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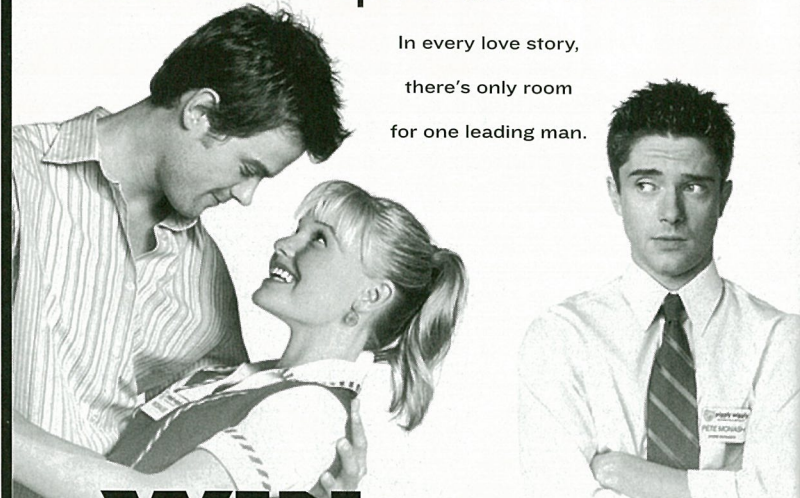
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EDITORIAL

Scheduling Conflicts

This week the number of American casualties in Iraq broke 500. When I see a headline proclaiming an American death, I know without reading the article that the soldiers who died were my age, give or take a few years. It weighs heavily on my mind because that is the life those soldiers chose to live. It reaffirms my awareness that I could just as easily be in Iraq as I am in Rochester.

And just as easily as I could be in Iraq, I could be somewhere else. The day of my high school graduation the schedule of my life opened up completely; I could have gone anywhere and found anything to do. As I consider what brought those young soldiers to Iraq I consider what brought me to RIT, especially with the weather we've been having.

My mother first mentioned RIT to me back when I started looking at schools. I was unenthusiastic about leaving home and therefore unenthusiastic about going to college, so whatever schools she suggested ended up on my list. "Sure, whatever." I put together a meager list of colleges to visit including RIT, Rhode Island School Design, Maryland Institute College of Art, SUNY Purchase, and the Corcoran Institute. I ended up applying to RIT, RISD, and MICA after I had dubbed the facilities of SUNY Purchase and the Corcoran Institute inadequate. We had visited RIT in the spring and I liked the looks of the campus. We looked at SUNY Purchase in the winter and I decided, based on the looks of the campus, to skip applying there. Considering that fact, I believe I would have skipped RIT had we visited in the winter.

After the initial visit, I attended a national portfolio review at Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City and met with a representative from RIT's College of Imaging Arts and Sciences. She looked through the massive portfolio case I had lugged across the Hudson River and said that it looked good to her and I wouldn't need to send any slides along with my application. Bingo. Half of the admissions process was instantly completed.

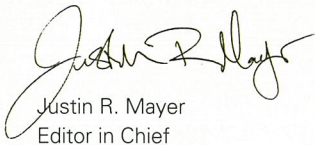
Though I was fairly confident I could get into RIT, I continued working on my applications for RISD and MICA. RISD required three huge drawings of difficult subjects like a bicycle and a hand. I spent day and night on those drawings and shipped them off to Providence with my application.

A few months later I received three envelopes. MICA, my safety school, had deferred my admission indefinitely and I was welcome to reapply; RISD accepted me but would offer zero dollars in financial aid; and RIT accepted me and offered a decent amount of financial aid.

I don't want to say that I was stuck going to RIT, but I was stuck going to RIT. I had complete control over where I applied from the beginning and let it get to the point where the only school I could attend without going broke was RIT.

Now let's review the factors that brought me to Rochester: I didn't apply to many other schools, we visited the campus when it was at its best, the application process was incredibly smooth, and the school offers a good amount of financial aid.

I don't regret coming here, but I know now after four years that I didn't work hard enough at applying to college. In four months the schedule of my life will completely open up again, and I know that this time I will think twice about what I fill it in with.



Justin R. Mayer
Editor in Chief

Cover photograph by
Michael Sperling

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The brothers Fairbairn.

Thursday temperatures dipped to -10 with wind chill but that didn't stop RIT and the students who had to walk the Quarter Mile back from class in the late evening freezing weather. Christopher Zajac/REPORTER Magazine

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CIMS Works to Improve Navy Fighter Jet

by Patrick Rice
photographs by Michael Sperling

As a result of a \$14 million federal grant, the Center for Integrated Manufacturing Studies (CIMS) has been given a unique opportunity to help lengthen the life and improve upon the design and functionality of assorted military equipment. The center is currently working to upgrade the design of an obsolete fighter jet.

The \$14 million is part of a seven-year grant made possible by United States Senators Charles Schumer (D-NY) and Hillary Clinton (D-NY), who worked with Congress to approve the contract with the Department of Defense. Dr. Nabil Nasr has been the director of CIMS since its creation in 1992; previously he had been a professor in the College of Engineering. "CIMS is similar to a University Hospital, we are here in order to train our students for the real world" said Nasr. "RIT has a long history of being partnered with industries, and ultimately this helps students to be engaged with these industries."

CIMS has been involved in many projects, including prolonging the life of printers, copiers, and scanners, as well as developing technology that informs operators of light armored military ground vehicles when problems could possibly arise. The work that is done at CIMS is referred to as "life-cycle engineering," a method of "recycling" products by improving upon their original design and refurbishing their existing components.

The latest CIMS project involves the recent arrival of a Navy EA-6B (also known as the A-6) fighter jet. The airplane was shipped to RIT in pieces from Davis-Monthan Air Force base in Tucson, Arizona, and currently resides in a hangar in the CIMS building on campus. The A-6 began service 20 years ago and was only recently decommissioned from military service. The work will be completed by students for the College of Engineering as well employees of CIMS—many of which are RIT graduates. The challenge posed to those working on the A-6 project is one of great significance, as the Department of Defense hopes to extend the life of the planes to another 25 years. "Theoretically its life-cycle is over" said Dr. Nasr. "But we're taking this project one step at a time and trying to make these aircraft like new by targeting known problem areas."

The team working on the project has determined the top ten problems with the aircraft and will tackle these issues first. The group working on the A-6 has been developing solutions for the plane for more than a year using cutting-edge technology that was included as part of the defense contract. "This contract

with the Department of Defense required that we have the latest and most up-to-date technology to physically test the redesigned components of the aircraft, and what we have is very sophisticated equipment" said Dr. Nasr.

Most recently, the team at CIMS has worked on improved actuators for the A-6. The actuators are responsible for controlling the movement of the aircraft while in flight, but have been recognized as one of the ten problematic areas of the airplane because they have been prone to fail in the past. Dr. Nasr noted that without the technology and equipment that they were given, the development of the actuators would be virtually impossible.

CIMS works in conjunction with local companies to machine the parts that they design. The companies involved include the Harris Corp., and Acro Industries—both manufacturing companies located in Rochester. Cost effectiveness is a main feature of the work that CIMS is involved in. For example, CIMS recently worked on the reconfiguration of a Navy ship whose design contained significant flaws. A total overhaul of the ship was done costing \$7.4 million, as opposed to the \$40 million it would have cost to develop a new ship. CIMS hopes to foster similar results with completion of the A-6 project, which \$2 million of the \$14 million was allocated for. For more information on CIMS visit www.cims.rit.edu.



Vicki Parnell (left) and Kara Mather examine underneath the wing of the Navy EA-6B plane. Engineering students have the opportunity to work on the plane during Co-Op.

BrickBeat

by Adam Kreidman with Tim Johnson

Antwone Fisher to Visit RIT during Black History Month

In celebration of Black History Month, Antwone Fisher will be sharing his life story in Ingle Auditorium at 8 p.m. on February 6. Fisher became a famous Hollywood writer and producer after growing up in inner city Cleveland. His best-selling autobiography, *Finding Fish*, was portrayed in the movie *Antwone Fisher*, starring Denzel Washington. The event is being sponsored by the Black Awareness Coordinating Committee (BACC), Student Government and the Center for Campus Life's Cultural Spotlight Series. An autograph session will follow the presentation. Tickets are \$5 for students and \$18 for the public.

RIT Hosts Photography Workshop for Educators

The school of Photographic Arts and Sciences will be holding the annual Basic Photography and Imaging Workshop for Educators beginning March 19 through the 21. Junior college and high school instructors are invited to attend seminars offering information on a variety of photography-related

topics. Andrew Davidhazy, RIT photography professor and workshop coordinator, said "This unique seminar is designed to be an interactive and challenging experience. Not only does it offer basic technical information, but there are also useful experiences and projects that participants can apply directly in their own teaching endeavors." Call the School of Photographic Arts and Sciences at 585-475-2863 for more information.

COLA Student Coffee Hours Begin

On Thursday, January 15, the College of Liberal Arts held its first Student Coffee Hours, held COLA Student Lounge from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. The Student Coffee Hours will take place every Thursday until the end of the quarter. Peer mentors will be present during these events, and students who would like to create student activities for COLA are encouraged to attend and voice their ideas. Cookies and coffee will be offered, and all students are welcome to come. •

HistoRIT

by Jeff Prystajko

Get your current events elsewhere

Rated 'R' for Redundant?

Professors beware – an intellectual battle over morals and students' rights stemming from the early 1970s may end with the unthinkable: students evaluating teachers! January 1971 saw the release of an opinion survey conducted to gauge students' attitudes on the possibility. While the results were not made available for publishing, two voices represented the gamut of thoughts on the issue. Professor Robert Koch noted, "Student evaluation is only a part of any respectable procedure for measuring professional attainment and is not absolutely critical... student surveys place the faculty in a straight jacket." Opposing that, administrator Richard Zakia said "Along with self-perception, there is no substitute for students as judges of the effectiveness of teaching methods." Although more surveys were in the planning stages, they would be met with intense resentment; a minority of faculty stated the surveys would be "consequential in such areas as teacher tenure, teacher recruitment, institute prestige, and professional critical judgment."

What are ya', chicken?

A delicacy to some, a health risk to others – chicken wings became popular nationwide in the early 90s, but like today,

were celebrated locally 20 years ago. In January 1984, *Reporter* sent its intrepid and hungry reporters out to rate Rochester's best wings. While a few locations have disappeared (the "Red Rooster", which rated 4.4 chickens out of 5, as well as "End of the Rainbow", 3.4/5 chickens), others have withstood the test of time. Jeremiah's Tavern (2.5/5) is still a popular hangout and the Distillery (3.1/5) today reigns as one of the region's top spots for wings. Of course, the highest (perfect) rating was reserved for Buffalo's own Anchor Bar, the original home of the true buffalo wing.

So cold, it's frozen.

Due to a lack of funds resulting from overestimating new student enrollment, RIT was required to announce a major cost reduction program and hiring freeze in January, 1985. Departments would not be allowed to bring in new workers, nor could any new vacancies be filled; budgets would also be cut to eliminate "non-essential" functions. William M. Dempsey, then-Vice President of Finance and Administration, said "The cost reduction is short term and not expected to impact on the quality of academic programs or service students." •

CrimeWatch

compiled by Hope Kendrick

January 9 – University Commons

Auto Stripping

A student reported parking her vehicle at University Commons and when she returned she discovered that all four of her tires had been slashed by an unknown person. Follow-up investigation continues.

January 9 – Center for Integrated Manufacturing

Petit Larceny

A staff member reported a laptop computer was taken from a classroom in the CIMS building. The computer was secured with a metal cable and the room was left unlocked for an unspecified period of time.

January 9 – Fish C

Unlawful Possession

A student turned over marijuana and drug paraphernalia to a Campus Safety Officer following a report of something burning inside the room. The student was referred to Student Conduct for proper disposition.

January 11 – Greek Housing

Burglary

A student reported he left his residence hall door unlocked and an unknown person took his cellular phone. Crime Alert fliers were distributed in the area, and the Sheriffs' Office is assisting Campus Safety with the investigation.

January 11 – University Commons

Auto Stripping

A student reported that three tires on her vehicle were slashed by an unknown person. Student suspects a person on campus and the investigation continues.

January 12 – Riverknoll Apartments

Criminal Mischief

A student reported an unknown person damaged his apartment door and two others nearby by gouging the paint with a sharp object.

January 14 – Nathaniel Rochester Hall

Auto Stripping

A student parked his vehicle in B lot, and when he returned to his car five days later, the front license plate was missing. Crime alerts were distributed in the parking lot.

January 15 – Nathaniel Rochester Hall

Weapon Possession

While checking the cause of a fire alarm, a responding Officer observed a paint ball gun inside a student's room. The incident was referred to Student Conduct for proper disposition.

The Week

Submit your events to reporter@rit.edu

1/23

10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Address Reports of Sexual Misconduct at RIT

1829 Room. A discussion of how RIT handles sexual misconduct cases. Issues of consent, the impact of alcohol and drugs, and burden of proof will be addressed. Free.

2 p.m. – 1 a.m.

Hedwig and the Angry Inch

Syracuse Stage, Syracuse, NY. Trip to Syracuse to see the award-winning musical. Students- \$10, Faculty/Staff- \$15.

7 p.m. – 11 p.m.

Murder Mystery Dinner

Fireside Lounge. Join the Forensic Science Club for food and a mystery. \$5.

7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. Through 1/26

"Evening of One-Acts"

1510 Lab Theatre. Featuring the plays *12:21* by F.J. Hartland and *Not My Fault* by Christopher Durang. Both deal with themes of alcohol and substance abuse. Performed in ASL and English.

1/24

9 a.m. – 9:30 p.m.

PBS/WXXI Event

Golisano Auditorium. "By the People: America in the World" is designed to encourage and enhance a national Conversation on America's role in the world. Free.

5 p.m. – 12 a.m.

Second Annual TGC Jazz Fest

Fireside Lounge. Sponsored by the True Gentlemen's Club. \$1. Contact: Ryan Chafin: rdc6942@rit.edu.

8:30 p.m. – 11 p.m.

Alpha Sigma Theta Snowball Outdoor Ice Skating

Manhattan Square Ice Rink. Skating, hot chocolate, Games, prizes, and skits. \$8.50 presale, \$10 at the door.

9 p.m. – 11 p.m.

CAB Karaoke

RITZ. Karaoke after the hockey game with prizes for the top three performers. Free.

1/26

8 p.m.

Race: The Power of Illusion Part 1

NRH. Room 1250. "Who says that white men can't jump?"

1/21

8 p.m.

Race: The Power of Illusion Part 2

NRH. Room 1250. "Lies we all learn: come and hear the untold story."

1/26

2 p.m. – 4 p.m.

"Evening of One-Acts"

1510 Lab Theatre.

8 p.m.

Race: The Power of Illusion Part 3

Gleason. A055 Room 1250. "There is no such thing as reverse racism."

Martin Luther King Memorial Program

by Kunal Sharma



Dr. Alvin F. Poussaint remembers the struggles that Black Americans faced on the Selma to Montgomery March of 1965. Christopher Zajac/REPORTER Magazine

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was remembered during his 22nd Memorial Birthday Celebration with events sponsored by RIT's commission for Promoting Pluralism and the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity on Thursday, January 15.

"It is impossible to overestimate the sacrifices and contributions of Dr. Martin Luther King for the fight for the African-American Community. Today, on his 22nd Memorial Birthday Celebration we remember one of the America's "founding brothers" who shaped this nation's life," said Alvin F. Poussaint speaking at the 22nd Annual Memorial Celebration of the Birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. "It is sad that Dr. Martin Luther King has been celebrated more in his death than in his lifetime."

The ceremonies began at 12 p.m. with a luncheon and a panel of speakers on the topic "What does MLK mean to me." The students, faculty, and staff interacted with one another and shared personal feelings on the importance of Dr. King. Richard Morrison, President of RIT's Alpha Phi Alpha chapter said, "Martin Luther King is one of the vast conglomerate of tenacious, productive, and successful brothers that are the men of Alpha Phi Alpha. As one of our most renowned brothers we feel it is our duty that his efforts are recognized and appreciated." The Panel of speakers comprised of Frank Lamas, Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs, Hysha Robinson from The Northstar Center, Director of Greek Affairs Chris Sohn and Kijana Crawford. Also marking the occasion were Alpha Phi Alpha members from SUNY Geneseo Dwayne Brown, Evesett Scott, Chal Fortune and Raymond Pauttre.

The keynote address was held in Ingle Auditorium from 4 to 6 p.m. RIT Gospel Ensemble started the ceremony with songs including "Lift Every Voice and Sing" by James Johnson. Dr. James Watters, Vice President of Finance and Administration

in his welcome address spoke about the importance of the day in shaping America and how he uses this day to evaluate the amount of diversity in his life.

Alvin Poussaint, Professor of Psychiatry and Faculty Associate Dean for Student Affairs at Harvard Medical School, began his segment with a slide show of pictures he had taken during the famous MLK walk from Selma, Alabama to Montgomery on March 21, 1965. Poussaint was in his twenties at the time, and shared many memories and incidents along the walk and spoke of how he planned and prepared for various contingencies. In one instance, a hearse was used in place of an ambulance for the people who passed out during the walk. He filled a suitcase with first-aid equipment and carried it in case anyone fainted or needed special attention.

People with disabilities, famous leaders, and famous personalities like Harry Belafonte as well as average people were part of Poussaint's long, first-hand account of the time of Dr. King. He spoke of how Dr. King worked hard towards making things better from the time when "black" was a derogatory and offensive word, few African-Americans could vote, and public spaces were segregated.

Poussaint stressed the need for the youth of the country to recognize and appreciate the efforts of Dr. King and other southern leaders. He said, "A lot has been accomplished and today, things are far better than ever before, but a lot still needs to be done and we have to do it. I still meet people who, in psychiatric terms, are suffering from 'Post Traumatic Slavery Disorder' and people in the United States are still suffering from it." He further stressed the need for good education for black people and that educators should understand the difference in the way children are brought up and that they should be dealt with understanding and care rather than leaving them out as "dumb students."

The hour and a half long address ended with a question and answer session and with the audience holding hands and singing together the famous, "We Shall Overcome." Brown gave her closing remarks and Poussaint, also signed copies of his book *Lay My Burden Down: Suicide and the Mental Crisis Among African Americans*.

To some students the event was an opportunity to learn more about the leadership styles of Dr. King. Omar Woodham, a Marketing Major in the College of Business said, "Martin Luther King is a great inspiration to me and the great message that I draw from his life is to not expect everyone to be on your side all the time. People have their own views and agendas but you have to make the most of the willingness and commitment of the people you do have with you. He teaches the power of a good organization and leadership in creating monumental change."

The events came to a close with the MLK Candle Light Vigil at 7 p.m., where 36 candles were lit and the students came together to share their thoughts of Dr. King, recite his work, and address related issues. The brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha played truncated portions of his "I Have a Dream" speech before embarking on the Memorial march, which served as a culmination of the days events. The march was organized at 8:30 p.m. in the Grace Watson Lobby. For more information on the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Project, visit <http://mlkmemorial.org/> and for more information on the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, visit www.rit.edu/~aphiawww. •



A student performs for judges during the Second Annual Tiger Idol competition in Ingle Auditorium last week. The Tiger Idol Finals will be held on January 30. Christopher Zajac/REPORTER Magazine

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Soulful and Stark, Yet Catchy

YOU ARE CAT POWER FREE by Dan Backus



Cat Power's latest is rather incongruously titled *You Are Free*. Even the pastel color scheme of the album text and the tranquil picture of a sunny forest would be more at home on the cover of some new age trance album than the bittersweet, moody folk-rock of Chan "Cat Power" Marshall. Her music, while stereotypical "angst-ridden relationship music" clearly stands out due to its undeniably unique sound.

Marshall's dry Southern drawl gorgeously accents the simple, sorrowful guitars and basic chords of the band, sounding sometimes like a husky-voiced Billie Holiday, and at other points like PJ Harvey. The songs, while sometimes criticized as overly primitive, have an elegance to them that more complex music often lacks.

"Werewolf," a cover of Michael Hurley with a plodding guitar providing rhythm, and a variety of strings providing the lonely melody, is a standout track in terms of musical performance. "Names," a track about childhood friends who have drifted away, spiraled into drug addiction, and suffered domestic abuse, is particularly emotional and touching. However, the absolute shining moment of this album has to be "Evolution," a duet with Eddie Vedder quietly sung in amazing harmony. "Better call with some resistance, better way to feel no shame / Better call with some persistence, that way you feel nothing at all." Backed by only a simple piano harmony, their laconic delivery of the words

emphasizes the sorrow of the song.

This album takes a few listens to really appreciate, tending to play the role of innocuous background music the first few times around. It has its sore spots, such as the overly repetitive "Free," sporting amateurish guitar poorly concealed by distinctly synthesized backing instruments which pop in from time to time. Marshall's voice is the glue that binds all the tracks together. And, on the weaker vocal tracks, the simplistic instrumentation can be irritating. Overall, the songs, while well conceived, are inexpertly executed at times, and the listening experience suffers.

Cat Power is certainly not ordinary; her throaty voice, personal lyrics, and stark mood make this album unique. Genres such as "sadcore," "lo-fi," and "folk-emo" simply fail to accurately describe the music. It is melancholic and moody, but not always downbeat. *You Are Free* is fine music for an introspective afternoon, a bitter breakup, or a long drive on a rainy day. •

☆☆☆☆

The Prelinger Archives: The Instructional Films that Time Forgot

by Sean Hannan

Have you ever wanted to learn bicycle safety from monkeys? Sure you have. The Prelinger Archives (<http://www.archive.org/movies/prelinger.php>) offers the aforementioned *One Got Fat: Bicycle Safety* film, as well as various other educational, industrial, and instructional motion pictures. This expansive on-line library features the classic Cold War *Duck and Cover* video as well as a 1963 Rochester Chamber of Commerce film that entices folks to visit our lovely metropolis for its smooth-flowing, non-congested roadways.

Many of these films feel like wince-inducing videos from grade school health class. In fact, a large section of the archives consists of sex ed.-related material from decades past. The ideas displayed in these films are quite reflective of the conventions and social mores of the era: masturbation is unhealthy, a woman's role is that of a baby factory, and that homosexuals are predators constantly on the prowl. Perhaps more amusing are the social guidance films where awkward teenagers must learn appropriate behavior at parties that feature that crazy new jazz music and intoxicating soda pop.

Also included in the collection are films that were produced to keep kids from hopping onboard the H Train. In *Subject: Narcotics*, we learn that a few puffs of a marijuana cigarette is all it takes for teenagers to instantly crave that sallow complexion

and "I-only-eat-Cheetos-because-I'm-on-freaking-smack" appetite that I am told only heroin can provide. The film also hypothesizes that the only good junkie is a dead junkie, because heroin addiction is an untreatable plague that curses this wholesome Christian nation of ours.

All of the films provided in the archives have been released into the public domain under a Creative Commons license. This license allows for any use of the material, provided it is not sold for profit. They are even kind enough to provide an editable MPEG4 version that is ready to be dragged and dropped into Final Cut Pro. Apart from an editable version, the archives provide multiple MPEG and DivX downloadable formats as well as Real and QuickTime streaming formats. •



- ☆☆☆☆☆ **Design** The minimalist design may not be particularly eye-catching, but it allows for easy navigation through the abundant content.
- ☆☆☆☆☆ **Content** These laugh-tastic fragments of history are particularly enjoyable on a smoky Saturday night. Or any night for that matter.
- ☆☆☆☆☆ **Safe For Work** The films archived herein were designed to enlighten and instruct, not to offend.
- ☆☆☆☆☆ **Not a Fad** While there is copious content of many subjects in many formats, the online archive is not seeking to expand its breadth of material.

The Life Where you Belong

by Erhardt Graeff

illustration by Steve Bernard



This is my new regular column, given to me, so that I, in turn, may give to you, a little piece of life you didn't realize you wanted. So why did I really get a column? Good question, I don't know. However, one thing I do know is...

Showering is Cool.

I have long thought that showering is a pretty good idea, but it seems, now, to be far more than just running water and careful scrubbing. This seemingly insignificant revelation came to me as my good friend Sean was explaining how making a run for shampoo and soap at Wal-mart, caused him to feel like an old man. In a blur of thought, the notion passed from my lips, "Showering is cool."

Many of you may already know about the cool nature of showering. But honestly, what better way is there to start or finish a day, then by ridding your body of impurities such as dead skin and E. coli, or combating evil diseases such as Psoriasis? Doctors aren't the only ones to prescribe showering as a cool idea. Pop culture does too, and isn't that more important anyway?

Just remember back to those childhood episodes of *Sesame Street*, featuring the buddy characters Bert and Ernie. They weren't cool because of their avant-garde display of latent homosexuality or affection for rubber toys. It's because they promoted showering, and showering is cool. How about in films? During the movie *Psycho*, Alfred Hitchcock kills off his main female character in the shower. "Why does he do this?" you might ask. Because showering is that climactically cool. And why do you think men and women will fantasize about the opposite sex taking a shower? It's not the attraction of a wet and supple nude form, that's for sure.

To illustrate my point one step further, here is a short anecdote about two girls, one named Cindy Shinesinthesun, and one named Sarah Smellslikeyesterday. Cindy showers on a regular basis using both shampoo and soap, while Sarah just sits around and knits sweaters out of her own unbathed body hair. Now guys, which girl would you rather go out with? There is an obvious answer, because showering is cool.

At this point, the reasons are very clear—showering is cool. Thus, we can start to apply this simple truth. Now, on average, I take a shower for about ten to twenty minutes (longer if possible) every morning. Most of this time is spent staring at a wall in pseudo-meditation; however, by meditating on how ridiculously cool showering is, it follows that I must be reaching a level of extreme cool. Plus, an inherent coolness pattern will suggest that the mere understanding of the aforementioned fact- showering is cool- is, of itself, cool, thereby adding to a penultimate sum of coolness. So I must ask, "How cool are you?" •

RIT 3 minute interviews

compiled by Hope Kendrick and Eileen Baumgartner



Kristen Zimmerman
 First Year, Graphic Media Marketing
Hometown: Rochester, NY

Greatest ambition: To be successful in whatever I do.
Extracurricular activities: I work at Ben & Jerry's
The Meaning of Life: I don't know. I don't know the meaning of life.
If Someone were forcing you to get a tattoo where would it be and what would it be of? I already have one- stars on the top of my foot.
What would you do if you were a ghost? Probably I would be around people when they don't know, to see how people act when I'm not around them.
What is your pornstar name (first pet's name plus the street you grew up on)? Sam Wheat Hill

Greatest invention: Electricity
Favorite word: And
Least Favorite word: Lazy
If you could trade places with someone for a day, who would it be and why? Probably someone famous. It doesn't matter who it is, just someone who does different stuff than me.
Greatest ambition: To live a good life... nothing specific.
Extracurricular activities: I'm the Secretary of the RIT weightlifting club. I'm into strength training and weight lifting, and I'm a martial artist.



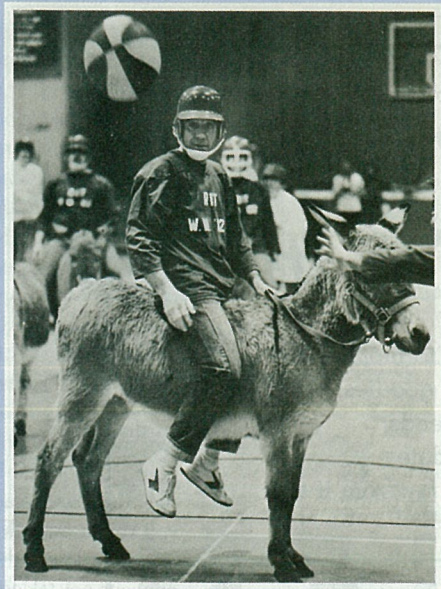
Gianni Migliaccio
 First year, Physician Assistant
Hometown: Elizabeth, NJ

The Meaning of Life: There is none.
Favorite word: Black
Least favorite word: Conservative
Last dream you had: I gave my ex-girlfriend back a bunch of rotten gummy worms that I was supposed to give her back a long time ago, which makes absolutely no sense because I never gave her gummy worms. I found a box in somebody's back yard, and I had this box, and I was like "Oh, I was supposed to give these to you," and they were these old gummy worms that were all stuck together and nasty, and I took them out and threw them on the ground.
What would you do if you were a ghost? Haunt George W. Bush.
What is your pornstar name (first pet's name plus the street you grew up on)? I thought that was the cross-dresser's name... The first pet I

can remember is this cat "Ghost," so Ghost Westfield would be my porn star name
His soapbox: This is my second time through, and for the ones who it's your first time- that first time through is just amazing. You'll make friendships that'll last a lifetime and you're just going to have experiences and live a lifestyle that my friends now, who are working/graduated didn't decide to go for a second degree or an advanced degree, they just work Monday through Friday nine to five... And to, you know, try to get some work done. And take that end of it seriously that, you know, you want to have a degree because you know there are a lot of people with master's degrees working at Target, and not that there's anything wrong with working at Target but you can be damn sure they didn't get a master's degree so they could work there.

7 ways to kill boredom when dangerous wind chill traps you in the dorms

- Secretly monitor your room mate's behavior and keep a journal measuring their progress as a human being.
- Make artwork on the floor with masking tape. Recommendations: smiley face, butterfly, Superman logo.
- Do all of your homework and get good grades. I'm serious.
- Try out new ways of sitting. Recommendations: left leg under right thigh, reverse leg-cross, the Texas Toe Fold.
- Have philosophical revelations along the lines of: "there must be more to life than this," and "I need to take advantage of my youth," or "this isn't college, it's voluntary confinement." Then forget all about it when it's time to go to Gracie's.
- Start up that club you've been thinking about.
- There must be other people on this campus who enjoy freestyle walking as much as you do.
- Play video games. Duh.

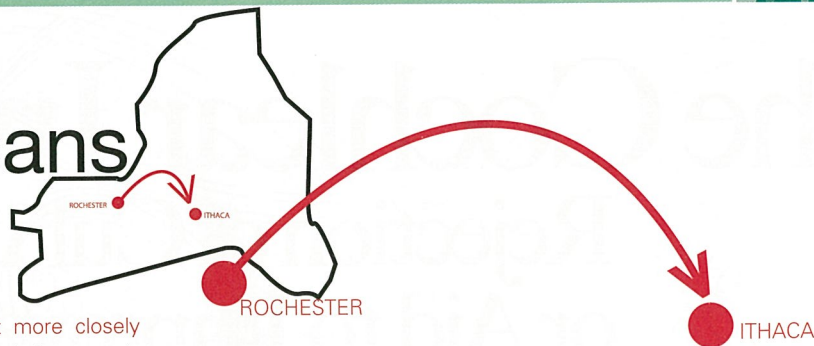


President Rose and other administrators lost to students in Donkey Basketball in Clark Gym. Photograph by Robert T. Willett from Reporter, February 19, 1983.

From the Archives

The Ithacans

by Sujata Gupta



College is a bubble or, at RIT, a bubble that more closely resembles a seal-tight brick box. Assembled from rock, limestone, and shale, my alma mater, Cornell, perhaps looks more alluring, but in reality it squeezes one in just as tightly as any college anywhere. Maybe that's why I didn't notice Ithaca or really think about it as a place with a functioning community or a distinctive town personality until John Spayde, senior editor at the *Utne Reader*, ranked Ithaca first on his list of America's ten most enlightened towns. In my four years as a Cornell undergraduate, linking those two particular words in one phrase—Ithaca and *enlightened*—would have been on par with linking, say, a fraternity and the model rocketry club. As far as the average person is concerned, Ithaca is famous for two things: Cornell and the students who, in the face of certain doom, throw themselves off the suspension bridge at Cornell. It's not a particularly enlivening picture. Nor is the town itself, with its rows of dilapidated houses, run-down P&C groceries, and vacated storefronts.

However, not even the most skeptical visitor can deny the sheer natural beauty of the place. Whereas Rochester's claim to fame is High Falls, Ithaca boasts a dramatic landscape of cascading ravines, swimming holes cut out of rock, and expanses of green grass. As a result, Ithacans have proudly adopted the slogan, albeit cheesy, *Ithaca is gorges*. Summers there are awesomely beautiful. But for all of Mother Nature's charms, Ithaca, with its volatile temperature changes and perpetually gray skies, offers a winter that will leave your bones in a state of quivering agitation until at least early May.

What then is the appeal of such a place? Perhaps this Mr. Spayde is ignorant, flouting the enlightened aura of a town he merely diddled in while researching his article. In an attempt to find out for myself, I decided to visit an old roommate still living at the foothills of our alma mater. The drive between Ithaca and Rochester is nothing spectacular, assuming that you stick to Route 96, which meanders for precisely eighty-seven miles through wheat fields and nondescript small towns. For several years now, I have opted for Route 89 (off exit 41 on I-90), which runs parallel to Cayuga Lake and which, on rare blue days, conjures up images of cottages tucked behind rocky overhangs with smoke billowing from brick chimneys.

My friend's apartment is spacious with white alabaster walls and beige carpeting, a notable step up from the closet-sized confines we shared years ago. He's invested in an expensive-looking leather couch and fluffy matching cushions, indicators that despite having never left, has managed to exit the trendy yet impoverished life of "the student." However, it's not the décor of the place that catches my attention, but the number of Mac computers scattered about the room radiating various shades of neon. "Oh, these," my friend says when I ask him about it, "I helped a new wireless internet café get off the ground and this is my payment until they have some money."

My friend confesses. "They got off the ground months ago," he says, "but I have yet to receive a penny. I don't need more computers, but cash for groceries." I'm reminded of stories my father used to recount from his childhood in rural India where bartering was a way of life and paper money something of a luxury. They are stories that often ended with a word to the wise—*Bartering is wonderful until somebody betrays your trust and you are left with nothing*.

However, Ithaca, loathe to fall prey to ineffectual idealism, has created its own savvy alternative to bartering. As Spayde mentions, for years Ithacans have been printing their own money, known as the Ithaca Hours System. Ithaca Hours dollars function as real dollars and can be spent like real cash. And, better yet, unlike RIT flex dollars which must remain localized, Ithaca Hours can be used not just in Ithaca but in and around towns within a twenty mile radius. The rationale behind the Hours is that they keep money in local hands, generate local pride, and steer dollars away from the claws of corporate greed.

My friend and I begin Saturday with a trip to the Green Star Co-op, a small alternative grocery store that I always passed up during college in favor of the sprawling Wegmans just down the street. We stroll through aisles bursting with organic goodies and preservative-free munchies not to mention a variegated spawn of Ithaca tidbits, from home-grown seitan to locally concocted chicken substitutes. My friend laments that Ithaca's Farmer's Market has shut down for the season. He's got a craving for *samosas* as provided by Ithaca's own Curry in a Hurry, where Sri Lankan culinary delicacy meets American McDonald's expediency. If Spayde's definition of enlightenment includes locally grown meat substitutes, dog friendly environs, and garlic-flavored-chutney, Ithaca might very well have reached nirvana.

The next day as I prepare to go, my friend insists on taking me to his favorite place in town. I find myself staring at the Chase Bank ATM. I'm unimpressed. It's freezing cold and my fingers are starting to turn blue. "Do it," he says, "Take out \$1.17." I give him a funny look but oblige. Change rattles into the bin below. "See," he says with obvious glee, "It's the only ATM I've ever seen that gives change!"

Later on the drive back to Rochester, good predictable Rochester with its flat terrain and symmetrical design, I try to disseminate Ithaca, the upstate wild child, but all I can grasp is that it seems like a town of contradictions: it's as rundown as it is alternative, as carnivorous as it is vegetarian, as stylish as it is passé, as cynical as it is idealist. I don't know if enlightened is quite the word I'd use. Perhaps it could be better nailed down as eclectic or off-beat, a little different, you know, kind of like an ATM that gives change. •

The Cochlear Implant: Rejection of Culture, or Aid to Improve Hearing?

by John-Michael Stern
photographs by Micheal Sperling

Housed in a sound-proof vault like a contestant on a game show that no one would ever watch, I sat in a chair buzzing in on all the annoying beeps I could hear. At times during this hearing test, the beeping became so faint that I was afraid I kept buzzing in on the ringing in my ear from last night's dance. After I won or lost that game, I moved on to a speech recognition test. A recording read off a list of 25 common words like "bat, ocean, wall," which I then had to write down. When all was done, I found out that I, who am hard-of-hearing, had a 43 dB (dB stands for decibel, a measurement of the volume of sound) hearing loss and an 80 percent accuracy of speech recognition in my better ear. Qualifying candidates must have less than 50 percent speech recognition and a hearing loss of at least 50 dB in each ear.

But, even had I met all the requirements, NTID Audiologist Linda Gottermeier at the Ear and Eye Clinic told me that she usually discourages people from getting cochlear implants under a 90 dB loss. With my moderate hearing loss, I benefit from hearing-aids and can make use of my remaining, damaged hair cells. Unlike the cochlear implant, which replaces damaged or missing hair cells with an electrode, hearing-aids simply amplify sound to assist those hair cells in stimulating the nerves to the brain. Had the audiologist determined that I could benefit from a cochlear implant and met all the FDA requirements, I would be faced with the decision as to whether or not to proceed with the surgery.

For those with good hearing, sound travels into the ear and hits the eardrum, causing vibrations to pass onto three tiny bones. These bones push against the snail-shaped, fluid-filled cochlea. Inside the cochlea, hair cells excite nerve fibers, which the brain takes in as sound.

For many with hearing loss, however, damaged or missing hair cells prevent the stimulation of the nerves to the brain. The cochlear implant solves this problem by sidestepping damaged or missing hair cells in the cochlea, and directly stimulating healthy nerve endings with an electrode.

For those who are eligible and desire one, the cochlear implant is a viable option, turning hair cells on end and restoring hearing. The root of conception for the cochlear implant stems back to Graeme Clark, who spent 18 years inventing and marketing the device. Since its inception for commercial use in 1985, the cochlear implant has been fit into the ears of over 23,000 in the US and 65,000 worldwide. NTID's cochlear implant program, founded 16 years ago by Catherine Clark, currently serves 111 of these students. Interestingly, the cochlear implant population at RIT is like a world within a world within a world, as students with cochlear implants (111) constitute about a tenth of all the deaf students (1,270), who in turn constitute about a tenth of all RIT students (15,312).



Central



Catherine Clark trains A.J. Morton to hear using his cochlear implant. He has had the implant for over a year now and describes the experience as being "reborn."

The average NTID student has a 90 dB hearing loss. With a cochlear implant, these students' 90 dB hearing losses can scale down to that of 30 dB. However, since they may never have had access to sound information to make auditory connections in the brain, they may actually feel rather than hear the foreign sounds that the implant creates. People with cochlear implants often feel overwhelmed while first trying to add meaning to new sounds. With continued use of the cochlear implant, their brains begin to recognize the new stimuli as auditory information. **Headaches and fatigue, as well as doubting whether implantation was the right decision, are typical initial reactions.**

As NTID audiologist Josara Wallber said, "We really can't predict how much a deaf person, who may not have developed neural pathways for sound in the brain, will be able to hear with an implant. Now, compare that to Rush Limbaugh [who experienced sudden hearing loss]. Because he was hearing and developed an auditory system in the brain, all they had to do is 'restart it', and he hears well enough to work on the radio again. Remember, cochlear implants started

started implanting children and pre-lingually deafened adults."

Imagine that the hearing and the Deaf represent two separate land masses, and ask if the cochlear implant could bridge the two lands, or become a river between them, flowing on its own. One major barrier between these two lands is that the hearing view deafness as a disability that must be cured.

However, the Deaf do not see themselves this way. Rather, **they pride themselves with their distinct cultural identity.** Many Deaf will argue that the cochlear implant is not a perfect fix, and, therefore, trying to mold into the hearing world is a waste of time. In addition, many Deaf fear that the cochlear implant will bring about the cultural genocide of the Deaf way of life. Third-year student Justin Drezner said,

"Implanting is like making black people white or white people black."

On the other hand, Wallber said, "A cochlear implant is not a cure. It does not transform Deaf people into hearing people. It is simply a sophisticated hearing device. I hope the Deaf community will eventually accept persons using cochlear implants as part of their diverse culture, just as they have done with hearing aid users." Or, perhaps people with cochlear

implants, as second-year student Adam Drake said, "belong to neither the hearing nor the Deaf, but constitute their own world."

Regardless that its use has created a storm of controversy between the Deaf and medical communities, one thing holds true—the cochlear implant has come and is here to stay, as manufacturers predict a 25 percent increase in cochlear implant recipients annually. According to Dr. Gerald Buckley, the Associate Dean for Student Affairs at NTID, NTID expects to have between 300-500 students with implants over the next three to five years.

Along with the controversy revolving around cultural identity comes the issue of parenting children with cochlear implants. Because the effectiveness of the cochlear implant depends largely on persistent use to make the auditory connections in the brain, many doctors advocate solely for oral communication. First-year student Jamie Perlman stated, "Cochlear implants are only successful for those who use them everyday. Parents must force their children to be oral and go through speech training for years and years." In spite of evidence favoring this method, the cochlear implant cannot equate to perfect hearing. Therefore, total communication (oral and sign combined) would allow the child access into both hearing and Deaf worlds.

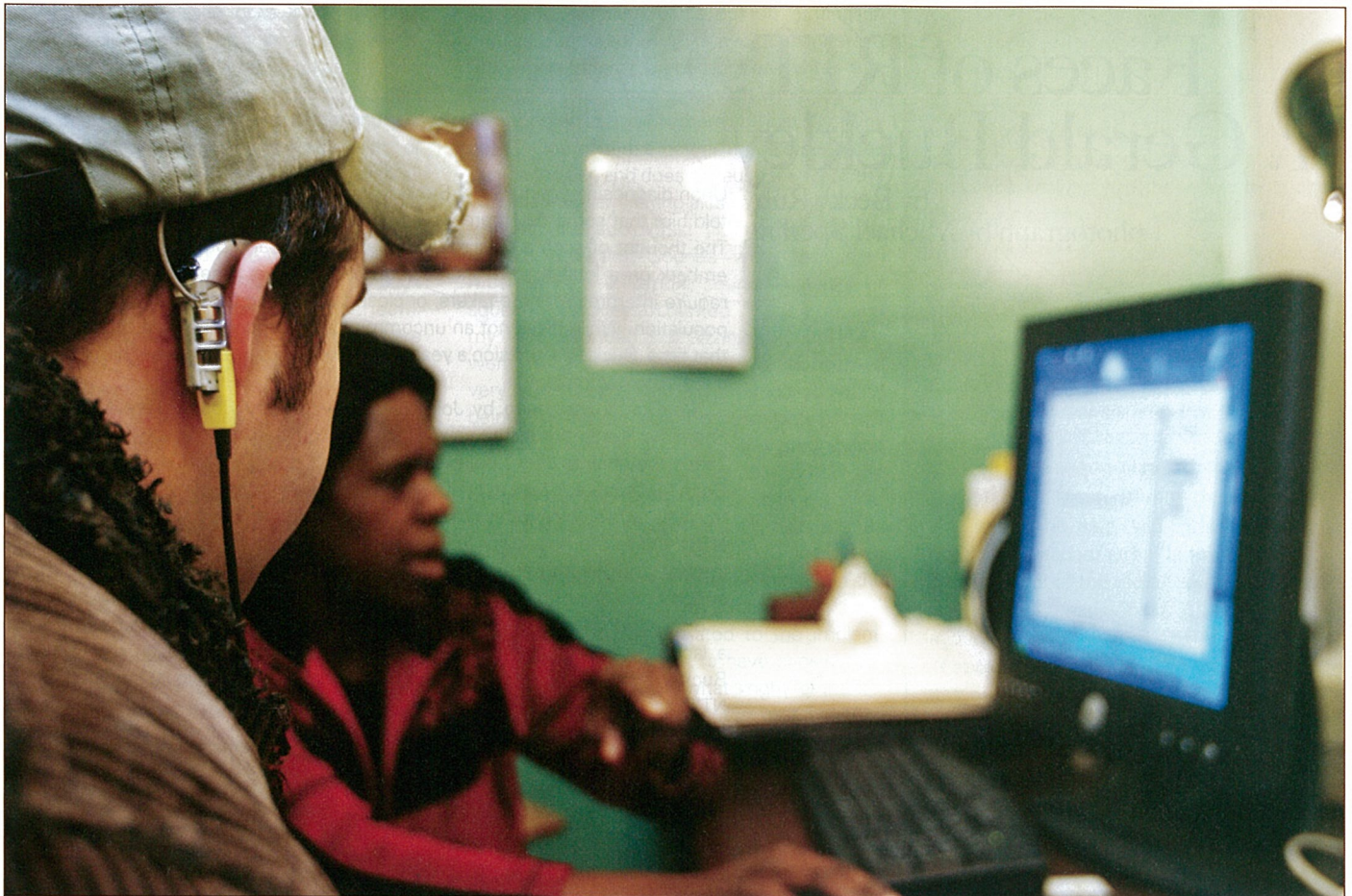
"I believe parents should teach their deaf babies total communication. You ought to be giving a child everything you can towards language development. Even if you plan to get a cochlear implant, the FDA requires children be a minimum of 12 months old. **Think of the language learning that occurs in the first year of life!**" Wallber said.

People get cochlear implants for a variety of reasons. Some advantages of the cochlear implant include distance hearing, enhanced lip-reading, the ability to hear soft sounds such as s, sh, h, f, and more distinct rhythm and loudness of speech. As first-year student David Raim remarked of his experience with an implant, "I hear so much more detail in music. My favorite example is Puff Daddy's song 'What You Gonna Do?' I remember I could only hear the rapping and his voice. But with the cochlear implant, I could hear the sirens in the background." On the other hand, the effectiveness of the cochlear implant may vary dramatically between individuals, based on his or her brain's ability to process sound.

In addition, while a pair of hearing-aids cost \$500-\$4000, a cochlear implant can easily run over \$50,000. The low risks—8 percent major and 4 percent minor—include infection, tinnitus, meningitis, and despondent auditory nerves. The installation of the cochlear implant may also destroy remaining hair cells. If the candidate later wishes to surgically remove the cochlear implant, his or her hearing may have been damaged. Moreover, cell phones and metal detectors may interfere and distort sound from the cochlear implant.

Cochlear implantation is a noticeably exciting, albeit anxious, process, as friends and family peel their eyes into the operating room wondering what to expect. During the two to three hours of surgery, doctors thread an electrode (whose function is like artificial hair cells) into the patient's ear, and anchor a receiver coil to the skull. To do so, the surgeon must drill a hole into both the cochlear wall and temporal bone respectively, which creates a wound that takes three to five weeks to heal. Though the patient is under general anesthesia, he or she can usually go home the same day and resume normal activity within 24 hours.

After the wound has healed, the initial hook-up with an audiologist includes "fitting" the external components—the



A.J. Morton has his cochlear implant hooked up to a computer while Catherine Clark fine tunes its volume and sensitivity. When the volume is all the way up A.J. said he could hear noise from two apartments over.

microphone, speech processor and battery, transmitting cable and coil—behind the ear. The audiologist then uses a computer program for MAPing, which means fine-tuning the speech processor for best access to the speech spectrum. When the cochlear implant is activated, the microphone collects and transmits sound to the speech processor, which converts the sound into electrical signals. Radio waves then transmit this signal across the skin to the receiver-coil. Finally, sound travels through an electrode, which directly stimulates the hearing nerve, sending sound information to the brain.

In a sample survey of 63 RIT students, 25 deaf, 25 hearing, and 13 hard-of-hearing, *Reporter* posed questions to see how each student felt about cochlear implants on a scale from 0 (strongly disagree/not at all) to 10 (strongly agree/a lot). The first question asked them to identify how much emphasis should there be on a person with a cochlear implant to develop sign, oral, or total communication. The

survey found that the perceived best communication approach is total communication (8.2), followed by oral (7.4) and sign (6.8). The groups themselves showed relatively insignificant differences between each other.

In regards to how likely they would choose to cochlear implant their children the groups varied considerably. The average for all the groups showed a slight unlikelihood (4.0) to implant their children. While hearing students reported a slight desire to implant their children (5.7), Deaf students firmly opposed (1.9), and hard-of-hearing students formed middle-ground between the two groups with a slight unlikelihood (4.2) to implant their children.

As more and more people get cochlear implants, the question of whether the cochlear implant will bridge the barrier between the lands of the Deaf and hearing or become a river flowing on its own remains to be seen. Controversy aside, the cochlear implant simply provides a door for the deaf to hear more. The cochlear implant does not cure deafness, nor does it try to ruin Deaf culture. It is simply a device that fits onto the ear of whoever wants one. •

Faces of RIT: Dr. Gerald Buckley

by Becky Ruby
photograph by Michael Sperling

Upon diagnosing young Gerry Buckley with progressive hearing loss, the doctor told him that some day there would be an implant to improve his hearing again. The thought of such a device was unfathomable, and Buckley left the office to embark on a long road of increasing deafness in a time when the law didn't require interpreters, note-takers, or closed captioning to accommodate the Deaf population. While his is not an uncommon story among the deaf community for that time, Buckley's decision a year ago to undergo surgery has set him apart—he got a cochlear implant.

"You know that song by John Denver—'Country Roads, Take Me Home?'" There's a line in there that says, 'take me home to the place where I belong.' That's the chapter that I believe that's mine," said Dr. Buckley, now Associate Dean for Student Affairs at NTID. He has returned to the ability to hear everything from his wife's voice to his old Broadway classics, and he has also come back to NTID. While the possibility that these two facets of his life would conflict—his implant and his career—Buckley has remained a strong role model with the support of many of his peers, and a positive force among the teaching staff.

Buckley, originally hailing from Missouri, grew up as "the only deaf kid," where a lack of interpreters meant that, "you read your way through high school," Buckley explained. With diploma in hand, Buckley's educational track led him to NTID and the Social Work program.



"[NTID] is an oasis for a deaf person," Buckley said. "I think of it as a rich 'womb' experience. After you've grown up as the only deaf kid, you come here and suddenly, it's cool to be deaf! When you were in school and you didn't have somebody to eat lunch with, or you were a deaf girl in the bathroom with all the other girls talking about who's doing what with who, you miss all that. When you get here, you feel like you have to make up for it all. Once you graduate, though, you go back to the real world where things aren't perfect."

Buckley admitted that during his time here on campus, he "was something of a rabble-rouser. There wasn't a week that went by that I wasn't in the Dean's office." Whether he was pounding his fist because a program wasn't captioned, or voicing concerns that an event was missing an interpreter, Buckley was always an adamant student leader and genuine voice for himself and fellow students.

His first taste of being back in the "real world" occurred during a required internship from his graduate degree program at the University of Missouri at Columbia. It was at the community college in Kansas City that he worked in that his supervisor first "planted the seed" for him to go on to complete doctoral work. After attending the University of Kansas, NTID and RIT gave Buckley the opportunity to come back and share his experiences, as they did with various other successful alumni. Because of his time away from NTID and the rich Deaf community of this area, Buckley has found time and time again students who come to him for advice because "Gerry knows what it's like." He said that, "I spent 10 years out in the real world, and that helped shape my experience."

However, the experience that Buckley now shares with visitors on nearly a weekly basis deals with his decision to get the cochlear implant. The initial response he got was a great deal of support, along with a lot of double-takes or some uncomfortable reactions. However, as he pointed out, when a person makes an individual choice, "you don't take a vote of the community; you have to base your decision on yourself." In fact, he said of the constant curiosity about his implant that "it's been kind of fun."

In addition to impacting his own life, Buckley's decision to get the implant has affected his family, including his daughter Jenny, a second year pre-vet major. "I recall my mom and dad explaining the controversy surrounding them but they never forced my opinion either way. My feeling had never been negative towards CIs, and this experience only strengthened my belief that it is a personal choice that is nobody else's business."

"For me, it was a matter of waiting till the technology would be beneficial," Buckley

explained. He decided to put off getting an implant during some of its evolutionary steps that included large processors and wires that he could have gotten tangled in while signing. "It improved to a point where you just say, 'why not?'" One of these newer models just goes behind the ear, and doesn't cause feedback the way that regular hearing aids can.

When the audiologist first turned on the implant, the first sounds were less than musical. "It's a terrible sound—squeaks or squeals," Buckley recounted. "I put it on, and my wife sounded like Minnie Mouse!" He went on to explain that many voices seemed very high, not the way he remembered sound being from years ago. Because high pitches were the first to go during the progression of hearing loss, Buckley was able to hear the male audiologist more clearly than his wife; the difference between hearing high sounds 30 years ago, and low sounds 20 years ago, made a great deal of difference initially. In the year since, his hearing has improved.

As for the politics related to the implant, "we fought for the right to have choices. It's people's right to choose what's right for them," he said. For him, the implant is "not a cultural identity issue—it's technology." Seeing the implant as nothing more than a sophisticated hearing aid, Buckley had no motives to turn his back on any culture, nor attempt to become something he's not. "That doesn't make me a hearing person. But, I think the labels are irrelevant. We are much more complicated than that."

While an advocate of cochlear implants for those truly interested, Dr. Buckley knows that they are not for everyone, nor for every motive. If someone wants to one for communication purposes, "what's wrong with that? If they reject who they are, that's when I see something wrong with it."

Buckley's doctor from years ago was right, and his hearing has been partially restored. He is at a point where he can listen John Denver, or the *Godspell* soundtrack. He can enjoy his son's concert and his daughter's soccer game. He said, "I'm able to participate in my kids' lives." For him, the cochlear implant is just a successful part of the "explosion of technology," that has not changed his character.

Jenny said that she doesn't "see much of a difference. He has always been sociable and an interactive person to deaf and hearing people alike. His deafness was not a crutch that he happily shed. He just has more options available to him now and he uses it to his benefit. It's so odd sometimes still, saying "dad" and having him say, "what?" from the other room. I'm immensely proud of him and am happy that he did what he felt was right."•

Last movie he's seen: "*Seabiscuit*. I thought it was a really good story—the classic underdog story. You know, it had the whole thing about the jockey coming back, and the horse coming back."

Favorite book: "*7 Habits of Highly Effective People*, by Stephen R. Covey." The book details a variety of tactics to leading a more organized lifestyle. With a laugh, he apologized, "Sorry it's not more light."

What type of music he enjoys: "I like Irish music. And, I come from a very musical family." The music, he said, ties in with his family background and culture. "In the last year, I've taken control of the radio," with rock gospels like *Godspell*, *Jesus Christ, Superstar*, and folk music like John Denver, or Peter, Paul, & Mary. "People were very idealistic back then [when that music was written]. Now, it's hard not to be cynical; it's hard to find those ideals. The lyrics have to be meaningful to me."

In his downtime: "If you asked my daughter, she'd say, 'Dad likes to walk in the woods.' Most of the time, I find a balance between here and a place to relax." Getting in touch with nature, he said, "reminds you of basic lessons of life."

Favorite vacation spot: Having seven brothers and sister, Dr. Buckley's common destination is at the Outer Banks with the family. With so many close-knit relatives together, "it's like the cousins are never apart. I just can't get enough of that."

Any pets: "We have two horses, three dogs, one cat, many mice, two rats, and we just got rid of two ferrets. The big Great Dane and the cat are really mine, they're the only ones I really acknowledge."

One change he'd make to RIT: "The view of this place half-empty, not half-full, which takes a tremendous toll on us. I think people get into ruts of negative thinking. We tend to look for faults. If I could just get people to remember the good things about this place—it's over before you know it." •

word on the street

compiled and photographed by Kathryn Nix



Q: What is your dream for America?



1 "World peace."

Kyle Goff, Cameron Youngblood, Brent Pozzi, and Brian Hill

"That everybody gets a chance in life and that they make what they can from it."

Lee Kulpa

Fifth year
Marketing



2 "There are still a lot of stereotypes. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s dream needs to be lived out by looking at other types of people, and get over all the stereotypes."

Carmen Council

Second year
Photography

"That we get out of this war, that we take troops out of Iraq."

Kristin Stevenson

Freshman
Aquinas High School



3 "Continue the way in which it is open to new ideas."

Sankho Mukherjee

Graduate Student
Electrical Engineering

"For people to be more tolerant of each other and different cultures."

Nathan Marsh

Second year
Film and Animation



4 "Education and opportunity for everyone."

Michael Roque

Alumnus
Information Technology

"That people stop being selfish, and start thinking about the community as a whole."

Kenny Smith

Third year
Environmental Science



5 "To strive for peace for all, being able to get along with people with different backgrounds and beliefs."

Ben Ruekberg

SUNY Brockport Student

"That everyone is happy, and everyone loves what they do."

Gina Macchiano

First year
Medical Illustration

6 (Left) "Howard Dean for president."

Brian Carroll

First year
Film and Animation

"Where hunger is no longer an issue."

Joe Wadcan

Third year
International Business

6 (Right) "More jobs."

Michael Smith

First year
Film and Animation

"Everyone just get along."

Mike Untiet

Fourth year
Biotechnology

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

Additional information is available on the application.

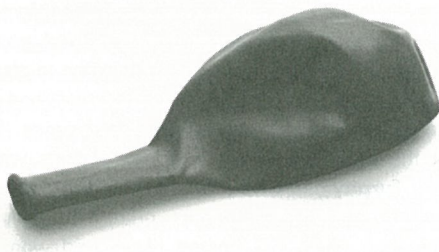
Deadline for applications is Friday, February 20, 2004

Applications are available from:

The Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs, SAU, Rm. 2410,

or on the web at

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



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RIT Forward Casey Strong has her shot barely blocked on a breakaway attempt. The Tigers lost to Southern Maine 3-2. Michael Sperling/REPORTER Magazine

SPORTS desk

by Matthew Doak

Men's Basketball

The men's basketball team had a solid week, going 2-1 and picking up a pair of victories over Empire Eight foes.

On January 9, the Tigers kicked off their conference schedule with a game at home against Elmira. RIT led most of the way, including a 53-37 cushion with 15 minutes to play. In the end, RIT held on for the 91-80 victory. **Kyle Goff** had a huge night, scoring 28 points and grabbing 10 rebounds. **Fran Snyder** was the only other Tiger in double figures with 12 points. **Sean Murphy** had nine points while **John Johnson** and **Luis Villalongo** each had eight.

The next night, RIT hosted Ithaca and won their second straight game, edging the Bombers 70-67. The Tigers led by double digits early, but the Bombers battled back only to misfire on a chance to tie the game at the buzzer. Snyder led all scorers with 32 points while Goff and Murphy each had 11. Johnson chipped in with 10 points.

In the first round of the JP Morgan Chase Tournament, the fifth-seeded Tigers lost to the fourth-seeded Brockport. Snyder led the Tigers with 18 points, while Murphy added 14 and Johnson 13.

The men's basketball team is currently 6-4 and takes on St. John Fisher tomorrow and Nazareth on Tuesday. Both contests are at home.

Women's Basketball

After getting off to an impressive 3-1 start, the women's basketball team has fallen on hard times. The team struggled this week as they lost three games and extended their losing streak to six.

On January 9, the women also took on Empire Eightmember Elmira and were not as fortunate as the men. The Tigers led early in the second half, but dropped the game by the score of 78-68. **Karli Couchman** led RIT with 15 points, while **Christina Ermie** finished with 13.

The following night, the ladies dropped a 69-61 contest to Ithaca. Couchman and **Margot Sandy** each scored 12 points. Ermie and **Noelle d'Estris** each had 11, while **Ramata Diallo** scored eight.

In the opening round of the 2004 JP Morgan Chase Tournament, seventh-seeded RIT dropped a hard fought 68-51 game to second-seeded St. John Fisher. D'Estris tied a school record with six three-pointers and led all scorers with 18 points. Ermie added 15 and Couchman had 12 rebounds.

The 3-7 women's basketball team competes this weekend against St. John Fisher and later in the week against Nazareth.

Men's Hockey

The men's hockey team has been on a tear of late as they have won three straight.

The thirteenth-ranked Tigers took the ice on January 9 against Potsdam State in what would prove to be a defensive struggle. The game was tied 2-2 heading into the third period where **Tristan Fairbairn** and **Jason Chafe** fed **Darren Doherty** for the game winner. **George Eliopoulos** made 14 big saves in the third period for the Tigers. **Brent Macovi** and **Ryan Francke** had the other Tiger goals.

The following night, the Tigers faced off against seventh-rated Curry in what was expected to be a tough battle. After Curry tied the score in the first, RIT scored eight unanswered goals, including four on the power play, to cruise to the 9-1 victory. **Michael Tucciarone** had two goals and two assists for RIT while Fairbairn, Doherty, **Steve Farrer**, **Mike Tarantino**, **Roberto Orofiamma**, **Adam George**, and **Brian Payant** all added single goals. Eliopoulos made 29 saves on the night in net.

After moving up two spots in the rankings, the team traveled to Cortland on January 13 and dropped the Red Dragons by the score of 9-2. The Tigers spread the offense around nicely again, as Tarantino and Orofiamma led the way with two goals apiece, while **Mike Walling**, Doherty, Fairbairn, Tucciarone and **Rob Tarantino** added single goals.

The 8-4-1 Tigers have a pair of home games this weekend against Geneseo and Oswego.

Women's Hockey

The women's hockey team won their last six contests, including a pair of games this week against St. Michaels.

On January ninth, the Tigers received strong goaltending from **Elaine Vonderembse** and **Barb McElwee**, and got goals from eight different players as they downed St. Michaels 8-0. **Nicole Gedney**, **Jen Gorczynski**, **Kasie Strong**, **Bridget Cleary**, **Lauren Owens**, **Kendra Bredlau**, **Alysia Park**, and **Meghan Erickson** all scored for the Tigers.

The next night, **Nicki Werner** did the honors in net as RIT shut out St. Michaels again, 11-0. Park and Cleary each scored two goals, while Gedney, Gorczynski, **Perry Foster**, **Julie Romans**, **Sam Boscia**, and Erickson all scored single goals.

The 10-2-1 women's hockey team travels to Troy this weekend to take on Rennselaer in a pair of games.

Indoor Track and Field

Both the men and women's indoor track and field teams traveled to Ithaca to compete in the Cornell Open on January 10.

On the men's side, **Ryan Pancoast** placed first in the one-mile race in a time of 4:27.37. He also placed second in the 3000-meter event, finishing in a time of 9:04.82.

On the women's side, freshman **Danielle Simmons** broke a ten-year-old RIT record in the 400-meter dash as she ran it in 61.49 seconds. That time was good enough for fourth in the event. In placing sixth in the pole vault, **Stephanie Matuszewski** broke a two-year-old RIT record by clearing 2.60 meters. Sophomore **Allison Griggs** placed first in the shot put with a throw of 13.10 meters and third in the weight throw with a 15.20-meter toss. •

Matt Schaefer preforms a dive during RIT's match with Geneseo. Christopher Zajac/REPORTER Magazine

MEN'S SWIMMING R			
	TIME	DATE	EVENT
SCHOOL RECORD	1:38.11	2/25/01	200 MEDLEY RELAY
MEMONT NIZIOL MCKEE THOMPSON	3:35.91	2/26/01	400 MEDLEY RELAY
MEMONT NIZIOL MCKEE THOMPSON	2:14.11	2/27/02	50 FREESTYLE
P THOMPSON	47.15	3/01/02	100 FREESTYLE
P THOMPSON	1:42.88	3/16/04	200 FREESTYLE
J SHANK	4:36.05	3/15/04	500 FREESTYLE
J SHANK	9:49.14	12/06/00	1000 FREESTYLE
B ZACHARIAS	16:20.63	2/24/90	1650 FREESTYLE
A KINGDON	1:56.60	3/18/99	200 IND. MEDLEY
J MEMONT	4:05.57	3/17/04	400 IND. MEDLEY
J SHANK	51.49	2/7/98	100 BUTTERFLY
C MCKEE	1:55.37	2/26/03	200 BUTTERFLY
K WLBANKS	25.00	2/25/94	50 BACKSTROKE
A ABBOTT	53.53	3/16/04	100 BACKSTROKE
B ZACHARIAS	1:55.09	3/17/04	200 BACKSTROKE
K FAENOV	27.83	2/26/93	50 BREASTSTROKE
K FAENOV	59.41	2/26/93	100 BREASTSTROKE
A NIZIOL	2:10.27	2/25/00	200 BREASTSTROKE
P GRAHAM	293.9	1/17/78	ONE METER DIVING
B KETTRIX	433.70	2/06/82	CHAMPIONSHIP
C SHEBLEY	207.00	1/24/87	REQUIRED DIVING
C SHEBLEY	310.40	1/24/87	OPTIONAL DIVING
K B N	286.25	2/14/77	THREE METER DIVING
K B N	452.4	2/27/71	CHAMPIONSHIP
K B N	136.83	1/27/71	CHAMPIONSHIP



Tariq Siddiqi bats in a cricket match held by the OASIS organization on Friday, January 16. This annual event was held both Friday and Saturday nights from 11 p.m. to 5 a.m. This was Tariq's first cricket competition but he did manage to score some runs.

*** 3Stars

by Matthew Doak



Elaine Vonderembse – Women's Hockey

Great offense and stellar defense have helped the women's hockey team get off to a 10-2-1 start. Goaltender Elaine Vonderembse has been a major part of that stellar defense this season. The senior from Genoa, Ohio currently has a 7-2-1 record and has saved nearly 90 percent of the shots against her. In a recent shutout of St. Michaels, Vonderembse played two periods, making 26 saves, to combine with teammate Barb McElwee. She also played all 60 minutes and made 13 saves in a December shutout of UMass-Boston.



Michael Tucciarone – Men's Hockey

After getting off to a rough start, the men's hockey team has improved of late and is currently in the midst of a three game winning streak. Junior left-winger Michael Tucciarone has been a major part of the improvement. The 6-1,195 pounder from Richmond Hill, Ontario had a monster game, scoring two goals and adding two assists, as the Tigers crushed seventh-ranked Curry last week. He also picked up a goal and an assist in the team's blowout win over Cortland.



Christina Ermie – Women's Basketball

The women's basketball team and coach Debbie Buff are seeking a large improvement for the second straight year. Christina Ermie is doing her best to see that this happens. The sophomore guard from Johnstown, New York leads the team in scoring with 11.7 points per game. She also leads the team in assists with 4.7 and is third in rebounds, averaging 4.7 per contest. Ermie had 15 points in the team's recent loss to St. John Fischer and 11 in a loss to Ithaca.



Coach Michael Grainsky meets with his team before the beginning of the third period Saturday night. The RIT Tigers lost to Southern Maine 3-2. Michael Sperling/REPORTER Magazine

Tigers Hockey on a Prowl

Women's Hockey Team Tied for First Place

by Marci Savage

The 10-2-1 women's hockey team is on the prowl for victory and they aren't going to let anything get in their way. Despite several tough games coming up in their schedule, coach Michael Grainsky knows the team will rise to the occasion. "Every game coming up will be close, but they are all winnable," coach stated. "To beat these quality teams everything has to go right and we must play solid the whole game."

So far coach Grainsky is pleased with the way the season has progressed and the progress that the players have been making. He stated, "We are exactly where we are supposed to be this point in the season, which is tied for first place in the East."

The game that really got the Tigers going on the season was their opening road game at Buffalo State, according to Grainsky. "It was out first shutout and goalie Elaine Vonderembse made some incredible saves," he said. He continued, "The game was a very good way to judge where we stood early in the season." There have been many players for the Tigers that have stepped up this season and made contributions to the team. Quality goaltender Elaine Vonderembse carries a .899 save percentage and holds a 6-2 record. "Elaine has been a prominent force on the team for the last two and a half years," said Grainsky. "Her greatest quality is that she is mentally way out there and will do anything to stop the puck." Laughingly coach continued saying, "That's why she is the way that she is-She's a true goalie."

Captain Jen Gorczynski is one of the Tigers' strongest defenders, and the person they turn to for stability. Coach Grainsky stated, "She has the experience and smarts to get through any situation she is presented." Gorczynski has scores over 100 points in her three years with the Tigers, which is a very solid statistic for a defender. This season alone she has

compiled 17 points, scoring 10 goals and adding seven assists. The team's first line of forwards consisting of Kasie Strong, Alysia Park, and Kendra Bredlau has accounted for approximately 80 percent of the team's goals this season. This line is the "go to line" according to Grainsky, due to the girls being able to come through in mostly any situation. Park has accumulated 13 goals and 10 assists, Strong has 10 goals and four assists, while Bredlau has four goals and nine assists.

Grainsky contributes the success of the team to not only hard work and dedication, but also team goals. "Every player of the roster is together, united and has the same goals," coach said. "There are no cliques on the team; we are one cohesive unit working together toward the same common goal." This combined with 5-6 practices per week, and strength conditioning two times a week in the gym; it is no wonder the Tigers are having such a successful season.

Hockey is a sport which also requires constant change and learning. The RIT team has continued to learn from their mistakes in order to have a successful season. "Hard lessons were taught when we played very successful teams such as Elmira, but we have learned this and are implementing necessary changes," Coach Grainsky said. In order to defeat Manhattanville, who is ranked number one in the country, the team must all realize that there is a job to do and go out on the ice with the attitude that the game is winnable.

Coach Grainsky could not stress enough the importance of the fans. "Fans really help because the RIT fans are pretty vocal and can really get the players going, especially in close games." The women's hockey team will face New England College on January 31 and February 1, 2004. •



PLAYER PROFILE:

The Fairbairn Brothers

DOUBLE TROUBLE ON *Ice*

by Julie Scuderi

photograph by Christopher Zajac

On the outside, the Fairbarn brothers seem different enough. From their size and stature, to their taste in girls, Ryan and Tristan, ages 24 and 21 respectively, seem to have nothing in common. But, then you watch them play hockey. Both exhibit an aggressive and fierce playing style that lets you know they share a common bond—a bond they have maintained since they started skating at age three; a bond that that has strengthened from cheering for the Toronto Maple Leafs all their lives; and, lucky for RIT, a bond that has been a major factor behind the Tigers' domination on the ice.

Coming into RIT, "I didn't know how I would fit in, or if I would even play," admitted younger brother Tristan, a Packaging Science major. Fourteen games later, Tristan's speed at right wing has earned him eight goals and an Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Rookie of the Week honor. In the 2-0 week of January 12, Tristan had two assists for the 11th-ranked Tigers, including an assist on the game-winning goal in a 3-2 win over Potsdam State on Friday night.

Head coach Wayne Wilson couldn't be more ecstatic at the surprise domination of his young recruit. "You're always hopeful for freshmen," Wilson said. "You envision that they'll make an impact, but usually the transition is tough. Tristan has made that transition. He is one of the best freshmen in the country."

Although the modest Tristan won't acknowledge his superior status in the nation, he definitely agrees that he is working hard. It didn't take much time for him to start fitting in—Tristan scored a goal on the night of his very first collegiate match-up, which was against St. Norbert, the number three team in the nation. Assistant coach Scott MacDonald took notice. "Tristan is very feisty—guys notice him. He plays big," MacDonald said. Fans have seemed to find a new favorite. During power plays, the crowd goes wild as Tristan fires shot after shot against the opposition.

As for senior, Ryan, his five goals and twelve assists as a defender have put him in a high national ranking as well. His

teammates and coaches admire Ryan for his strong presence on the ice and his remarkable ability to command leadership.

"When Ryan talks, people listen," laughed Wilson. "He has a very confident demeanor."

Tristan, although playing at the same level with his brother, still looks up to Ryan for inspiration. "I admire him," Tristan said. "Not too many guys can get around him." Opponents learn this fact when they are helplessly slammed up against the glass by 6'2" Ryan. Access denied.

Ryan and Tristan's highlight of the season came when they each posted two goals in RIT's 11-3 win over Neumann College earlier in the season. That game won Ryan the honor of being named the ECAC Player of the Week.

Days later, Tristan scored a goal in the Tigers' loss to the National Team. The next night, Tristan posted two goals, one off of an assist from Ryan. This time, RIT was able to tie the National Team, and set their momentum for the rest of the season.

The guys are hoping to lead their team to the National Championships. After downing teams like Cortland and Curry, by whopping scores of 9-2 and 9-1 respectively, that goal is more attainable each week. RIT's record is 8-4-2, and currently the Tigers are on a three-game winning streak.

As Ryan prepares to retire his skates here at RIT, the future is full of possibilities—whether it be playing professional hockey, or putting his Criminal Justice degree to use. But, for right now, Ryan hopes that his younger brother will carry on the family legacy.

"I hope that I taught him to take advantage of opportunities while they still exist, because before you know it, it's all over." For Tristan, it's only just beginning. With his brother right by his side for this season, the two are sure to leave a lasting impression on RIT hockey. •

The Lost Art of the Chain Reaction

by Kate Bloemker

Last Monday, a Toyota sat in E-Lot with its hood up and flashers on. The frustrated, forlorn owner of the disabled car, upon discovering that it was just as cold inside the car as it was outside, paced back and forth outside her vehicle, waiting for Campus Safety to arrive and jumpstart it. In fact, she stood outside in the cold for nearly an hour, from 4:20 p.m. until ten after five, as students poured out of the Wind Tunnel, passing by the girl and her ailing car, ready to hop in their (working) vehicles and head home. Hundreds of students and fifty minutes later, the girl realized something: In all that time, not one person had stopped and asked her if she was okay, if she needed a hand.

That was me.

In that moment, RIT seemed as cold to me as the tips of my fingers, which I could no longer even feel very well. The fact that help was on its way was irrelevant. No one walking by would have known that. The issue is that somehow, helping others in the RIT community has been put on the back burner. It is not some sort of abstract thing that has just "happened," either. WE are the ones who have done it.

Humans, especially Americans, have always enjoyed pretending that they are sympathetic, selfless, and socially conscious beings, without actually doing anything. Jerry Seinfeld once spouted this line on his sitcom: "Oh, volunteer work. That's what I like about the holiday season . . . people being helped by people other than me."

Nowhere does this attitude seem more prevalent than here. There is obviously something very wrong in a place in which even a relatively good-looking female isn't offered roadside help. This means that not only are people (specifically men) not thinking with their brains or hearts, but they aren't even thinking with their . . . you know. Is RIT that sterile of a place? No wonder no one ever seems to have sex here! Everyone is too intent on getting home to their iPods, PlayStations, and Physics books to do something good for the world, or at least to volunteer their jumper cables to stranded

motorists. Out of 152 clubs and organizations on campus, only six are community service groups. We are a campus that is sincerely lacking in common courtesy and concern.

Let's stop and analyze this mentality. We're cold. We're grumpy. We're busy. We're socially awkward. We walk down the Quarter Mile with our heads down so that we don't have to make eye contact with anyone coming toward us. HOW IS THIS GOOD?! Please everyone, realize that the answer to your grumpiness and social awkwardness does not lie in a continuation of what you are doing. A campus-wide, concentrated effort to be friendly to each other is what we need.

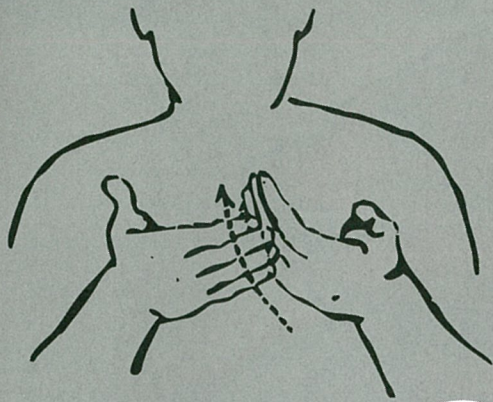
Don't laugh cynically at the triteness of my solution (as many RIT students would). Don't write it off as a dorky let's-all-love-each-other-and-have-world-peace kind of thing. I am completely serious, and, unfortunately, there is no cool-yet-offbeat way to get my point across. Just be aware of the people around you, instead of looking down at the ground thinking, "Damn f***ing snow!" Open up to people you wouldn't normally talk to. Try to cure their social reluctance along with your own. Chances are that you will make their gray, icy day a little more bearable, and they might make someone else's day better in turn.

Try this situation: Jared passes Miranda, a total stranger, on the Quarter Mile. "Good morning!" he says, nodding in her direction. "Um, good morning!" she replies. She continues on to the SAU, contented and a little more conscious of the other students rushing around on the quads. Seeing a student staring blankly at a campus map, she stops and asks the student what she is looking for. "Which one is Building 70?" asks the transfer student, Claire, who has no idea where she is going. Claire is so grateful for the directions Miranda gives her that when she arrives at her class in Building 70, she immediately turns to Aaron, the student next to her, and launches into a narrative about how she almost didn't make it. Aaron is so turned on by Claire's friendliness that he asks her out. She accepts, and by the time three weeks have passed, Claire and Aaron have spent some quality time together in his bedroom. After getting some, Aaron is on top of the world. He is in such a good mood that he treats his friend Amir to lunch at the SAU. Amir then stuffs his unused lunch money into the donation jar on the Habitat for Humanity table in the SAU lobby. John, the Habitat for Humanity volunteer sitting behind the table, is so thrilled with the amount of money he has collected in one day that he vows to help the next person-in-need he sees. He heads out of the building and toward his car, and as he exits the Wind Tunnel, he notices a frustrated-looking young woman leaning up against a small car. The hood is up and the flashers are on. John walks up to me and asks "Do you need any help?" I say, "No thanks; Campus Safety is on the way."

But I smile, and I don't feel so alone. •

Humans, especially Americans, have always enjoyed pretending that they are sympathetic, selfless, and socially conscious beings, without actually doing anything.

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RIT Homecoming



Thursday, January 29



Pep Rally, Nike Project Playground
Clark Gym, 9-11:30pm

Friday, January 30



Tiger Idol Final Competition
SAU Cafeteria, 6-8pm

CAB Comedian: Tracy Morgan
Clark Gym, 8pm

Saturday, January 31



Staff vs. Student Flag Football Game
Turf Field, 11am-1pm

Women's Hockey vs. New England
Ritter Arena, 3-5pm



Saturday (continued)

SG Tailgate Party
Auxiliary Gym, 5-7pm



Men's Hockey vs. Hobart
Ritter Arena, 7-9pm



RisTep Sho'nuff Step Show
Webb Auditorium, 8-10pm



Tormenta Tropical
SAU Cafeteria, 10pm-2:30am



Sunday, February 1

Superbowl Party
Clark Gym, 5-10pm

[HTTP://WWW.SG.BIT.EDU/HOMECOMING](http://www.sg.bit.edu/homecoming)