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Palm Pilots vs. Notebooks

One more entry in the latest string of mini-controversies this campus goes through on a weekly basis is what I can only describe as "Palm Pilot-gate." As many of you have heard by now, Student Government (SG) bought 25 Palm Pilots for the Cabinet and Senate earlier this year. I've heard estimates of the cost as high as \$5000, which, logically speaking, seems to be a gross exaggeration. The only way that SG could spend \$5000 on 25 Palm Pilots is if they happened to get the model that was made of solid gold.

No matter how much they cost, the fact is, the money that was spent on them comes from the Student Activity Fee. The SAF is an extra "little" charge that is tacked onto each student's tuition bill. This money is divvied up between the student groups on campus: SG, other Major Student Organizations (MSOs), and the smaller organizations. From there, each group uses the money for whatever expenses they might have. Since the latest round of controversy talk is in SG's court, I'll use them as an example.

The way I understand it, SG gets some amount of SAF money placed into their account every so often. They use this money to put on events, pay for travel, etc. If this money isn't used up completely by the end of the year, SG loses it, and RIT absorbs it. Here's where infrastructure comes in.

I haven't heard so much about infrastructure since everything was falling apart a few years ago and someone made a political platform out of it. Clubs have infrastructure, too, apparently. It's made up of office equipment or whatever other physical resources a club might need to operate. SG, like any other student organization, has infrastructure updates to deal with. Enter the Palm Pilots.

The Palm Pilots were considered part of this infrastructure. SG needed Palm Pilots and they used the money to buy them. It's their right to buy equipment with their fair share of the SAF money. I can understand that—at least, the concept of acquiring necessary equipment.

However, if SG has this money, why not spend it on more events for students? Especially if the amount of money that we're talking about is enough to comfortably outfit every member of SG with a Palm Pilot that can cost anywhere from \$100 to \$175.

The big deal with this campus is spirit and the apparent lack of it. Why not hold regular "Spirit Rallies?" Homecoming was an apparent success—why not have several similar events each year? (Of course, there can only be one Homecoming every year, but I'm talking about other events with a similar feel.) These events can be funded out of that money SG has in their account. If the SAF money comes from the students to fund a student-based government, shouldn't those funds be used directly back on the students?

The second thing that really struck me was this: Palm Pilots? Couldn't a 65-cent notebook do exactly the same thing? There is talk of being able to download meeting updates off the internet and being able to organize lots of important information in an easy-to-access unit. A cheaper alternative is to call people and let them know that a meeting has been rescheduled. Also, a regular paper notebook has pages—lots of pages. Pages that can be used to hold all sorts of information. You can literally write anything in a notebook.

The thing that I disagree with is that this purchase was kept relatively quiet. The student public as a whole was not made aware of this expensive way their money was spent. I personally didn't hear anything about it until literally only a week ago. I'm sure that if it were made public before the purchase, a good deal more students would express concerns similar to my own.

For more information, check out the official SG minutes on the SG website at $\frac{1}{2}$ http://www.sg.rit.edu.

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ART DIRECTOR

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STAFF ILLUSTRATORS

Sarah Caswell, Anna Gniziuk, Catherine Lee, Philip Montelone, Joe Holland

> ADVISOR Rudy Pugliese

PRINTINGPrinting Applications Lab

DISTRIBUTION Chris Ehrmann, Alycia Ha

CONTACT INFO

MAIN 475.2212 | reporter@rit.edu

ADVERTISING
475.2213 | reporterads@mail.rit.edu

DESIGN 475.5633 | rdesign@rit.edu

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Word to the Wise

To the Editor

On March 3 a friend and I went out drinking to celebrate the end of a successful quarter. I particularly was celebrating because I needed to let off some steam. I had a very hard winter quarter and, in fact, have had a very hard year this year. This year, I have come to terms with being a father and upon becoming comfortable with that future, have had to deal with the loss of my child to miscarriage. I have suffered through my girlfriend's nervous breakdown for which she was hospitalized for a couple of days at the beginning of the winter quarter. That is not to say that the choices that I made that evening are excusable, but I want to provide a little bit of context for what happened that evening.

After drinking, we were on our way back to my friend's place on campus and I was pulled over by a Campus Safety officer because I was speeding. The Campus Safety officer, after pulling me over, could tell that I had been drinking, and he called the Monroe County Sheriff to investigate the matter further. Suffice to say that I had been drinking more than I should have and was arrested for DUI.

I cannot put into words how scary it is to work for five years of your life towards the one thing that you know will give you a future, and in one moment have it be put in jeopardy. I was dumbstruck by the possibility that I could be denied the privilege of graduating. I had worked so hard, been so diligent and because of one mistake, I nearly lost everything. When I say, "I nearly lost everything," I feel that there is a need to explain what that really means.

RIT has a policy concerning DWI that clearly states that any violation is to be punished with a disciplinary suspension. The amount of time of the suspension can be anywhere from three months to two years. Can you imagine my anxiety and fear at the prospect of having to wait that long to graduate? Even worse; if I was suspended, then all the money that I had paid to go to school this quarter would have been lost. It isn't easy to earn, let alone save, six thousand dollars on a minimum wage salary. Not to mention having to repeat a guarter, which at the time of my judicial hearing was about six-tenths completed. All of these prospects were very daunting and loomed very large in my mind for the seven weeks that I had to wait for my judicial hearing. These consequences, the ones that I have mentioned, don't even involve what happened to me in Monroe County court.

Throughout this experience, I have had time to reflect on what I did and what that could have done to my life. I have also learned a few things concerning drinking. The biggest thing that I learned was that "binge" drinking is defined, for a male, as having five beers, and for a female four beers, two to three times a week. Thinking back on my alcohol consumption over the past couple of years, I honestly can say that I have been a "binge" drinker. I

think that there are many people who will read this and will be able to say that they, too, are "binge" drinkers. I, for myself, can say that over the past three years I have been continually reducing the amount that I was drinking to be more appropriate. I thought that I had reached a point that was appropriate. The amounts that I had consumed in the past were so extreme in comparison to what is considered "binge" drinking, that I had an unreliable concept of where I was in relationship to appropriate and legal behavior

This having been said, I think that it needs to be mentioned that studies show that people's drinking habits change when they graduate from college. So, what that means to me, is that drinking is a phase many people go through in college. Ok, I think that that is fine but perhaps while going through this phase, people should consider a few ground rules that will keep the community in which they live safe. If you are going to drink, and you are not planning to drink in your home, then find yourself a designated driver. I can't stress how much grief this will save you in the future (it can prevent you from killing someone or yourself).

If you can't find a designated driver and still wish to go out and drink, then the next best thing to do is to go out early in the evening. Start your drinking early because as a rule of thumb, it takes one hour for your body to process eight ounces of beer. The other thing to think of when in this situation is that for every eight-ounce drink, (or equivalent) your blood alcohol content (BAC) goes up by about onehundredth of a point (may vary by person). You may be saying to yourself that isn't too bad, but remember that in New York State, a BAC of above 0.05 (approximately five drinks) is enough for an officer to arrest you for common law DWI. Common law DWI is the charge that is applied when you don't have a BAC of 0.10 or above, but the officer feels that you were driving under the influence (i.e.-you fail the touch your nose test, the walk the line test, etc.). So, please give yourself enough time to process the alcohol you are consuming. If you don't, and you drive like I did, you are going to be in for a world.

In my case, I was not suspended because of my unique circumstances and my willingness to take responsibility for what I had done. But RIT, as a rule, always suspends students who are caught drinking and driving. I fully expected to be suspended. From everything I had heard, and from everyone I had spoken to before I had my judicial hearing, clearly indicated that I would be suspended. Even my public defender told me that he had had a client, a student from RIT, about two months before and he had been suspended for six months. In truth, if I weren't going to be graduating in May, I would have been suspended too.

What I did was wrong and I endangered other people. For what I did I am truly sorry, and I ask that anyone who reads this letter to find it in his or her heart to forgive me. I would

also say to those who are going to drink, consider the risks of the activity to others and to yourself. Really, I have to say that I am not the kind person who someone pegs as foolish. I am especially not someone who people would think would drink and drive, considering that I grew up with an alcoholic step parent for five years. I literally had every single advantage when it came to being properly educated enough not to make this mistake. In addition to which I am a hard working student who has paid his own way through college and maintained 3.2 GPA. Even so somewhere along the way, I lost sight of what means to be responsible. Maybe it is just because I always learn the hard way about things. It really is very easy to avoid having to learn the hard way, like I did.

Sean Fifth Year

Palm Pilot Riot II

In responding to the challenge that was brought up by Randa Jabbour regarding the Palm Pilot to the Student Government members, I want to defend my position as a Senator for that wonderful and valuable piece of technology. I am grateful to be given that choice to perform my duties to be organized and efficient. Without a Palm Pilot, I am unable to keep track of my timely schedule. If I miss a student club meeting, I will lose valuable information that students are expressing on behalf of the community. Even though some students have a regular RIT daily planner, additional papers and notes are a mess. Think about saving papers and environmental resources. Palm Pilot only needs a simple battery to keep it running. I want to mention that Palm Pilot has a lot to offer for student needs and it is more flexible than a regular planner. It has a calendar to insert my appointments and class's schedules. It has an address book that I keep all the important contacts in one place. It has a folder to transfer files to other Palm Pilot holders to exchange information without having to retype it. With the Palm Pilot, the information stored in the memory can be backed up by a regular computer and more information can be downloaded to the memory. I am grateful that Student Government made this type of resources available to the Senators to perform their duties as necessary. By the way, the Palm Pilot itself, I definitely will miss it because I have to return it to Student Government at the end of my term so that it can be reused for the next Senator. I am sure he/she will be grateful to have it as well.

Sincerely, Christopher Samp NTID Senator



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photo by EDMUND FOUNTAIN

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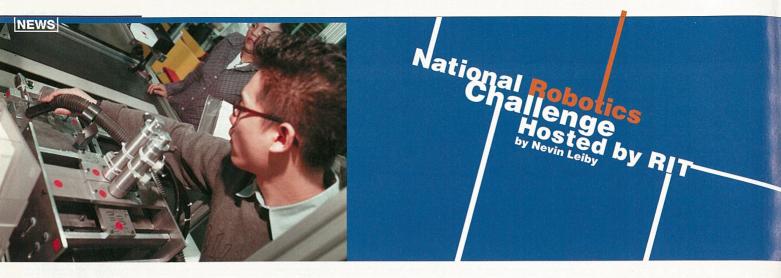
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They came, they played, they kicked ass, they graduated.



he 16th annual Robotic Technology and Engineering Challenge was held at RIT on May 4 and 5. The weekend marked the first time that the national robotic challenge, one of the largest competitions in the field, was held at RIT. More than 300 teams competed last year, composed of more than 800 individuals from high school to college.

More than 75 RIT Society of Manufacturing Engineer members are involved in Robotics International. 12 students from a variety of majors make up the team, and dedicate as much as 30 to 40 hours per week on the project.

More than one event was involved in the challenge. Engineers were to design a "Workcell" autonomous robot to construct a product,

it is internationally recognized and cele-

 α 75-pound "Sumo" robot beast for α brute-force contest, and α "Robot Construction" (RC) robot to carry out α task of the team's choosing. This year, RIT submitted three different robots to compete in all of the challenges.

In the past, the team's robots faired well. "Workcell," for instance, has been undefeated for all three years that it competed. "RC" placed third in last year's national competition, but is expected to place even higher with its recent enhancements. For instance, "RC" navigates using Infrared and GPS via a pre-programmed laptop, as well as transmits live video to a TV monitor.

Future versions of the "RC" robot may incorporate mechanical arms or other advanced functionality. A wireless network card will allow

for a web-based control mechanism, and the possibility of a streaming Internet web cam.

The group is also developing "Battlebot" and is hoping to compete in Comedy Central's 2002 Battlebots Competition in November.

Zac Poncheri, a third-year Information Technology student, is looking forward to his third year on the project. "I'd like to see a combination of students' majors, all doing their own part," Poncheri said. "I'd like to learn more, and just have fun with it...Perhaps I might even be able to get paid for what I like to do for fun!"

For additional information, including diagrams, videos of previous challenges, and detailed descriptions of the event, refer to their website: http://www.rit.edu/~smewww/.•



brated. Many colleges choose to sponsor a Take Back the Night rally because college campuses are typical places where violence against women occurs.

Take Back the Night is an opportunity to "educate students about what does happen and is happening on our campus [in regards to violence], and get information out there about how women feel."

This year it was held on the Greek Lawn, instead of the Quarter Mile as it has been in past years. The event also underwent many changes for 2002 with the addition of even more special events for students to enjoy. Purple ribbons that signified women's suffrage were distributed during the rally to help promote women taking a stand against violence. Three bands, Warrior Poets, Velocity Mirror, and Martha's Trouble, volunteered their time and performed on an outdoor stage throughout the duration of the event from 6:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. "This year we decided to change it up a bit and make it a larger scale event: run it at night, make it more fun with the come to," said Mills.

The rally included speakers from the community and campus as well including Sharon Staehle from Advocacy Services for Abused Deaf Victims, and Khury Petersen-Smith, a student activist. •

CRIME WATCH

compiled by Cameron Kolstad

APRIL 23



Reckless Endangerment with a Weapon - Grace Watson Hall



Larceny - Grace Watson Hall



Unlawful possession of Marijuana - University Commons



APRIL 25



Criminal Mischief - Fish B







APRIL 26



Harassment - Riverknoll Apartments

APRIL 27

Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle

A student's vehicle was stolen and later found on John Street at Jefferson Road. A radar detector was missing from the vehicle.

Reckless Endangerment of Property





APRIL 28



False Reporting - Fish C



An unknown person discharged a dry-chem fire extinguisher on the first floor of Fish Hall, causing the fire alarm

Harassment - NRH



Auto Stripping - S Lot



A student let a friend borrow his car. When the student returned to his car later, he found the driver's side mirror

Burglary - NRH



Theft of Services - Perkins Green Apartments





UNDERGRAD LIBERAL ARTS RESEARCH CONFERENCE

RIT STUDENTS PRESENT THEIR HARD WORK

BY NEVIN LEIBY

he fourth annual Student Research Conference held by the College of Liberal Arts took place on Monday, April 29, in the SAU. More than 50 undergraduate students from a wide range of majors participated in the all day event. Students presented work completed in Liberal Arts courses this academic year.

Presentation topics included environmentalism, oral history and ethnography, mass media content analysis, visual communication and popular culture, free trade and consumer culture, legislative politics, national and local crime studies, computer crime, violence and its impact on children, the psychology of decision making, poetry, and Beethoven's "Expansion" Period.

This year's conference showcased offerings never displayed before. Poetry and music highlighted the traditional social science, criminal justice, and social work research. Also, a new offering to the conference was a panel of faculty members' personal research stories. Each described personal accounts from their past research, including some of the bizarre twists. Faculty presenters included Kaiser for Psychology, Fornieri and Sutton for Political Science, Wagner for Economics, and Bond for Grants, Contracts, and Intellectual Property.

Laurence Winnie, Associate Dean of the College of Liberal Arts, was impressed by the students' research. "The conference shows the rich variety of student research in Liberal Arts," Winnie said. "RIT is certainly becoming more interested in research, and this [event] allows students to practice presenting their work."

Criminal Justice professor Sam McQuade had four of his students present their research on computer crime and criminal justice technology. McQuade stressed the importance of student research in an undergraduate's college education. "Research is the single most important thing that a student should do in college. Students must be able to think and intelligently analyze," said McQuade. "Students must be able to write. That's what college is all about."

McQuade also urges his students to approach their research in a different manner. "Answer a question that has never been asked or has never been done before. Don't merely present a summary of everyone else's research. Do something worthwhile—this isn't high school," McQuade said. "Writing about what someone else thought is not research." The professor added that nearly a third of his student's papers are suitable for public presentation, and despite all of their tedious work, "most students seem to really love it."

Gena Daley, second-year Criminal Justice major and one of McQuade's students, saidher courses have dramatically affected how she will approach future research projects. "I could never simply go back and write a descriptive research project ever again," Daley said.

Daley hopes her research answered why criminal justice is resorting to geographic profiling to analyze historical criminal activities, and mapping crimes to particular regions. Through such detailed analysis, investigators are able to estimate where a criminal lives. "It's really how technology and criminal justice have come together," Daley said. "I think that this research conference is a great idea, and it's also really beneficial to be able to stand up and get your ideas across to everybody without putting them to sleep."

"It's important to practice the skill of being able to present information to the non-expert. It is something that [the students] will do in their entire lives. This practical experience is invaluable no matter what they do!" said Winnie.

WORLD ASKEW

COMPILED BY EVERETT RELIGIOSO

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

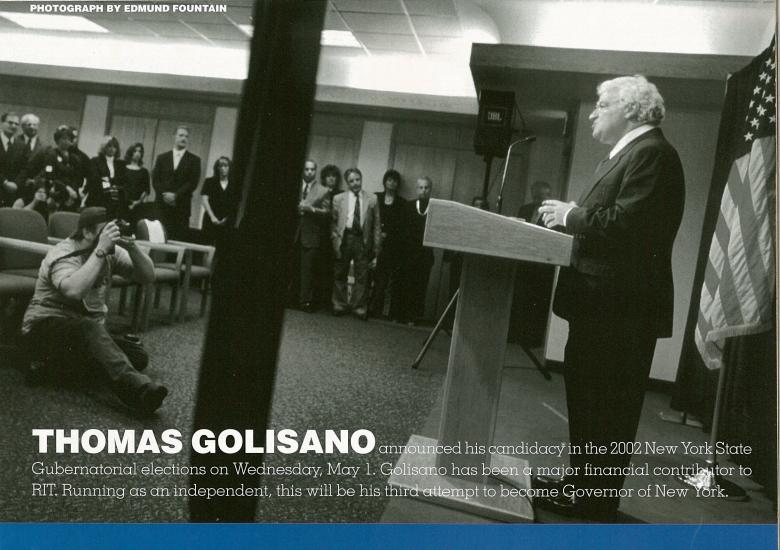
BERLIN, Germany: A court in Frankfurt has ordered German Railways to pay \$270 in compensation for a passenger who was "tortured" on one of their trains. The man searched for two hours to find a working toilet on the train. However, every toilet was locked because there was no water available for flushing. The only working toilet was also locked, and a ticket inspector kept its key. Another passenger, a witness in the case, was able to pressure the ticket inspector into giving him the key.

WICHITA, Kansas: Barbara Bush, recently misquoted by a reporter from The Wichita Eagle, decided to make light of the situation. The newspaper recently quoted Mrs. Bush as saying she went through three "breast sizes" during her life; however, Mrs. Bush really said she went through three "dress sizes." In her letter to the newspaper, Mrs. Bush wrote, "I've just become abreast of your recent article. I am indeed a bosom buddy to two presidents, so I shared some of the things I have learned in 76 years of life. That includes 57 years of married life, six children, 14 grandchildren, five wars, three DRESS sizes, two governors, two parachute jumps, and now two presidents. Your article has left this generally outspoken mother speechless, but has given my children much to laugh about. "The end of the letter had a handwritten note saying, "I just wanted to get this off my chest!"

LAS VEGAS, Nevada: Residents of Nevada can now get a newly designed license plate depicting a mushroom cloud, honoring the state's atomic past. The plates, colored brown and purple, also show the nucleus and atom logo for atomic energy. Besides being the original home of nuclear testing, the state is also under controversial plans to house nuclear waste in the proposed Yucca Mountain repository. "If they're talking about the legacy of the Test Site, I don't think they should use a mushroom cloud, unless they show what it did to the people who live here and worked out there," said Kalynda Tilges. "It's not a pretty thing."

MAINE, Bangor: Limbs and broken records fell at the same time at the annual STIHL Chainsaw competition. During the final round of the competition, competitors are challenged to cut through as many logs of wood as possible in eight minutes with chainsaws. John Blakes, 35, was on the verge of breaking the record but sawed off a major portion of his right leg when a log snapped unexpectedly. Nonetheless, he continued to cut, as he needed only one more log to break the record. After finishing the last log, Blakes passed out and was rushed to the hospital. The event, which was recorded for future showing on ESPN, is considering cutting out the gruesome event.

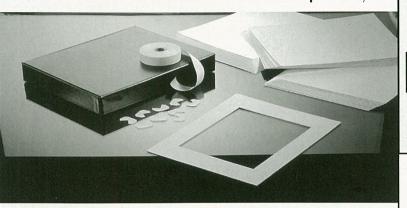
(See answer on Page 30)



inals, a noisy roommate, and disruptive neighbors are among the many things that can grate on a college student's nerves. Need a place to be alone for an hour? Head over to the Student Health Center for some quiet time. Located on the second floor in the Student Counseling Center, "The Tranquility Room" is available to all students to use for one hour at a time. The dimly-lit room contains comfortable furniture and a stereo that plays soothing music. Students can also bring in their own music just as long as they keep it quiet. The room can be signed out at the front desk in the counseling center for free.

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B MOVIE BONANZA

CRAPPY MOVIES TO COMPLETE THE YEAR

BY PETER GRAVELLE

THE SACRIFICES I MAKE FOR YOU GUYS! I TAKE ON BURDENS OF MOVIES LIKE **ONE MILLION YEARS BC** SO YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO READ. IF YOU GUYS AREN'T READING THIS, PLEASE DO NOT TELL ME WHAT YOU DO WITH MY ARTICLES. THANK YOU FOR PRESERVING MY SENSE OF SELF-WORTH.





ONE MILLION YEARS BC

One Million Years BC has to be the worst movie on the planet. You look at the cover and say to yourself, "Oh, this must be your classic Sci-Fi pulp flick, because of the scantily-clad female on the cover." And you'd be right, except for one thing.

Your average Sci-Fi pulp flick is approximately 1000 times better than One Million Years BC.

The dialogue for this one hour and 40 minute travesty lasted for five minutes—the first five minutes. After that, the story is conveyed by simple grunts and shouts.

The tiny traces of quality in the film stem from the special effects—anemic by today's standards, but at least good for the time it was released—and the halfnaked body of Raquel Welch.

All of the special effects were simply stock sections of small animals blown up and placed on the frame to look scary. In many cases, they used blown up sequences from model dinosaurs. Now, I could just bitch and say, "Dinosaurs and Humans Never Coexisted," but I just did.

So, as I said before, Raquel Welch. She is the sole reason to watch this movie—but only if you've exhausted all of her even slightly sexual photographs on the Internet are you likely to find anything here interesting.

FORBIDDEN PLANET

We go on to a slightly more decent movie, Forbidden Planet. As a matter of fact, it deserves the title "good."

Of course it's just a campy B-movie, but if you weren't interested in B-movies, why would you read this article? Forbidden Planet opens with a short, "history-to-date" introduction. It includes such erroneous facts as, "By the end of the 21st century, mankind had made it to the Moon. Soon thereafter, he colonized the rest of the planets."

But enough of my picking at the history and science of B-movies. That's just too easy.

Seriously, though, Forbidden Planet is a very high quality movie. Very cheesy in many sections, but it is an overall good film.

Our protagonists, the crew of a spaceship from Earth, are shocked to find their destination deserted save one man and his daughter. They become suspicious that out of an initial party of 20 scientists and thinkers, only this one man remains (his daughter was born on-planet).

Anyway, there α bunch of very frustrated males who just finished α yearlong trip through hyperspace, all going after this one girl.

But people start to die.

It's apparently caused by the same "force" that killed most of the original party.

The captain thinks it's the weird old reclusive scientist. It is and it isn't, but I can't really tell you anything more along those lines without ruining a perfectly respectable surprise ending.

THE TIME MACHINE

This brings us to the best of the bunch: The Time Machine. No, not the 2002 version with the crappy special effects, questionable scientific assertions and general low quality. The one I saw was the 1967 version.

This incredibly faithful rendering of H.G. Wells' classic tale of time travel and the quest of knowledge for its own sake deserves all the praise it can get.

The movie in short: A scientist from the turn of the century builds a time machine, goes forward a few leaps into time, then goes another 800,000 years after that. That future is full of barely-intelligent Eloi, who live the good life, and are rounded up and eaten by the Morlocks, who do all the work. It was H.G. Wells' way of reacting against the divisive class system in late 19th century England.

Of course, the movie is a bit tainted by its own time. It predicts the destruction of most life on the planet by nuclear satellite attack in 1968. It also includes the interesting facts of the known past and how our hero from 1899 interprets them.•

So, in closing (I know you've all been waiting for this), go get some B-movies! They're great for laughing at the cheesy special effects, the contrived, basic plots, and above all, the simple fact that you are not in them!

On a more somber and personal note:

"I love deadlines. I love the swooshing sound they make as they go by." Douglas Adams (3/11/1952 – 5/11/2001)

A comedic science-fiction genius. He is sorely missed.

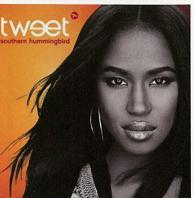


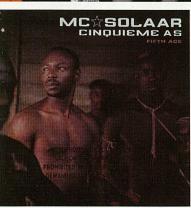


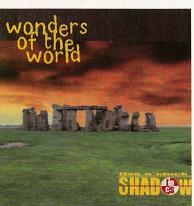
TWEET'S SOUTHERN HUMMINGBIRD & MC SOLAAR'S CINQUIEMEACE

CLEANING OUT THE DEMO BIN IN THE OFFICE

BY CHRIS WILTZ







PG.12 REPORTER 05.10.02

et me start this off by saying that I'm absolutely not an R&B fan. Of all the genres of music in the wide sonic spectrum, I can't think of any other type of music that is more stagnant and pigeonholed, both musically and lyrically, than R&B. Who is paying all these people to sing about sex? I'm in college and I have an OC3 Internet connection; there's nothing about sex I can hear that I can't see twice as easily!

Having said all that, Tweet's debut album isn't just normal R&B... it's R&B to the fourth power. All of the elements are there, right down to the cheating boyfriend song, "Motel." Strangely, though, after telling her man to "Go to hell, baby/Cause I saw you go into a motel," she turns around a few tracks later with "Call Me." Believe it or not, she sings about telling a man to cheat on his girlfriend in order to be with her. Herein lies the mystery surrounding all male-female relationships: Guys, pay attention. IT'S ONLY WRONG WHEN YOU DO IT. NOT HER. YOU! If you commit murder and she kills someone else a few minutes later, you're still the only one who's wrong.

Musically, the album doesn't stand out among the other R&B albums on the rack. Timbaland offers up some of his club-ready production skills to parts of the album (the highlights), including the not-so-hidden track 16, and the album's single, "Oops (Oh My)." However, not even one of the top hip-hop producers in the world can keep the album from drowning in its own acoustic neo-soul mediocrity.

Tweet does try to separate herself from the rest of the pack through her lyrics—not so much by being original, though. Indeed, the game in R&B is not who can come up with the freshest or most conceptual album, it's who can sound the most sexually explicit without crossing the fine line between erotic and raunchy. Just listening to the album conjures up images of parents across the nation having heart attacks after walking in on their sixteen-year-old daughters singing along to this.

Whether Tweet is telling us about impromptu sex ("Oops, there goes my skirt dropping to my feet/Oh my") or telling us of the joys of masturbation, the entire album is a proclamation of Tweet's sexuality. The message through the entire thing seems to be something like, "Get off while you can, any way you can, and to hell with anyone who won't let you."

Not just this album, but R&B as a whole, would be much more impressive if it found something new to talk about. Being an avid R&B fan must be like having a dead-end job. Of course, I'm not an R&B fan, so I might be wrong, but I do know that there's only so many ways to talk about a three-letter word before you end up just saying it.

Moving on, who is MC Solaar? Unless you're from Europe and speak fluent French, you probably have no idea.

Apparently, the French rapper has been around for quite a while; he's even collaborated with Missy Eliot (as if that's worth anything). Boring collaborations aside, MC Solaar's music is surprisingly easy to listen to (despite the fact most Americans won't be able to understand a word of it). The idea of a French rapper—let alone a good one—is testament to just how widespread hip-hop has spread. On his third American album, his sixth overall, Cinquieme Ace (that's Fifth Ace to us Americans), Solaar is again trying to conquer the American market without speaking the preferred American language.

Based on info from some of his English fan sites, Solaar prefers to avoid the subject matter plaguing most of hip-hop today (In fact, we're calling it Blingism from now on. Say it with me, boys and girls... Blingism) and often presents his listeners with positive hip-hop with anti-violence messages. Cinquieme Ace is supposedly his most personal album to date. While it's difficult to verify if this is true without a Master's degree in French, the atmosphere projected by the beats on the album is very casual and even soulful in some cases.

All 20 tracks on the CD are enjoyable. As soon as track two ("Solaar Pleure") hits in, heads start nodding. Not speaking any English seems to work in Solaar's favor. After all, when people can't understand you, not only do you not have to worry about saying anything retarded, but your voice essentially blends away and becomes part of the beat. "Leve-Toi Et Rap" is another standout track with a chorus composed of voice samples from old-school hip hop songs, a homage to Solaar's influences in America. There's also a brief Eminem reference when Solaar pauses and says, "Hi my name is..." on "Le Cinquieme As," doing what is likely the best Slim Shady impression that can be done with a heavy French accent. The best song on the album has to be "Degats Collateraux." It's club-worthy without sounding like it's ripping off any other producer's style, and the chorus just might have you doing your best French impression.

With Cinquieme Ace, MC Solaar manages to do something in French that a lot of rappers can't even do in English: make an enjoyable album. While he probably won't be getting any headlines until he picks up a copy of "English Rapping for Dummies," MC Solaar is definitely worth a listen—if for nothing else than to see just how far hip-hop music has managed to reach.

BONUS REVIEWS

BY JAKE LODWICK AND WILLIAM HUBER



Wonders of the World (WOW - as in, "Wow, I can't believe I'm listening to this")

by Five O'Clock Shadow

At first listen, this sounds like another low-budget boy band. But listen carefully, and you'll realize that ALL OF THE INSTRUMENTS ARE THE GUYS' VOICES! No, that's not a drum—it's David "Stack" Stackhouse's mouth! And hey, that isn't a synthesized crap guitar—it's the thing Bill Eddy puts his food in! The lyrics aren't poetry ("cuz there's too many choices, too many voices"), but they make me look at the world differently.

Burger World, that is.

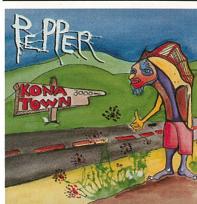
The cover art looks like a photo of Stonehenge taken with a webcam and then colored in by α

drunken roofer. Buy this CD for the novelty of men using their mouths as instruments. Keep it for the agony.

Kona Town

by Pepper

Imagine cultural Hawaiian tribal songs. Ok, good. Now, take some crappy rock performed with a \$16 guitar and drums made out of suitcases and cardboard boxes, and add it to the Hawaiian stuff. Wrap it in a CD case that looks like it was drawn in magic marker by a man with no hands or eyes. Finally, get Volcom Entertainment to distribute it. The result is a monstrous waste of time and effort. I'm done.





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A TODD ROHALSTORY

BY JAKOB LODWICK



ollywood movies are often tweaked, focus-grouped, and refined to go down smooth and digestible like applesauce—at the price of artistic exploration. Independent feature-length films still have tons of people involved, including investors, and can get botched creatively. Independent shorts, though, are a different story. The smaller scope (and budget, and cast, and crew) makes it easier for a single director to mold the piece to the exact form that he has in mind. And though I've never worked as a crewmember on one of his films, I have a hunch that Todd Rohal is doing exactly what he wants to.

26 year-old Rohal grew up in Ohio. He moved a bit east into Baltimore, where he shot his most recent film, and eventually ended up in Virginia. All of his shorts are shot on film, not video. This makes everything more expensive, time-consuming, and, in most people's opinion, better looking and more rewarding. His publicly acknowledged shorts are Slug 660, Single Spaced, Knuckleface Jones, and Hillbilly Robot: the latter two best exemplify what makes his work unique. They tell stories of misfit characters whose hallucinogenic, disconnected journeys make the viewer feel simultaneously normal and weird. A young man with boxing gloves and a chicken mask seems out of place, but if he's so weird, how come no one else seems surprised?

Hillbilly Robot, despite what the name may imply, is an emotional piece whose title character attempts to reunite his non-robotic family. He rarely opens his mouth, and the narrative structure is nowhere near the road-trip mystery one might expect. Instead, we watch the three family members meet with a variety of oddballs across a series of dreamlike vignettes. Standout characters such as an energetic Bulgarian handyman and a motormouthed ex-con grab all the attention of their respective scenes, distracting the viewer with imaginative tangents. Much of the film was written by Rohal taking unrelated scenes that he had imagined, loosely tying them together, and then assembling them into one story.

The film paints the sadness of being nonhuman in a human world. Of course, it only feels sad because we relate to the humanoid title character more than we do, say, a refrigerator. On the other hand, the hatred felt by humans toward him is genuinely sad. Anyone aware of his identity expends gallons of anger and fear to express these emotions, which, really, he isn't even feeling. A pair of angry kids who encounter him early on yell insults and develop their sense of contempt, but for what?

The film's settings are ripe with decay. Shot mostly in and around Baltimore, the film captures decrepit scenes of urban deterioration with beautifully-photographed shots. Of particular interest is a scene at Memorial Stadium, home to the Orioles until Camden Yards opened in 1992. The place is chillingly desolate; rarely do we see structures as large and extravagant as a baseball stadium overrun by weeds and marked by emptiness.

Tallying twenty-three quick minutes, the film is long enough to garner depth but quick enough to keep viewers' attentions in place. It manages to both entertain and provoke thought, with the depth of that thinking left up to the viewer. I can't really think of any complaints other than I thought a few scenes could have been slightly briefer. But as a comedy, and an art film, and an artificial life commentary, I found the film refreshingly enjoyable.

Hillbilly Robot has over a dozen film festival screenings to brag about, and the details of each are explained on Rohal's website. For example, the supposedly great SXSW Film Festival has the worst write-up of any festival, including an audience that was "sedate as a morgue," and had a "retarded version of Henry Rollins" running the theater.

Check the Come And Get It! Films website for information on upcoming screenings of Hillbilly Robot, and to learn about getting VHS copies of the movie. Todd's three earlier movies, along with dozens of other shorts by his colleagues, are available on the Come And Get It! DVD, which is sold at the website. Despite the DVD's impeccable design, though, I found many off the non-Rohal movies underwhelming.

http://www.comeandgetitfilms.com/

Evening Includes:

Dinner, in the SAu Cafeteria Live Music With...

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Meredith LeVande Featuring Comedians...

Jason LeVasseur

Psychics

Novelty Acts

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Prizes will be raffled -You must sign up in order to guarantee your free dinner-

throughout the evening: -Bring you student ID when signing up-

Questions Call the CAB office: 475-2509



STUDENT ACTIVITY FEES Where Your Money Goes

by KAVYA YADAV

hey appear on our tuition statements every quarter, but does anyone really know where the money for student activity fees is allocated? More importantly, does the investment come back to all students? This question can only be answered by tracing the money from its origin and then finding out how it is utilized across various organizations and budget lines.

Current state of affairs

With the current system, all students pay α flat rate called "student activity fees" as part of their tuition. This money is then distributed.

uted between Student Government, the major student organizations (MSOs) such as Residence Halls Association and Off-Campus and Apartment Student Assocition,

> and other on-campus clubs.

According to Mike D'Arcangelo, Director of the Center for Campus Life, the pre-sent

system is a definite improvement over its predecessor. "In the past, about ten years ago," he said, "there were four or five rates where different groups of people had different fees." He then explained that NTID

had a separate fee, as did the residence halls and off-campus students. "So if you fell under two different categories, you'd have to end up paying a couple of different fees," he said. This was a situation most students were unhappy with.

In response to the problem, officials explored the possibilities to reduce and standardize the amount students would have to pay; they formulated a base budget. "The base budget was, at that time, really asking student groups what their most essential needs were in order to serve their needs best," said D'Arcangelo.

The base budget allowed officials to calculate the minimum amount of money a club or organization would need to function effectively. This was how the student activity figure was originally developed, but a lot has changed over the past ten years. The number of clubs and associations has risen from 20 to over a hundred today, which ultimately led to a proportional increase in the fee.

The breakdown

The student activity fee provides funding for most on-campus organizations.

"Student Government, the MSOs, and clubs all get their operational budget from the student activity fees," explained Student Government President Erick Littleford. The



operational budget consists of the money used for costs incurred within clubs and programs, such as money for events and

speakers. In addition, the fees also fund departments like the Office of Student Affairs.

To avoid leakage of funds, the process in which clubs must go through to obtain a budget isn't arbitrary. "All clubs have to go through a lot of paperwork, as well as budget hearings, before they are approved for a budget," said D'Arcangelo.

The money allocated to these organizations and clubs is also monitored in several ways. Ryan Giglia, Assistant Director for Campus Life Programs, monitors the allocated money through registration. One of his duties is to ensure that all clubs or organizations register their events to guarantee their legitimacy. "The clubs also have advisors who are there to guide members and explain policies and procedures," Giglia added.

Many times, not all the money given to α club or MSO is spent by the end of the year. "The surplus at the end of the year goes into

a reserve account, which serves as an emergency fund," Littleford explained, using a flowchart for reference. "The reserve account can hold only a certain percentage of the original operational budget. After the reserve account is also full, the excess goes into another separate account where money doesn't get carried over to the next year if it is not spent."

Palm Pilots for SG

An example of Student Activity Fee money allocation that recently came to light is Student Government's decision to purchase Palm Pilots for each member of the Cabinet and Senate. "What happened was every MSO was asked what they needed in terms of infrastructure, in terms of things that can be bought only once and can't be [acquired using] the operational budget; so it won't take away from the programming of the club," Littleford said.

The operational budget, which comes entirely from the student activity fees students pay, can only used for the club's programs and events. But it sometimes happens that by the end of the year, the entire operational budget does not get used up for club activities. Consequently, this surplus money (from the operational budget) either lapses or can be used to make infrastructure purchases. "Infrastructure" consists of any physical asset the club would need in order to function more efficiently. Different organizations take the opportunity to use this money according to their needs.

For example, some decide to buy furniture, and others decide on printers or computers. This year, Student Government decided to upgrade its technology and use this money to provide its Cabinet members and Senators with Palm Pilots for the duration of their term in office.

Littleford attempted to clear up the misconceptions associated with the topic. "We decided on Palm Pilots because they are convenient and cost-effective," he said.

"Instead of buying more computers, which you have to be in the office to use, you can take Palm Pilots with you and store a lot of information." Littleford also added that they are great for functionality, and cheaper than a laptop. He believes they help make his Senate more effective and accessible.

To illustrate this, he referred to situations where students asked him or his team members to explain all 21 of SG's initiatives. A Palm Pilot enabled the user to store such information to assist in the explanation.

"I think SG wants to be at that point where students sort of challenge and want to know

what's going on," said Littleford. Another advantage to having Palm Pilots is that meetings can be scheduled and down-



loaded onto the Palm Pilots via the Internet. This makes it essential for Cabinet or Senate members to keep up their appointments under almost any circumstance. "The purchase of Palm Pilots did not affect the club budget or the programming because the events are taken care of before we let anyone make infrastructure purchases," Littleford added.

Littleford emphasized was that the Palm Pilots do not belong to any of the members of SG. They are the property of the Student Government, and its members sign a contract requiring them to return the Palm Pilots at the end of the academic year. "If I don't get them back by May 24, we charge their [individual] student account and they personally replace it," Littleford said.

FACES OF RIT: SHANNON TAGGART

A REAL SHOOTING STAR Visual Resource Manager, Professor, and Freelance Professional

by REN MEINHART photo by EDMUND FOUNTAIN

ome people radiate infectious enthusiasm when discussing what they are passionate about. Shannon Taggart, Visual Resources Manager of the Photo and Digital Imaging Department of the RIT Educational Technology Center, also a successful freelance photographer, is one of those people. A 1998 graduate of RIT's School of Photographic Arts and Sciences (SPAS), Taggart has returned to RIT, this time not as a student. This time, she returns as a member of both faculty and staff, sharing her knowledge and overwhelming love of photography with both students and staff alike.

Taggart's new role as manager keeps her interested. "This is the first time that I'm not shooting for a living and not needing my

eye for work, but I really enjoy what I do," she explained. "I'm lucky that I have a job to pay the bills, but still have all the time to do my own work. I enjoy the students that work for me. They're all really hard workers."

The same can be said about Taggart. "We're fortunate to have Shannon on our team," said ETC Digital Media

Specialist Jeremiah Parry-Hill. "She brings to the table a deep understanding of her craft and a high level of professionalism."

Her role as a SPAS faculty member also appeals to Taggart, who teaches Advertising I in the fall and winter quarters. "I enjoy teaching. It's a different way of using my photography skills," said Taggart. "I learn a lot from my students too, while sharing with them what I know. I really enjoy when we're in class and everyone's working hard on a project, and we're all talking about what makes a good photograph. It's nice to be around people who are always talking about photography. In the professional world, you kind of lose that."

Good photography is a subject that Taggart has plenty of experience with. In 1998, her images of residents in the outpatient clinic of a Buffalo mental institution won second place in the Alexia Foundation for World Peace's Student Competition. "The psychiatric center project was about

creating a visual metaphor for how it felt to be sick; or, rather, how they told me it felt like to be sick."

The Alexia Foundation award gave her not only the resources to continue this project, but also, the opportunity to travel. While in London, she produced what would become her most successful body of work: photographs taken of the cloistered nuns of the Tyburn Convent in London. "It's been the most profitable financially, and it's my work that's gotten the most attention. I think it's the subject matter; people have a strong emotional reaction to it." Taggart explained of her photographs, one of which appears on the cover of Lying Awake, a novel by Mark Salzman, and three others, which are being

"I absolutely love photography; just everything about it. I'm just fascinated with people and the human experience. I really love it when people welcome you into their inner world..." — Shannon Taggart

reproduced on greeting cards. "I've gotten a lot of response, which is great," she said. "I'd like to go back this summer and shoot them again; I think I'm a better photographer now and have more experience."

Taggart emphasizes the importance of getting work published, as it became not only a "resume builder, but a confidence builder as well." She herself has been published in *Blindspot*, a photography-based fine art journal, and in *Time* twice this year with photographs of the Tyburn nuns and of scientist Iane Goodall.

Taggart's advice for young photographers doesn't stop there. "RIT is really, honestly, like, photo heaven. You have access to all of this equipment and facilities. You should be shooting everyday. Do it now, because once you get out [of school] it will be that much harder to do, and with most jobs won't be about your own work right away," stressed Taggart. "You have to be especially driven now. Take advantage of all of this: Have fun, but push yourself."

She said that interning was the most positive thing she did for her career, advice that applies to all students at RIT as well. "You're in an environment where you're treated as a professional and really have to rise to the occasion. It can teach you what school never could "

Her most recent documentary in-progress shows the interior lives and beliefs of the residents of Lilly Dale, a spiritualist community in New York. "I was frightened at first," she said, "but now it's the most wonderful place for me. I'm friends with the people there and they know me... I had to convince them that I had really genuine intentions and interest in how they see the world. I go to church gatherings and talk with the

people. People like to tell about their lives."

The Lilly Dale project is one that Taggart has spent a great deal of her free time shooting over the past year, which has provided her with an understanding of the culture that exposes itself in the images she develops.

Taggart's enthusiasm for her work at the ETC is also apparent. "We really want to get more students to know about us and what we do. We offer a lot of services for the RIT community, so [they should] come take advantage of it!" said Taggart. "We photograph student work so that students can have slides to show [their potential employers]. It's good to get your work documented every year so that you have a portfolio for when you graduate."

The ETC Photo and Digital Imaging Department is located in the basement of Wallace Library and is open Monday through Friday. More information on the services that are provided can be found at:

http://www.rit.edu/~613www/etc/etchtml/f_info.htm Shannon Taggart's Alexia Foundation project and proposal can be found at: http://newhouse.syr.edu/alexia/index.html



WORD ON THE STREET

What was your worst summer job?

compiled by JOHANNA MILLER photographs by DENIS ROCHEFORT



"McDonald's. I worked one day and quit."

Russell Wright Fourth Year Finance



"Working concessions at a pool in Yonkers, NY." John Chamber

First Year Mechanical Engineering



"I did Internet technology support. That sucked ass."

Mark Woitaszek First Year New Media



"I was a goat farmer one summer and had to shovel a lot of feces. It was a stinky job."

Brad Hunter Third Year Hotel Management



"I've never had a bad summer inh hefore

Christine Summeralls Fourth Year Finance



"I was a cleaning lady for offices and had to scrub the bathrooms, gym, and shower every day."

Lauren Richardson Third Year Business Management



"Working for five bucks an hour at a very labor intensive farm for ten to twelve hours a day. I couldn't drive at the time, so it was the only thing I could do."

Steve Trimarch First Year

Undeclared Business



Kelly Youngblood Staff Registrars Office

"Working in a shooting club loading targets on to mechan-

Iames Domanski Fourth Year Industrial Design

ical arms."

"I'd have to say probably picking up garbage after a concert. We got in free though, so it was worth it."

Pat Bako Fourth Year Glass Sculpture

"I worked on a fishing boat in Alaska. It wasn't a bad job, but it was hard."

Ioshua Schwalbach-Scott

Third Year Photo Iournalism

"I worked at an old folks home... Man, that was a trip!"

Richard Gray

Staff

Facilities Management

"Working on a farm and driving a tractor was the worst job I've ever had. I'd always fall asleep and go diagonal across the field."

Spike Craddock

First Year

Management Information Systems

"Working at the SAU doing dishes. It is actually a winter job, but definitely the worst job ever."

Ryan Baker

Staff

Dishwasher at the SAU



"I would have to say [it was] when I had to watch over 15make them work."

Joey Powers

Fine Art, Studio Photography

and 16 year-old workers and practically had to shove them to



"Working for ADT doing telemarketing. I worked for four days and then I quit because people were so rude and I couldn't stand it."

Denishea Flanigan Second Year International Business and Marketina

Second Year

ROCHESTER IN THE SUMMER

done by now, and RIT still has two weeks, including finals. Even when school ends, you don't want to go back to flipping burgers in your hometown for one more sunny summer. Instead, test the theory that it doesn't snow in Rochester's summer! Find out what there is to do when snow isn't packed four feet deep and you're not concerned about losing toes to Mr. Hypothermia.

Staying for the Summer

The fact is, during the summer quarter, the rent for on-campus living is reduced significantly. A bonus to that is that the apartments don't need to meet full occupancy requirements, as is the rule for the rest of the school year.

At this point, the Housing Connections office has stopped taking applications for this summer. If finding a place to live is holding you back from staying in Rochester, seek out some of the hordes of people who are desperate for a sublet off-campus. A sublet provides those people looking for a place to stay a chance to finish off the remaining months of the annual lease that the original lessee signed last September. Many students have postings all around campus, and there are even more listings on the RIT Housing Connections website.

If paying for the new digs is a worry, consider an on-campus job. This place vacates in the summer and the offices are left hanging in the breeze as a result. For instance, the Housing Connections office offers students a free place to live if they agree to work full-time for them over the summer.

Keeping Yourself Occupied

After working basically full-time for nine months, students not in classes over the summer will suddenly find themselves with loads of extra time on their hands. Some obvious, but easy-to-forget sources for entertainment are the Democrat and Chronicle or the alternative weekly newspaper, City, for local events. Of course, for those techies who'd rather search for stuff to do online. www.mvrochester.com has an interactive calendar through the "events" link on the main page. Clicking on any designated day will serve up a full up-to-date list of all going on that day.

For other sources of fun online in the Rochester area, check out local radio stations like 98 PXY at www.wpxy.com, where tickets for upcoming concerts like the Summer Jam on May 28 can be ordered. For more alternative concerts in the Rochester area, look up 94.1 at www.thezone941.com. Pollstar.com will also provide all the infor-

very other college in the nation is IT DOESN'T SNOW ALL THE TIME, IN THEORY... by KELSEY BURCH with REPORTER STAFF illustration by PHIL MONTELONE

> mation vou need for other area concerts, including those in Buffalo and Syracuse.

Events

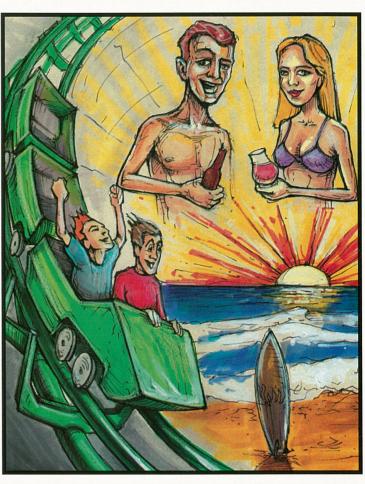
Some local events to mark on the calendar include the free Lilac Festival from May 10-19, which displays a vast amount of gorgeous flowers all over Highland Park in Rochester. Park Avenue Art Fest is held on Aug 4 and 5-the street is blocked off and carnival vendors, craftspeople and artists take over for the weekend.

Additionally, Darien Lake, an hour and a half drive from Rochester, makes a great day trip. You can purchase discount

all-day adult admission tickets at Tops Supermarkets for \$21.99, a \$9 discount from regular admission. If you go, remember to bring \$7 for parking passes (paid per car). Check out http://www.sixflags.com/parks/darienlake/ParkInfo for further information about hours of operation.

Sports fans can look in the Democrat and Chronicle for information about two hot local sports teams, the Red Wings (minor league baseball) and the Rhinos (major league soccer). They both play at Frontier Field in the High-Falls district in downtown Rochester. Most games are on Friday or Saturday nights, and ticket prices range from \$11 to \$19.

There's nothing like a day at Charlotte beach or Letchworth Park for a relaxing picnic and some sun. Letchworth, a New York state park, is located an hour away, near Castile. There are more than 60 miles of hiking trails, pools, campgrounds, and many other scheduled activities throughout the summer.



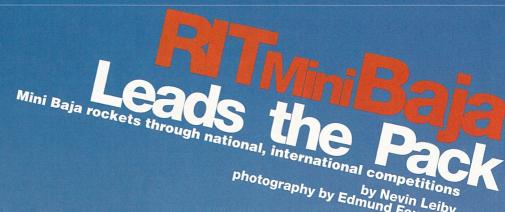
What about Off-Campus Fun?

The College Activities Board (CAB) is offering numerous recreational trips for RIT students staying in Rochester this summer. For a weekend of fun, CAB will take you on a day trip to Darien Lake scheduled for July 20, then to Casino Niagara in Canada on the evening of July 21.

Still Bored?

If all else fails, get lost-literally. Leave the map at home and just start driving. It's the best way to learn more about Rochester and its suburbs. You'll see shops and restaurants that you would never have noticed had you been staring at the map the whole time.

So, if you find yourself in Rochester over the summer, and you determine that the weather really does climb over 55 degrees occasionally, get out of the house and check out Rochester. After all, for all the money you're paying to stay in this city during the year, you should take every opportunity you can to find places to have fun.



by Nevin Leiby Photography by Edmund Fountain



embers of RIT's Mini Baja team can be characterized by a single word-dedicated. "No matter how tired and how dirty we are, our cars receive the best possible care that we can give," said Russ Wylie, RIT Mini Baja team manager and third year participant in the project. Students from Biology, Packaging Science, and Medical Illustration majors participate.

This year, the 330-pound Mini Baja cars have been hauled all over America and beyond, competing in both national and international circuits, in locations such as Kansas, Wisconsin, Brazil, and South Africa.

Last week in Utah, the team placed first in the United States. The next race, the Mini-Baja East Competition, will be in West Virginia. Wylie, third-year Mechanical Engineering (ME) student said, "I expect to place very, very high."

Thus far, the team has consistently ranked in the top ten for almost every single race: 10th place in Brazil, first place overall in the United States and also first place overall in their recent South Africa competition.

Grueling competitions composed of three core events test the car's maneuverability, acceleration, braking, speed, sled pull, and hill climbing abilities. A four-hour endurance battle stresses the machines to their limits. Through unyielding mud, over razor-sharp rocks, and around mammoth moguls, they rip along blade-thin paths. Nothing can illustrate the two inches of mud coating every surface of the car.

About 14 RIT students attend each race, and they often get little more than three hours of rest. All students, however, admit they unquestionably enjoy them.

The only component standard on all cars is the engine. Each teams' designs must optimize this as much as possible. RIT's design enables the motor to rocket the car up to 40 mph and plow through knee-deep mud.

The 40-member team was established in the early 1980s, but became involved in the solar car competitions in the mid-1980s, and finally evolved into formula car racing. As a result, RIT's formula team represents Mini Baja's roots.

"Five or six years ago, however, some students really wanted Baja again. Mini Baja is really much older than formula [racing]," explained Wylie. "Their team also ranks very high, too. They have even competed in England and Australia."

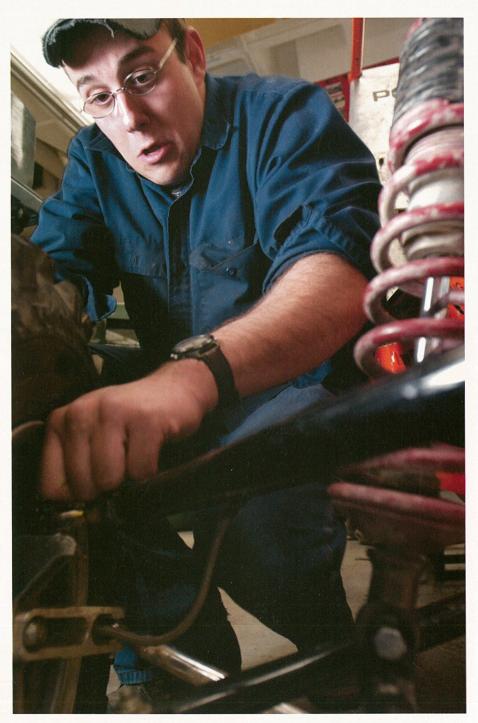
A new Baja car is typically built each year with minor improvements. To an experienced mechanical engineer, however, the improvements go well beyond the competition's 25 percent minimum modification policy.

As a result, the team is able to tweak designs yearly, ensuring that each participant is exposed to more than sufficient design experience.

"Every little bit helps-you would be amazed," Wylie added. The team manager also pointed out the team's dedication to quality. "We go so far as to make sure that exactly two threads remain on each screw... everything we can do to make them lighter. We are one of the lightest out there... another team was lighter, but theirs fell apart!"

"It's a complete learning process each time," he said. According to Wylie, "a new car definitely takes all year. We usually start in July or September, but have begun as early as April. We put in thousands and thousands of hours designing the very best."

At other schools, however, the project is quite limited. "Some only get to do it as a senior design project, and a team of four or five may only be able to work on it for a few hours a day. At RIT, some [very dedicated students] have even slept in here. Rumors say that a few sometimes put in almost 70 hours per week. Most put in much less than that, sometimes up to 40 hours per week," said Wylie.



Team manager Russ Wylie grimaces as he repairs part of the car's wheel assembly. The team builds a new car from scratch each year and must work out many complications.



Senior Shawn Clapham (left) and Freshman Dan Upton work on the Mini Baja team's new car. The team is currently ranked first in the nation.

According to Cody Notaro, a Mechanical Engineering major, "Mini Baja is the reason why I came to this school... because of the caliber of this team." Wylie added, "It's the only international team, and one of the few nationals."

Notaro admitted that funding and time is a major factor in their success, but is confident that their experience far exceeds any other schools.

"It's not that other teams skimp, but we take it much further. Combined with our very wellequipped machine shop, we do very well," Nataro said.

Notaro thanks all of their 150 sponsors for their dedication to the program, including Trans World Alloys, Rochester Gear, NTN, Swan, and TW Metals.

"RIT is our biggest sponsor... we even have RIT graduates at Mahany backing our team. We take pride in being the one to look for every single race," the project manager said.

Wylie agreed. "We win because of our extreme attention to detail. We finish the car. We go the extra mile. Every single last touch... Not only that, but we make almost everything."

Dave Trenier, a third year ME Technology (MET) student, explained that the competition requires teams to design a consumer vehicle that would be simple enough to easily manufacture 4,000 units. For instance, designs often make use of exchangeable parts and straightforward designs. Students, however, can

supplement their consumer designs with more costly and more complex ideal components, superior to their consumer counterparts.

"Our designs are excellent... everything fits perfectly. For instance, in Utah, we placed fourth as the best engineered car out of 85," Wylie said.

"We win because of our extreme attention to detail. We finish the car. We go the extra mile. Every single last touch...Not only that, but we make almost everything." – Russ Wylie, Team Manager

Wylie pointed out that RIT's front end is precisely designed. "Our suspension is topnotch. [Shawn] Clapham designed it so that it doesn't even dip. You just don't find that kind of quality at Mini Baja. At formula [racing], yes, but not here..." Shawn Clapham, a Mechanical Engineering major, is the steering and suspension team leader.

"The car flows-it handles beautifully. Thanks to Clapman, it turns with just a little bit of effort," said Jeremy Swerdlow, ME Technology student. "I've seen these roll and flip, but I feel far safer in it than any car! For instance, our brakes, designed by a Packaging Science major, are by far the best ever!"

Swerdlow is ambitiously undertaking a modification that would attach paddles on the wheels to quickly propel the car as it floats atop ten feet of water.

"We are excellent on land or water, but it's very difficult to do both. There have been many complex and unusual designs by other teams, but none of them have ever worked."

Swerdlow's new design affixes three paddles to the rims of the rear wheels. "Water pressure deploys them only in water. In tests so far, they have been working. But that was in the bathtub... I'll find out officially in a few days!"

Participating students are passionate about the project and meet many other friends with the same interests. "It's all about applying everything that you learn... And employers really look for it... someone got a Volvo position in Sweden because of Mini Baja," said Wylie.

Lee Gagne, a second-year ME major, is the team's brakes team leader. He is confident that employers will be impressed. "Employers know Mini Baja. If not, they will definitely ask."

Swerdlow agreed. "It gives you opportunities that you will not be able to get anywhere else. It's excellent work experience."

Students interested in the project should visit their website: http://www.rit.edu/~bajawww or visit the machine shop in the Louise Slaughter building (building 78).



RIT ROLLER HOCKEY VS. RIT ICE HOCKEY
ICE HOCKEY WINS THIRD ANNUAL MELTDOWN AS THE COMMUNITY REMEMBERS A FRIEND
BY AARON LANDERS

ABOVE: RIT ROLLER HOCKEY GOALIE ZACK MARRAPESE BLOCKS A SHOT FROM HOCKEY PLAYER ADAM GEORGE.

he season is long since over for RIT's ice hockey team, but on April 27 they had a chance to avenge one of last year's toughest losses. RIT's ice and roller hockey teams faced off for a year-end roller hockey showdown, appropriately dubbed the Spring Hockey Meltdown.

The Rolling Tigers' bragging rights were on the line in this game. Thanks to a slim one-goal victory in last year's Meltdown, the team has held the win over the ice hockey team's head for twelve full months. The game was also an opportunity to remember an old friend that was tragically taken from the RIT community. Joe Ferraro, a former member of the roller hockey team and perhaps one of the friendliest faces on campus, passed away less than two years are from maniparitis.

The scholarship fund that bears Ferraro's name, along with the United Way, shared all of the proceeds from the event. These organizations were the true winners, as were the fans, which were treated to a lively and exciting game of roller bookey.

Both teams took to the court at the ESL Sports Centre with high hopes. The Rolling Tigers' bench was a bit light as star players Ryan Beliveau and Brandon Luckino were missing from the lineup.

Top talent on the Rolling Tigers team included former ice hockey standout Josh Meyers, as well as rookie sensation Marcus Fajardo. They were among the talented players who were all decked out in sharp white jerseys.

The ice hockey team brought a solid squad to the table, with the likes of Galway,

Faulkner, Wilkins, and Bournazakis wearing the Tiger grange.

The 177 fans in attendance waited in anticipation to see if the change in playing surface would be enough to allow the seasoned veterans of roller hockey to shut down the star powered ice hockey lineup.

That notion quickly diminished, as the ice team jumped out to a quick 3-0 lead. Senior Jerry Galway's fine puck control, precision passing, and nose for the net scored all three goals for his team.

With a score of 5-1 by the end of the first period, the ice team looked ready to cruise to victory.

The Rolling Tigers showed signs of life in the second period. After conceding an early goal, they held the ice hockey team off with fine strong play between the pipes from Peter Vincent.

They also began breaking down their opponent's defense and managed to sneak two goals past Chris Sherman, who was faced with a barrage of shots in the middle stages of the period and did well to protect the lead. The teams exchanged goals eight seconds apart in the waning minutes of the period, making the score 7-4 at a break.

Any hope of a comeback later in the game was dashed when the ice hockey team rattled off three straight goals in the third period. Despite pulling one back at the end of the period, the Roller Hockey team could not close the gap, and found themselves on the losing end of a 12-7 score line.

The winners credit increased preparation for the win. "We've been working on our game," said Josh Faulkner. "We've been prac-

ticing a bit and getting a little better understanding for the game."

"We had a better system than we did last year," Mike Bournazakis added. "We played a lot better than last year."

Although revenge is sweet sometimes, a game is more than just about winning and losing.

"It was a good time and it all goes to a good cause," said Galway.

Faulkner agreed. "It's for charity and it's for Joe. We all knew him well. It's good to be here for a good purpose."•

For more information on the Joseph T. Memorial Scholarship Fund, visit www.rit.edu/~memorialline ferraro.

MICHAEL TUCCIARONE (LEFT, TIGERS HOCKEY)
AND KEVIN KWILOS (RIGHT, TIGERS ROLLER
HOCKEY) BATTLE FOR CONTROL OF THE PUCK.



REPORTER 05.10.02 PG.25 REPORTER 05.10.02 PG.25

"IT WAS A GOOD TIME AND IT ALL GOES TO A GOOD CAUSE." - JERRY GALWAY



RIT's #10 Andrew Wilm slides into second as St. Lawrence's Jeff Silino tosses the ball to #1 Kevin Eberz. Wilm was safe on the play, and the Tigers won 9-0.

Sports Desk

by Pat Smyton photography by Denis Rochefort

Women's Lacrosse

The Lady Tigers closed out their 2002 season on April 24 by demolishing Utica College, 12-2. The win gave the team a final record of 5-7 overall, and 3-4 in Empire Eight play. Prior to the game, the three seniors on the team, Heather Savage, co-captain Erin Skuce, and Nicolle Gray, were honored for their accomplishments and achievements in their four years with the team.

As for the game, sophomore attacker **Kelly Martin** paced the squad with four unassisted goals, Savage added three goals and an assist, and junior co-captain **Erin Diduro** chipped in with two goals.

Martin led the team in scoring on the season. Overall, she finished with 27 goals and five assists for 32 points overall in just 12 games.

Also leading the team was junior attacker **Sarah Maneri**, who had 16 goals and nine assists (25 points), and freshman attacker **Andrea Ervay**, scoring 17 goals and assisting with seven. Sophomore goalie **Laurie Needer** finished the season with a record of 4-7, and stopped 57 percent of the shots she faced.

The 2003 campaign promises to be exciting. Although they will lose the senior leadership and strong defense in Skuce, Savage, and Gray, the top three scorers (Martin, Maneri, and Ervay) all will return, as does their starting goaltender, Needer.

Men's Lacrosse

The men's lacrosse team had a great shot at the Empire Eight title and qualification into the NCAA championship.

Led by sophomore attacker **Chris Copeland's** seven goals, the men soundly defeated their Division II foe, Mercyhurst College, on May 1 for their fourth consecutive victory.

The two teams were even at 4-4 after the first quarter, and RIT pulled ahead 6-5 at the half. In the third quarter, however, the Tigers broke out and scored six unanswered goals to take a 12-5 lead.

Along with Copeland, leading scorers for the game were senior attacker **Chris Vallone**, who netted four goals and assisted on three, and junior attacker **Josh Molinari**, who had a goal to go with his six assists.

Also contributing to the win were sophomores Ryan Neward with two goals, Geoff Selleck with one goal, and senior Dan Tuschong with one goal. The victory improved the Tigers' record to 8-4 overall, 4-1 in the Empire Eight.

On April 27, the team defeated visiting team Hartwick College, 17-7.

Molinari led the team with eight points (two goals, six assists), while Neward contributed five goals and an assist. Copeland scored four goals, and Selleck had two assists. Tuschong and Vallone (one assist) each added a pair of tallies.

Goalie **Chris James** saved 26 shots as the Tigers took an 11-4 halftime lead on the Hawks.

Meanwhile, Molinari and James were awarded player of the week and goalie of the week, respectively, by Empire Eight.

Molinari has contributed to 40 of the Tigers' last 48 games, while James stopped 78.6 percent of the shots he faced.

Baseball

The Tiger baseball team finished the week with a split doubleheader against cross-town rival University of Rochester. They won the first 7-4 and dropped the second 6-4, giving them an overall mark of 14-15 and 4-3 in the Empire Eight.

Senior pitcher **Tim Pritchard** earned the victory in the first game, contributing six solid innings with seven strikeouts to improve his record to 5-3.

Junior centerfielder **Tim Feldman** hit a tworun triple in the fifth inning to spark the Tigers, while senior right fielder **Brendan Edwards** went two for four with an RBI and run scored. Junior co-captain **Marty Maynard** also had two hits and scored a run for the Tigers.

In the second game, U of R's lead proved to be insurmountable, as Feldman's two-run homer in the sixth inning could only bring the Tigers within two. As a result, the Yellow Jackets held on for a 6-4 victory.

Dan Weglinski pitched 5 2/3 innings, giving up six runs, three earned, on six hits.

Edwards and senior infielder **Tony Kiel** each went one for three with an RBI and a run scored.

On April 27, the Tigers visited Cortland, dropping an 8-5 decision. **Jim Fogarty** scored three runs and also walked three times.

Eric Hauser had a first inning run-scoring double, as did Feldman in the eighth inning. The Tigers begin ECACs on May 11.



Left: RIT's senior pitcher Kurt Phillipson pitches during his no-hitter against the St. Lawrence Saints on May 4, 2002. Below: RIT's Jim Fogarty (8) bobbles a fly ball as left fielder Eric Hauser (24) comes to back him up during their game against the Saints

Softball

The Lady Tiger softball team steamrolled their way through competition this week, winning four out of their five games.

In the play-in round of the Empire Eight Championships, the third-seeded Tigers defeated number six-ranked Alfred State. 8-0 on May 1. The team's record so far is 18-14-1 and 9-4 in Em- pire Eight.

Pitcher **Shari McNamara** struck out eight batters while scattering six hits, improving her record to 14-9, and her seventh shutout.

She was aided by first baseman **Becky May**, who went three for four at the plate with three RBIs and a run scored. **Ashley Kennedy** was also three for four, with a double and two RBIs. **Kelly Iagulli** was two for two with three runs scored and an RBI, and **Elaine Vonderembse** went for two for four with two doubles and an RBI to pace the offensive side.

On April 27, the ladies split with Elmira, dropping the first game 3-2 but winning the second 6-4. In the first game, McNamara led the offense, going two for three with an RBI. She also pitched a complete game, striking out six, while allowing eight hits and three runs.

In the nightcap, McNamara once again paced the offense, as she went two for four from the plate, scored two runs, and drove in another. May also went three for four and scored a run, and Iagulli was two for four with a run scored and an RBI.

The ladies swept Keuka College April 25, winning 6-0 and 13-1. Of their 14 hits in the first game, **Jessica Fabin**, McNamara, and lagulli each had three. McNamara pitched a complete game one-hitter, while striking out eight and walking none.

In the second game, Iagulli, who had a double and three RBI's, led RIT offensively. McNamara, who went three for three, drove in two runs.

In the fourth inning, the route was ensured with eight runs. **Jennifer Miazga** (two RBIs) and Fabin (one RBI) each had two hits and scored a run. Fabin allowed just three hits to pick up the victory.

Men's Tennis

The men's tennis team crushed both Oswego and Elmira to improve their record to 9-5 and 8-0 in the Empire Eight.

The team won every singles and doubles match during each matchup. The team is led



by Empire Eight Rookie of the Year **David Chachu**, who owns a match record of 13-6 in first singles and 5-5 in first doubles.

With their 8-0 league record, the Tigers can call themselves Empire Eight Champions.

They're also led by **Joe Neely**, who went 15-6 in singles action, and teaming with **Luke St. Georges**, went 13-3 in doubles.

Coach Ann Nealon, in her 31st year, also received post-season accolades, as she was named Empire Eight coach of the year. This year, she led the Tigers to their third straight league title.

Men's and Women's Crew

The men's novice eight team took first place in their race on April 29 at the Atlantic Sprints in Rossville, Pennsylvania.

Meanwhile, the men's varsity A team finished second in Varsity Eight.

The women's varsity, ranked eighth in the nation, took a close second to number two-ranked Ithaca, finishing just six seconds back with a time of 6:53.49.

Next up for the crew teams is the all-important Dad Vail Regatta, taking place the weekend of May 9-11 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Men's and Women's Track

The men's and women's Tigers traveled to RPI for a meet April 27, with much success.

Molly Urquhart tied for first in the high jump, clearing 1.37 meters, and she also won the 100-meter hurdles, with a time of 1 6.43 seconds.

Travis Ah King won the 400-meter hurdles with a time of 57.12 seconds.

Nathan Rose came in second in the pole vault with a jump of 3.96 meters, Mark Hedberg came in second with his 6.61-meter long jump. Ellen Alkiewicz finished second in the 3000-meter run, with a time of 11:14.25 seconds, and Megan McNeil was the runner-up in the 1500-meter run, finishing at 5:06.51.

Next up for the track stars is the ECAC Championships on May 16-17.



KURT PHILLIPSON

BECKY MAY

DAN TUSHONG

REPORTER SALUTES SPRING SPORT SENIORS

BY MARCI SAVAGE, ANDREA ERVAY, AND SHEILA SARRATORE PHOTOGRAPHY DENIS ROCHEFORT

n May 25, RIT will say goodbye to many dedicated and talented spring sports athletes. For a few graduates, this means the end of their athletic careers at RIT. We took the opportunity to recognize and salute these spring sports graduates.

Note: Some of the athletes are seniors, but will not be graduating until the fall or winter quarter of next year. They will also be recognized because their eligibility will end in spring.

Women's Crew

Coxwain Sarah Seely's long journey will end this spring. Seely still has a few quarters left at RIT, but will not be eligible after this season. She has been a member of the crew team for four years, and is the only person remaining from her novice squad.

"Sarah isn't just our team captain. At one point for everyone on the team, she has been a confidant, leader, and friend. Her ability to lead our team with confidence is something that the RIT crew team will never forget," said sophomore teammate Meredith Bielaska.

Men's Crew

Theresa O'Keefe has been a member of the crew team for four years. She began her athletic career at RIT as a rower, and then quickly became a varsity coxwain.

"Theresa's hard work and dedication has resulted in her being one of the finest men's

coxwains that we have ever had," said head coach Jim Bodenstedt.

O'Keefe will not be eligible at the end of this season.

"A dedicated rower since the beginning," said Bodenstedt, in reference to Evan Kastner. Kastner will also be out of eligibility this year, and is in a five-year program at RIT.

"No matter what boat Evan is in, he always works his hardest to make it the fastest boat possible," said Bodenstedt.

This will also be Evan Brunner's last season as a member of the RIT crew team.

He has rowed for four years, and has only missed some time after a tragic accident, in which he was able to recover from. He has the fall season of eligibility left, but plans to concentrate on his studies.

"I hold utmost respect for this young man, who worked very hard to overcome challenges he faced after the accident," said Bodenstedt

Women's Lacrosse

Heather Savage helped the attack players stay on their man, making sure their opponent didn't get the ball.

Savage, a.k.a. "Snapper," filled in for a captain's position when one was absent at practice. At only 5'2", Savage was still a great role model for the entire team.

"Playing lacrosse has taught me a lot about teamwork and even about life. It has been a lot of fun and I was able to meet many great people along the way," said Savage.

After playing for three years, she had accumulated sixty-two goals, and twenty assists. She was one of the leaders for ground balls, ending her season with 148.

Erin Skuce, a.k.a. "Rocket," was cocaptain for the 2001-2002 season. "It has been fun getting to know the girls and having been a part of watching this team develop and mature," said the four year player.

Erin ended up with two goals and two assists, but played awesome defense, tallying 97 ground balls.

After playing for two years, Nicolle Gray had some difficulty balancing her Physician's Assistant program her senior year. She participated in games only when she was available, "always coming with a smile on her face after being up for 24 hours working at the hospital," said teammate Kirsten Smith.

Nicolle was a defender and a midfielder her senior year. She finished up with two goals, two assists, and 49 ground balls.

Men's Lacrosse

Dan Tuschong is RIT men's lacrosse top scorer. So far, he's leading the Tigers with 35



goals and five assists. As a captain, he is a areat leader on and off the field.

For the second consecutive year, Tuschong was on the preseason All-American squad for Face-Off & Lacrosse Magazine's NCAA Division III Second-Team. He is also an All-American and Midfielder of the Year candidate.

Chris Farrugia, another captain, earned NCAA Division III honorable mention All-American and Second-Team All-Empire Eight. He has tallied 53 ground balls in his two year athletic career at RIT. Chris is also an All-American candidate.

"He instills the fear of lacrosse into his opponents," said senior teammate Tim Hunt.

Tim Hunt plays the wing position, using his abilities to grab the ball and get it down to the right end of the field.

"He's the guy that gets the job done," said teammate Jonathan Manely.

After transferring from UMass-Dartmouth, Peter St. John has been an inspiration to the Tigers with his dedication and his passion for lacrosse.

"He knows the defensive slide packages as well as anybody," said Coach Peluso.

Chris Vallone stepped up when times were crucial. He's known as the "go-to guy," said several of his teammates. He consistently helps the team to victory. In the Nazareth game, Vallone scored the game winner with only 17 seconds remaining.

So far, Vallone has accumulated 25 goals, 13 assists and 35 ground balls. Vallone was also a 2001 Honorable Mention All-Empire Eight.

Men's Tennis

The tennis team only consisted of one senior this year, Joe Penvose. Penvose played for the Tigers for the past four years.

"Penvose saw limited action due to an injury, but was able to play an exhibition match," said Coach Ann Nealon. They lost the exhibition match to Hobart.

Softball

Rochester native Becky May, the one and only softball senior this year, played well this season. As the first baseman for the team, May had a batting average of .283. This season, she also hit two homeruns and had six RBIs. She was the cocaptain of the team her senior year.

Baseball

Catcher Greg Sterman is among the seniors on the baseball team. So far on the season, he has a .214 batting average, played in $13\,\mathrm{games}$ for the Tigers, and has started in $11\,\mathrm{games}$.

Infielder and co-captain Andrew Schild will be greatly missed as he departs this summer for a coop and possible full-time job at Nike.

Schild was a four-year player at RIT, playing both the positions of shortstop and also second base. He has an impressive .330 batting average this season, and leads the team with 20 RBIs.

Kurt Phillipson, a pitcher for RIT, has a 2-0 record on the season, with a 1.93 ERA. In 18.2 innings pitched, he has allowed 15 hits, with nine strikeouts and eight walks.

Outfielder Brendam Edwards has played in 27 games so far in the 2002 season. He has a very impressive offensive attack, .328 batting average, 14 runs and 12 RBIs. He has also been very valuable in the field during 2002, with a .952 fielding percentage.

Tim Pritchard has a 5-3 pitching record on the season, with a 5.22 ERA. In a little over 50 innings, he has an incredible 48 strikeouts, averaging almost one per inning.

Infielder Anthony Kiel has played in 25 games so far on the season, and has a .321 batting average. He has a .814 fielding percentage.

Women's Track

Suzanne Dale is a thrower on the track and field team. She competed in the hammer and javelin in her senior year. Dale set a new school record in the hammer with a throw of 38.18 meters.

Angela Internicola is also a thrower on the team. She competed in the hammer event this year.

Ellen Alkiewicz, a distance runner for the Tigers, competed in the 10,000, 3,000, 800, and 4x400 meter relay in different meets in the season. At the Alumni Invitational in the beginning of the year, she placed fifth in the 10,000 meter run with a time of 39:17.10.•

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DEAR EVERYONE: I had a great weekend in Rochester. Now, I'm really REALLY leaving. When you drink a Snapple, think of me hard at work making it look pretty. Take care - Otto (GD '99)

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in Mlot

3:00p.m. - Midnight

Fireworks @ 9:30 pm

Sat., May 11th

Carnival/Spring Fest

Noon - Midnight

Bands on Greek lawn 1-6:30pm

Sat., May 11th

Jurassic 5

Doors open at 7pm

opening act-2 skinners J'S

in Clark Gym

Tickets: \$10 students, \$15 fac/staff, \$20 public

Sun., May 12th

RIT Singers Concert

5

Thur., May 16th

Grind Event

Meredith LeVande (Acoustic Guitar)

8pm in the Commons

FREE

Fri., May 17th

Senior Night

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SAU



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