Brown said that to achieve the transformation into an inclusive community, "one major focus would be incorporating the concept of quality through diversity.... Quality is an inclusive process that searches for ways to include everyone. It encourages trusting relationships that put service above selfish needs. Quality supports making friends before you need them; having confi-

dence in others, even if they don't look like you; never making an enemy, in spite of differences; and developing high values, which in turn yield high tolerance....

To achieve quality through diversity, our culture will change. However, cultures can't change without the consent of their members. Therefore, all of us at RIT must consent to change and then we must strive to build an adaptive culture that we all buy into, a culture that will help us define the excellence within quality."

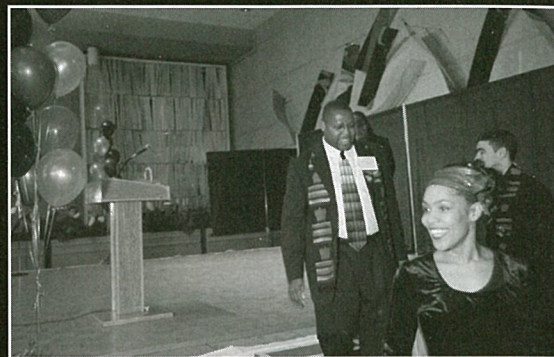
While the end of the Civil War marked the end of slavery, it did not mark the onset of legal equality. This did not set in until the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 1960s. The Civil Rights Movement was, first and foremost, a challenge to the segregated system of laws and customs separating blacks from whites.

The goals of the commission are to proactively identify and eliminate barriers that restrict equality throughout the RIT community, to develop and implement programs that promote commitment to equality and justice in campus wide activities, and to develop and nurture a support system that increases participation by all members of the RIT community.

One of the most prominent figures in the Civil Rights Movement was African American activist Malcolm X (1925-1965), later known also by the religious name El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz. His militant

"All of us must consent to change, and strive to build an adaptive culture that we all buy into."

**—Commission for Promoting Plurasism
Chairperson Alfreda Brown**



Photographs taken during the North Star Center's Black History Banquet on February 8, 2002.

views that Western nations were inherently racist and that black people must join together to build their own society and value system had a major influence on black nationalist and black separatist movements. After his 1965 assassination, his beliefs gained a broader audience through The Autobiography of Malcolm X.

However, promoting diversity does not simply lie in the hands of the Commission. Student Government President and Commission member Erick Littleford said, "Students have to play the major role in creating an inclusive campus. We have a campus population of over 15,000 with intentions to grow to 17,000. This is the major constituent base of RIT, so if efforts in diversity are going to be successful, they have to start amongst the students. As students, we need to make a more concerted effort at understanding, tolerating, and promoting other cultures. We should demand more courses in diverse cultures, or sponsor more events that will highlight under-represented populations."

The other major leader in the Civil Rights Movement was Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. (1929-1968). King differed from Malcolm X in that he harbored peaceful beliefs and advocated nonviolent protests. King's challenges to segregation and racial discrimination in the 1950s and 1960s helped convince many white Americans to support the cause of civil rights in the United States. After his assassination in 1968, King became a symbol of protest in the struggle for racial justice, while his birthday became a national holiday.

Statistically, minorities represent 12.6 percent (1,910 of 15,160 total students) of the total population here on campus. This has risen

from the previous years: in 2000, minorities represented 12.3 percent (1,803 of 14,642), 12.0 percent in 1999 (1,699 of 14,151) and 11.6 percent in 1998 (1,566 of 13,517). RIT has students of many different races, nationalities, and religions. Every individual on this campus—whether black, white, Asian, or Hispanic—makes this

campus more diverse just by being here. But diversity is more than just these groups existing; diversity comes when these clubs and organizations are willing to put on shows and programs that display to the rest of the campus something special from their culture.

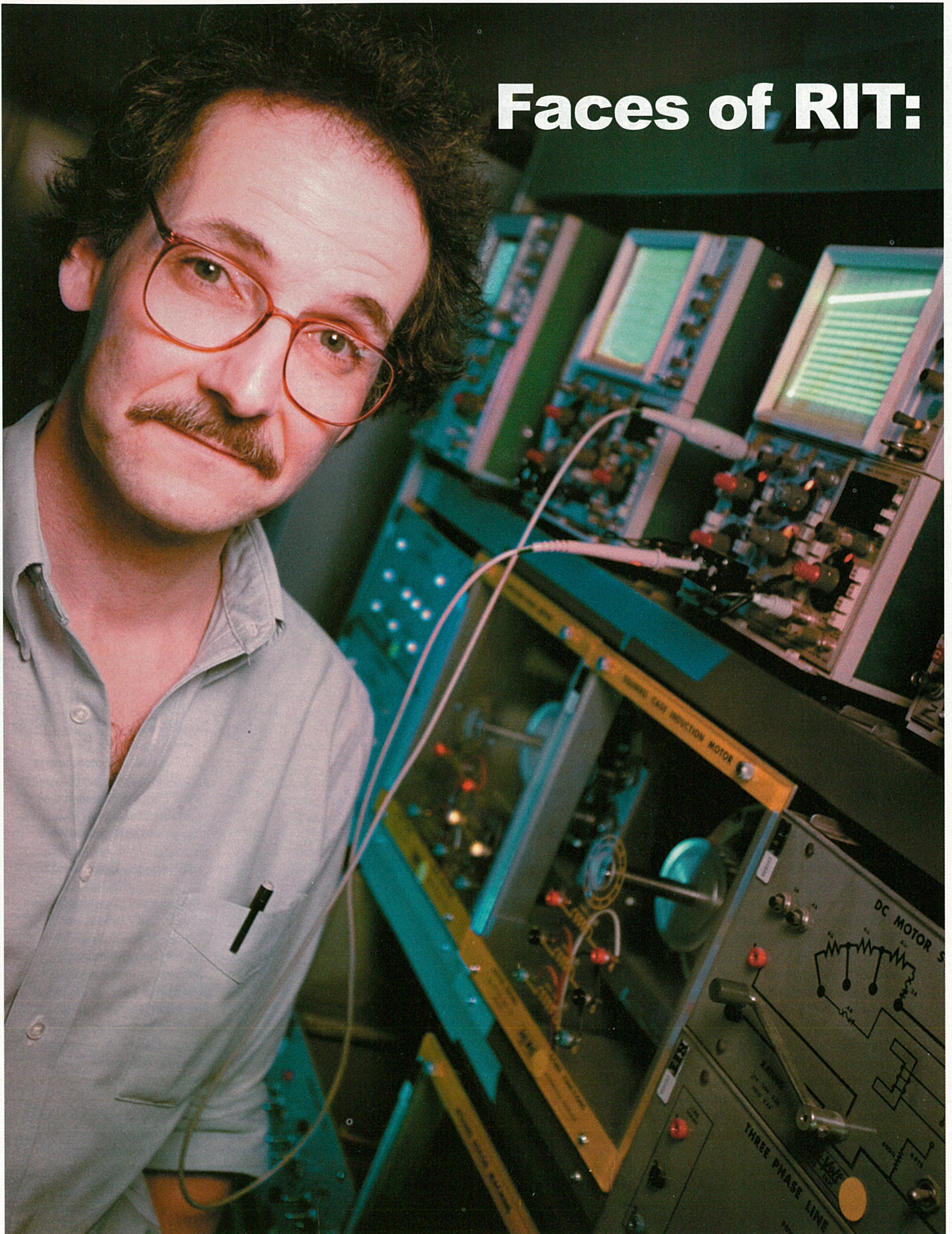
Knowing that people living in the conditions of the past were able to accomplish so much with so little tells us a lot about the perseverance and faith that they had. Celebrating their accomplishments gives us an opportunity to learn from them, even in their mistakes. It also gives us a sense of hope, because while legal equality is in full effect, social equality is not absolute.

Assistant Provost for Diversity Dr. Keith Jenkins said, "Diversity is a daily concern for me, because no two people are ever the same. Diversity is not only limited to race, but we must also look at other factors such as age, religion, ethnicity, geographical origin and spirituality, among other things."

It is a big accomplishment to finally say that people are becoming more diverse. We are learning to accept each other for who we are and not where we come from, or what religion we practice, foods we eat, etc. Diversity is important not only on this campus, but in the everyday life we live, because in the celebration of our differences, we find out that we have a lot in common. •



Faces of RIT:



Daniel Phillips

The Silicon Man with a Heart of

by Eric D Nelson

photograph by Edmund Fountain

Reporter's Faces of RIT feature usually recognizes a member of the RIT community who has a cool job, a hip personality or is just very active. This week, Dr. Dan Phillips is being recognized for simply being a nice guy.

Phillips has been a part of the Electrical Engineering Department since Fall 2000. Students might encounter him in one or more of the multitude of classes he teaches, including Circuits I, Advanced Microprocessor Software Design, and Introduction to Microcomputers. Due to the sizable strain these commitments put on his free time, he has little opportunity to do repairs on his house or go jogging, but that does not bother him, as much of his enjoyment comes from teaching.

"It's one of the things that I tell students when they ask advice about employment," said Phillips. "It's that you only have one life. You should really put yourself in as good a situation as possible so that when you wake up in the morning, you're looking forward to the rest of the day."

His upbeat mood is something easily detected in his lectures—if he notices that someone is upset, it bothers him.

"I think that, for the most part, if you're sitting there and you're upset about something, then you're not paying attention; it's not working," said Phillips.

Phillips has been known for taking time before class or during a break to talk to a student and let the student know that he is concerned about him or her. "People are people," said Phillips. "If they're upset, I think it's a basic instinct to want to see what's wrong.... I try to treat other people the way that I want to be treated."

His interaction with the students does not stop there, as he tries to make every student feel comfortable in his class. "I realize that in a classroom, there's a lot of peer pressure. Students almost feel like they have to act reserved," said

Phillips. "If you're sort of worried about what other people think about you,

you're not as apt to ask questions. If we can sort of loosen that up, make people feel relaxed, then you can interact.... Any communication, especially reliable communication, requires feedback. That's the point of feedback. If I don't get feedback we might as well just throw a videotape in there."

When a topic becomes difficult, a question students often ask is, "Why are we learning this?" Phillips feels that the students knowing the answer to this question is essential.

"Students should feel comfortable with talking to you," said Phillips, "but they should also count on you as being some sort of a guide, or influence, if you will.... Basically, you're put there to lead the class. You want to make the students comfortable so that they trust you to lead them

where somebody thinks they should be going. And that they trust you that you've taken them to the right place, and if they have questions about it, they can ask. I always try to reassure them of where I am taking them... To do that, most people will buy into that and then

you establish trust, and I think that is the most important thing in any relationship. If they trust you, you trust them, progress occurs. If they don't, progress might occur, but not painlessly."

In addition to his lectures, Phillips is in the process of updating the hardware in one of the electronics labs. "It's important that hardware that the students are using is more current, so that once again, they don't view the lab as a thing they have to do. They can say, 'I've worked on a state-of-the-art electronic circuit' when they go up and apply for a job, [employers] won't say, 'That hasn't been used in the last 20 years.'"

Phillips, who earned his Ph.D. in ultrasound at the University of Rochester, is also hoping to benefit students by developing courses that apply to the intersection of the electronics and the medical fields. "One area of great opportunity is the area of clinical medicine. I think as part of your education, you should not only study the subject matter but you should have an opportunity to see how that applies. I think that it makes a big difference in terms of motivation. Rather than just being forced to learn something because someone says it's good for you, you can see the value in the time that you're spending on it."

Overall, Phillips is satisfied with his work at RIT. "I've always maintained that the biggest impact that anybody can have is by their example," said Phillips. "So hopefully if you present a good example for students, they are interested in what you're teaching, then they can do it in a way that you are proud of what you're doing.

Students see that and see that that is a good way to be." •



"Call 424-xxxx and find out!"

Kristen Kendrick

Second Year
Photo Journalism

"A good fire and a warm couch."

Jason Anderson

First Year
Photo Advertising

"Spending quality time with loved ones."

Catherine Barnes

Fourth Year
Information Technology

"Being with your special someone."

Lisbeth Troy

Second Year
Biology (Pre-med)

"One that's on February 15."

Chris Bayer

First Year
Imaging Science

"Tell somebody you've liked for a long time how you feel about them."

Wendell Smith

Second Year
Mechanical Engineering Technology

"No work, special someone, and a lot of fun."

Deyra Rodriguez

Fourth Year
Biotechnology

W♥RD on the STREET

"What is your idea of the perfect **Valentine's Day**?"

Compiled by Peter Gravelle

photos by Brian Marcus



"First of all, it has to be in the spring. Going out and having fun outside. Just having walks and stuff."

Amy Tatro

Second Year
Mechanical Engineering



"One where absolutely nothing has gone wrong the day before, because February 13 is my birthday."

Jacqui Licht

First Year
Public Policy



"Going snowboarding with the one I love."

Johanna Miller

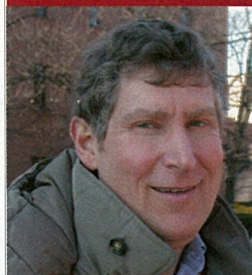
First Year
Photography



"A day I get to spend with the people I care about."

John Feeney

Third Year
Biomedical Computing



"I'm giving my College Physics class an exam. It's their Valentine's Day present."

Alan Entenberg

Professor
Physics



"First you have to have a girlfriend. For me, if I can have a girlfriend, that would be perfect!"

Masaru Kimura

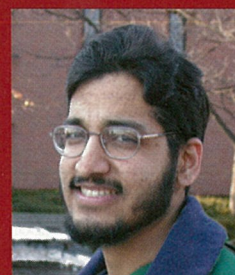
Third Year
Food Marketing and Distribution



"Spending it with friends and family."

Nathan Holland

First Year
Mechanical Engineering



"To spend time with the one you love. Like going out for a moonlight walk, a dinner, and a movie."

Taher Attari

Graduate Student
Mechanical Engineering

A Little Taste of Vermont:

Chillin' in the SAU with some Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream

by Eric D Nelson Photograph by Kara Fulgenzi



"It's going to be a fun place to visit. It's going to be a fun place to work."

- Assistant VPFA Jim Fisher

The Student Alumni Union is supposed to be a place where students come to study or just chill with their friends between classes. While the Ritz, the SAU Cafeteria, and the game room have each been successful in this endeavor, the main lobby of the SAU did not promote casual social gatherings. That is, until Ben & Jerry's opened up on Valentine's Day.

Ben & Jerry's will complement the current features of the SAU lobby such as the Candy Counter, the Information Desk, and the various events that go on there. The arrival of the ice cream vendor was the springboard for the new floor, the couches that replaced the plants, and the four ice cream parlor-style tables, making the SAU a more inviting place.

"[We are] trying to extend the sort of feel we are starting to get from Java Wally's and the Crossroads... It's going to be a fun place to come visit. It's going to be a fun place to work," said Assistant Vice President of Finance and Administration Jim Fisher.

Everyone at RIT will now be able to enjoy a wide variety of ice cream, frozen yogurt, and ice cream cakes, including Phish Food, Half Baked 2-Twisted, and the new Dave Matthews Band flavor One Sweet Whirled.

"One of the reasons we sort of went towards a Ben & Jerry's instead of towards

a Häagen Dazs or something else is that whole sort of image [Ben & Jerry's has]," added Fisher.

The goals of the Vermont ice cream company bend largely toward social issues. According to the their website (<http://www.benjerry.com>), in the year 2000 the company supported Vermont civil union legislation that would grant homosexual couples the same rights as married couples. Since 1997, they have only used milk that comes from suppliers that do not use recombinant Bovine Growth Hormone (rBGH), the chemical that makes cows produce more milk. Ben and Jerry's is also an open supporter of Mumia Abu-Jamal.

"I think the thing that I really want to get across to the campus is that the choice of Ben & Jerry's wasn't arbitrary; it wasn't that they offered the best deal," said Fisher. "We kind of went looking for them because...[their] social mission fits nicely with RIT, some student groups, and the causes that they try to promote."

Although the directives of both RIT and Ben and Jerry's coincide, their principle seasons of operation differ completely as ice cream is generally a hot weather treat. Hot weather at RIT is the same time that the majority of students leave campus for summer break.

"I was kind of worried about that, but it was kind of nice with the kids that come around there as they are so positive about Ben & Jerry's. They can't wait," said Rene Rodriguez, Manager of the new store. "It's

giving me a positive attitude. So now I'm sure we'll be just fine. It will be just great."

One possible setback for Ben & Jerry's is that, just like Java Wally's, they accept FLEX, but not Food Debit.

"We will be accepting the FLEX portion of the debit," said Fisher. "It has to do with taxability issues," he later added, "Most of the other places on campus that are outside of core Food Service operations, like the corner store, will only accept FLEX on certain items... That's basically on the advice that we've gotten from the folks in Food Service."

RIT began negotiations with Ben & Jerry's back in March 2001. At that time, Fisher was hoping to get the store open by the beginning of fall quarter, but they did not resolve all of the contract issues until September. After they reached an agreement, RIT hired Greece resident Rene Rodriguez to run the store. He had to attend an intensive weeklong training course in Vermont where Ben & Jerry's taught him everything from how to properly hold an ice cream scoop to the financial reporting requirements.

"The only real requirement we have from Ben & Jerry's is that the shop be under supervision of someone that's attended the training," said Fisher.

Ever since Perry's Ice Cream, the distributor for Ben & Jerry's, arrived with the first truckload of ice cream directly from the Vermont plant on January 29, Rodriguez had been busy teaching the 13 student employees the ways of the ice cream scoop so that they would be prepared for the opening.

The final location of Ben and Jerry's was not the only proposed site. There were ideas of merging it with the Candy Counter or placing it within the SAU Cafeteria. The Candy Counter idea was shot down due to lack of space, while the SAU Cafeteria was nixed because of lack of accessibility during the multitude of events there.

"We wanted to put it somewhere central, so we didn't consider putting it somewhere over by Crossroads or putting them by the residences," said Fisher. "It's kind of central to the campus, and hopefully, like Java's, people will come from both ways."

Fisher hopes that the reach of Ben & Jerry's will not be limited to the SAU. "We're also looking at getting some kind of catering events going," he said. "As we get into warmer weather, we are anticipating that we will add a cart so that we can get to places on the Quarter Mile. Students don't have time to come over during lunch or whatever, so we'll be there. We'll be at the lacrosse games, we'll be at the hockey games, we'll be at some of the festivities."

Rodriguez said, "I'm very excited. I really can't wait. I think we're ready for it. We're ready to take care of customers." •

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Basketball Wrestling News and Notes

Men's Basketball Wins Two Empire Eight Games

The RIT men's basketball team won their games against both St. John Fisher and Alfred, giving them a 12-7 overall record, and 5-3 in Empire Eight.

On Friday, February 1, the Tigers defeated St. John Fisher in the Clark Gym 71-66. Junior **Michael Stanton** led the Tigers with 25 points and 11 rebounds, and senior **Brandon Redmond** ended the night with 17 points and 12 boards.

After the first half, RIT and St. John Fisher were deadlocked at 34 points each. In the second period, the Tigers went on top, scoring an additional 37. Fisher fell short, only scoring 32 in the second half.

The two leading scorers in the game for St. John Fisher were Nick Ripple and Alpha White, each scoring 16 points. Fisher's record went to 9-9 overall, and 4-4 in Empire Eight action.

The following night RIT squeaked past Alfred University with a score of 70-64. The Tigers trailed by two at halftime, but came out with a bang in the second, making up the deficit and exceeding it in Tiger fashion.

Redmond led the scoring efforts with 25 points, and Stanton scored 15 points for the Tigers. They were the only two RIT players in double digits.

This is the second loss that Alfred has faced against RIT, losing to them first on January 22, in overtime 79-76.

The team does not have any more home games this season. They will play their next three games at Hartwick, Utica, and Nazareth.

Women's Basketball Drops Three in a Row

The RIT women's basketball team dropped two home games against St. John Fisher and Alfred, and then lost on the road to Nazareth. This brought the team's record to 1-18 overall and 0-7 in Empire Eight action.



In the Clark Gym, with a crowd of 113 cheering them on, the Tigers lost to St. John Fisher 66-58. RIT trailed by three at half-time, and could not close the gap in the second. Three Tigers scored double digits in the game; junior **Lauren Long** led the team with 13, followed by senior **Marie Yvanoff** scoring 11, and junior **Adria Lewnes** with 10. Lewnes led the team in rebounds with seven.

Missy Lock led Fisher with 17 points, followed by Trish Tofany scoring 11.

The following night the Tigers suffered their second loss of the season to Alfred, this time with a score of 52-48. Leading the team once again was Long, scoring 16 points and 12 rebounds. She was the only RIT player scoring in double digits.

In the first half of the game the Tigers outscored the Saxons 27-21, but could not hold the lead in the second half. Alfred came out hard and fast in the second, catching up to and passing RIT.

Senior Lisa Valitutto led Alfred with 16 points and ten boards.

The Tigers lost to Nazareth February 5 on the road, with a final score of 60-49. Long and Lewnes led the scoring efforts for RIT with 12 points each.

Kadi Burges led the Nazareth Flyers with 18 points, followed closely by teammate Erin Michaels with 15. Nazareth is now 24-0 against RIT's women's basketball program.

The women play Hartwick on February 15, and then Utica on February 16. There are no more women's basketball home games.

RIT Wrestling Falls Against Oneonta State

On Friday, February 2, Oneonta ended a four-match losing streak by beating RIT with a final score of 33-14.

The Tigers won only three of the ten matches in the day. These wins came from seniors **Pat North**, **Tony Wallace**, and **Matt LoSchiavo**.

In the 165-lb. weight class, North defeated Justin Chandler with a score of 16-1. Wallace, who competes in the 184-lb. weight class, pinned Billy Stewart with a time of 4:37. Competing in the 157-lb. class, LoSchiavo defeated Blaire Surgent 7-3. Oneonta won the 125- and 149-lb. weight classes due to forfeit by the Tigers. On Friday February 15, and Saturday February 16, the team will be competing in the Empire Conference Championships. •

Hockey News and Notes

by Aaron Landers

Tigers Blank Conference Opponents

The Tigers got a wake-up call that came in the form of the loss to Elmira on January 26. Looking ahead, the team knew that in order to stay in the hunt for the regular season championship and the right to host the conference playoffs, they would need to win the rest of their games.

They have done just that.

So far, the Tigers have gone 4-0 for the conference in February and things are looking bright. The most recent wins

They broke two records on the night: most goals in a period and most goals in a game (24).

came with victories over Hobart and Nuemann. After shelling the Statesmen 7-1 on February 2, RIT traveled to Geneva for a mid-week affair four days later.

The Tigers jumped out to a quick lead and managed to pull ahead by three early in the second period, thanks to first-period goals by senior **Errol McDonald** and freshman **Mike Tucciarone**, and an early second-period tally by senior **Jerry Galway**. With the exception of a late empty-netter by junior **Mike Bournazakis**, Galway's goal signaled the end of the goal scoring for the night – the men between the pipes took over.

Hobart goaltender Adam Leveille settled down and blanked the Tigers the rest of the way. He finished the night with 38 saves. Junior goalie **Tyler Euverman** stood on his head the entire night, en route to his fourth shutout of the season. He turned aside 28 shots, including 14 in the third period in the 4-0 win.

The Tigers had a chance to pad their stats last Friday when lowly Nuemann made their way to the Ritter. Euverman earned another shutout, but with much more ease than in the Hobart game.

RIT scored eight goals in the first period, 10 in the second, and six in the third on their way to a 24-0 victory. They broke two records on the night: most goals in a period and most goals in a game. Bournazakis also tied a school record for most points in a game with nine.

Other notable scorers for the Tigers were: senior **Josh Faulkner** and junior **David Bagley** with seven, sophomore **Mike Tarantino** with six, sophomore **Ryan Franke** and Tucciarone with five, and senior **Rob Vessio**, junior **Lanner Fayad** and Galway with four apiece.

Men's and Women's Hockey Preview

This is the weekend you've been waiting for, RIT hockey fans! Both the men's and women's hockey teams have their biggest home games of the season coming up. Just so you're not left out in the cold, here's a preview of the action.

The two heavyweights of the men's ECAC West face off tomorrow night at 7:00. Elmira (16-6-0 overall, 7-0-0 conference) is coming off a huge 3-2 win on the road at Manhattanville, to remain the only team undefeated in conference games. After a shaky first half of the season, the Soaring Eagles have found some consistency, gaining an eight-game winning streak—their longest of the year. That streak includes a 4-2 upset of the Tigers on January 26.

Wayne Wilson's Tigers will look to avenge that loss, and nothing less than a win will do, if they are to host the ECAC West Playoffs. At 20-2, the Tigers have been ranked in the top two in the country for most of the season. They boast the best special teams in the nation (43.2 percent PP, 92.0 percent PK), and are averaging the most goals a game in the country (7.09).

This is the biggest regular-season contest for the Tigers: a loss or a tie will mean that the conference playoffs will be held away from the friendly confines of the Ritter Arena for only the second time in the last six years.

The Lady Tigers are currently second in the ECAC East with an impressive 13-2-1 conference record. This weekend they look to avenge their only two conference losses of the season. At 18-3-1 overall, they have been in the top ten for a few weeks now and are looking to finish the season on a high note.

Lady Tigers Win a Pair on the Road

After losing their first two games after the break to Manhattanville and Sacred Heart, RIT has won 12 in a row. They take on Manhattanville (18-1-1, 14-0-1) tonight at 7:00 and Sacred Heart (14-7-0, 10-5-0) tomorrow at 3:30.

Last Saturday, the Lady Tigers trounced Salve Regina 15-0. RIT outshot their opponents 85-12. Three different players notched five points for the Tigers: freshman **Kendra Bredlau** (2-3), sophomore **Alysia Park** (3-2), and senior **Colleen Baude** (4-1). Senior **Tina Bessette** had a hat trick for the victors, while Jen Gorcynski had three assists and freshmen **Kasie Strong** and **Callie Iousse** each had three points.

They followed this up on Sunday afternoon with a 6-0 win over Holy Cross, thanks in part to a four-goal third period.

The Lady Tigers took a 1-0 lead to the locker room after the first, thanks to an early goal by Bredlau. Baude pushed the team ahead by three when she scored two goals in the first two minutes of the second period. Jennie Nichols put RIT ahead by four less than two minutes later. Bessette finished out the scoring late in the period.

Gorcynski scored in the third to cap off the victory. Sophomore **Elaine Vonderberse** recorded 12 saves for her second shutout of the weekend. •

The Voice of the Tigers

by Aaron Landers

Photos by
Denis Rochefort



"Mike Bournazakis will spin it wide of the net. Ligas flips it along the far boards. Galway will pinch, he shoots, he scores! Mike Bournazakis gets the game winner! Mike Bournazakis gets the game winner! A harmless shot from the far point tipped by Bourny and it's BOOM: BURN BABY BURN!"

Tiger fans won't soon forget that goal, even though a number of them weren't able to see it in person. The date was January 27, 2001, and the Tigers had just beaten Elmira on the road in dramatic fashion. Making the call was Randy Bloechl, as he's done for the last 20 years.

Bloechl is a part of the special broadcast crew that can be heard every time the Tigers take the ice. Whenever the team is on the road or fans can't make it out to the Ritter Arena, they welcome the animated-yet-professional commentary of Bloechl, Ed Trefzger and Chris Lerch. Fans listen in their homes and cars and are treated to some of the most entertaining hockey on the radio.

The three of them provide a mix of lively commentary along with a level of experience that only comes from spending years watching the program progress. All three have been following the team for a long time.

Bloechl, an RIT alumnus, got his start as the play-by-play man when the broadcasts began. He was a junior accounting major at the time. He called hockey games a year earlier for the student television station, and when the radio station began broadcasting the games, Bloechl was a logical choice for the job.

Trefzger has been involved in all facets of the broadcasts. He worked in the station when they began carrying the games and became the director ten years ago. He has been providing color commentary for the last six years.

Chris Lerch is the third member of the crew. He started out doing some interviews between periods. Later, when the opportunity arose, he approached Bloechl and Trefzger and expressed interest in going on the air. It was a fit that worked, and Lerch is heard regularly on the broadcasts.

Anyone tuning in, whether at home or at the game, is treated to a first-class account of what is happening on the ice—just don't expect the same type of hometown bias that some hockey broadcasters are known for.

"It's hard not to do sometimes," said Bloechl. "I like to see RIT win."

Those familiar with the broadcasts know that despite an obvious favoritism toward the Tigers, the games are presented in as objective a way as possible.

"You won't hear us saying stuff like 'we,' and you'll here us call the names of the players on the other teams," noted Trefzger.

Of course, calling the games is easy when your team is one of the best in the nation. "I've done it for 20 years," said Bloechl, who calls the games voluntarily, "and I don't know if I would have ever done it for three or four with a team that only won four games a year."

Through all of those years, the personalities that have become the voice of the Tigers have seen a number of changes. Aside from the inevitable player, coaching, and facility changes that happen over time, the Internet has perhaps had the biggest effect on the broadcasts.

"The Internet is a nice thing because parents get to hear their kids' games all over the place," explained Trefzger. "I think there's an extra degree of satisfaction bringing the games back to parents and alumni."

Knowing that parents are listening in other parts of the country and in Canada, Bloechl added that "I consciously make an effort every night to say where the players are from." This provides a personal touch to the parents who can't make the games and are listening in on WITR's website. It's just their way of making the broadcasts that much more special.

For Bloechl and the rest of the crew, doing the games is a pleasure, as listeners can tell every time they tune in. The reason for this is simple:

"I've always been able to do the games with my best friends. The only broadcast partner that I haven't known before I went on

the air with him was my first one," Bloechl explained. "I've always had very close friends that we've brought in and I don't think you'd ever get the chance to do that somewhere else."

Of course, the broadcasts couldn't take place without the help of the staff in the radio station. The job they do is invaluable to the broadcasts, which by comparison, rival and even surpass similar Division I counterparts.

During the contest, there are usually two to three people in the station. One person is in the on-air studio listening to game, watching the levels, and running the breaks in the show. A second person edits goal replays, which are used in the post-game show.

"That takes quite a bit of work," explained Trefzger. "Especially since RIT scores so many goals."

They spend a couple of hours doing this just for a few minutes of playback, but it is well worth it. "That adds a lot to the post-game to be able to have that stuff in there," said Trefzger.

"That's the hard work," he continued. "The stuff we do is fun."

Bloechl agreed. "It's just fun. It's a hobby that I don't think I would have had the chance to do if I had gone to a communication school, because I was an accounting major, and we've gotten to go all over the place."

They enjoy what they do and have a way of entertaining fans that is second to none. Maybe that explains why, before every home game, fans traveling to the rink tune in to the pre-game show, and immediately following each contest listen to the post-game review. Maybe that is also why, during the game, some fans and parents in attendance can be seen listening to the games on portable headsets. The spirited dialog that takes place throughout each broadcast is well worth listening to.

RIT hockey has long been associated with excellence. From top to bottom, it is known throughout the collegiate hockey world that the Tigers have a first-class program. They have consistently had top-notch players, a fantastic coaching staff, first-rate facilities, and a loyal fan base. Perhaps the final element that makes this picture of greatness complete is the WITR broadcasts. With many years of experience under their belts, along with their unrivaled enthusiasm, Bloechl, Trefzger, and Lerch provide the listening audience with a treat each time they take to the airwaves.

They will make you laugh. They probably won't make you cry, but when you turn your dial to 89.7 or type www.modernmusicand-more.com into your web browser, you can be sure to get the best college hockey coverage in the area, hands down. •



Skiing in

RIT's Kevin Barton



the Sky

Competes in New York State's X-Games

by Marci Savage

Photograph by
Denis Rochefort

There are some people who are afraid of anything that crosses their path—and then there is Kevin Barton.

Barton, a third-year RIT student, competed in the New York Winter X-Games at Swain on February 1 and 2. He competed in two events: the Skier Cross, and the Big Air competition.

In the Skier Cross, four competitors race one another down the mountain, toward the finish. "It is a ski race with a huge twist," said Barton; racers must ski over jumps and are allowed to throw elbows.

The second event was the Big Air competition, in which the competitor skis down the mountain and is launched into the air by a giant ramp. While in midair they perform a variety of tricks, and land flat on their skis. "The competition is judged on trick, style, air, and landing," Barton explained.

In the Big Air competition, each competitor jumps twice, and the two scores are averaged. On his first jump, Barton performed an iron cross tail grab into a tip grab, which means that he crossed his skis and grabbed them over his shoulder, then kicked them out in front and grabbed them again. His second jump, which was the harder of the two, was a 360-degree cross mute grab. This is a 360-degree rotation with the skis crossed to his side, while bent over sideways grabbing down by his boots.

"Racing fast in the Skier Cross, and then throwing yourself in the air for the Big Air event, are both huge adrenaline rushes," said Barton.

"I like the fact that skiing is not a team sport," he said, when asked what he liked about the sport the most. "I am able to express myself, have fun, and be creative.

"The competition was very tough, and I have not been skiing as much as I would like," he later added. "I was very happy with the way I placed, especially since it was very windy and not the best skiing conditions."

This is the fourth year that Barton has competed in the X-Games. This year he placed fourth out of 15 competitors in the Skier Cross, and fifth out of 25 in the Big Air competition.

Barton began skiing 14 years ago, and began jumping soon after. "Ever since I was little I never had the fear factor that most people have, so I was not afraid to try

new things," Barton said.

In high school he began racing slalom and giant slalom. He then decided he wanted to compete in jumping, which carried him over into the Big

Air competition. "I looked up to my friends who could do the Big Air events, and tried to follow everything they do," he said.

For the last four years, Barton had been a ski instructor—first at Swain, and now at Bristol. "Being a ski instructor has helped me improve my skiing, and has given me the chance to learn how to board and use ski blades," he said.

Throughout his years in the sport, Barton has competed several times. When he was 19, he placed second in a large Skier Cross race held at Killington. At Swain, he competed against 15 other competitors in a series of six Skier Cross races. The points were tallied based on the place finished in each race, and Barton came out on top with the most points overall.

This year, Barton will compete in three more Skier Cross events at Swain, a Big Air competition at Swain, and one at Bristol. He is also planning to compete in events at Holiday Valley. •

**Racing fast and then
throwing yourself in the
air are huge adrenaline rushes." -
Kevin Barton**



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