

REPORTER

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Photography Issue

Guest Editorial

“Whether it be a painting or photograph, the picture is a symbol that brings one immediately into close touch with reality”

-Lewis Hine

Documentary photography expands our awareness of all that is happening outside of our homes. Writing is one way to document an event or a place, but the visual details of a photograph often evoke emotions that words cannot. Powerful images cause people to react.

Oftentimes, photojournalism students use their work as a way of bringing awareness to social issues. Their work becomes a voice for their beliefs and the ideas they are trying to express. An outlet for their work is a necessity. Without viewers, their message is lost. Gallery openings, senior thesis exhibits, and displays in buildings throughout campus provide an opportunity for students to show their work outside of the classroom.

This week, *Reporter* is providing another way for student work to be shown, allowing four photographers the opportunity to share their vision with you, the reader. This issue makes it possible to see things that normally would remain unseen.

Even though the typical technology student may not encounter photography on a daily basis, it is important to realize that without this art form, RIT would simply be a two-dimensional educational experience. There would be information and perhaps understanding, but not necessarily a deeper level of spiritual connection with the world around us. Keeping the visual medium alive is a vital and utterly necessary part of this institute.

In the following pages, spend a day in the life of a 16 year-old girl, go back to the playful days of summer camp, travel to Florida for Bike Week 2002, and wait in the open spaces of an airport. The moments and gestures in these photographs become the words that tell the story.

Brian Marcus
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Jaclyn is awakened at 7:00 a.m. every weekday morning for school. Each morning she struggles to get out of bed. As her pajamas come off, she enjoys a short backrub before getting dressed.

Jaclyn

by Kara Fulgenzi

Jaclyn, now sixteen years old, was born with Turners Syndrome, a severe chromosome abnormality. Jaclyn is also mentally retarded and has a severe seizure disorder. She has the mentality of a two-year old. She cannot walk, talk, feed herself, bathe herself or clothe herself. She must rely on her family every day for the necessities. Jaclyn may not lead the life of an average sixteen-year old, but despite her disability, she is full of life, personality and character. Jaclyn is my sister. I grew up with her, not knowing a sister to be any other way. As I grow older, I realize that I have learned more about compassion, responsibility and unconditional love from my little sister than I have from any other human being.



Before the bus arrives at 7:45, Jaclyn must eat breakfast and take her medication. This morning, she is not cooperating. She bites her hand and shouts to let her mother know that something is wrong. Her dog Buddy senses her mood and waits for her to throw him scraps from the table.



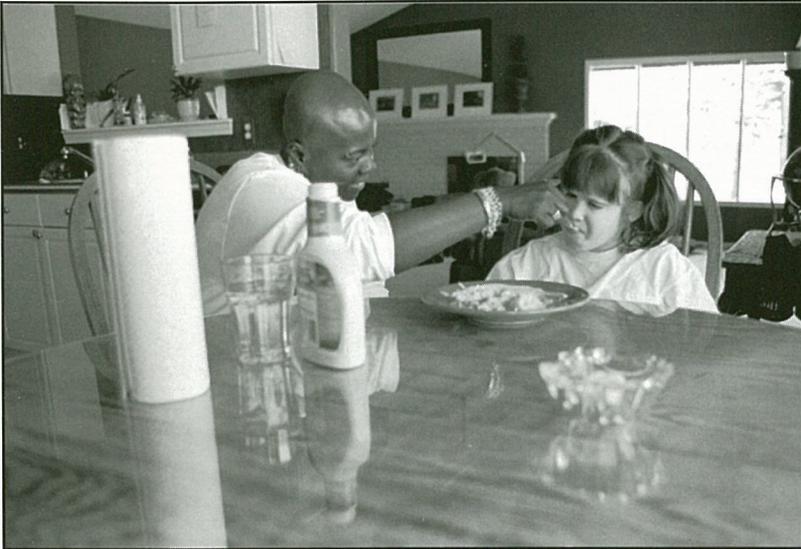
Sitting among classmates and teachers' aids during current events makes Jaelyn antsy. Unlike most of her classmates, Jaelyn has a very hard time sitting still. Current events do not keep her entertained.



At 4:00 p.m. Jaelyn arrives home from school. She is wheeled from the bus into the garage, where she leaves her chair. With her mother's help, she walks inside, watches the garage door close, then slams the door to the house.



Jaelyn is quite an acrobat for girl who cannot even walk. Once she is up in a headstand, she kicks her feet - one, then the other. She always provides the entertainment for her friends.



Valerie, Jaclyn's sitter, feeds her after school and cares for her until she goes to bed. Valerie, who works only twenty hours during the week, is very patient, despite Jaclyn's somewhat trying temperament.



When Jaclyn's father arrives home from work, he always takes her for a ride. Sometimes it's a car ride, sometimes it's a bike ride; tonight, it's a wagon ride with the Easter Bunny.





Affection is the only way that Jaelyn can express her feelings. She hugs and kisses her father to let him know that she loves him.

* * *



Images from summer camp

Photographs by Steve Brahms



7050













At 7050, off the old highway in Northern Wisconsin, everyday experience, like the nourished recollections of memory, is amplified to the point of perfection. Individuals shine among the group, fires burn with brilliance, imaginations soar with creativity, love is felt so deeply it hurts, and trees appear as ladders to the reverential stars that glow more brightly every night.

7050

Biker's Paradise



photographs by Edmund Fountain



Since 1937, motorcyclists have flocked to Daytona Beach for an event that has become known as Bike Week. The event began as a 200-mile motorcycle race on a small beach track and has since grown into an event that covers all of Volusia county. Each year, around 500,000 bikers



migrate to this area to partake in a week of mayhem and revelry.

Paradise for many people equates to white sand, blue sky, and palm trees. For the bikers at Daytona, paradise meant a week away from work, the smell of burnt rubber and exhaust, women willing to "bare it all" for a few cheers, and a chance to act 18 again.





Bike Week places emphasis on excessiveness and decadence. People drink from sunrise until well after sunset. The girls flash anyone they see, trying to get attention. Companies make the event into a massive advertising campaign, giving out free merchandise and sponsoring all sorts of events. Harley Davidson even hosted a wedding at the grand

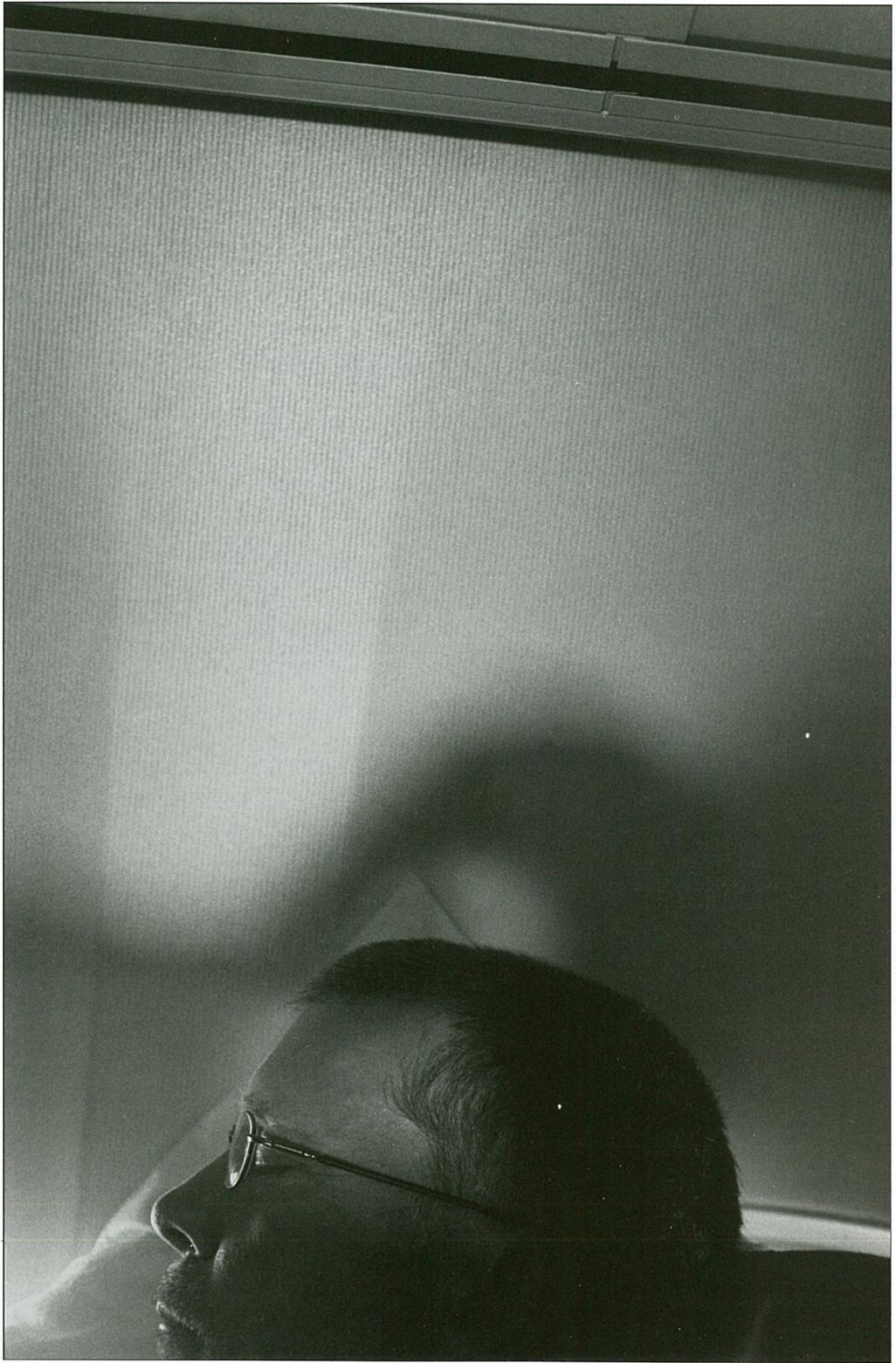


opening of a showroom during the week. Biker camps have all sorts of outrageous events, such as wrestling competitions in vats of cole slaw.



These photographs are my reaction to a group of people who, in my opinion, never grew up. While I found that each of the bikers I encountered had a unique and interesting personality, I found it sad that this is the high point of the year for many of them, because they feel they can live recklessly for these seven days. These bikers may be doctors and lawyers for 51 weeks of the year, but for one week in March, they are whoever they want to be.



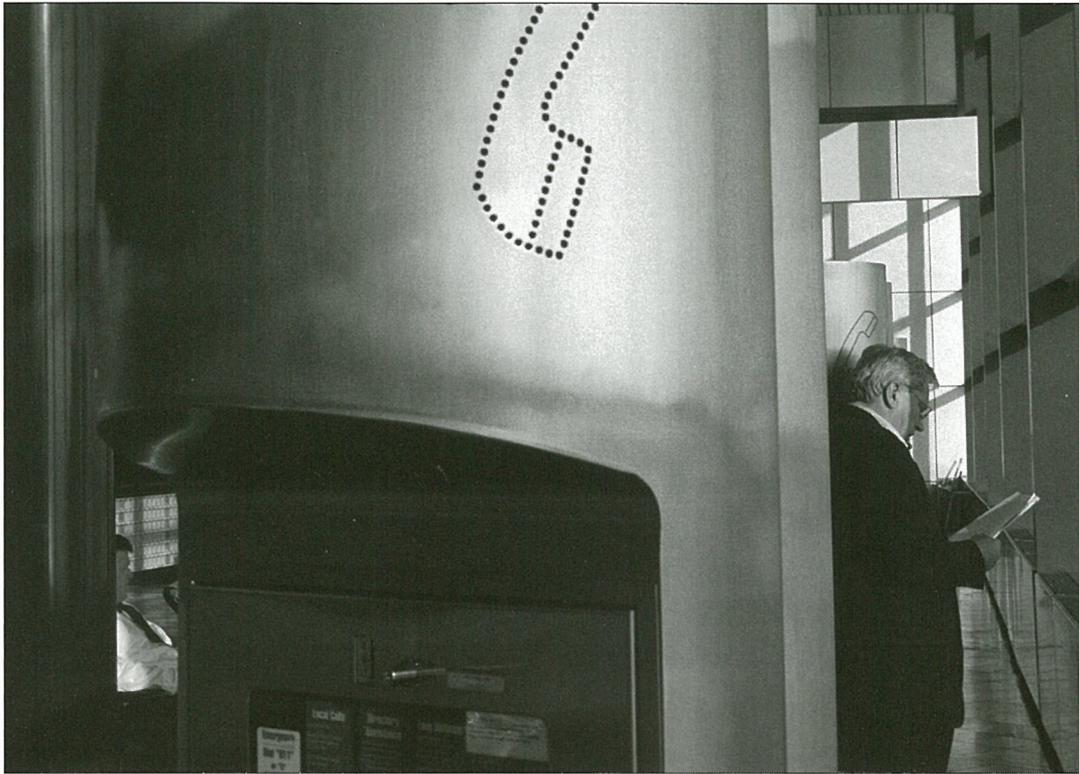


Time Spent

by Andrew Schafer



Airports are landscapes painted
with abstract *physical* and *emotional* characteristics.



For an environment that symbolizes

movement,

and thrives on *speedy* traveling,

there is a lot of *waiting* involved in the process.

A place so public, yet so

private and isolated.

Travelers rush to get to a place where they kill time.









interaction between *light and gesture* is important

in creating a *relation*



ship between

subject and environment

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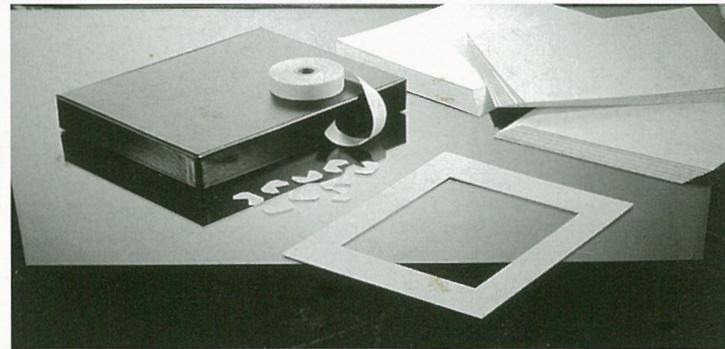
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