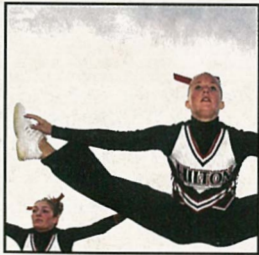


REPORTER

NOVEMBER 14, 2003 | WWW.REPORTERMAG.COM





Steve Shapiro
President
RIT Student Government

Dear Fellow Students,

As the fall quarter closes, I would like to say that I am very pleased with the accomplishments of Student Government thus far. It has been a pleasure working with the other Cabinet members, Senators, Representatives, faculty, staff and administrators. It is evident to me that all of these people share many of the same feelings that I have as Student Government President. We would all like to help make the RIT community a great place for everyone. With that in mind, I would like to share with all of you what Student Government has been working on this fall.

To kick off the school year, we planned the first ever "Student Activities Day". There were over 70 clubs, special interest houses and Greek organizations present to showcase what they have to offer. Free prizes were being given out all day by WITR and SG. To add to the already festive environment, President Simone occupied the back of Gracie's field with his annual softball game.

The All-Governance Retreat took place September 13th-14th at Camp Corey in Penn Yan, NY. This was the first time that the newly elected Student Government and many representatives from Major Student Organizations were able to come together. During break out sessions, we discussed issues dealing with small group communication, event marketing, communication with mixed cultures, and balancing your academics with your leadership roles. We also took time to decide as a group what initiatives we would like to take this school year. As a result, the SG Plan of Work expanded to include the ideas of a broad group of student leaders.

Before the Rochester weather got cold, we fed at least 500 hungry students at a free BBQ in the Infinity Quad. On a beautiful Friday afternoon, it was a great way for students to interact with Student Government representatives and with other members of the student body as they stood in line.

During Brick City Festival, SG was responsible for bringing Mr. Ben Stein to RIT as part of the "Horton Distinguished Speaker Series". Speaking to a more than sold out crowd in Clark Gym, Mr. Stein entertained everyone with his jokes and powerful message. This year we plan to bring more than one Horton Speaker to RIT so keep on the lookout for something in February!

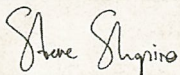
Currently, a Communications Initiative is being drafted to work with major departments on campus. The goal is to have a representative from the selected departments who would be willing to come to SG Senate meetings if they had any upcoming policy changes. Student Government wants to make sure that there is student input in all major decisions that will affect students before they are made.

We are also in the process of looking into the advising system at RIT. After speaking with several students, we have found that the quality of academic advising varies greatly across the campus. In some departments, the advisor is constantly interacting with the student while in others the student has never met their advisor. We hope to have surveys and student forums taking place in December to address the issue. The results will then be presented to Academic governing bodies. This, however, is just one part of our overall plan of action to increase student retention.

Most recently, "Hallowbash" was a huge success. The night started at the Men's Hockey game where over 50 people signed up for the costume contest and received a free ice cream cone. During the 2nd intermission, the top 3 costumes walked away with \$50 in prizes each. Then at 9pm the party began. The DJ attracted students to the dance floor while others enjoyed free pizza and wings, cotton candy, popcorn and other beverages. Some waited in line for wax hands or henna tattoos. Raffle tickets were also given to everyone that came and 3 lucky winners walked away with \$100 in prizes each.

Student Government will be continuing the tradition of "Breakfast Stops" at each college for Final's Week. Be sure you stop by for a free donut and juice to help you get through your exams.

Good luck on your finals and enjoy fall break!



Steve Shapiro
President
Student Government

WHAT HAS YOUR SENATOR DONE FOR YOU?

College of Liberal Arts

Kayla Zerby meets weekly with Associate Dean Winnie and the new Student Activities Board to assess the success of the college's orientation events, brainstorm ideas to create a better sense of community and how to improve retention within the college. She is also the Editor of the bi-annual newsletter, "Liberal Smarts" which comes out in December. Be on the lookout for "Coffee Days" every Friday in the COLA student lounge.

College of Imaging Arts and Sciences

LaToye Adams has begun the year working to better understand the other minor and concentration options besides liberal arts. She has already begun to create a structure with the CIAS student clubs that will help to improve communication and productivity. LaToye is also working with SGTV to create space on the channel for student films, crafts, photography and illustration.

College of Business

Valerie Pope has been very successful this Fall. She was responsible for hosting a Meet the Senator event and a pizza party for business students. She has added a suggestion box, met with her Dean and oversees the COB E-Board. Valerie has extensive plans for the rest of the year, one of which is the COB Gala on December 12th.

College of Engineering

Eric Majewicz has been working with students to define goals for the college. Based on results from a survey taken last spring, he is working with COE to have more professors available in the Engineering Learning Center and to have its hours extended. Eric also helped to coordinate the 2nd Annual Student/Faculty Bowling event. The event was a hit with 2 faculty teams and 10 student teams.

College of Science

Annemarie Ross has spent the past quarter working with the College of Science Student Advisory Board to set up events and make sure that the voice of the COS student body is heard. They have been responsible for COS Club Day, "Battle of the Classes," and have met with Dean Gatley and Assistant Dean Marron. They are in the process of selecting the COS Faculty Member of the Quarter for the fall and planning the Winter Gala set for December 6.

Golisano College of Computing and Information Systems

Joanna Prescott is currently working to set up a student chapter of the Association for Women in Computing. She has been collecting feedback from various students in GCCIS and researching other university's similar programs. She will be implementing her findings in the future weeks. Also, during the tenth week Joanna planned a GCCIS Pizza Party in Building 70.

NTID

Andrew Kucharski has been busy assisting with other NTID Clubs. He helped the Deaf International Student Club establish new executive board nominations, encouraged the NTID Computer Club to invent a new technology of Auto-Drive and is helping to mediate professor and program issues for Computer Integrated Machining Technology students. Andrew is currently researching how to improve English programs at NTID.



Dr. Mary Beth Cooper and Dave Sheehan at SG Club Day

Coming up this winter...

Freshman Scholarship

Homecoming! January 28-31

Pep Rally

Tiger Idol

College Winter Football

Hockey Game

3rd Annual Superbowl Extravaganza

Antwone Fisher February 6



SG Cabinet members work together at the fall retreat.



Students go all out at the SG Halloween Party.

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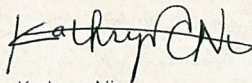
We all live ordinary lives, or do we? Although we may not see our own individual lives as spectacular, we all have a story to tell. What is to us an every day, ordinary, nothing-new-or-interesting task or activity may be fascinating to someone else. Every life is a story and we often do not always realize this.

I look back on family trips when I was five years old and wish that I could have had my camera then to document those times in my life. At the time I thought nothing of driving 24 hours straight through the night with my parents and three siblings (and eventually one dog). This was routine. We did this every year. I now realize that these are the important things to document, to share with others, and to relive through photographs and story-telling. I wish I had taken pictures when my 14 year-old sister was in the hospital after having surgery similar to a mastectomy and then also taking pictures three days later, when she came home from the hospital to a housewarming by her puppy that brought tears to my eyes. My sister had a story to tell or be told, as did the puppy.

I wish I could be in Boston right now, photographing and documenting my best friend. She is teaching in her first classroom, and struggling with teaching on her own for the first time, completing her masters degree, and living at home for the first time in three years. These are events that many people deal with and live through. These are the events that we should look at as a fascinating part of life, even if it is something painful such as surgery, dinner with family or friends, or just coming home.

Photographers are among many people who look for stories within life. Whether life is being a high school cheerleader, living with a disease, believing in something, or existing in a crowd, you have a story or you are part of a moment that defines humanity. Without photographs that show the beauty, curiosity, humor, pain, and strength of everyday life, we cease to learn—not only about those who live a life different than our own, but about our own individual daily existence.

What is now in your hands are four tales seen through the eyes of four different photographers. All four tales are unique in subject, but unified by one simple fact: this is part of life for someone, somewhere.



Kathryn Nix

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Keep Your Hands Inside The Boat

photographs by Rob Sincock

With the increasing push for pattern in our daily lives, as humans, we seem to have begun to isolate ourselves from what is real. In convincing ourselves that life is nothing but a continuous cycle, we have been driven into schedule. We wake up, watch television, go outside, and go to work. No one relates to one another; for the most part all we do is take a glance with a blank expression. Life is no longer an experience. All hopes and dreams are kept inside. We don't really want to feel life; we ride through it.









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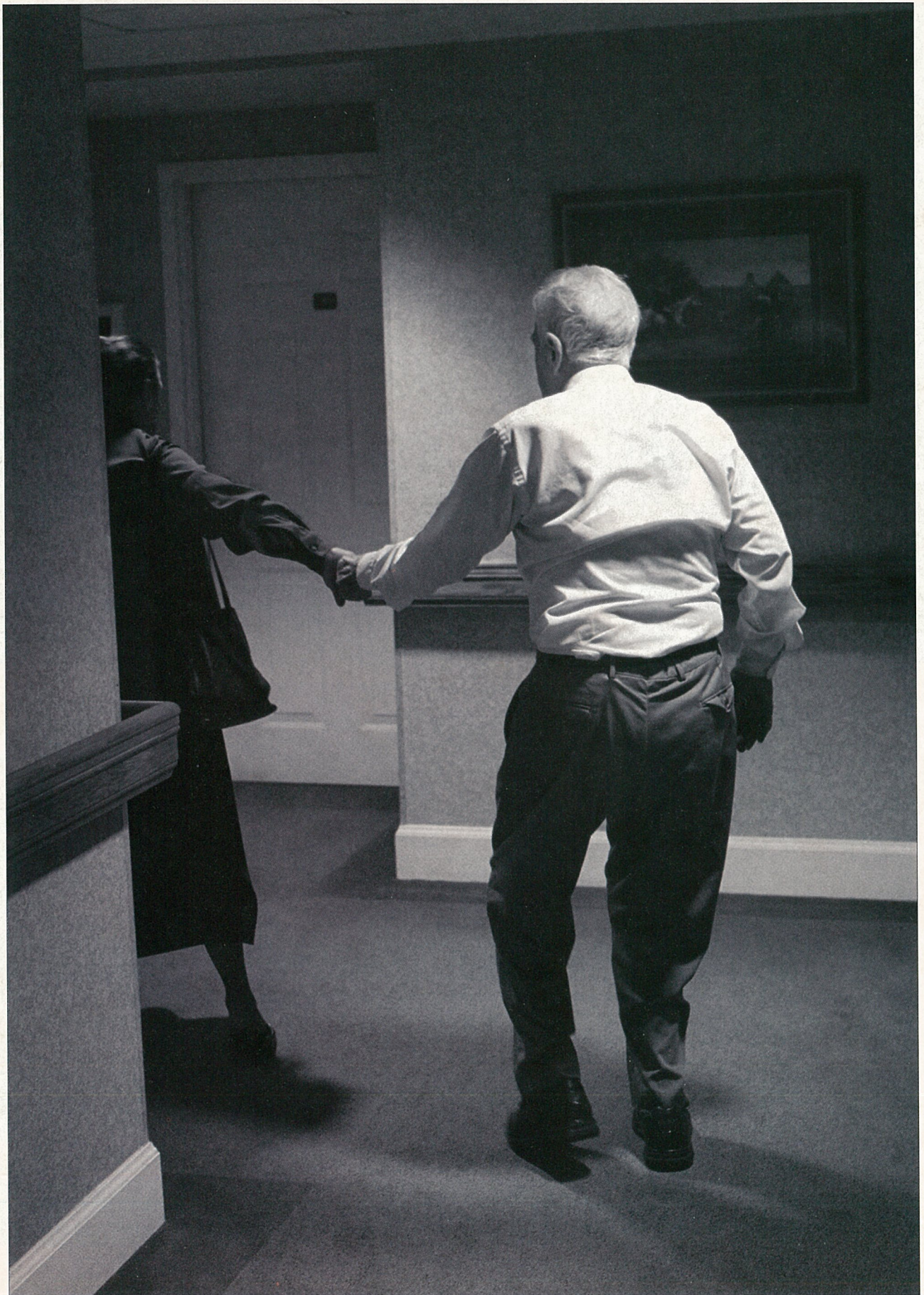
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Living With Alzheimer's

photographs by Zack Stack











A woman once whispered to me, "When I closed my eyes and imagined the future...it was never like this." Alzheimer's is not a disease that cripples the body, but rather it hollows out the mind, stealing and erasing our memories. Within the next 30 years, as the youngest baby boomers surpass the age of 65, the number of people affected by Alzheimer's is expected to rise by 70 percent. Many researchers believe that, without adequate funding and research now, our country is on the verge of an unmanageable health crisis that could overwhelm the health care system. This leads to the question, "How much are your memories worth?" The hope of our future is anchored in our past. If we lose this we lose everything.



BEHIND THE TIPGLOSS

photographs by Rebecca Lanthorne

Cheerleaders are often stereotyped as the most popular, beautiful, and peppy girls in high school. A constant smile sparkles while they perform, all movements are upbeat, precise, and together. With the aesthetic stereotype comes a connotation of superficiality, as if the uniform of a cheerleader is reflective of something lacking, in personality, in intelligence, or in individuality. The dedication, practice, repetition, and hard work that goes into preparing for a perfectly synchronized routine are often overshadowed by stereotypes. Stereotypes stem from truths of peppiness, beauty, and superficiality, but these traits are part of the cheerleading uniform. Beneath the surface of red ribbons, hair wig scrunchies and polyester skirts lies a core of dedication and a spirit of teamwork that derives less from trying to fit in or cheer for a boys' team than from a common drive to succeed in a sport.

It's 6:55 a.m. and Karlie's ride to school arrives at her house in five minutes. Karlie rolls out of bed opens her closet door—adorned with a poster of a screaming Avril Lavigne—and begins to put on her cheer uniform. A dresser displays a small shrine of homecoming pictures

with starry night backdrops. Karlie leans toward her dresser mirror and applies mascara, proudly proclaiming it as the only makeup worn and “Only when I perform. I'm not a girly girl.” The mirror is lined with a photographic timeline, beginning with a pink ballerina tutu picture of a younger Karlie and her sisters at dance class. It is now 7:00 a.m. and Karlie's best friend is waiting in the driveway.

The hallways are crowded with students rushing to lockers and talking with friends before the first bell. Two girls emerge from the crowd, distinguished by their identical red and black uniforms. The cheerleading uniform sets them apart from the hall crowd, while simultaneously masking their individuality. This uniformity is necessary in all aspects of cheerleading. Stunts, toe-touches, slaps, high-Vs, stiff wrists, locked elbows and animated facial expressions must all be repeated until perfectly synchronized. The nature of uniformity and peppiness within cheerleading often obscures the individuality of cheerleaders, but within the team of 26 girls, each has their own unique personality.



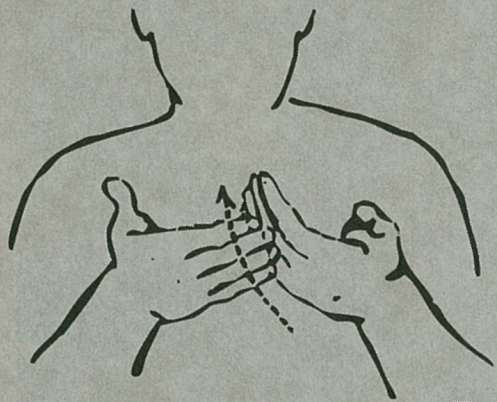






The Hilton cheerleaders hold hands and sit in a circle, a tradition for the team, as they anticipate the results of the Victor Cheer Competition. Their formation breaks with a burst of joy as they are announced as first place winners.

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Messianic Judaism

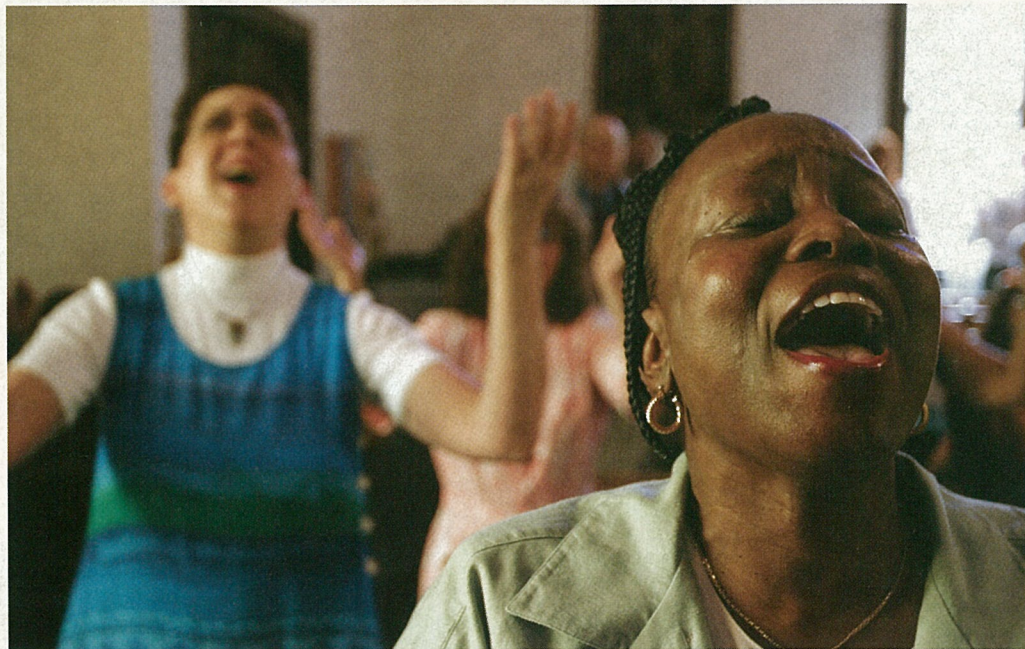
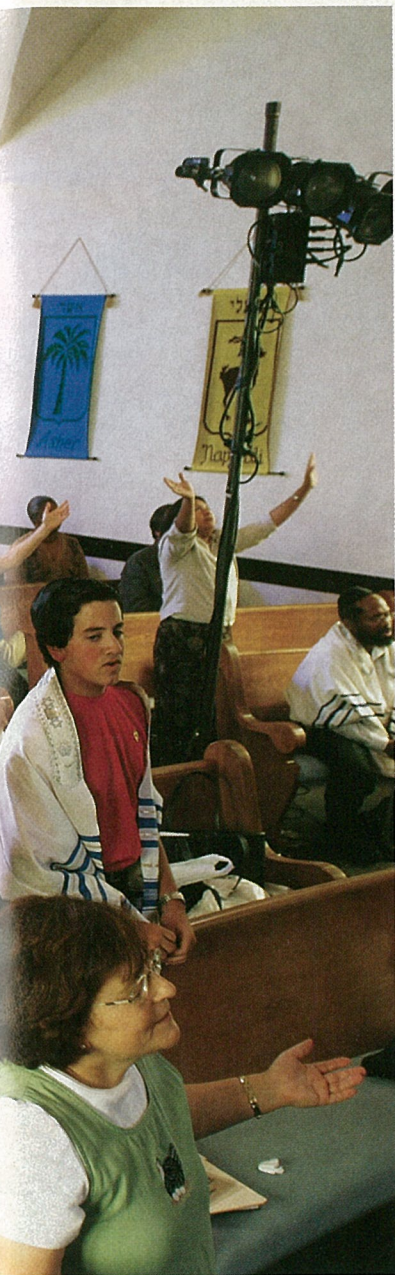
photographs by Michael Sperling

The following story is about a group of Messianic Jews located in the suburbs of Baltimore, Maryland. This unique group of individuals are Jewish, yet they have accepted Jesus as the Messiah. At the beginning of a typical Saturday morning service Yeshua (Jesus) is celebrated through song and dance. Following this, a portion of the torah and the new testament of the bible are read. The service concludes with the children attending religious school and the adults listening to a sermon from the rabbi. Their prayer style is much like that of a southern Baptist church.

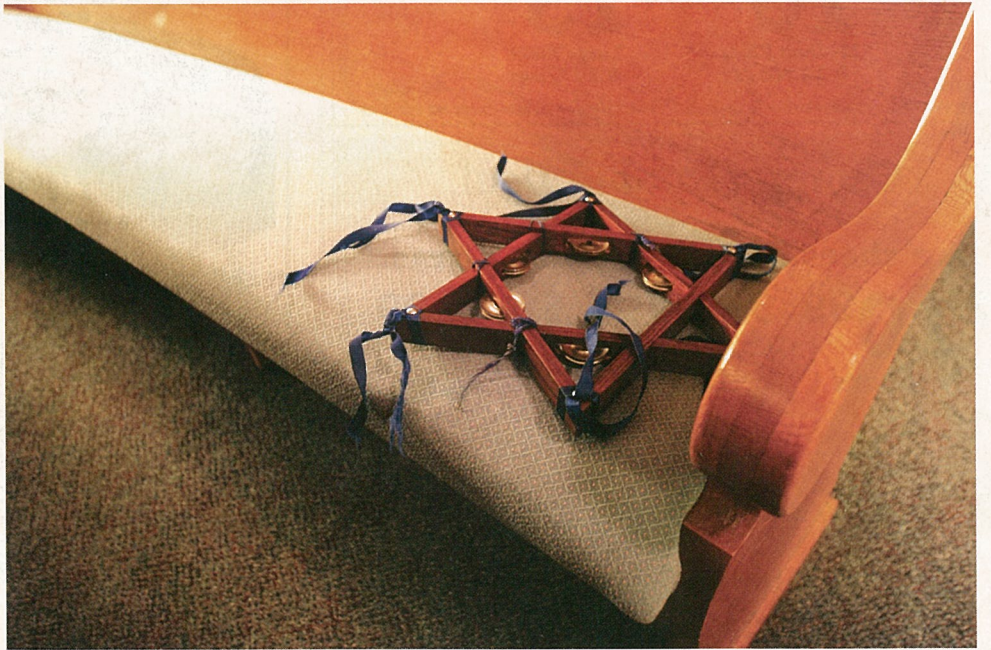
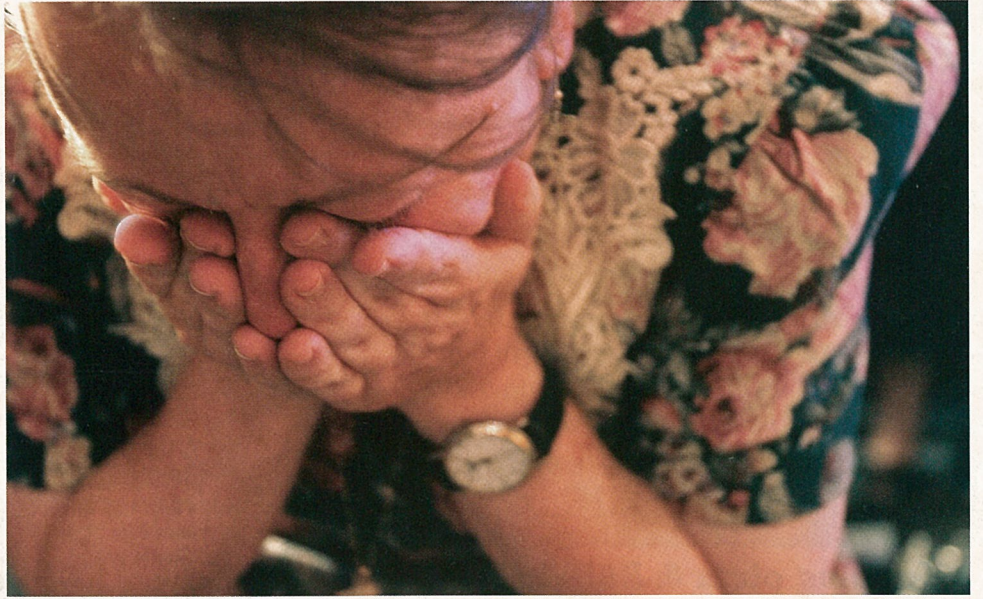
This unorthodox religion is spread all throughout the United States and has roots in Israel. Other sects of Judaism see Messianic Jews giving a bad name to the religion. Coming from a traditional Jewish family, I have observed many contrasts from my beliefs, and I am strongly interested in the multi-cultural aspect of this religion.













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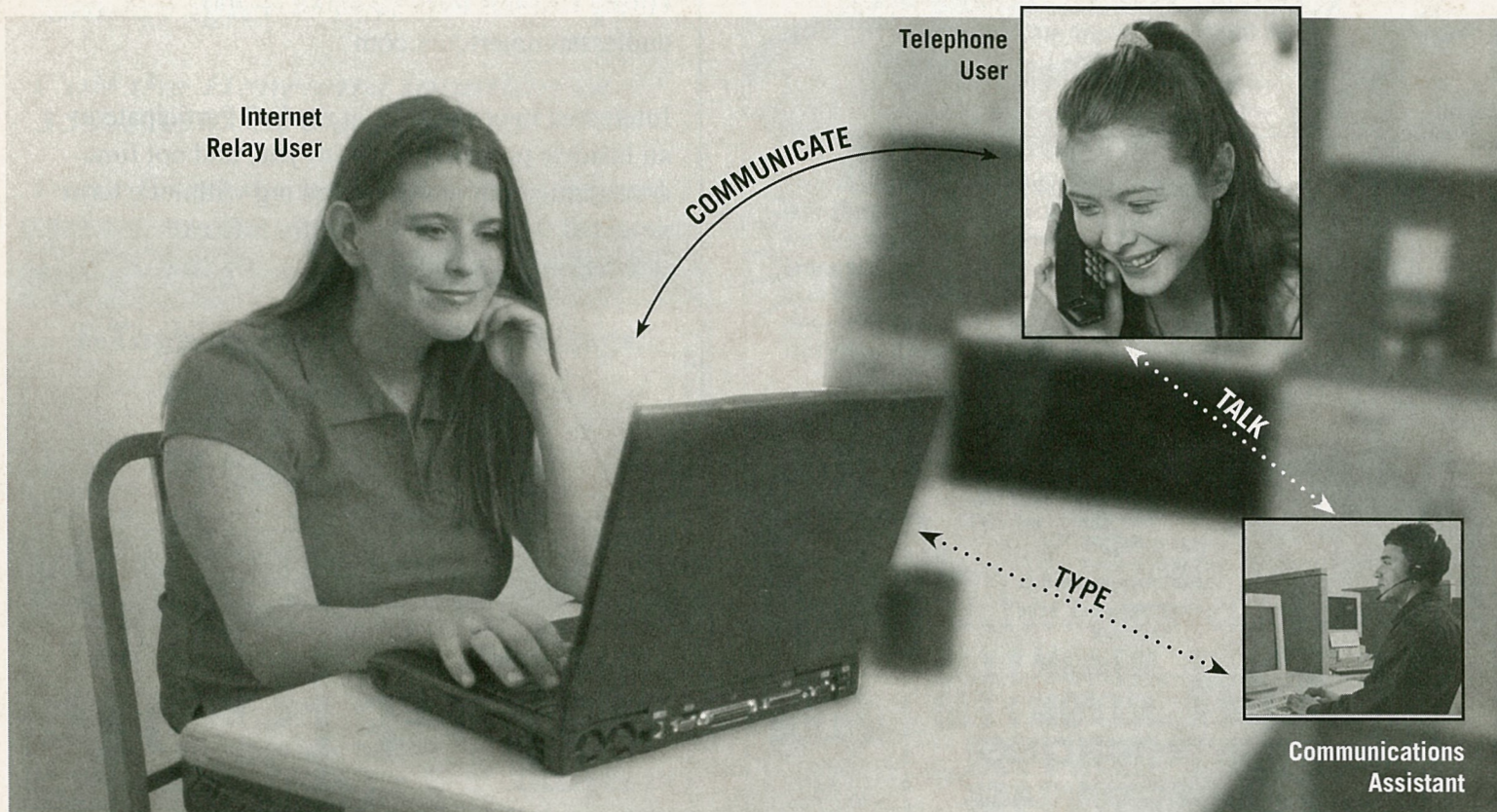
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