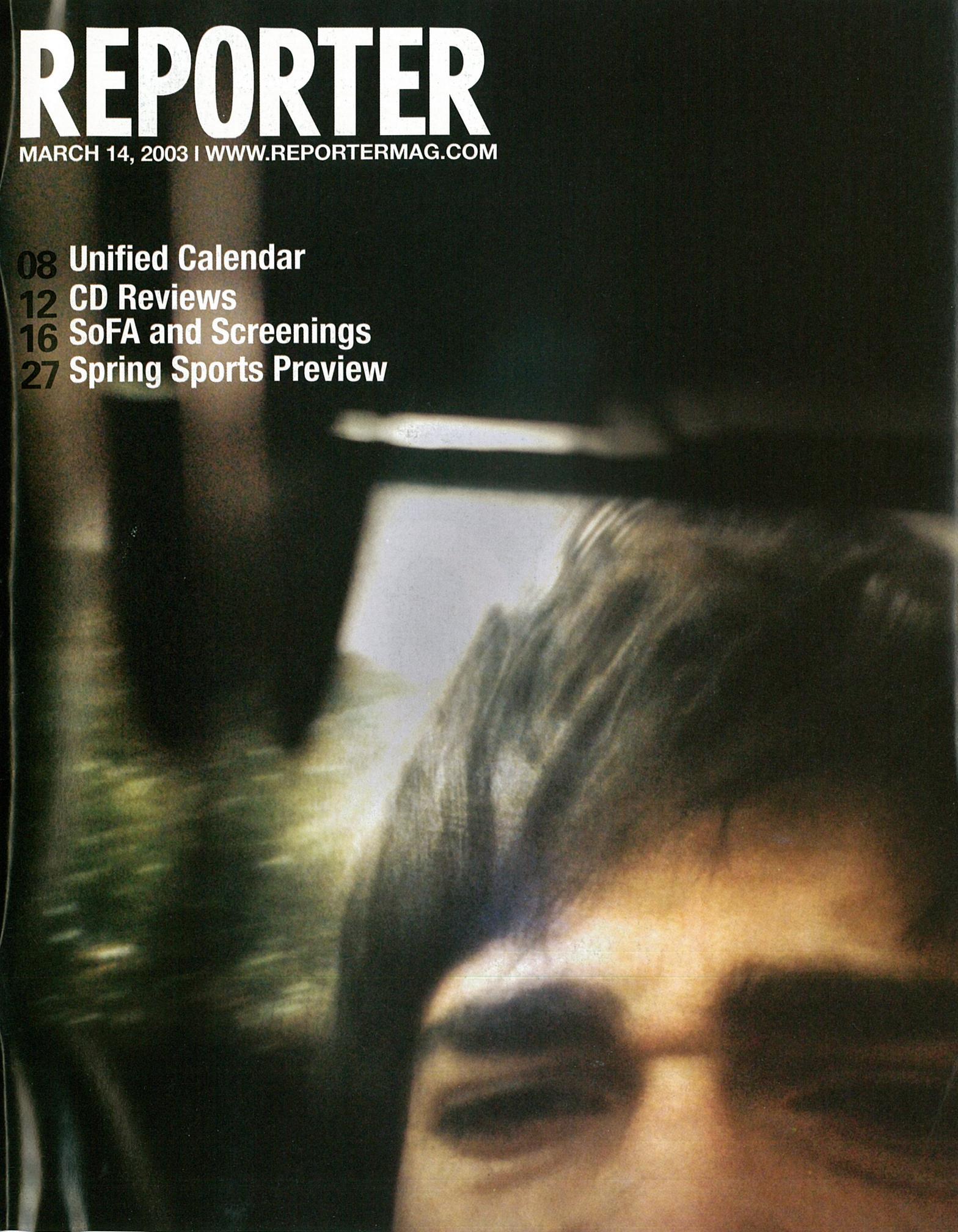


REPORTER

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Making the Grade

I am a Film major. The fact that this issue's cover story is on the Film school is not a coincidence; in fact, it was my idea. Nepotism? Oh, indeed yes. Conflict of interest? Gray area. Never mind that. The thing that really matters is that the Film school and its recent screenings deserve magazine space, whether it's my department or not. However, despite all of the positive aspects of the School of Film and Animation, all is not well.

There is a certain complaint floating around the Film school: There are people studying film at RIT who just shouldn't be there. I happen to agree. There are people who have spent the last four years in the program, learning the tools necessary to work in the film industry, yet simply don't have the talent to support that knowledge. Let's face it: There are some people who are just terrible filmmakers (or illustrators, or photographers, or designers, or whatever—pick any fine arts major and you'll hear the same thing). No amount of education or rehashing of lessons or critiques can help that. Some things just can't be taught.

In a program where the grades are based not on the black-and-whites of formulas and equations, but on the grays of *how well* something is done, sometimes faculty and students alike just don't have the heart to tell a struggling student that his or her work is awful. Said students get the erroneous message that their work is great, based upon decent grades, and therefore they keep doing it. The end result is that they don't learn anything. Nobody benefits. These people will be in for a great deal of disappointment when they graduate because their work *sucks*.

I am not going to point my finger at anyone until I point at myself first. Looking back, I realize how terrible my freshman work was. I deserved every C, D and F I received. I still have copies of my freshman films that I take out and watch just to knock myself down a peg or two every now and again. I find it healthy to remind myself of just what true crap (writing, editing, production values, etc.) I am capable of creating.

However, here's the detail that many students seem to be missing: I got better.

Now, before you get on my case about tooting my own horn, I realize that I'm no Spielberg or Scorsese or whoever. But yes, I got better. People told me my work was absolutely awful, and I took that advice/criticism and used it to make better films. It seems that some students in my program and others who have never had the benefit of an honest critique of their work. Or, maybe they have, but they disregard this information. I worry about how these people will find work after they graduate because they continue to blithely produce garbage. Note: I don't worry *much*, or *often*, but still.

There are those in the Film program who are there simply to learn how to use the tools, etc., because they expect to be a member of a crew somewhere with no creative control. The people I am referring to are the people who actually have plans to be filmmakers. The Film program (and the other fine arts programs) can be improved by weeding out sub-par students; ideally, pulling them quickly—say, in their second year, after they've proven themselves awful—in order to save everyone the time and trouble. The problem could be tackled as easily as giving honest critiques, no matter how much someone's feelings might be hurt. It's time to face the truth: Some people weren't cut out for this business.



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"Sheet" Music to Our Ears

To William Huber and the *Reporter* staff:

As a member of the RIT Board of Trustees I sit on the Student Life Committee and receive regular copies of *Reporter*. I want you and your staff to know that I think the [magazine] you are producing is getting better and better and is head and shoulders above *Reporter* magazines of the past. You have interesting, informative and unusual articles and a clean, modern format.

Congratulations to all. Your hard work on the "sheet" is really paying off and you should be proud of what you're doing!!

-Joe Briggs

In These Uncertain Times...

I am writing to inform the RIT community of a neighbor that they should all get to know. In this time of heightened security and increased concern, it is important now, more than ever, to know your neighbors. The neighbor of which I speak is the Genesee Valley United Methodist Church, located on Bailey Road. While at RIT, this Church is your neighbor regardless of your religion, age, sex, culture, or beliefs.

While I was a student at RIT, I had the privilege of attending this church and meeting the great people who are a part of it. I noticed the church one fall afternoon while jogging down Bailey Road. I decided to check out the following Sunday. When I did I was greeted with a smile, a handshake, and a "how are you?" I was sold. I knew right away that these were the type of people who cared about their neighbors, and their community. I felt welcome and at home immediately. There were no probing questions about my faith or, beliefs, just acceptance for me as a person.

Over the course of the next two years I had the chance to get to know many of the members well, and they became almost like a second family to me. Now when I visit Rochester to see the Tigers beat up on another hockey team, I make it a point to stop in and visit with everyone at the church and catch up on the latest events. I urge you if you are interested in getting to meet other people who

care about their neighbors, and who live their lives doing unto others, as they would have done unto them, stop by Sunday at 11am. Or, at least stop by for one of the chicken barbeques that are held twice a year!

I would also like to congratulate you and your staff on a great job with the magazine. I am also very impressed with the web page [www.reportermag.com] (my main source for news from RIT). Keep up the good work!

-Joshua Murphy

Class of 2002

A Lesson For Us All

In his February 7 editorial, William Huber wrote, "Murder now is almost as common as birth." Are you joking? According to the Centers for Disease Control (www.cdc.gov), the U.S. birth rate in 2000 was 14.8 per 1,000 people. The TOTAL death rate in 1999 (the last year I could find final data on the CDC website) was 8.8 per 1,000. Homicide, the 14th leading cause of death, had a rate of 0.062 per 1,000, and is on the decline. It dropped 4.6 percent from 1998 to 1999, which "follows a 31.6 percent decline from 1992 to 1998," according to the CDC. As an aside, suicide is more common than homicide, coming in as the 11th leading cause of death. The murder rate and birth rate aren't even close, they're three orders of magnitude apart!!

-Greg Smith

Mr. Smith—Maybe this will help: "Hyperbole (noun): an extravagant exaggeration of facts, usually used to illustrate an argument in the absence of specific reference materials." Sorry there was any confusion. —W.H.

Just Kidding

In the February 14 issue of *Reporter*, Chris Wiltz [described] some, "default female jobs," for us on page 16. They included, "cashier, waitress, model, stripper..." and nurse. While I can't claim any first-hand experience in the trade, my extensive experience working with nurses as an ambulance medic, and with dating

a particularly caring, interesting, and ambitious nurse has given me some insight that Mr. Wiltz apparently lacks.

From his tone, Mr. Wiltz implies that nursing is a dead-end career, far from an, "awesome job," and that nurses should definitely be overlooked in the search for one's "perfect woman." I disagree strongly: While the other professions listed in the article might serve as red flags, I would encourage any guy looking for a date to think twice before turning down a nurse. Nurses work hard at what they do, and, in the vast majority of cases, do their jobs passionately and with great care.

Mr. Wiltz, while I respect your choice to avoid nurses, I hate to see the readership of *Reporter* misled. Why avoid a woman whose career requires she be a caring, compassionate individual with a strong sense of duty, loyalty and constant self-improvement? Why dodge a relationship with a person who can take care of you when you're sick? Why pigeonhole a deserving, hard-working group of people based on a discriminatory article that carelessly groups the noble and very special nursing profession with those who dance naked for a living? Doesn't make much sense to me... but then again, I'm in love with the best nurse of them all, so I suppose I'm biased.

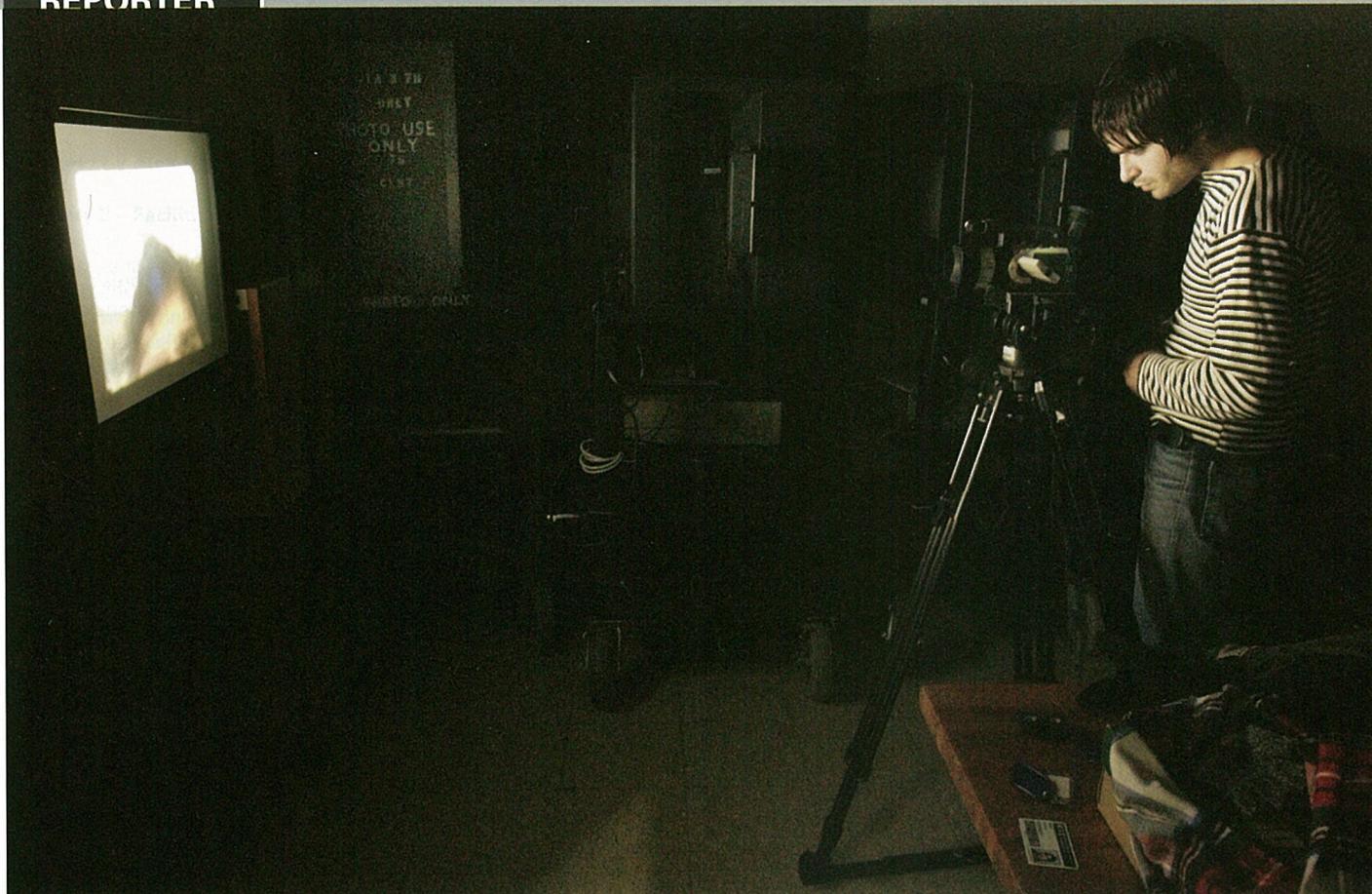
-David Rea

Fifth Year

Electrical Engineering

Mr. Rea—Of course, the article was a humorous piece, meant to be very tongue-in-cheek. While there may have been a few "truthful" lines in there, overall it was not meant to harm or insult anyone. Of course nursing is as valid a vocation as any other, and we would never purposely try to offend anyone who controls big needles. —W.H.

letters continued page 30 >>>



Todd Martin records a section of his film from a projector screen. The digital recording allows for more control in creating a feeling and look that is different from the original piece. Andrew Schafer/REPORTER MAGAZINE

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BY ANDREW SCHAFER

Reporter Magazine is published weekly during the academic year by a staff comprised of students at the Rochester Institute of Technology. Business, Editorial, and Design facilities are located in Room A-426, in the lower level of the Student Alumni Union. Our voice/TTY line is (585) 475-2212. The Advertising Department can be reached at (585) 475-2213. The opinions expressed in Reporter do not necessarily reflect those of the Institute. Letters to the Editor may be submitted to Reporter in person at our office. Letters may also be sent through to the address reporter@rit.edu. We came up with about a hundred alternate titles to the Film feature this week. What do you think of "Appetite for Production?" It smells like Cheesa. Reporter is not responsible for materials presented in advertising areas. No letters will be printed unless signed. All letters received become the property of Reporter. Reporter takes pride in its membership in the Associated Collegiate Press and American Civil Liberties Union. Copyright 2003 Reporter Magazine. All rights reserved. No portion of this magazine may be reproduced without prior written permission.

HistoRIT

by Jeff Prystajko

Whoever said there's nothing to do on campus apparently never wandered back through time. Otherwise, said individual surely would have noticed the superfluity of wild and zany student activities – a tiny handful of which are presented here (without all the annoying time-travel paradoxes).

Whaddaya mean it's not Halloween? Finally! A contest capable of raising student spirit through the roof – if only because looking at the entrants makes one feel like a glamorous movie star. In 1974, Alpha Phi Omega and WITR held their popular "Ugly Man Contest" to judge the one student "you don't want to bring home to your parents." Various student organizations put forth their "best" candidate, with the winner to be chosen during the annual Greek Weekend. Proceeds benefited the Henrietta Volunteer Ambulance Corps, which hopefully didn't recognize the participants as victims.

Dance, Dance Revolution! Balance in the universe was restored in 1974 when the fun, spirit-enhancing event mentioned above was offset by the character destroying 24-hour dance-a-thon. Set in motion by the College Union Board (or "CUB," how cute), the dance marathon pitted 35 couples against each other in a daylong battle to win \$500. Teams were mentally and musically abused by a combination of non-stop verbal torment, and WITR's seemingly "worst-of" collection. In the end, 15 frenzied couples emerged victorious – splitting a once-glamorous prize into a pitiful \$16.67 per person.

Yes, officer – of course I'll have another! Today, college students typically get liquored up in hiding (or at least out of law enforcement's sight), but times were different back in 1992. As state troopers helplessly stood by and watched, student volunteers drank themselves silly in the SAU lobby (courtesy of their own alcohol, of course). The brain cells did not die in vain, however; once sufficiently sloshed (here's where the officers come in) the students underwent a series of D.W.I. tests to exemplify alcohol's effects on the body's motor functions. •

Students Stay Connected With New Unified Calendar

by Patrick Rice

If you have ever felt "out of the loop," then heads up. RIT will soon unveil an easily accessible, all in one, state of the art, brand new, unified events calendar. This new web site, created by ITS, is designed to keep students and staff informed and in touch. The idea is basic: The Center for Campus Life will collect information from any group on campus that wants to promote their event. This includes, for example, Greek organizations, bands, speakers, events within the various colleges, and so on. These groups will then have their event posted on the web calendar so that all can see, and, hopefully, attend.

Jeremy Trumble, the Senior Web Applications Manager for ITS, is managing the group developing the site. Trumble explained that though the new site will be its own entity, it will also be available through the myRIT web portal. Current users will have the option to add the calendar to their myRIT portal as soon as the site is up and running, but users new to the system will find it as part of their default settings. "This is going to help students by having one location to find out what's going on at RIT," Trumble said. A unified calendar is something most schools already have, and that the RIT community currently lacks. The issue isn't that there lacks a way to find out what is going on, rather, that this information is currently strewn across various other RIT sites.

The current RIT calendar is located at <http://www.rit.edu/%7E940www/EVENTS/cgi-bin/webevent.cgi?cmd=open&cal=cal2&&token=>. The main problem with the existing page is that it does not include all aspects of campus life. Other problems with the current layout include a lack of easy readability on the Special Events Calendar, and that the Athletics Calendar simply redirects you to the RIT Athletics website for more information on specific events. As Trumble described, all of

this information, including break and holiday schedules, academic schedules, college events, and information provided by clubs and organizations will be unified into one new calendar page.

Officials from Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, Government and Community Relations as well as various students, staff and alumni, came up with the idea for the calendar. The layout will include events for the current day, as well as a handy navigation bar for those looking to browse around. The navigation bar will include a keyword option and search bar for those with a more focused search, as well as the option to view events by date and category. A "lazy man's" feature will even be added to the site, "allowing users to sign up for e-mail updates regarding RIT events," Trumble said. "The centralized calendar [will be] a way for students to be in touch at all times."

This calendar should prove to be quite the asset to the RIT community. "I never know what is going on here," said Emily Silvers, a second year Interior Design major. "If you could go one place and see it all I think that would be cool." In addition, most students would agree that involvement in some campus events is very limited, a fact that this calendar could help remedy. "Listing everyday events online will help people go to more events and be more socially active," commented Adam Bonnette, a second year Mechanical Engineering major.

Although the web site does not have a final design yet, the RIT community can expect the look to fit in with either the current RIT site, or the myRIT web portal. A web address has not been released, but will be revealed when the site is up and running, which Trumble hopes will occur early Spring Quarter. Clubs and organizations interested in having their event posted on the new site can contact the Center for Campus Life for further details. •

Crime Watch

compiled by Alex Cheek

February 8 – Facilities Office Building

Petit Larceny

A lab assistant reports that a UPS and Network Management Module valued at \$750 were taken from an unlocked lab in the Gosnell Annex. Investigation continuing.

February 11 – Ellingson Hall

Unlawful Possession of Marijuana

Suspect in a separate report accused another student of owning the marijuana found in said suspect's room. Campus Safety spoke to the student, who denied ownership and declined to have his room searched. Investigation closed. Referred to student conduct.

February 13 – Wallace Library

Grand Larceny

A student reported that his Hewlett Packard laptop computer and a wireless network card belonging to the Wallace Library were stolen from the Wallace Library. The area was canvassed, and there are no suspects at this time. Investigation continuing.

February 14 – Gibson B

Criminal Mischief

Person reports that two unknown males tore down all of the white boards that are located next to the dorm rooms on the fourth floor. Officers canvassed the area and were unable to locate the individuals responsible. Investigation completed pending new information of leads.

February 14 – University Commons

Harassment

An argument was reported between non-members in the parking lot outside a building in University Commons. Monroe County Sheriff's office responded and filed a non-prosecution report. One person was threatened with violence. No injuries were reported. Investigation completed pending new information or leads. The non-member was banned from campus.

February 15 – Perkins Green Apartments

Criminal Mischief

Perkins resident reports finding the glass broken out at the main entry doors to her apartment building. Investigation continuing.

February 15 – Sol Heumann Hall

Burglary

An unknown person entered a first-year student's unlocked room in Sol Heumann Hall and removed his wallet. A neighborhood canvass was conducted with no new leads. Crime Alerts were posted in the residence halls. The Sheriff's Office responded and filed a report. Investigation continuing.

February 16 – Colony Manor

Endangering the Welfare of a Child

A student hosted a party and an underage student became intoxicated. The intoxicated student was taken to Strong Memorial Hospital. The party was shut down and the investigation closed. Referred to student conduct.

February 16 – Ellingson Hall

Petit Larceny

A student placed a borrowed computer monitor in the TV lounge for 5 minutes unattended. The student left the monitor to retrieve cables, and upon his return the monitor was gone. There are no suspects at this time. Investigation completed pending new information or leads.

February 16 – University Commons

Criminal Mischief

A resident states that a person driving a blue Intrigue drove by his apartment and shot yellow paintballs at the apartment window. Apartment maintenance was notified and removed the paint. Investigation completed pending new information or leads.

February 16 – Colby B

Burglary

A student reports that his wallet was removed from his slacks in his room. The student states that his dorm room was unsecured for three hours. Crime Alert fliers were posted in all residence halls. The investigation continues by the Monroe County Sheriff's Office and RIT Campus Safety.

February 17 – University Commons

Burglary

The Monroe County Sheriff was dispatched to University Commons for the report of an assault in progress. A nonmember entered the unlocked apartment of a student and walked into his room, without authorization, and began to strike him repeatedly with his fist. RIT Ambulance responded and transported the student to Strong Memorial Hospital for further medical evaluation. The Sheriff's Office is investigating the assault.

February 17 – University Commons

A student went to the parking lot of Building 9, University Commons, to confront a nonmember that was striking his roommate's new vehicle with his fist. The nonmember went inside a Jeep Cherokee to avoid the student. The driver, a nonmember, struck the student with his vehicle. The student sustained minor abrasions to both shins after falling off the hood of the Jeep. RIT Ambulance treated the student at the scene. The investigation is continuing.

February 18 – Nathaniel Rochester Hall

A non-member was arrested for burglary; after an RA reported witnessing him enter an unlocked dorm room. He ran from the area

and drove off in his vehicle. While attempting to evade officers, he drove his vehicle onto a patch of ice, causing him to slide into a ditch off of Perkins Road. He attempted to flee on foot but was captured in the woods a few yards north of his vehicle by a Campus Safety Officer. Investigation closed by arrest.

February 20 – Wallace Library

Grand Larceny

A student reports that he left his laptop unattended on the 2nd floor of the Wallace Library for a few minutes. When he returned, his laptop was gone. The area was canvassed and no leads developed. Crime alert fliers were passed out and posted. The sheriff's office filed a report and the investigation continues.

February 25 – Grace Watson Hall

An RA received an IM on her computer that was offensive. ITS is following up on the incident and the investigation continues.

February 25 – Off Campus

Petit Larceny

A New York State Trooper stopped an RIT student off campus, and the student had stolen property from RIT in his possession. The student admitted to stealing the property from Grace Watson Hall. The case is closed, and referred to the Student Conduct Office.

February 27 – Bookstore

Petit Larceny

A staff member reported stolen books were returned to the bookstore for a cash refund. The investigation continues.

February 28 – College of Science

Grand Larceny

A projector was stolen from room 2178 in the College of Science. The theft occurred between February 26 and 27. The Sheriff's Office and Campus Safety are investigating.

February 28 – Johnson Building

Computer Trespass

A student reported that she forgot to log off of her Yahoo e-mail account after checking her mail on a public computer. An unknown person sent a vulgar message to everyone in the student's address book. The suspect then deleted all of the student's saved email and all of the contacts in her address book. The suspect then sent the student a message from her own account explaining how he did this, because she had forgotten to log off. There are no suspects at this time.

March 3 – RIT Inn

Criminal Possession of Stolen Property

A staff member observed a large plastic plant in a student's room at the RIT Inn. The plant was stolen from one of the common areas of the Inn. The resident had recently checked out of the room. The investigation continues.

BrickBeat

compiled by Becky Ruby

RHA Hosts Another Vegas Night

Friday, March 14, the Residence Halls Association (RHA) will host its annual casino extravaganza, Vegas Night, in the SAU Cafeteria. Kicking off at 7 p.m., the event is open to all RIT students, and will cost a mere three dollars for five hours of games, entertainment, and food. RHA will donate the entry fee proceeds to the United Way. As in past Vegas Night events, students will participate in the casino card games with provided chips. At the end of the evening, participants will use their winnings to bid on a number of prizes, including a \$400 mall gift certificate, parties at Jillian's, and other to-be-announced gifts. Throughout this action-packed evening, Photo House will take pictures against a Vegas backdrop and students may enter an Elvis look-a-like contest. Belly dancers and Triforce are also scheduled to perform, caricature artists and tarot card readers will take part, and a DJ will keep the room going with some music, just to name a few of the participating entertainers.

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Jeffrey W. Cox, Associate Director of the International Student Services office on campus.
DENIS ROCHEFORT/REPORTER MAGAZINE

New International Student Monitoring System Implemented at all Colleges

by Brian Casterline

As of February 15, all colleges and universities in the United States were required to implement a new internet-based government tracking system for international students. Under the existing Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP), the new Student and Exchange Visitors Information System (SEVIS), was created to quickly and accurately monitor academic actions taken by international students.

Fueled by concerns that foreign visa holders were not being effectively tracked once they came into the country, SEVIS enables the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) to collect a larger amount of information on each international student. This information includes: the date of entry and port of entry of each visa holder, name, place and date of birth, country of citizenship, current address, full or part time student status, projected commencement date, number of credits completed per year, degree and field of study, beginning and end dates of

practical training, termination date and reason for termination, status of person and any criminal convictions.

Jeffrey Cox, Associate Director of International Student Services, told how the system works with RIT's records. "Each night, information from SIS uploads, then, if there's a change, it's updated to INS." As a result, the updating process has gotten a little easier. Cox continued, "[the system is] dramatically different. In the past, if students dropped below a required number of classes, INS might not know before months, or years. Now, it takes a month at the most." Through there have been nationwide problems with meeting the new regulations, RIT is now compliant, due to what Cox states as "good support."

For more information, visit <http://www.ins.usdoj.gov/graphics/services/tempbenefits/sevp.htm>. •



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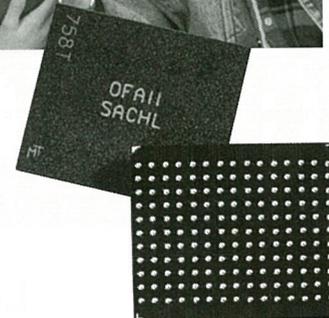
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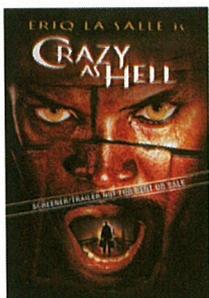
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movie review: **CRAZY AS HELL** by Chris Wiltz

On the day of their first meeting, Dr. Adams walks into the examination room and introduces himself. The man turns around and gracefully replies, "Hello Dr. Adams... My name is Satan."



It's been a while since we've heard from Eriq La Salle. Though we've seen him in small roles here and there, most people only remember him from his stint on *ER* as Dr. Peter Benton. This time around, La Salle has chosen to fill the role of director, in addition to acting, in *Crazy as Hell*, La Salle's directorial debut. Based on Jeremy Leven's novel *Satan*, *Crazy as Hell* is the darkest and most brooding film La Salle has ever appeared in. It's hard to believe that the same guy playing Satan in this independent film also played a benevolent doctor on one of America's favorite prime-time series.

Michael Beach plays Dr. Ty Adams, a sort of "pop" psychiatrist who has attracted the attention of a film crew who wishes to document his unique approach to treating patients. Living in a mental hospital with cameras watching his every move, Dr. Adams methodically goes about his work. Despite having two patient suicides on his record, Dr. Adams adamantly maintains his no-medication philosophy, and both infuriates his co-workers and baffles his patients in the process. Things go well enough until a new patient (Eriq La Salle) checks himself in. On the day of their first meeting, Dr. Adams walks into the examination room and introduces himself. The man turns around and gracefully replies, "Hello Dr. Adams... My name is Satan."

Obviously this man is crazy. Why would the "Prince of Darkness" check himself into a mental institution? The answer he gives Dr. Adams is threateningly simple; "I want a soul... I like yours." Thus begins a battle of wills, not so much between Dr. Adams and Satan, rather, between Dr. Adams and himself. In his quest to rid Satan of his apparent delusion, Dr. Adams is forced to confront not only his past, but also the very nature of his own mind. Meanwhile, Satan is slowly exerting an influence on the other patients and hospital staff, leading the audience to believe that he just may be who he says he is. There's also a pretty interesting scene with Satan dancing to The Average White Band's "Picking up the Pieces."

Though it comes off as somewhat "borrowed" at points, *Crazy as Hell* is, nonetheless, a unique film and a fine directorial debut for La Salle. Sometimes the film seems like an alternate take on *Jacob's Ladder*, but at other times it shines through as a truly original film. The fact that Dr. Adams is the subject of a documentary adds a film-within-a-film element that isn't overused, serving as a plot device rather than an excuse to dazzle the audience with fancy camera angles. However, there are elements of the film that could have enhanced it had they been used more often. Dr. Adams and Satan do not match wits quite enough to establish a convincing, concrete conflict between them.

The end of the movie is so surprising that it isn't surprising at all. Twist endings have been used so excessively in the past few years (*Fight Club*, *The Sixth Sense*, *The Others*,

Unbreakable, and so on) that they're cliché; not to say that clichés don't have a certain appeal. Unfortunately, the ending to *Crazy as Hell* doesn't work as well as the fore-mentioned, thus disappointing the audience. While some will find the ending a complete surprise, others will find themselves doubling down on friendly bets as to who guessed the ending correctly.

The most refreshing thing about the film is that it shows the potential of black independent films. *Crazy as Hell* is a far cry from the gangster films and yuppie love stories that have been pouring out of black film in the past decade or so. Hopefully, more directors like La Salle will emerge, take chances, and set a new trend for future directors to follow. •

DAMONE: *from the attic*

by Nicole Killian

{ I'm rocking a **BMX bike;**
I'm rocking a muscle-head car;
I freestyle wherever I go; I don't cry whenever I fall. }



With these words in the song "Frustrated Unnoticed," opening the CD *From the Attic*, it's easy to think Damone is the next Generation Y marketing tool; along the lines of Avril Lavigne's faux skater image and so forth. A glance at the CD jacket plays into this assumption, as the other song titles include "At the Mall" and "Carwash Romance." However, after listening to a few songs, it's pretty easy to get hooked on Damone.

Named after the ticket scalper character in the movie *Fast Times at Ridgemont High*, Damone has this power-pop thing going on that's a little rough around the edges. The lead singer, Noelle, sounds a bit like Liz Phair when she was younger, minus Phair's low-pitched voice. It's extremely catchy, like *Elastica's* self-titled debut, but it lacks the mature themes that they had. It conjures up vibes of the many girl-fronted groups popular in the '80s and '90s. Their music is as free and invigorating as that of the *Donnas*. The band is very upbeat with their poppy guitar riffs, however what hurts Damone the most is their lyrics.

Damone is all about the story of teenage love gone wrong. The lyrics were written by guitarist Dave Pino when he was still in high school, working at the Waltham car wash, and pining over the loss of his "really friggin' hot"

ex-girlfriend. Sadly, the 80 songs he wrote for her didn't win back her love, but did result in a record deal, at least. Noelle took Pino's "girlie" songs, switched the pronouns to adhere to her female standpoint, and turned them into *From The Attic*, on which her underage voice shines. If Damone keeps up this method of recycling, they won't have to write another song until their ninth album. Hopefully, that doesn't happen.

Pino met bassist Vazquez in fourth grade when he brought an acoustic guitar to school and played "La Bamba," which garnered a lot of attention from the girls. Who says groupies don't start at a young age?! Next on board was drummer Dustin Hengst, who played in several bands with Pino before Damone. The missing piece of the puzzle was found in then 17-year-old Noelle, who was the younger sister of a good friend and not yet out of high school. Noelle was playing in basement hardcore bands with her brother, and was the typical tomboyish little sister. After hearing all of Pino's songs, it was just a matter of time before she joined the band. To quote Noelle: "I really relate to these songs a lot. It's about high school. They're really girlie songs."

There is a pretty good progression throughout the album, with the pace remaining pretty steady all the way through. Rather than worry about extras, Damone went for a simplistic touch with a volume that presses once and keeps going and going for the most part. A particularly enjoyable song on the album is "On My Mind."

Noelle's voice combined with the lyrics about calling someone yours is very catchy, making the listener want to play it over and over again. The last song "Leave Me Alone" ends on a tad slower note, bringing the album full circle.

They've got a long way to go in terms of songwriting, but *From The Attic* is a valiant first effort that showcases their potential. Though it does little more than channel the energy and pleasure of early 90s alternative, it's still a success for taking listeners on a wild ride of smashing cymbals and driving guitars. They have a song for everything, whether it's about the girl most pined after, work, or even the trips to the mall that seem to embody the high school experience.

Damone seems to have something going for them, as long as they keep growing and creating lyrics with more depth and maturity. But then again, who doesn't like to rehash their unrequited love from high school?

The four Massachusetts basement show mall rats with a hankering to revive a dying genre showed enough strength to keep it alive on this April 1st release. Who can say for sure, but *From the Attic* could, quite possibly, start a movement in the rock field. At least we'll know the responsible party. •

SOCIALBURN

where you are

by Nicole Killian



Socialburn is a very unlikely concoction. This isn't exactly the band you'd expect to find in the region of cowboys and country music nestled between Tallahassee and Panama City. Definitely for the listeners out there that enjoy gritty rock bands like Puddle of Mudd, Socialburn has their sights set on being one of the biggest breakout bands of this decade. Whether this concept is realistic or simply a joke remains to be seen.

From the minute the album begins to play, it's difficult to find anything that distinguishes this band from the other "hard" rock bands popular today. They don't sound bad, but there isn't anything that makes the listener want to hit replay, either. Lead singer Neil Alday cites the band's influences as being "anything from Axl Haggard to Ween to Slip-knot and just about everything in between." They don't sound like any of the fore mentioned.

Well-known producer John Kurzweg (who was also at the helm of all three Creed albums as well as that of Puddle of Mudd) guided *Where You Are*, his first project under a new production deal with Elektra. Kurzweg wisely decided to leave the bark on Socialburn's songs, making *Where You Are* one of the rougher, livelier debuts he's been on board for.

Alday, Dusty Price (bass and vocals), Chris Cobb (lead guitar and vocals), and Brandon Bittner (Drums), are surely an anomaly in their neck of the woods. Surrounded by honky-tonk, they built a name for themselves in the alternative rock scene by releasing two of their own home-styled CDs.

Where You Are doesn't stick out among the other bands coming to the forefront these days, but on the whole, the album was put together well. On "One More Day" Alday's soothing yet masculine voice sounds true as he sings about escaping a pain, and taking back someone who has hurt him. The whole album is a good group effort with some decent hooks.

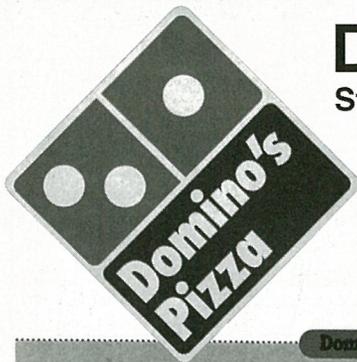
According to Alday, most of his lyrics are about dealing with relationships. Emotion

can be felt just listening to his voice, and the music behind him and his bass tie together nicely. After the opening song "Break Back," the music gets much mellower. "Break Back" definitely tricks the listener into thinking the music is going to attempt to be harder than the band really is.

The band doesn't try to be anything they are not; a good thing with so many musicians out there trying to sell themselves as prepackaged pop rock sensations. Socialburn plays the same music they set out to play in the tiny bedrooms of Blountstown, Florida.

Where You Are concludes with the song "Stacy," which seems to be about a girl, but is, according to Alday, actually about drugs. When it comes down to it, the song is about something that takes control of you—something that consumes you to the point of no return.

Listeners who enjoy a melodic guitar with a crooning male singer should check out *Where You Are*, Socialburn's first album out with Elektra. •



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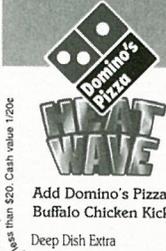
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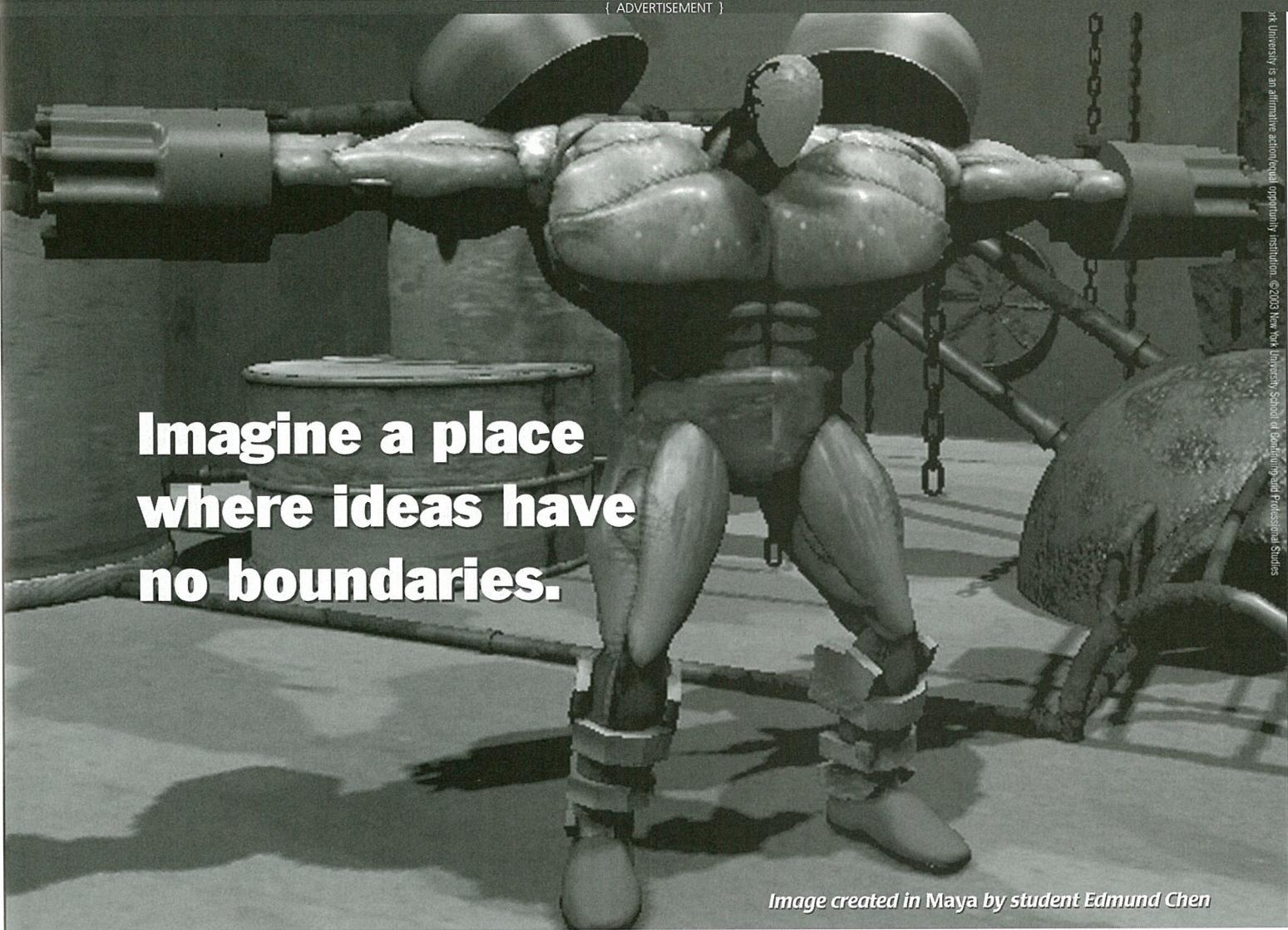
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The carpeted steps muffle the filmmaker's approach to the podium at the front of Carlson Auditorium, after the lights come on and the applause tapers off. His film has just screened at the winter film festival, and now he must face the crowd of people who have just viewed his film. There are questions and comments from the audience; the film can always be improved. There is a second applause, not as much as the first, and the next film begins. The filmmaker breathes a little easier. He has more work ahead of him, but as for today he has faced his peers and professors, and the verdict is good.



The final screenings include film and animation projects, and last for six days.

Andrew Schafer/REPORTER MAGAZINE

AND NOW, OUR
FEATURE PRESENTATION Film Students, their School, and their Screenings

by Kate Bloemker and Tim Johnson
with William Huber

The Program: Its Home and its Future

RIT's School of Film and Animation (SoFA) is growing; in fact, it has outgrown its current space. "As our program has expanded and been successful, we've been able to acquire good equipment, great faculty, and the best students," said Howard Lester, Administrative Chair of SoFA, "but we really have no place to put them all."

The technical needs of SoFA today were hard to gauge at the beginning of its existence. Ten years ago, the film school was just a small offshoot of the School of Photographic Arts and Sciences, offering only a Bachelor of Science degree. About five years ago, SoFA broke off completely and became an independent school within the College of Imaging Arts and Sciences, offering Bachelor of Fine Arts degrees as well as Master's degrees. In a short amount of time, it has evolved into one of the country's best film schools, with approximately 250 students in programs for Film and Video Production and Animation.

The school is currently nestled in two small corners on the second and fourth floors of the Gannett building. The facilities include two classrooms, one room that functions as a soundstage, rooms for editing and post-production work, an equipment

cage that lends cameras and sound equipment to students, and an animation lab. Students have to compete for time in the soundstage area and on the animation equipment, and there often are not appropriate spaces to hold classes. "Some classes are held in spaces that literally used to be closets," said Lester.

Needless to say, students, faculty, and staff were excited to hear that the School of Film and Animation will finally be getting its own unified space. The printing press area in the basement of Gannett will soon be vacated, and the area will be handed over to the Film school, a plan that has been in the works for several years. The animation lab will be the first to make the move to the expanded facilities, eventually followed by the equipment cage and the Film and Video Production program. Johnny Robinson, Chair of the Animation program, said that he hopes to begin the move this summer, in order to minimally disrupt student and faculty activities.

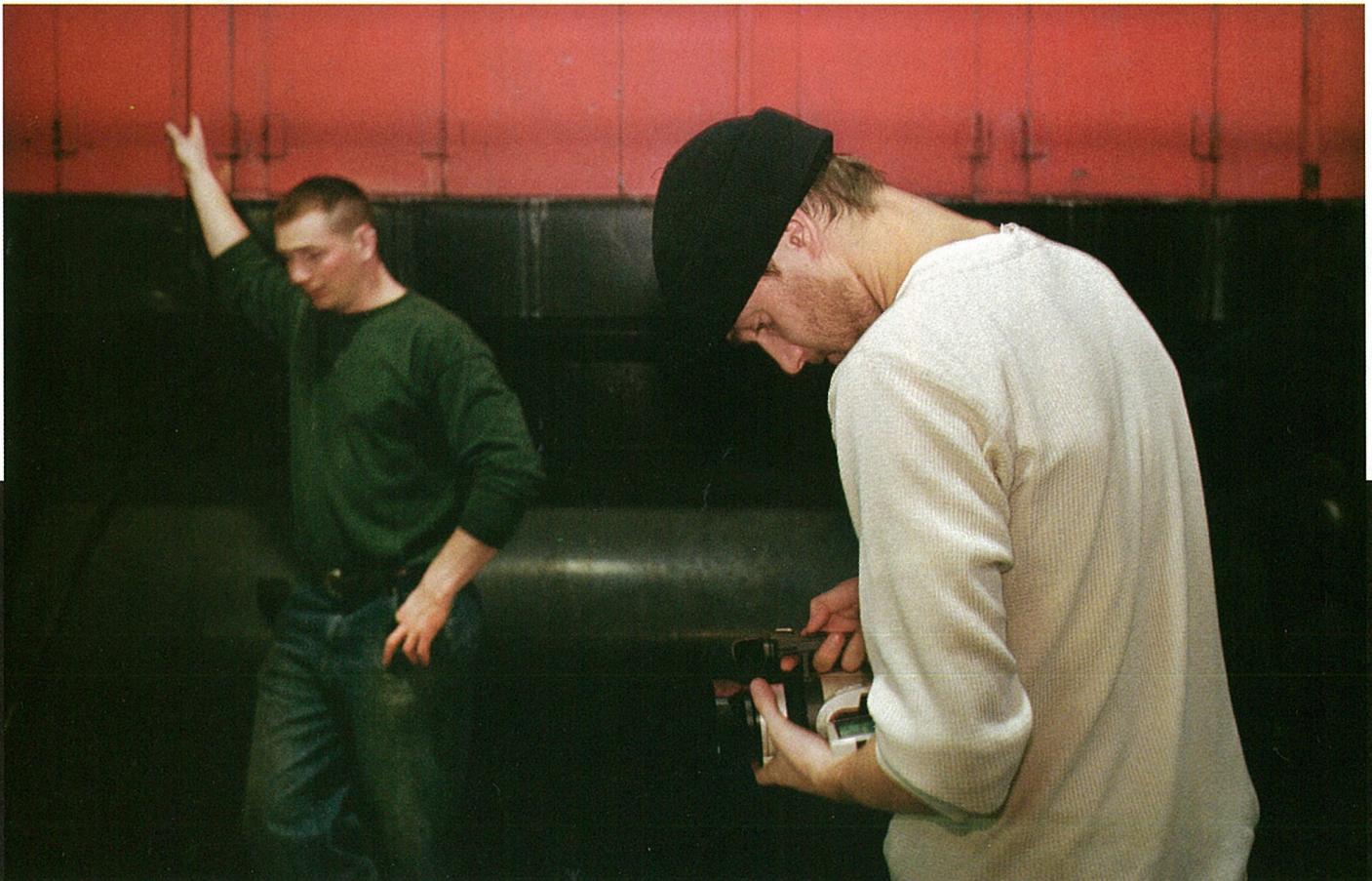
The space will eventually have graduate and undergraduate animation labs, multiple stop-action animation studios (the school currently has just one), an expanded equipment cage, more space for post-production equipment, and bona-fide soundstages.

Film and Video Production student and equipment cage employee Kim Roberts was thrilled to hear about the new facilities: "We're growing out of this corner. It's very cramped, and we could really use the space!"

Serious modifications to the space are needed to fulfill SoFA's needs. More powerful electric lines must be installed in order to meet the needs of a film production hub, and the ceilings are too high and the walls are too far apart to be used effectively. "Our biggest problem," said Robinson, "is finding the money to divide the walls. You can't set up a studio in what is essentially a giant barn and expect it to work."

The move downstairs may not be the end to changes in the SoFA's facilities. It is hoped that enough funds will be gathered to create a permanent shop to build sets for student films. However, Lester said that the real commitment to expanding the program's property would be to build an addition to the existing building. The project, which is expected to cost about \$11 million, is still many years down the road, but the program feels "very positive about it."

Throughout the planning process, the School of Film and Animation has had the help of an industrial advisory board, composed mostly of SoFA alumni



Senior SoFA student Chris Danis shoots on location in the machine shop of the Livonia, Avon, and Lakeville railroad for his film *Short Line*.
Edmund Fountain/REPORTER MAGAZINE

who are now working in the film industry. The board has given advice not only on the subject of fundraising, but also on how to make sure students know how to take advantage of the opportunities that exist after graduation. "As technology evolves, we need to be aware of new careers in the industry," said Adrienne Carageorge, Chair of the Film and Video Production program.

The School of Film and Animation is definitely geared towards change and improvement, and the new facilities are only a beginning. The school, like the film industry itself, is constantly evolving with the technical and artistic desires of society. Robinson echoed the sentiment of almost everyone in the School of Film and Animation: "We want to plan for the future."

The Parts

The School of Film and Animation is divided into several sections in which students choose to focus their studies. There are two main sections, live action and animation, as well as a smaller section for experimental films, which can be either live action or animation. The live action set is divided into the

documentary and fiction subsets, while the animation set mainly focuses on 3D computer animation and traditional 2D drawn animation. However, there are many other varieties of study foci for each — more than it is possible to mention here.

Live action fiction students write or collaborate on a script for their film, and then go through the process of finding appropriate actors for the different parts, gathering a crew, and finally producing their film. Documentary students find a subject that interests them, gather a crew, and film it, with the goal of bringing the subject to the attention of the audience as intimately as possible. 3D computer animation students also come up with a story, and then focus on building sets and characters in cyberspace and rendering out the individual frames. Traditional or 2D animation students also do a tremendous amount of character development artistically, while visually creating the story in a similar fashion as the computer animators. Experimental film students attempt to manipulate their chosen media to show the audience something they've never seen before.

The Screenings

While all SoFA students work very hard on their projects throughout their years at RIT, it is perhaps the seniors who feel the most stress as the winter quarter draws to a close. This is when the senior thesis projects are due, in time for a public showing at the annual winter screenings.

This event is one of the most important stages of a film student's senior thesis development, as it is the opportunity to show a year's work in front of a live audience. Not only does the winter film festival provide the student filmmaker with the valuable reaction of peers and members of the RIT community, it also allows for both positive and negative constructive criticism from attending faculty members.

Each senior thesis student spent a year working on a project in the area of study that he or she was most interested in. With such a variety of interests, the screenings always have a diverse range of subject matter.

This year, SoFA started the festival on February 22, screening student works all day for six consecutive days. While films from students of all year levels are



Senior Todd Martin rewinds a section of his film on a projector.

Andrew Schafer/REPORTER MAGAZINE



Professor Howard Lester responds to a film. Critiques follow each screening, which allow students to hear different reactions to their work. Andrew Schafer/REPORTER MAGAZINE

shown, it's a general feeling that the most emphasis is placed on the screening of the senior projects.

The Senior Projects

Short Line

Chris Danis, a live action documentary student, decided to focus his film on the railroad and those who work on it. Rather than filming the more familiar big freight or passenger trains that cover thousands of miles, Danis focused on a short line railroad, which covers a regional area and might only have 25 miles of track.

Danis spent a great deal of time over the past year at the railroad station with a group of workers, doing capturing what they do on video. "It's such a routine thing, and it's just a job [for them]," said Danis. "When most people think of trains, they get wrapped up in the romanticism of the whole thing, but when you go down there you see that these are just regular guys doing a job. It's not this exciting world that you might envision."

Short Line, which received mixed reviews from the audience, was one of the longer films screened during the film festival, running for a full hour. "It's not like we chose to make this film an hour long—it kind of *became* an hour long," he said, as he explained the need for enough time to learn what each of the workers was like, while not boring the audience in the process.

Danis said that he really likes the Film program at RIT. "There's a lot of faculty that I really like and

they're real sharp about making films and talking about film. I like the fact that they're really giving everyone some good criticism. I think that's important."

Untitled

Todd Martin, in search of a muse for his senior project, traveled to Russia and stumbled across something that inspired him creatively. "I found a bunch of single negatives of 35mm film. I thought that maybe they were involved in a house fire," said Martin. "I felt that maybe it was a sign that I was supposed to make my thesis about it."

Martin scanned in the negatives that he found and put them together in a QuickTime sequence. "The images seemed pretty random. There's a woman making a hand gesture, some ducks and a farm, and since everything is taken out of context it really leaves it up for interpretation," said Martin.

The untitled mixed-media piece consisted of a combination of 16mm film and digital video footage that Martin shot and combined with the found images. He received help in learning about using the different formats and Photoshop, but did all of the cutting and editing himself.

While Martin is happy with the way that his thesis turned out, he admitted that the film program itself didn't fulfill all of his expectations. "I'm not very fond of the program," he said. "It's misleading. There's a lack of direction, and most of the people just starting aren't aware of what they're in for." He went on to say that everyone involved in the

program needs to be more critical of each other's work, and that the professional advisors need to tell students whether or not they have a future in the industry. "I didn't realize that this program wasn't right for me until it was much too late. I don't really want to work in the film industry. I'd like to travel around the world, find interesting things and make documentaries on them. I know that there's a lot of interesting stuff out there that is really interesting but no one thinks to put it on film."

Lessons in Customer Service

For a waitress, work usually involves coping with some difficult situations, a variety of challenges, and downright weird people. In an effort to show the audience what it's like in the world of food service, Nicole Ferrari screened her 18-minute live action senior thesis, *Lessons in Customer Service*. The fiction film is about a waitress' last night on the job, and, in accordance to Murphy's Law, everything that could go wrong, does. The main character deals with sexual harassment, rude customers, and everything in between. The film received many laughs from the audience, as they could all relate in some way to the main character's troubles.

"I think it's great when people come up to me and tell me they've been through everything that my main character goes through when they were servers," said Ferrari. "I think I got exactly what I expected in terms of audience reaction. Some people really liked it and some people have other opinions."

She attributes a lot of the success of her film to the great crew and actors she worked with. "There were some shots that failed, but I think that I had some great crew members. They were all great help and they did an awesome job," she said. "I think that my characters did a lot of improvisation that translated well on screen."

Over the past four years, a lot has changed within the film school, and according to Ferrari, it is obvious that the level of quality has risen, as the standards for excellence continue to grow. "It's a very self-motivated department and you have to make things happen for yourself," she said.

Ingredients

Imagine for a moment that you are being chased through a supermarket by a group of angry, maniacal shopping carts, and the only question you keep asking yourself is what the ingredients are in the food you're running past. This is exactly what life is like for the main character in Everett Religioso's 3D computer animation thesis, *Ingredients*.

continued page 23 >>>

Faces of RIT:
Malcolm



Spaull

A Leader in RIT's Evolving Film Department

by Justin Mayer
photograph by Andrew Schafer

“Sitting back and enjoying a good story, a fairly passive experience, is something that the human race will always enjoy and value, and that’s what we’re all about. We’re storytellers.”

During his 28 years at RIT, including his time as a graduate student, Malcolm Spaull has seen the School of Film and Animation (SoFA) evolve from a small graduate program supported by the school of photography to the most selective program at RIT. He describes his current position as the MFA coordinator for SoFA as “half administrator and half teacher.”

Spaull is the sole advisor of SoFA graduate students, fifty in all, and occasionally teaches undergraduates. He works so closely with students throughout the course of their studies that he occasionally ends up on the roster of an intramural basketball team. “Every couple of years students find out I played in college and ask me to join their team,” he said, citing basketball as one of his passions. His other passion, of course, is filmmaking.

Spaull grew up in Manhattan with parents who made a living on the stage. He earned a degree in Mathematics from St. Lawrence University, where he was very active in theater, and returned to Manhattan to teach high school math, making him ineligible for the draft. During his teaching years, he worked with New York University film students and developed an interest in filmmaking on both sides of the camera. He came to Rochester, his wife’s hometown, to raise a family and attend graduate school at RIT.

“I won a few awards with my thesis film and had the opportunity to go to California, but decided to stay and teach,” he said. His thesis film, a clay animation titled *The Walrus and the Carpenter*, won a Student Academy Award. “A few doors opened up, but that meant picking up my whole family and going

out there and walking directly into an industry that I didn’t want to work in: commercial feature films.”

As Spaull was finishing his degree, RIT began accepting students into its undergraduate film program, and Spaull joined the faculty. His earliest achievement as a faculty member was starting the video program—the emerging technology at the time. “Just when I started working here, video started to get big. When you saw the news in the 70’s, the cameramen had to shoot, develop, and edit in time for the 6 o’clock news. When video reached broadcast quality, we started the degree programs.” Spaull has continued to push the technological side of the curriculum, gaining access to top of the line equipment and putting it in the hands of students.

SoFA’s resources will be expanding with the addition of the space vacated by the printing press in the James E. Gannett building and the prospect of a new building. Spaull will be directly involved in all of SoFA’s expansion plans. Taking a three quarter sabbatical from teaching, Spaull will work with RIT’s advisory board and Development Officer Deb McKenzie to cultivate industry contacts and build a capital campaign for SoFA. “My role in it is to simply give a perspective to these people about the program,” he said. “The short term is to secure some money for renovations; there are significant plans for the space. It’s unknown when we will get the building; how long it takes relies on a number of sources.”

The new space will provide room for the SoFA Archives, a project that will collect the best of each student screening in a safe storage space. Currently, the best films produced by SoFA are stored in boxes

and on shelves in the offices of faculty members. “I probably have 30 or 40 films all over the place and only I have [them],” he said, speculating as to whether or not some of the older videos can still be viewed. “Video only has a shelf-life of about 15 years,” he said.

Of newer technology he said, “the next evolution is in terms of the quality of the picture. It’s taken 20 years to bring high definition to television. The technology had been around for a long time, but it took a while to bring it to the consumer.” Spaull pointed out that filmmakers are now able to shoot digital video and make a film on a laptop, an opportunity that SoFA students have with the resources available at RIT.

The technology of filmmaking may have changed drastically over the course Spaull’s career at RIT, but above everything else, he stresses the importance of traditional filmmaking and storytelling in his students’ educations. “At the heart of what we do, it’s not technology, it’s storytelling,” Spaull says of his profession. “In the end, what people want is to be lost in a good story. You can do that by reading a book, or you can do that by watching a movie. So, the more compelling we can make the image and the sound helps the story, but in the end, the quality of the story, how well told the story is, is what’s important.”

As far as Malcolm can see, that will never change. “You can talk about interactive storytelling, but that is not as dynamic or exciting. Sitting back and enjoying a good story, a fairly passive experience, is something that the human race will always enjoy and value, and that’s what we’re all about. We’re storytellers.” •

WORD on the Street

If you could make a film about anything, what would it be about?
compiled and photographed by Johanna Miller



① "A documentary about the inner workings of our government. I would expose all of the secrets, and the stuff that we aren't supposed to know."

Rob Mallette
Second Year
Electrical Engineering

"The film would be about how disco dancing was used as a secret weapon of war to kill the Nazis."

Scott Vosbury
Third Year
Film



② "My film would be another Star Trek, but with me in it."

Ruth Ogbeab
Second Year
Management Information Systems

"My film would be about the men and women who died for our country to make it what it is today. There would be a twist which made Americans today realize how they take freedom for granted."

Steve Yang
Third Year
Electrical Engineering



③ "It would be about a refrigerator that was converted into a time machine, which a crippled bear used to go back in time. It's a romantic comedy."

Clint Keepin
Third Year
Film

"How miserable RIT is with the weather. It would be called My Journey from the Residence Halls to Building 6. There would be a lot of people going down the quarter mile, trying to not get knocked down by the wind."

Ella Lam
Third Year
Graphic Media Marketing

④ "The title of the film would be Presidency for Dummies. It would be a comedy implying that it is about Bush, but all of the names would be slightly changed. The theme would be about a man who knew nothing but still became president."

Samuel Agbor-Tabi
Third Year
International Business

"My film would definitely be about something interesting; a psychological thriller. It would star Russell Crowe and Meg Ryan."

Yatish Mamniya
Graduate
Information Technology



⑤ "I would make a movie about the social life of students at RIT. It would be about how they get along under all of the dire circumstances and issues they face."

Oz Goonewardene
Fourth Year
Bio Tech

"The film would be about sorority and fraternity life. It would have stars like Drew Barrymore, Alicia Silverstone, and Neve Campbell."

Victoria Pires
Fourth Year
International Business

"My film would be about a person overcoming infinite obstacles to achieve respect for a greater cause than him."

Jeff Lubkowski
Second Year
Electrical Engineering

"I would make a documentary along the lines of Michael Moore (Bowling for Columbine). I would cover parenting because it's something messed up in America."

Mike Zelinski
First Year
Imaging Science



"I would make a movie about peace and stopping the violence. It would be a homemade movie with no movie stars, just about people in general. It would be about understanding in a time when I don't believe in war."

John Quick
RIT Custodian

"It would be about a rock and roll band that went up in space so they could rock out on Mars with Martians."

Andrew Hoerner
First Year
Undeclared Science



Nicole Ferarri on the set of her film *Lessons in Customer Service*. Photograph courtesy Nicole Ferarri

"I just thought the premise of my story was pretty funny," said Religioso. "I mean, you would expect that the man would be more concerned with the shopping carts than the ingredients of the food, but that's just not the case." Religioso had to teach himself a lot in order to create some of the animation his story called for. "Throughout the program, they teach you the very basics, and then you have to go out there and teach yourself the rest," he said. "There weren't any really big problems during my process, but for some of the big scenes with the explosions and the products, I had to teach myself the dynamics. But, I don't really mind teaching myself things." Religioso was happy with his screening, saying that he really couldn't have asked for more. One comment from Howard Lester was that "it shows how much [he] put into it."

Religioso is happy with the film and animation program at RIT. "I would have liked to have started on computer animation a little earlier," said Religioso, "[But] studying film really helps for making a good story. The school gives you a lot of freedom in making your projects. They kind of say 'Do whatever you want and it's up to you to make something good,' so it's really about how much effort you put into it."

Hours upon hours of effort have been expended, and finances have been depleted. The cast and crew has arrived, performed, and vanished, leaving behind only remnants of torn costumes and wadded tape. The equipment, functional and sometimes not, has been requested, granted, and returned several times over. Cataloguing, editing, and dubbing, have been completed several times, and the project now rests on a cassette or a disc. The audience has come, sat very still, laughed, cried and left. Now, the filmmaker is alone with his work. This is the life of a Film student. •

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Reporter's Spring Sports Preview

REBECCA LANTHORNE/REPORTER MAGAZINE



Noel Camardo competes against teammate Rod Razavi during the RIT men's tennis practice.

Tiger Teams Prepare for Action | by Marci Savage and Matt Doak

Men's Tennis

The RIT men's tennis team also looks to repeat the success of the past after compiling a respectable 9-5 record last season. Coach Ann Nealon's top two returning players are sophomore David Chachu and senior Joe Neely.

Chachu finished his amazing freshman campaign with a singles record of 13-6, earning the title of Empire 8 Rookie of the Year. He started the season as the teams number three player, but quickly moved up to number one. Chachu also had a 9-7 doubles record with three different partners.

Neely completed 2002 with a record of 15-6 on his way to being selected to the first team All-Empire Eight. Neely also racked up a 13-4 record in doubles play with partner Luke Faxon-St. Georges.

During spring break, the team played in the annual Ice Breakers Tournament. Their regular schedule gets underway March 19 at LeMoyne.

Three home matches against Empire Eight competition highlight the team's schedule. These matches take place on RIT's new tennis courts on April 6 vs. Nazareth, April 10 vs. St. John Fischer, and April 12 vs. Alfred.

Women's Crew

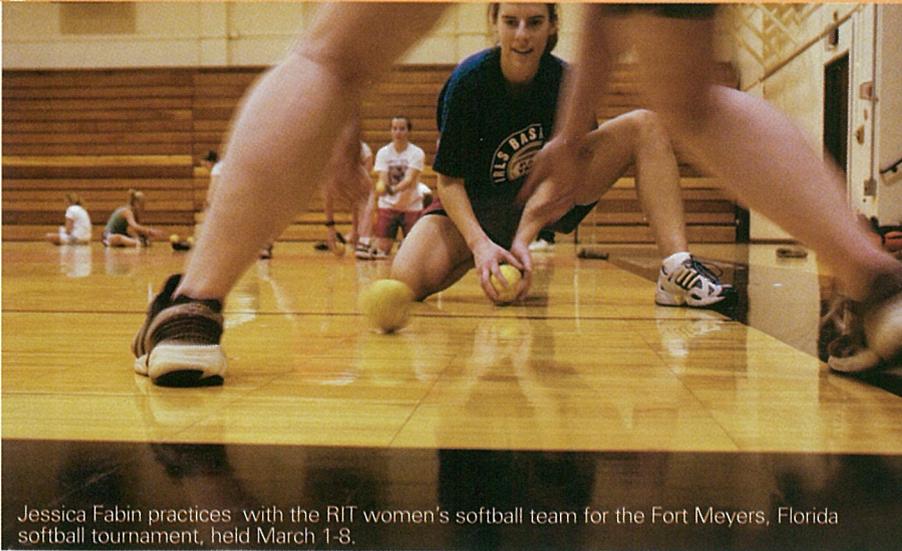
The women's crew team surprised everyone but themselves in the fall, when they captured the Kate Louise Cup at the Stonehurst Capital Regatta. Coach Suzette Lugo hopes to build on the success that the team had in the fall. Last season, the Varsity Eight finished seventh among 28 teams at states. The RIT women's crew team will be entering a Varsity and JV Eight into most races, along with a Novice Four or Eight. Seeley will also be coaching the women's Novice team, which hopes to continue to improve as the season progresses.

Helping to lead the team this year will be senior captain Hannah Dawes, and senior

coxswain Sara Nicholls. When asked about team goals Nicholls said, "For team goals, that would definitely have to be to make it all the way to NCAAs this year, and do well in the championships." These goals, do doubt, will demand a great deal of hard work, but this year's team is up for the challenge. "Ithaca is going to be tough competition again this year," said Nicholls. "But, we are going to fight them all the way to the finish line... and win." Such positive attitude and leadership from Nicholls will help the Tigers to achieve their goals.

The women have a busy spring schedule highlighted by the New York State Rowing Championships on May 3 and 4 and the ECAC Collegiate Rowing Championships on May 10 and 11.

Nicholls added, "I am so proud of our team. A lot of people don't expect a lot from RIT because we're not a big sports school, but our team has managed to prove them wrong more than once because we work so hard."



Jessica Fabin practices with the RIT women's softball team for the Fort Meyers, Florida softball tournament, held March 1-8.

REBECCA LANTHORNE/REPORTER MAGAZINE

The team has races in Rochester on March 30, April 5, and April 12.

Men's Crew

After having a very successful fall season, the men's crew team hopes to pick up just where they left off.

At the Head of the Charles, a prestigious boating event in Boston, the Varsity Eight boat finished sixth among Division III schools, and also finished ahead of many Division I schools such as Colgate, Boston College, Colorado, Texas, and Duke. The Varsity Eight also finished third in Rochester's Stonehurst Capital Regatta in the fall, defeating Division I crews from Brown, Syracuse, Buffalo, and Binghamton.

Coach Jim Bodenstedt leads the team into the much busier spring season with the help of senior coxswain and co-captain Bill Gross. "We have several guys who are extremely committed this season," said Gross. "It's my last year on the team and I'm trying to give it all I have." Gross hopes other team members will do the same.

The team's other co-captain, Royce Abel, has been helping to lead the team by designing their workout programs throughout the winter.

The Tigers also enter a JV Eight and a four-person boat at many events. Alumni Sarah Seeley, who was a coxswain at RIT for four years, will coach the Novice team this year. Seeley brings with her much rowing experience and a continued dedication to the team.

During spring break, the team avoided the icy weather of Rochester and traveled to Florida to train for the upcoming season. They are looking forward to being able to train in the water up here once the weather thaws.

The team has events nearly every weekend from the end of March through May.

Their schedule is highlighted by a trip to Whitney Point for the New York State Rowing

Championships on May 3 and 4. The team finished seventh out of 28 teams in this event last year. Another important event is the ECAC Collegiate Rowing Championships, which occur the weekend after states.

Softball

Empire Eight Co-Coach of the Year Jack Carpenter and the RIT softball team look to improve upon last year's 19-18-1 record with the combination of strong pitching and a solid freshman class.

The Tigers should be a stronger team across the board this season, and hope to finish closer to 2001's 31-9 record than last season's less successful record. "The freshman that came in are very good and our pitching will be strong," said Carpenter. "In the conference, we should be in the top three."

Leading the team this season are captains Ashley Kennedy, Shari McNamara, and Jennifer Miazga.

Pitcher McNamara was the Empire Eight Player of the Year in 2002, after compiling a 15-12 record and completing every game she started. During the course of the season, McNamara tossed seven shutouts, had a 1.70 ERA, and struck out 150 hitters. Kennedy was also a second team All-Conference performer at first base last year.

During spring break, the team traveled to Fort Myers, Florida, and played ten games against some tough non-conference opponents. The opportunity to play some games while the weather up north is still poor should prove advantageous for the Tigers.

The team's home schedule is highlighted by games against Empire Eight opponents Hartwick on April 5, Utica on April 6, Alfred on April 12, and Ithaca on April 22.

Baseball

Coach Rob Grow begins his eleventh season as head coach of the Tigers. During his tenure at RIT, he has led the Tigers to record breaking numbers time and time again. Grow's teams have earned the records for most wins (22), most consecutive wins (eight), team batting average (.326), and several others. He hopes to continue this tradition of excellence and lead them into the record books again during the 2003 season.

The team captains this season are Marty Maynard, Dan Feldman and Andy Zach. Catcher Maynard earned second-team All



Scott Niejadlik (left), of the RIT men's crew team, completes the 2,000 meter ERG test that will help determine his boat placement for this upcoming season.

REBECCA LANTHORNE/REPORTER MAGAZINE



KATHRYN NIX/REPORTER MAGAZINE

Andrew Pratt (left) and goalie Alex VanderEls (right) look for the ball during an indoor practice.

Empire Eight honors last season, leading the Tigers offensively with a batting average of .398, in addition to 12 doubles and 16 runs batted in (RBI). Maynard also dominated the defense with 149 put-outs and 14 assists for a .964 fielding percentage.

Other integral members of the team include infielder Eric Hauser and Matt Knodel. Hauser concluded his junior season with 24 RBI, 12 doubles and a .345 batting average, which earned him first-team All-Empire Eight honors. Relief pitcher Knodel also earned first-team All-Empire Eight honors after picking up two saves, as well as pitching 37 innings while striking out 28 batters. He ended the season with a 2.19 earned run average (ERA). Other pitchers to watch this season are Paul Diedrich and Dan Weglinski.

The team is comprised of 11 freshmen this season, who will all be a vital part of the Tigers' success.

This season, the team's goals include improving on last year's record. The team plays their first home game on March 30, 2003, a double-header against RPI, which begins at 1 p.m.

Men's Lacrosse

Head coach Gene Peluso knows that the Tigers are looking at another tough season of competition this spring, but he feels that they are ready for action.

"Our team goals this year include competing for the conference and national championships," said Peluso. One of the team's more defined goals is to continue to improve and build the program as the season progresses, so that they are a better team in the later part of their season than they are now.

The team has their work cut out for them again. "The Empire Eight is the toughest in the country," said Peluso. "The conference has four teams that are ranked in the top 20 in the nation." Some of the toughest competitors that the Tigers will face include Nazareth, Ithaca, and Hartwick.

On offense, captains Josh Molinari and Chris Copeland offer the best one-two punch in the country. "Josh and Chris complement each other very well on the field," said Peluso. Last season Molinari led the conference in assists per game, while Copeland led the conference in goals per game. Copeland also received All-

Empire Eight honors in 2002, while Molinari was a preseason second team All-American going into the 2003 season.

Midfielder Ryan Neward will play both offense and defense for the Tigers. "Neward is a good off-ball offensive player, a great shooter, and is also a very tough defender," said coach Peluso. Senior midfielders Tony Green and Dave Griffin are both great defenders who also show the ability to handle ground balls.

Two freshmen that will help the team this season are David Thering and Zach Bednarz. Thering, a native of Fairport High School, will set up right away as an attack man. Peluso added that, "Betarz is a tough midfielder who adds depth, and will take face offs for the team this season."

On defense, the Tigers rely on junior starters Jonathan Manley, Mike Lachut, and Nicholas Zysk, who have all been a part of the starting lineup for the last three seasons. "They are all very tough, play well together, and are able to read off of each other because of experience over the last few years," said Peluso.

The most competitive position on the field this season will be the goalie position. "If you

are second best you are on the bench," said Peluso. There are five different goalies working to earn the starting spot. Right now, Junior John Sinclair and freshman Luke Pitcher are the most likely candidates to start, though freshman Alex VanderEls will also challenge for the starting role.

Peluso has a very positive outlook for the season ahead. "The most important thing is that everyone must recognize their roles on the team and fulfill them." "If this happens, we will have a very successful season."

Women's Lacrosse

New coaches Carly Peters and Heather Savage hope for a successful 2003 season. Their goals for the season are set high, as they not only aim to make it to post-season play, but also to win the Empire Eight Championship. This will not be an easy task, as they face some tough competition from schools such as Ithaca and Nazareth.

Peters and Savage will rely heavily on their four senior captains, Erin Diduro, Sarah Maneri, Erika Morgan, and Amber Mescher for leadership during the season. Maneri is RIT's all-time scoring leader. Last season, Mescher not only lead the team in ground balls, but she also paced the conference with 72 total, earning Empire Eight first-team, all-conference honors. She was also honored as RIT's All-Time ground ball leader with a count of 231 thus far in her career. Mescher also posted a team-high 36 caused turnovers, placing her first in the Empire Eight, averaging 3.20 per contest.

Savage has a very positive outlook on the season. "I believe that we will be very successful this year because we have many talented freshman and upperclassmen who have goals and will work until they are reached." She also added "There are a couple of freshmen that played in high school that will add talent to this year's team."

Peters also brings with her a fresh feel to the team and a very positive outlook. "I think that with hard work and discipline we will win more games than last year, and will have a successful season."

The team will begin their season against tough Empire Eight rival Ithaca on March 24, in Ithaca, N.Y. •



The Tigers congratulate David Bagley after he scored an open-net goal in the final minutes of the third period to cap RIT's 5-3 victory over Elmira on February 14, 2003.
Denis Rochefort/REPORTER MAGAZINE

Men's Hockey Update

The RIT men's hockey team celebrated after their 6-2 victory against Hobart on March 7, 2003. RIT scored five second-period goals to win the ECAC West Semifinal game, earning them a fifth consecutive trip to the ECAC Championship. Ryan Fairbarn, an ECAC West first-team selection, scored a hat trick in the game. Goaltender Tyler Euverman recorded 27 saves, before being relieved by George Eliopoulos who had four saves in 11:40. The number one-seeded Tigers went on to face number three-seeded Elmira in the Championship for the second year in a row on March 8. Elmira earned its first ECAC West Tournament Title since 1997 with a 4-3 victory against the Tigers. Sam Hill scored the first goal for the Tigers, while Mike Tarantino score two goals and an assist in the loss. Tarantino earned all-tournament honors. The Tigers end their season with a record of 19-4-2, after it was announced Sunday night that they did not earn a bid to the NCAA tournament. This is the first time since 1995 that RIT has not been in the tournament. •

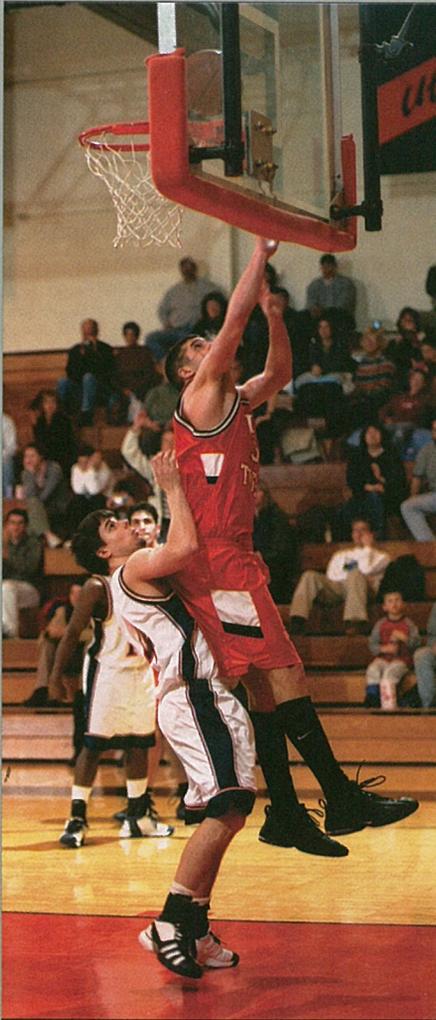
Mike



Stanton:

The End of an Era

by Julie Scuderi
photographs by Denis Rochefort



Senior forward Mike Stanton makes his 1000th career point at the 12:48 mark in the second half of a home game against Utica on February 1, 2003.

It wasn't enough for Mike Stanton to be the top scorer and top rebounder of the boys basketball team during his last season as a Tiger. Nor was it enough for him to be the automatic go-to guy—the guy who ensures success with his flawless skills and confident demeanor. No, Mike Stanton had to be the man—the one who broke through barriers with his record setting drive, and whose imposing 6'5" stature intimidated opponents into regression.

Such characteristics make for quite a nice repertoire, not to mention a happy ending to a solid four-year career. Head Coach Bob McVean envisioned just this when he was recruiting Stanton four years ago. "What really caught my eye about Mike was his attitude. If he ever missed, he would go back up again and again, and in turn, be successful," McVean said. On February 1, 2003, Stanton surpassed the 1000-point mark of his career in an 81-70 win over Utica in Clark Gymnasium. This accomplishment, along with four years of successful play, has placed him among the elite athletes here at RIT.

"All I could think was, 'Thank God it's over,'" Stanton said of passing the 1000-point milestone. "Everybody made such a big deal about it, but I tried not to let the pressure get to me."

Although Stanton has his famous 15-foot base line shot perfected, he worked extra hard this season to bring other areas of his game up to par. "I've moved my jump shot out further this year, and have really been working on becoming a three-point threat," Stanton said.

This deadly combination should make him an obvious selection for the All-Empire Eight team, an honor he was awarded last year as well. Stanton also exceeded expectations in his first year as a captain. Despite the burden of having to replace the talented Brandon Redmond, Stanton has certainly held his own, averaging 14 points per game and over 350 during the season.

Teammate and senior co-captain Nick Panepinto knows the extent to which the

rival Nazareth. The win put the Tigers at the top of their division and enabled Stanton to end his career with all of the respect he deserves.

With his last year of eligibility over and graduation quickly approaching, Stanton is going to capitalize on all that he has learned on and off the basketball court. His expected Bachelors degree in Biology is a great start in his quest to go to medical school. "Eventually, I want to be a surgeon, although I'm not sure what kind yet," he said.

Either way, Coach McVean is sure that Stanton's drive and determination on the court will translate into a successful and lucrative career in any field he chooses.

"There's no question he will be successful in life. Not everything may come naturally to him, but he is a workhorse, and that is the most important thing," coach McVean said with confidence.

As for basketball, Stanton plans on staying competitive long after graduation. "I'll always play, whether it's in a league, or just pickup."

After four years of domination, Stanton leaves behind a legacy that will set the precedent for many years to come. His leadership skills on and off the court are a prime example for anyone, athlete or not, to follow. With all that he has accomplished, Stanton hopes he has left behind not only a positive message for younger players, but has also set a bar for younger player to follow. "I hope that I taught them how to be a leader, and that no matter how much your team is down, to keep doing whatever you can."•

"There's no question he will be successful in life. Not everything may come naturally to him, but he is a workhorse, and that is the most important thing."

team puts its faith in Stanton "Before every game, Mike is the guy that calms us down. He breaks the seriousness of it all; we look to him for that."

That attitude is what propelled the Tigers into their most exhilarating match-up this year, an 81-79 nail-biting victory over cross-town

Recycle This

[Note: This letter edited for space.]

This is a letter to the editor in response to a submission made by Ron Bauerle on February 17 concerning the alleged shortcomings of recycling.

Sorry Mr. Bauerle, Captain Planet was right, and your anti-recycling "sources" were dead wrong. Either that, or there are some serious math errors at play.

Currently there are approximately 270,000,000 people in the United States. On average, we generate 4.5 pounds of municipal solid waste (MSW) per day per person. Conservatively, we can compact 1,000 pounds of MSW in one cubic yard of landfill volume, which gives us: [(270,000,000 people in the United States) x (4.5 pounds / day / person) x (1 cubic yard / 1000 pounds) x (365 day / year)] = 443,475,000 cubic yards of required landfill volume per year to accommodate our MSW without, as you suggest, recycling.

Using your suggested 100-yard height for a landfill, this translates into: [443,475,000 cubic yards of required landfill volume / year, 100 yards high] = 4,434,750 square yards of land per year.

Converting this number to square miles, we see that we will need [(4,434,750 square

yards / year) x (1 square mile/3,097,600 square yards)] = 1.43 square miles of land / year.

Therefore, to fill up the 30 square miles in your proposal, it will take [30 square miles, 1.43 square miles / year] = 20.98 years, not 1,000 years you have proclaimed.

Over 1,000 years, we will need [(1.43 square miles / year) x 1,000 years] = 1,430 square miles piled 300 feet high to accommodate this waste. So in 1,000 years we could build a highway 30 stories high and a mile wide from Rochester to Miami with all the MSW that we will produce in the U.S.

Now, you might argue that the waste will degrade over time so we won't need as much land. While it is true that the waste will degrade and the landfilled volume will subside and stabilize, there are other significant considerations:

First of all, there is population growth. We ignored it in our calculations, but if we assume a growth of only 1/10th of a percent per year, we will increase our total MSW generation during this period by 75 percent.

Second, if we factor in the six inches of soil added to the waste daily to provide a sanitary cover, and the foot or so that is added on top of every 10-foot lift, and the 5-to-7 foot thick liner

that is placed before the waste is added and the 4-to-5 foot cap that is placed over the waste once the landfill is full, we will increase the overall volume requirement by another 13 percent.

Finally, and most significantly, the sides of the landfill must be sloped to a 1' on 3' grade to maintain stability. Your 300-foot maximum height thus limits the width of the landfill to 1,800 feet. This single consideration would more than double the land area requirement.

You're also ignoring other critical factors that go into waste management. For example: the additional billions of gallons of leachate that would be generated because the landfills would be 23 percent larger than is the case now *with* recycling, which would need to be collected and treated. Also, there is the matter of the additional hundreds of billions of dollars necessary to construct the additional liners and caps to accommodate the materials that would otherwise be recycled.

Sorry, but Captain Planet was right. -The students of Dr. John Morelli's Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Class: Rich Camarda, Kate Howard, Melissa Lamphron, Kendra Moliengo-Bredlau, Josh Ramos, Jake Smith, John Valvo, and Glen Wilson •

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