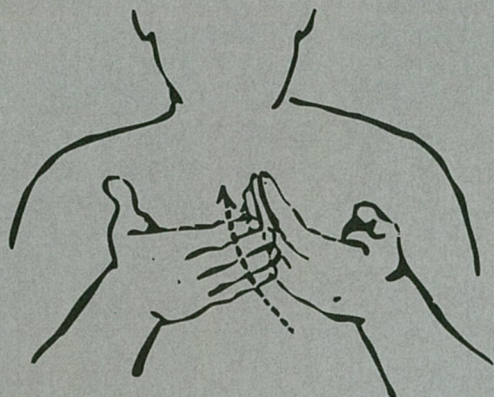


# REPORTER

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- 2.** Beginning April 26, and for Fall quarter registration, if you are not able to schedule all of the courses you *need* to maintain progress toward completion of your degree, you will be able to notify the Institute of the courses you could not obtain.
- 3.** In response to the scheduling issues you identify through the new system, the college/department offering the course, or your program advisor, will work with you to resolve them. This may include creating additional sections (given sufficient demand), arranging overloads, and/or advising about alternative choices.

**These new services will be accessible soon via:  
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## Summer Registration Dates April 19 - June 14, 2004

Begin Date		*Year Level
April 19	Graduate	6, 7
April 20	Honors & NTID Cross-Registered	5, 4
April 21	Undergraduate	5, 4
April 22	Honors & NTID Cross-Registered	3
April 23	Undergraduate	3
April 26	Honors & NTID Cross-Registered	2
April 27	Undergraduate	2
April 28	Honors & NTID Cross-Registered	1
April 29	Undergraduate	1, 0

## Fall Registration Dates April 26 - September 13, 2004

Begin Date		*Year Level
April 26	Graduate	6, 7
April 27	Honors & NTID Cross-Registered	5, 4
April 28	Undergraduate	5, 4
April 29	Honors & NTID Cross-Registered	3
April 30	Undergraduate	3
May 3	Honors & NTID Cross-Registered	2
May 4	Undergraduate	2
May 5	Honors & NTID Cross-Registered	1
May 6	Undergraduate	1, 0

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# EDITORIAL

## Apples and Oranges

I've been told that it's a bad thing to air your dirty laundry in public, but I've not ever been one to listen to what other people have to say.

I used to work for *Gracie's Dinnertime Theatre*. In fact, for a short time, I was *GDT's* acting Editor, writer of grant proposals, and hostess of meetings. I know most of you, even the publication's more loyal followers and current staffers, probably don't remember that. I don't expect you to—the campus, as a whole, tends to have a short attention span and forgiving memory. Some of you might not be aware of the publication altogether, as loss of funding has made its presence on campus diminutive at best.

When I left the publication over a year ago, I left because I didn't feel like I was making a difference, a positive impact, or was able to improve it in any way shape or form, for a number of reasons. At the time, I felt that the publication was making the easy jokes and being offensive without a greater purpose in mind, and I didn't see a whole lot of honor in that.

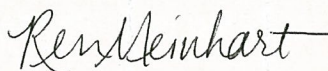
When *GDT* was originally created, a large part of its focus, outside of publishing satire that had no other outlet on campus, was on challenging *Reporter* to improve its content and quality. When *GDT* was created, I'm sure that there was a lot that *Reporter* could have learned from it, had the staff at the time been open-minded enough to consider such. However, things have changed significantly since *GDT's* inception, and now, looking at the two, I feel comfortable in saying that there is a thing or two that *GDT* could stand to learn from *Reporter*.

Both as the current Editor of *Reporter* and a past Editor of *GDT*, I couldn't be prouder of or more impressed with last week's April Fools issue—the *Distorter*. I must say, working on *Distorter* reminded me a lot of my time spent dabbling in satire at *GDT*. I'm not trying to sing of the virtues of the *Reporter* staff too much, but modesty aside, I believe that *Distorter* managed to be funny and critical without being blatantly offensive. It garnered a laugh here and there without alienating a large group of people. It didn't make only the easy jokes. This is something that I wish more comedy today did. It's something that I wish I had been able to push while I was at *GDT*.

This brings me to the back page Absolut advertisement that we ran as part of our satire-based magazine. Outside of its inherent humor, the ad was meant to be critical of a publication that, despite its foundations of quality and good writing, has become increasingly mediocre. It had a point, a message, a challenge—delivered to a self-proclaimed satire publication in its own language. I hope that its staff recognizes that.

*Reporter* has its ups and downs on a weekly basis, but the improvements that we've made and the direction that we're going are really positive. I've worked for both publications, and I can tell you, straight up, that the people who work at *Reporter* work a great deal harder than was the case of the staff that I produced *GDT* with (though I have a distinct feeling that such was not the case originally). The editorial staff, photographers, and designers give up our entire weekends, stay up nights, give up other student-type things to put out the best publication that we can. Our writers go out of their way to research and produce quality writing. This isn't "newspaper club," nor is the staff comprised of minions of the administration. We're students with the same concerns, senses of humor, and criticisms of RIT as any other group of students, *GDT* included. The people that I work with here at *Reporter* are some of the most hardworking, dedicated, and dynamic people I know and have met, period. I have more respect for them and what they do here than for any other group that I've worked with.

It would be easy for me to say to the individuals trying to carry on the publication of *GDT* that they should try to be more like *Distorter* on a more regular basis, or be more like they used to be, but I know neither is appropriate or possible. To copy a metaphor once used by *GDT* to describe the dynamic between *GDT* and *Reporter*, the two are like apples and oranges—two completely different, incomparable entities, the products of their individual, unique staffs. However, I believe that the value system of quality, inclusiveness, and good writing is something that both should strive towards, differences in subject matter aside.



Ren Meinhart  
Editor in Chief

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Yi Tan waits for his opponent's return in the RIT Table Tennis Tournament. The tournament was sponsored by the still forming table tennis club. Christopher Zajac/REPORTER Magazine

Reporter Magazine is published weekly during the academic year by a staff comprised of students at the Rochester Institute of Technology. Business, Editorial, and Design facilities are located in Room A-426, in the lower level of the Student Alumni Union. Our voice/TTY line is (585) 475-2212. The Advertising Department can be reached at (585) 475-2213. The opinions expressed in Reporter do not necessarily reflect those of the Institute. It's DEATH outside and it looks like the absence of babies. No, sir. No dental hygienist by the name of Marcella works in this office. I'm sorry that you have a cavity but we're a magazine. Letters to the Editor may be submitted to Reporter in person at our office. Letters may also be sent through to the address reporter@rit.edu. Reporter is not responsible for materials presented in advertising areas. No letters will be printed unless signed. All letters received become the property of Reporter. Reporter takes pride in its membership in the Associated Collegiate Press and American Civil Liberties Union. Copyright 2004 Reporter Magazine. All rights reserved. No portion of this magazine may be reproduced without prior written permission.

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# In Memory of Dr. George Georgantas: 1941-2004

by Sujata Gupta

On February 8, 2004, RIT bid farewell to a highly respected and beloved professor, Dr. George Georgantas of the Mathematics and Statistics Department. Admired by many for his steadfast commitment to helping students, Georgantas worked at RIT from 1975 to 2004 and, despite battling cancer during his last year at RIT, continued to teach a distance learning course until the eve of his premature death. Georgantas would have celebrated his 63rd birthday on this Friday, April 9.

Dr. Georgantas served as the head of the Math Department from 1980 to 1995, and received the Eisenhart Award for Excellence in teaching in 2001. He is survived by his wife, daughter, and sister.

"This is a great loss for our department. We will miss him and will always hold him close to our hearts as someone who conducted himself with grace and class," said Sophia Maggelakis, current Head of the Mathematics and Statistics department.

Perhaps one of Georgantas's most noteworthy accomplishments rested in his dedication to recruiting students. Ted Dziuba, a second-year student, had only a vague notion of his academic goals when he checked "Computational Mathematics" as his intended program of study on a questionnaire sent to prospective freshmen. Expecting a canned response, Dziuba was surprised to receive a phone call a week later. "The man on the other end identified himself as Dr. Georgantas from the Math and Stats department at RIT. We spoke for about an hour and, after that conversation, I was sold on Computational Mathematics as an undergraduate program of study," said Dziuba.

Dziuba's sentiments ring true for many of RIT's students who saw Georgantas as a father figure. "He was always full of advice and supportive of my decisions, even when they went against what he advised. He wouldn't rest until he knew my concerns were alleviated," said Vicky Shultz, a winter 2003 graduate and recipient of the Outstanding Undergraduate Scholar Award, who attributes much of her recent job success to Georgantas.

Colleagues and others who knew Georgantas say that his success lay in his ability to reach out to people and take them under his wing. "[He was] very paternal," said Dave Mathiason, a statistics professor. Not only did he think of the students as his own children, but he was also very protective of the young faculty. Georgantas also spearheaded the move to break RIT's single math degree program into three separate degree programs: applied math, computational math, and statistics.

For many, the heart of Georgantas' magnanimity lay in his unshakable faith. Georgantas was heavily involved with Rochester's Greek Orthodox Church of the Holy Spirit. Writes Fr. Patrick in *The Spirit*, a church publication founded by Georgantas' himself, "George Georgantas was a hero in the old sense, a man who gave unstintingly of himself." Indeed, Georgantas seemed driven by a need to help others, a passion which extended beyond his religious life.

"[He] put his spirituality into his everyday life," said Ann Gottorf, who worked closely with Georgantas as his secretary for ten years. "The strength of his character has been mentioned over and over again," she added.

Georgantas's passing leaves a hole in the hearts of everyone he touched from his students to his colleagues to members of his church community. As Irene Georgantas, Dr. Georganta's wife for over 26 years, put it: "Now we must be strong, as George urged me to be so many times to carry on his legacy of love and faithfulness." •

## GMA Marches Ahead

by Kunal Sharma

The Graduate Management Association (GMA) at the College of Business has joined up with the Rochester Business Alliance (RBA). The partnership should prove to be a major boost for Graduate Management students in terms of better job opportunities, networking, and development of local co-op opportunities. Students will now be able to associate themselves with the best Rochester's business community has to offer. "It is a major initiative for GMA, an association that has been searching for focus up until this point, and I think what we are doing here is to give some very solid opportunities," said Brad Britt, a Printing and Technology Management major at the College of Business.

RBA's mission is to be the leading advocate for business and a primary agent for ensuring robust economic growth and a positive business climate for the greater Rochester area. It works to provide active development and delivery of the core human resource and business management services necessary to strengthen the competitiveness of the business community in Rochester, and to provide strong advocacy for business on public policy issues in the community.

RIT is already an affiliate of RBA (as is University of Rochester, St. John Fisher and MCC), but this is the first time that RBA has teamed up with a student association and is willing to work with Graduate Management students. "The talent of the graduate students will have use to the organization and at the same time provide students with a better opportunity to get involved with a particular business and with members of RBA and work on projects, research and businesses with companies," said Sharon Lewis, Advisor to GMA. Lewis, who started the organization with the help of five students a year and a half ago, recognized the significance of networking for graduate students and

the importance of helping them learn more about the skills required within corporate circles. Hopefully, the partnership will also benefit a city suffering from dwindling numbers of graduates who stay in the community, as well. "RBA is very concerned about the economic future of Rochester and wants to open some doors for the people, and this is the primary move on their part," said Abheek Sambyal, Marketing major and President of GMA. "They are very anxious to work with graduate management students. Their members might have some projects they are working on that can fit nicely with our plans and we can take it on from there."

The shortage of jobs and co-op opportunities has been a point of contention for the Graduate Management students, as well, and this new alliance will open doors in that department as well. "Such initiatives can help a student working on a set of problems participate in symposiums, development of existing businesses, attending meetings, trade fairs, and career fairs that they organize every now and then. [RBA] generally charges around \$60 to \$70 for people to attend these workshops and our student affiliates can go there without any charge," said Lewis.

The student membership for RBA is only through GMA at the cost of \$5 per academic year. For more information on GMA, email Sharon Lewis: salbbu@rit.edu. •

# Locks of LOVE

by Michael Sperling

Hair dresser Caitlin Minute chops off ten inches of Kyla Mawhinney's hair to be donated to the Locks of Love program on Sunday March 28th, 2004 at Pharaoh's Hairum Salon. Nine stylists gave their services to help donate hair from over 30 people. The event, which took over three hours, was organized by Lizzie Sorkin and Blair Brown, two RAs. •



# Race DAY

by Christopher Zajac

Joaquim Peleaz, left, and Juan Ortiz, right, compete during Race Day in the SAU. Both are members of the Scale Speed Team which races all kinds of RC vehicles. •





# HistoRIT

Get Your Current Events Elsewhere  
by Jeff Prystajko

## We were almost McCollege

Following a study conducted the year before, which stated Monroe County was in need of a community college, Dr. Alfred L. Davis, RIT Vice President of Developments and Public Relations, said in April, 1961 that RIT would not be fulfilling that need. At the time, the Institute had numerous four-year Baccalaureate Degree programs, whereas the county was seeking only two-year programs. RIT refused to regress and drop their curriculum.

## Long Live Eisenhower!

On April 2, 1979, RIT made the surprise announcement that it was incorporating the nearby Eisenhower College as its tenth college. A predominantly liberal arts school specializing in World Studies, the Seneca Falls, NY campus had undergone numerous hardships, including a sharp decrease in enrollment as well as extensive financial debts. RIT, which only began entertaining the idea of a merger that previous January, quickly jumped at the idea, and initiated negotiations with the hopes of finalizing the implementation by the following fall. Using shared resources, the hope was that students could utilize the core competencies of both campuses to maximize their learning and recreation. Only time would tell how the college's financial troubles, combined with a highly different culture, would unravel.

## Romeo and Juliet never had these issues

Before the residence halls underwent major renovations several years ago, many lounges featured open balconies with nothing but a railing overlooking the ground below. While many students welcomed the areas during warm weather, a host of problems also developed, including dropped furniture as well as an inebriated student's two-story fall. The Institute took corrective actions, but by April of 1980, several metal blockers (which prevented balcony doors from opening more than 15 inches) had been forcibly removed. At the time, RIT was contemplating charging the entire floor whenever such future damages occurred—a punishment incurred not from greed, but rather insurance company demands. •

## The Week Submit your events to reporter@rit.edu

4/9

10 a.m.- 4 p.m.

### Club Day

SAU Lobby. Check out some of the more than 100 clubs on campus. Contact: Ginny Orzel: clubs@rit.edu.

5 p.m.- 11 p.m.

### Race Day

SAU Café. RC car racing sponsored by the RIT Scale Speed Team. Everyone welcome. Free. Contact: Jason Botterill: ritrc12@yahoo.com.

6:30 p.m.- 9:30 p.m.

### Festival of African Culture

Webb Auditorium. OAS presents a celebration of African dance, music, and short plays. Free. Contact: Folusho Erogbogbo: fre1804@rit.edu.

8 p.m.- 11:45 p.m.

### Classic Dual Film Showing

Ingle Auditorium. Join CAB for a showing of *Casablanca* and *On the Waterfront*, starring Marlon Brando. Free. Contact: Heidi Schille: chinchila74@msn.com.

4/10

5 p.m.- 11 p.m.

### VSA Music Show

Clark Gym. Sponsored by the Vietnamese Student Association. Students-\$10, Other-\$15. Contact: Han Hoang: hanlthoang@yahoo.com.

4/13

TBA

### Rock Fest Pep Rally

TBA. Sponsored by NTID Student Congress. Rally before NTID leaves to compete with Gallaudet for the trophy. Contact: Lydia Chambers: ritgally2004@hotmail.com.

5 p.m.- 5:45 p.m.

### Grad School at RIT for Current Students

7-A190. Get an overview of graduate programs available at RIT and discuss procedures and deadlines for applying. Contact: Office of Part-Time and Graduate Enrollment Services: V/TTY- 475-2229.

4/14

10 a.m.- 2 p.m.

### Employment Day

SAU Lobby. Off-campus employers will be recruiting for part-time and summer student help. Contact: Martha Riley: mwr9809@rit.edu, V- 475-2068, TTY-475-2837.

12 p.m.- 1:30 p.m.

### Performance by e-Poet Loss Glazier

COS Auditorium (8-A300). Colloquium and performance by noted e-poet Loss Pequeno Glazier, Director of the Electronic Poetry Center at the University of Buffalo and author of the recent book *Digital Poetics*. Free. Contact: John Roche: jfrgla@rit.edu, 475-4922.

4/15

1 p.m.- 2 p.m.

### SG BBQ for Voting

Tiger Quad. SG-hosted BBQ to encourage students to come out and vote for next year's student leaders. Weather permitting. Free. Contact: Whitney Anderson: wlasdr@rit.edu.

7:30 p.m.- 9 p.m.

### Gannett Lecture Series: Howard Rheingold

Webb Auditorium. The author of *Smart Mobs: The New Social Revolution* speaks on "Mobil Communications, Pervasive Computing, and collectiveAction. Free. Contact: Cassandra Shellman: cls3740@rit.edu, 475-2057.

7:30 p.m.- 9:30 p.m.

### Crimes of the Heart Performance

1510 Lab Theatre, LBJ Building. See a performance of Beth Henley's Pulitzer-winning comedy about a dysfunctional Southern family. Performed in ASL and English. Free. Contact: Jim Orr: jmo5601@rit.edu, V/TTY- 475-6251. Contact: Sarah Reynolds: srrwml@rit.edu, 475-2613.

## Registrar Plans Improvements for Student Scheduling

by Andrew Bigelow

Fall quarter registration this year will mark a starting point for the evolution of the scheduling process. The new system will address several areas of contention by adding a yearlong course schedule and a schedule conflict remediation process. These tools are intended to help students organize their schedules more effectively.

The yearlong schedule—which will include a basic search function—allows students access to the entire Institute's planned course offerings for the full school year, letting flexibility be built into schedules in the event of required courses conflicting or filling up.

Also being implemented is a new website where students can opt to declare required courses that were not previously available to them. This new feature supplies information back to the department offering a conflicting course and, according to RIT's registrar, Joe Loffredo, "this information will be systematically captured and will trigger a concerted effort by the college/department offering the course [in] the form of individualized attention which may include creating additional sections (given sufficient demand), arranging overloads, and advising about alternative or substitute courses." The Information Access Center and myRIT portals will provide access to these new features

as they are rolled out—the yearlong course schedule by April 19 and conflict remediation form by April 26.

The motivation for these system upgrades is that registration is by no means a trivial task; completion of both lower-level prerequisites and eventual degree programs hang in the balance that only successful registration can stabilize. Retention is a nagging problem at RIT, historically around 56 to 65 percent, and one of the larger contributors to this low retention rate is the time to graduation. If a student falls behind a quarter or two, he or she may become rather inclined to transfer out.

A November 2003 survey found that 12 percent of RIT students were not getting the courses that they needed to graduate on time. Taking that information into account, the registrar decided to create tools designed to help students stay on course for completing their degrees. Loffredo believes that the new system will "provide enhanced services to students and more complete information about student needs to colleges and departments." In regards to the information used for the schedule conflict remediation process, the success of this initiative most critically rests on students declaring their needs as soon as possible, even though the webpage will be available through the end of the summer.

While the above enhancements are slated for immediate improvement to the registration system, future improvements promise further advances for RIT's students. The basis of this progress rests on a brand-new, retooled Student Information System (SIS). A pilot of the new SIS should be available for limited testing this October, hopefully with complete implementation next January. The new SIS will be faster, have a higher capacity, and sport a more intuitive interface. Plans also call for the new SIS to have improved searching of the course database and a degree audit system, which would flag potential problems in a student's course selections.

Another aspect of the new SIS would be the time when it is offered for registration. Traditionally, registration commences at 6 a.m., due to lower network traffic. However, a more advanced, higher capacity infrastructure could be capable of handling the demands of registration at almost any time of the day or night. Loffredo agrees: "We're all about technology; we should be able to do better for our students and offer registration when they find it most convenient. We will be researching options to do this as we develop the new SIS." •

## RIT Hosts Expressions of Diversity Conference

by Eric Sucar

Guest speaker Dr. Claude Steele lectured to about 200 people in Ingle Auditorium on Wednesday March 31. The title of his lecture was "Enabling Diversity: How to Construct Identity Safety in the Face of Identity Threat." The lecture was part of a week-long celebration of diversity. The third annual "Expressions of Diversity" conference boasted of over thirty workshops, lectures, and events that promoted dialogue on multi-cultural issues. •



# THE LIFE AND TIMES OF KEVIN SMITH

by Sean Hannan | illustration by Tina Zheng

In the past ten years, Kevin Smith has risen from complete obscurity and made some truly fresh films in the process. Part of a slew of writer/directors prevailing in Hollywood, Smith perhaps follows the “write what you know” credo a bit too closely. What Kevin Smith knows tends to be comic books, Star Wars, God, pop culture minutia, and a hell of a lot about human relationships. In his first four films, he wove these bits of his own life into a through-the-looking-glass alternate reality, dubbed the “Askewniverse”. His New Jersey-centric series of intricately connected plots and characters frequently weaves its way in and out of his first four movies.

**Clerks** (1994): This dialogue-rich comedy launched film-school dropout Smith into the spotlight. The extremely low-budget film, financed largely in part by the sale of Smith’s comic book collection, found much critical and cult acclaim despite its rather odious production values. Focusing on Quick Stop and RST Video Store employees Dante and Randall, the film snakes its way through the dangers of smoking, the complexities of relationships, corpse violation (twice), drug dealer philosophy, and thirty-seven dicks.

**Mallrats** (1995): Continuing the ravaging of pop culture that began with *Clerks*, *Mallrats* follows a handful of suburbanite teenagers who have nothing better to do with their lives than hang out at the local mall. Smith’s love of comic books shines in this film through a cameo featuring Spider-Man creator Stan Lee, and a philosophical tirade about the intricacies of Krypton-Human lovin’. While not the most solid feature in the Smith canon, it did pave the way for...

**Chasing Amy** (1997): For what is considered by many critics to be his best film, Smith returned to his low-budget roots and concocted this next feature for a paltry \$250,000. Written specifically for, and featuring his friends (including perennial favorite Ben Affleck), *Chasing Amy* spins a tale of modern romance and sexuality. Who’s gay? Who’s straight? Is there really all that much of a difference? Although it is essentially a chick flick, Smith manages to masquerade it as very funny drama with some very well-written and -acted characters. This should be required viewing for anyone with relationship issues.

**Dogma** (1999): Written even before *Clerks*, *Dogma* was shelved indefinitely due to Smith’s desire to see it realized with proper special effects. It can only be assumed that he sought a more realistic-looking poop monster. Apart from its fecal foes, this hysterical journey of faith taken by abortion-clinic worker Bethany Sloan sparked many protests due to its satirical analysis of Roman Catholicism. Always the good sport, Smith showed up to one of the protests to take issue with his own film. Featuring a larger budget and cast than his previous films, it also some of the best writing Smith has done to date. It’s rather fascinating how he can marry intelligent theological discussion with a slew of crude humor and have it work to the audience’s delight.

**Jay & Silent Bob Strike Back** (2001): This is the first and only film to feature the drug-dealing duo that had minor roles in his first four films. It’s also a nice closer, as it signifies the end of Smith’s intricately connected “Askewniverse.” Spurred by vitriolic internet posts, Jay and hetero-life-partner Silent Bob travel to Hollywood to prevent the production of a motion picture about their lives. Along the way, they get into wacky misadventures involving laboratory monkeys, a jewel heist, and the Jedi Master himself, Mark Hamill. And you know when you bring Luke Skywalker into it, it’s going to be a p-a-r-t-y. With most of the jokes being self-referential to the series, *Jay and Silent Bob* functions as a nice feather in the cap of New Jersey in the eighty-sixth dimension, but only die-hard fans will find this flick amusing.



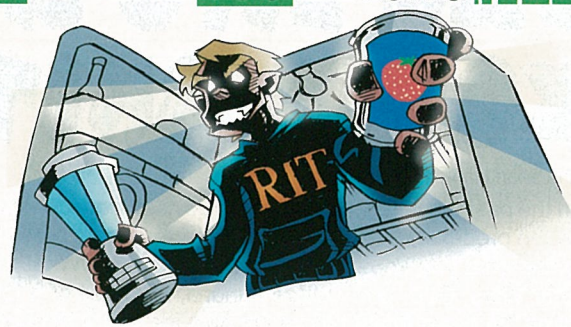
**An Evening with Kevin Smith** (2003): This three-hour DVD documents Smith’s Q&A college speaking tour. As much an amusing spinner of tales on the silver screen, he proves to be quite the entertaining public speaker. Smith offers advice to young filmmakers as well as anecdotal stories, such as how he came to be chums with Jason Mewes (Jay), the quirkiness of working with Prince, and his tabloid-worthy faux feud with Tim Burton. While this may seem like a die-hard-fans-only purchase, it actually gives good insight into how exactly the man ticks and will make nearly anyone laugh.

**Jersey Girl** (2004): In Smith’s latest film we find him reaching into his most recent personal endeavor, fatherhood. This flick has been called his most personal film to date—most often by Smith himself—and it certainly feels that way. The characters are wonderfully drawn from real life, with the added twist of being filtered through the brain of a horny, geeky fanboy; only a writer of a particular caliber can use pornography as a plot device in a family film. However, the fact that *Jersey Girl* discusses the hardships of single parenting and the upbringing of a precocious youngster may be too cute for Smith’s core audience. Sure, it’s saccharine at points, but it’s sweet without being obnoxious, and more true to life than most critics want to admit. In the end, it seems that *Jersey Girl* will end up as a cult film that will live out its life as one of the best movies made about fatherhood.

So what’s next for our fair filmmaker? According to the man himself, Smith will be tackling a movie adaptation of the comic-book-cum-Bruce-Lee-vehicle *The Green Hornet*. It’s hard to imagine an action movie with nonstop pop culture skewering and monologues about life in suburban New Jersey, but as a rabid comic book fan, I’m sure Kevin Smith will do just fine. Snoogens. •

# Everything Else is Piss || THE LIFE WHERE YOU BELONG

by Erhardt Graeff | illustration by Sean Carner



RIT, like many colleges, requires students residing in dormitories to have some sort of a meal plan—an understandable policy, considering the mental strain of managing coursework, perhaps a part-time job, and/or a social life. But, what about those students who don't live on campus, and don't want to spend more of their money at RIT? This would be my predicament: truly, a meal plan makes absolutely no sense for me. So what does an off-campus-living, money-scrimping, health-conscious, and at-times-resourceful student have to fall back on? So far this year, my course of action has been a kind of culinary roller coaster.

Fall began with a ridiculously high rate of peanut butter consumption, which stuck to my gut after while, forcing me to slow it down. Then, with winter quarter came the microwave popcorn craze, which still seems to be a vital source of calories after 14 trusty weeks or so. And then there is *real* food. I have actually made things using appliances other than a microwave. My two most chef-like endeavors have been Pigs in a Makeshift Blanket and Canned Fruit Smoothies. These Erhardt's Kitchen creations are what could be described as extremely cheap, half-approximations of actual cuisine.

The Pigs in a Makeshift Blanket were a late night attempt at salvaging a pair of old hot dogs taking up space in the fridge. In my sagacious laziness, I was convinced that dipping slices of bread in milk would be essentially the equivalent of the traditional dough, which forms the blankets for those saucy pigs. And so I just went ahead—dunk bread, dunk bread, roll around one dog, roll around the other, and into the toaster-oven they went. I let them “bake” until the smell began to severely disconcert my roommate.

Anyway, I tried out my interesting dinner, and to my roommate's, my own, and probably your disbelief, they actually kind of tasted something like Pigs in a Blanket. Triumph! My other big experiment was the Canned Fruit Smoothies. To prepare, I simply tossed a couple of cans of fruit cocktail into the freezer ahead of time. After removing the cans from the freezer, my team of chefs (friends over for a movie watching) found the hardest part of the process to be the matter of separating the cylinder of fruit from the bulging can. Once it finally

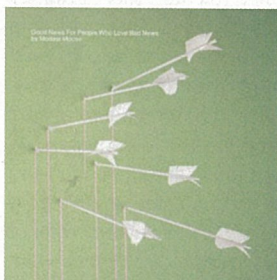
could be dropped into a blender, it was just a matter of crushing the stuff into tasty chum. As a base, I poured in half a bottle of ancient strawberry daiquiri-flavored beverage that was looking for a purpose. The puree action produced something not quite inconsistent, and we poured each other glasses and swigged (sipped) away.

I was quick to profess that I thought it wasn't too bad, however, my cohorts were less enthusiastic with muffled “yeah” replies.

Now, I must admit, neat little hors d'oeuvre-ish entrees and fancy smoothies are closer to the upper crust of my diet/creativity. Mainly, I live off of soup, self-packed lunch sandwiches, and occasional free food cast out for the vultures on campus. One key to my success has been definitely been the off-brand grocery goodness available at Aldi on Jefferson Road. It is nearly impossible to find another store with cheaper prices on food. And even though most of the packages are labeled with odd variations on trademark brands, they do happen to stock Ramen noodles by the pallet. So, my recommendation for next year is to try eating in a *smart* way that may, if nothing else, keep your wallet fat. •

## cdREVIEW Modest Mouse: *Good News for People Who Love Bad News*

by Sean Hannan



After languishing in relative obscurity for a few years, the Washington state indie rockers known as Modest Mouse signed with Sony's Epic records in 1999. While most of their burgeoning fan base labeled the band as sell-outs, the same haters quickly bit their tongues when *The Moon & Antarctica* proved that major label cushiness had not sullied their most prized possession. With the release of *Good News for People Who Love Bad News*, Modest Mouse continue to show that “selling out” can make some pretty damn good music.

Starting off with attention-snaring bursts of brass, the album ebbs and flows with instrumentation and sound texture. Listeners get everything from lush string arrangements on “The World At Large” to whinnying French quarter brass arrangements on “The Devil's Workday.” The bong-gurgling synth effects on “Dancehall” introduce a languid tune, and as the track builds to its final climax, the effects become dive-bombing air raid sirens and feedback that scribbles itself across the speaker. Other standout tracks include “The View,” with its twang-funk guitar and hayseed disco feel, “Float On,” the current single with its top-down-wind-in-your-hair summer vibe, and “The Good Times are Killing Me,” a falsetto sing-along closer that ends the album on an optimistic note.

Lyrics have traditionally been Modest Mouse's strongest suit. The songs are rock solid. The folksy surrealism that singer/songwriter Isaac Brock has come to be known for, is here in droves. Simple lines like, “And it's true that the clouds just hung around/Like black Cadillacs outside a funeral,” give wonderful imagery to already imaginative melody. Paradoxically, the most upbeat songs on *Good Times* have some of the most downtrodden lyrics. On “World at Large,” Brock confesses, “I know that starting over's not what life's about/But my thoughts were so loud I couldn't hear my mouth.” Similarly on “The View,” he masochistically muses, “if life's not beautiful without the pain/Well I'd just rather never see beauty again.” This is one of the outstanding details about the album, though: There is a very real human component that matches the textural complexity of the tunes.

Many longtime Modest Mouse fans have decried *Good News for People Who Love Bad News* as poppy and simplistic compared to the band's earlier works. While the album is more accessible than their previous efforts, it still celebrates its quirks rather than eliminating them entirely. Honestly, what other band can plink a banjo while grumbling about perennially soused poet Charles Bukowski? •

# RichardSandrak.com: A Body Like Arnold with a Cherub Face

by Sean Hannan

It is no secret that many parents push their offspring to succeed. Largely seeing their parents' efforts as an attempt to vicariously re-live younger days, many youngsters take issue with their controlling folks. Being a rebellious youth is a natural part of growing up, and these kids certainly have a point. No one wants to grow up to be exactly like their parents. Well, not quite. There is one child, a Richard Sandrak, who from a very young age wanted to mimic the movements of his World Martial Arts Champion father and his Aerobics instructor mother.

What resulted is a rather freakish kickboxing man-child who can be witnessed at [www.richardsandrak.com](http://www.richardsandrak.com). This ten-year-old bodybuilding "prodigy" was, at eight years-old, the strongest human in the world, pound for pound. All of his accomplishments are very impressive, but it's really only fascinating in a gawking, watching-a-car-crash sense of entertainment. The pictures of Richard on the site are very much real, despite having a mismatched-skin-tone, Photoshopped quality to them. Apparently at bodybuilding competitions, competitors slather all sorts of fake tanning goop on their lats and delts to accentuate them for the judges.

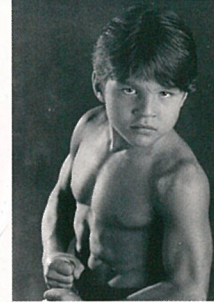
The site itself is largely a promotional effort in order to raise funds for a blockbuster action movie starring Richard. Featuring video clips of his television appearances as well as a bombardment of promotional photos, the site certainly has a lot to glare at. Judging from his appearance, I'd say that Richard must have an immense amount of drive within him. It will certainly be interesting when puberty comes and punches him in the face. •

**Design** ★★☆☆☆ Apart from some broken links, the site only does a half-decent job of showing off the kid's six-pack.

**Content** ★★☆☆☆ It's really only a photo gallery featuring this freak of nature. Or is it how nature intended?

**Safe for Work** ★★★★★ For most people, the sight of a shirtless ten-year-old doesn't really put the bang in their thang, but to each their own.

**Not a Fad** ★★☆☆☆ Child celebrities have a habit of staying in the spotlight a bit too long. More likely than not, Richard will end up as a kung-fu Corey Feldman.

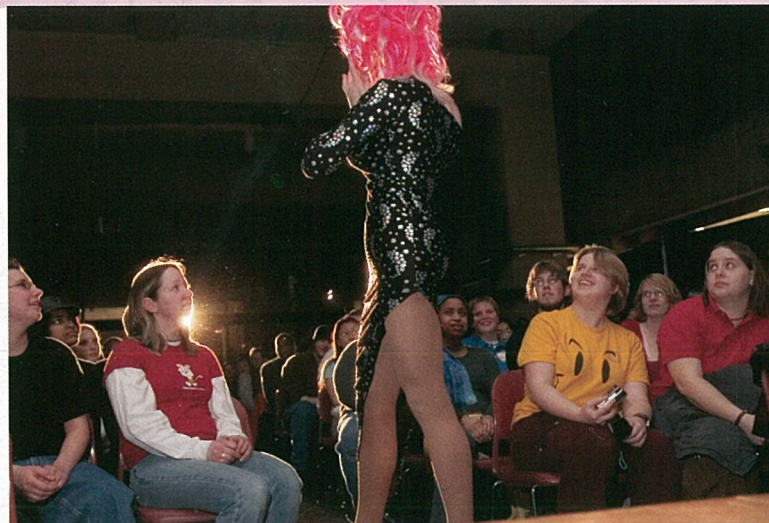


## RIT Drag Show

by Kim Weiselburg



Miss Pandora's Box walks on stage for her dance during RIT's annual Drag Show in the SAU. The event was sponsored by the RIT Gay Alliance and CAB.



Miss Ambrosia Salad talks to the crowd during RIT's annual Drag Show.



things we wish they sold in vending machines

**World Peace.**

Cleverly disguised alcoholic beverages—so that we could drink in class and no one would know. I definitely wouldn't fall asleep as often.

**Rabbits. Why not?**

An RIT diploma. Or credit hours. Either would do, really. Both get me out of doing a ton of busy work.

Vintage t-shirts, particularly of the 1980s persuasion. There's nothing like canned originality.

Plane tickets to anywhere but here. Someplace where it doesn't snow in April, for crying out loud.

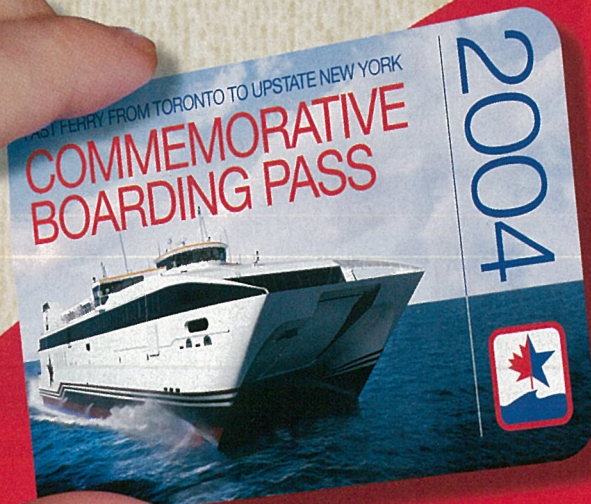
MP3's. Oh wait, Pepsi kind of does.

from the archives

Jim Crebs reads a magazine and relaxes in his room. January 28, 1994.



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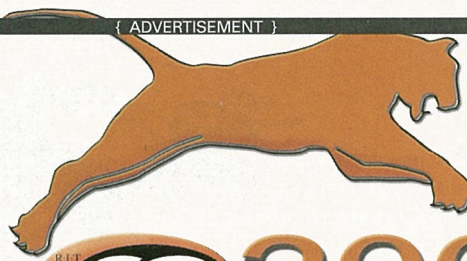
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**Make a difference. Vote.**

Employees flip hamburgers, stack foot-long subs, and slice pepperoni pizzas onto the plates of salivating students, who in turn grab silverware and ensconce in empty seats by their friends, ready to stare at, play with, or pry right into their food. As a social haven from the stress of classes, students regale in conversation and absorb the atmosphere from the first meaty bite to the last nibble on a crumb. RIT campus dining facilitates feed over 11,000 customers daily, therefore taking on a full plate of its own. *REPORTER* has gone behind the scenes and into the history of food service on campus to explain the look, the taste, and the price of food on campus.

# the truths behind *Campus Dining*

by John-Michael Stern  
illustration by William Robinson





Mrs. Grace Watson (1871-1961) made possible much of what RIT and campus dining has become. In spite of wealth handed down to her through an uncle's trust fund, Watson lived unpretentiously on Hayward Avenue in Rochester. "She saw a lot of students walking past her home, and she just liked the academic environment," Jim Bingham, Director of Food Service, said. To be sure that her resources would be utilized to the greatest possible long-term advantage, Watson bequeathed a \$3.27 million educational grant to RIT. Faced with New York State's plan to halve the downtown campus, due to road construction, the grant funded RIT's relocation from downtown Rochester to Henrietta in 1968. In her memory, the Grace Watson Dining Hall, or "Gracie's," opened the same year, the first and still most patronized RIT dining facility. From the cornerstone of the Grace Watson Dining Hall spawned the SAU Café and the Ritskeller, or "Ritz," (1968), the Corner Store (1973), the Commons (1974), Crossroads (2001), and Sol's (2002).

Maintaining the facilities is a significant responsibility. Although still relatively young, some facilities have already undergone various facelifts. For example, Craig Neal, the Director of Residential Food Service, explained, "The Grace Watson Dining Hall exit down the stairway used to be where you walked in. At the top of the stairs was a straight-line cafeteria." Not until 1991 did this "line down the aisle and pick

wider pizza variety. Neal continued, "Like Grace Watson, we haven't changed the serving area since 1991. But the problem is that we have to generate our own income or take loans out to make that happen."

One major student complaint is that RIT overcharges for their food. Popular entrées include wraps or 6" subs (\$4.40), personal pepperoni pizzas (\$3.09-3.25), quarter-pound hamburgers (\$2.50), three chicken fingers (\$3.35), pastas of the day (\$2.59-3.99), quesadillas (\$3.99), and Asian Express Cuisine smallbowls (\$3.29).

Sides include eight ounce salads (\$2.40), 12-ounce soups (\$1.80), fruit (\$0.50), chips (\$0.50-0.99), and medium-sized cookies (\$1.00-1.25). Soft drinks of 16 ounces range from \$1.15-1.25. Combining a 6" sub, a 16 oz. soft drink, chips, and a cookie would cost about \$7.25; a quarter-pound hamburger, a 12 ounce soup, a piece of fruit, and a 16 ounce soft drink would rack up to about \$6.00.

While on-campus meals may seem rather pricey, students can expect to find comparable off-campus costs. According to a 2002 E-mail survey of 2709 RIT students, faculty, and staff, 66.4 percent reported that they typically spend at least \$5.00 on an off-campus meal, of which 38.5 percent specified \$5-7, 12.7 percent indicated \$7-9, and 15.2 percent noted \$9 or more.

Bingham responded, "I think there are several ways of looking at the prices. For one, we offer a lot of variety. If students go into our facilities and don't want burgers today, they can have subs. If they don't want that, they can have pasta or Asian cuisine. But that means we have to have more physical space, which adds up to more expenses. More choices mean higher prices. If we just had a McDonald's stand, we could be very efficient. But students wouldn't eat these burgers every day. If they did, they'd weigh 400 pounds, which is what we're hearing in the news these days. So offering lots of choices creates 'heavier' expenses for labor and facilities.

*"When freshmen are told that they have to eat 5-10 times per week every week in Grace Watson, even with the changing menus, to them it's still the same view, the same seats, the same smells." – Craig Neal*

what appears before you" approach change to a food-court serving style. The renovations of 1991 also brought together the once unconnected east and west wings of the dining hall.

In the November 1, 1991 Reporter article "Gracie's: The Newest Thing In College Dining," Zahra Kahn noted that that students liked what they saw. She concluded, "Although not all defects have been removed, Gracie's has definitely undergone a substantial improvement." In addition, this past summer, RIT Food Service spent \$300,000 further refurbishing Grace Watson, installing carpet, TVs, soft seating, booths, and tables. The Ritz also renovated in 1980 and added the Sports Zone and the ESPN Sports Desk in 2003.

Neal continued, "We need to continue to update our facilities. The Commons, for example, is not as spiffy as the likes of Crossroads. Not only do we need to make the Commons livelier, but we need to refurbish the service line, which has not changed since the facility first opened in 1974." Bingham added the possibility of keeping the Commons open later to include a

"We do offer, we think, very good quality. We could make our prices a lot less by ordering cheaper food. We don't opt to do that. For example, this year we switched from frozen to fresh hamburgers, and we're paying just a little bit more, but it's a better quality product." Students also indicated in the 2002 survey that what they value most about campus dining is food quality. After convenience of location, prices came third.

Moreover, while RIT Food Service's total annual sales approximates \$15.6 million, they spend \$5.6 million on food and beverage, \$5.5 million on labor and benefits, \$3.9 million on direct and indirect expenses including fuel, electricity, water, and rent. What remains is a \$0.6 million planned surplus. Bingham said, "We don't make a lot of money. We make a slight surplus that is required by RIT, and that surplus goes back to the Institute to offset expenses that tuition doesn't cover. Some years we make a large surplus and other years we fail to break even."



RIT Food Services buys grocery, frozen, and meat items from Palmer Food Service, produce from B. Giambone, and hamburger patties from A & G Meats, the same ground beef used by big burger places like Bill Gray's, Schaller's, and Tom Wahl's. Neal added, "We put out bids so that we are guaranteed the lowest price based on our volume. We also strive not to treat students as a captive audience—we check and make sure our prices are comparable with what one might find up and down Jefferson Road."

*"If 100 percent of students came to dinner one night, we wouldn't be ready for them. Students are creatures of habit."* – Jim Bingham

As for the fact that missed meals on a meal plan are non-refundable, Bingham said, "We know that students will miss meals. Many students will say, 'I paid for all these meals, and I'm not getting them. You're taking money away from me.' The answer is that we charge for the full cost of running food service—that means the full cost for providing the meals students do eat, not for those they could eat. Students may say, 'I missed 25 percent of my meals and you're profiting because of that.' But we already knew that they were going to miss 25 percent of their meals."

In order to gain understanding of the eating routine of students, the meal usage is often monitored by Food Service. On average, most students on a meal plan will only eat about 75 percent of their meals. "If 100 percent of students came to dinner one night, we wouldn't be ready for them. Students are creatures of habit," Bingham added.

Neal mentioned, on another note, "The one question I get asked more and more is why freshmen can't have all debit. The answer is that they need to be on a fixed meal plan because we don't have enough room on campus to feed everyone at peak times. With fixed meal plans, we can better control where students eat. If freshmen had all debit, many would choose to eat on the academic side of campus. But we don't have enough space for everyone, so what would happen would be that maybe the faculty, staff, and commuting students who pay cash wouldn't want to wait in line and they may go somewhere else. And if they go somewhere else, we're losing business with them."

Bingham explained, "Originally, all students in residence halls were required to be on a traditional meal plan. In fact, the all-debit plan began in 1993 to create incentive for upperclassmen to stay in the residence halls and on their meal plan." "The biggest challenge with campus dining is to keep up students' interests," Neal said. Toward that end, Bingham emphasized maintaining attractive facilities and a rotating food variety so that students never feel prompted to say, "Oh my God, it's Wednesday! We're eating veal cutlet for dinner. Oh no! It's Thursday's spaghetti night." Neal compared the challenge to how students complain about the food in Grace Watson. He said, "People do not like to be told that they have to do something. So when freshmen are told that they have to eat 5-10 times per week every week in Grace Watson, even with the changing menus, to them it's still the same view, the same seats, the same smells."

Neal and Bingham dispelled the myth that Grace Watson's food is of a lesser quality than other campus dining facilities. For example, as for the difference in popularity between the salads of SAU Café and Grace Watson, Bingham asserted, "It's

perception. We have purchasing contracts and, therefore, the managers from each dining facility buy their products from the same companies, the same foods, and the same costs."

Neal said, "While Grace Watson has to use bigger square pans for their salads to satisfy a large volume of people, SAU Café can use small round ones, which visually look nicer." "It's a funny thing. For example, we may do a production where we'll prepare food right in front of students. As in the Ritz, a line will form as we prepare food on those little burners. The perception

is that students are getting better quality because the food is being prepared for them in front of their eyes," Bingham said. "But that's the reality of what they perceive as real. And we see that these stir fries, pasta tosses, and made-for-order salads do very well. However, preparing food that way means more labor and more cost than preparing in the kitchen and then bringing the food out."

Sometimes students just cannot stomach another cafeteria meal. The Independent Consulting Service survey found that students eat off-campus mainly to get a "break" from the campus routine and to explore a greater variety and selection of foods. Students reported that when off-campus they most often eat at fast food establishments—Wendy's (22.3 percent), Dibella's (16.5 percent), Taco Bell (13.2 percent), McDonald's (12.1 percent), and Burger King (10.0 percent). Olive Garden (9.25), China Gate (5.1 percent), and Ruby Tuesday's (4.7 percent) also made the list.

Other hotspots include Petals at the RIT Inn, Subway, and Pita Pit, which allow students to use their Flex account. When cafeteria food grows moldy in the mind, the 165 vending machines on campus do exist as a last resort or to salvage 3:39 a.m. night owls.

In a sample survey of 259 RIT students, %Reporter% put forth questions to see how they felt about campus dining on a scale from 0 (strongly dissatisfied) to 10 (strongly satisfied). These students reported feeling fairly dissatisfied with the food prices (3.91), neutral with the meal plan (5.09) slightly satisfied with the food (5.94) and fairly satisfied with the food services (6.35).

While they markedly feel slightly dissatisfied with Grace Watson (4.07), they indicated satisfaction with the Ritz (6.15), the Commons (6.29), Sol's (6.41), the SAU Café (6.42), the Corner Store (6.72), and Crossroads (7.30). On the other hand, while they related feeling satisfied with prices at the Corner Store (5.90), they noted dissatisfaction with the Ritz (3.96), Crossroads (4.15), the Commons (4.48), Grace Watson (4.52), the SAU Café (4.65), and Sol's (4.87).

While perceptions of prices and food may keep some students from a second bite, the majority find the food fairly appetizing. Although campus dining has come a long way since inception in 1968, Bingham emphasized the need to keep thinking into the future. Such a plan of action will host a tastier course, closer and closer to savoring the greatest "dessert" of all: excellent service, quality products, and outstanding value. •



Student workers at Gracie's get a half an hour before their shift to eat and talk with one another. Many commented that their favorite thing about working in food services was the free food.

## *Student Workers Find More in Food Services*

by Patrick Rice  
 photograph by Michael Sperling

There was no line of students waiting to swipe their ID's. Hardly a trace of hot food could be found in the stainless steel pans, and the only sounds were of light chatter from a few tables and Eric Clapton on the radio. Though it may be surprising, this is a typical scene at Gracie's between 3:15 and 4:15 p.m. during the week—the calm before the storm, so to speak. Gracie's averages about 800 student customers on any given day, and a full house at RIT's largest dining facility, as many students probably can recall, does not usually conjure images of a relaxing afternoon with easy listening radio. But that short period of serenity is a chance for the employees of Gracie's, most of whom are students, to prepare for the oncoming rush of hungry undergrads.

The staff at Gracie's is made up of students "from nearly every state in the union, and many foreign countries," said Gracie's Manager Janet Olivieri, adding that the dining hall employs approximately 140 students in all. Olivieri is a 25-year veteran of RIT Food Service, and her stories about the students she's come in contact with can rival the number of bricks on campus. From students who keep in touch with the management via email after graduating, to former employees who stop by for a meal whenever they find themselves in Rochester on business, the close-knit atmosphere that exists in the RIT Food Service department is obvious.

While some students who come to Gracie's may just be interested in a paycheck, many find themselves making friendships that last throughout college, and Olivieri notes that at least 15 couples who met as employees of Gracie's are now married. "The fulltime staff at Gracie's is sensitive to the time constraints of students," said Olivieri. "The students are here for school, not to work at Gracie's."

While Olivieri admits that working for food service is not a glamour profession, she thoroughly enjoys her job, a view that many of her employees would agree with. Third year Electrical Engineering student Folusho Ergbogbo has worked at Gracie's since his first week at RIT, coming to Rochester from Brooklyn, NY, but originally from Nigeria. Having started out working in the dish line, Ergbogbo has worked his way up to an office assistant, a position he finds more relaxing than working out on the dish line. While his position working in the office may take him out of the food side of Food Service, it hasn't affected his friendship with other employees at Gracie's.

"I've met a lot of my friends through Gracie's. Most of my friends I hang out with are either in my major or from here," said Ergbogbo. "The pay might not be the greatest, but you do get a bonus for fulfilling shifts [for a certain period of time]." Ergbogbo added that it's nice to have a job to kill some time when he's not doing school work, and the laid back atmosphere at Gracie's makes his life a little easier as well.

Second year Information Technology student David Attaldo, a native of nearby Webster, NY, agrees with Ergbogbo that Gracie's has a laid back atmosphere that makes work fun. As an employee in the "general" department, where Attaldo rotates positions, he fills glasses and beverages, prepares the salad bars, or serves Kielbasa at the Polish bar. "It does get pretty hectic in here sometimes," said Attaldo. "We serve around 2,000 people during orientation. The people here are good though, the managers are good people and I've met most of my friends here." Attaldo agrees with Olivieri that it's important to the managerial staff, as well as the students, that school comes first for student employees.

Wes Belisle found his way into Food Service early in his tenure at RIT as well. He is a Computer Science Graduate Student from Anchorage, Alaska. He began working in the general department, like Attaldo, when he was an undergrad studying Information Technology. Belisle, however, was promoted to Student Manager, and now carries the responsibility of coordinating student workers on his shift.

Belisle is in agreement with Attaldo and Ergbogbo in the closeness of the staff. "My entire circle of friends comes from working at Gracie's," said Belisle, noting that he even met an ex-girlfriend working at Gracie's. "The staff is also very diverse—it really is a microcosm of RIT," he added, noting the small percentage of females on the staff. "People tend to come down on Food Service," said Belisle. "But, when you think about it, all jobs on campus pay about the same, but Food Service gives you food."

RIT Food Service hires students throughout the year, although fall quarter is the busiest season for hiring new employees. Students who work at any of the six eateries on campus (Gracie's, Crossroads, Commons, the RITZ, the SAU Cafeteria, and Sandella's) are often able to work at a different eatery if transportation or scheduling conflicts occur, although that is rare Olivieri said.

RIT Food Service employs approximately 600 students, including those who work at The Corner Store, Sol's, Petal's (at the RIT Inn and Conference Center) and RIT Catering. For more information on RIT Food Service, including hours of operation, menus and how to apply for a job in Food Service, visit [www.finweb.rit.edu](http://www.finweb.rit.edu). •

# WORD on the street

compiled and photographed by Kathryn Nix



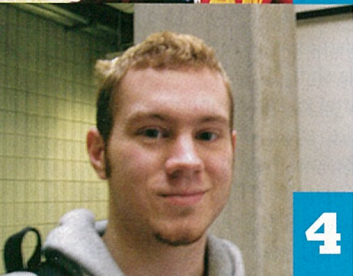
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2



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4



5

## Q: Where's your favorite place to eat off campus?

1 "Eat 'n Park, only in Pennsylvania."  
**Ed Corridon**  
Third year  
Animation

2 "IHOP. I go there every Sunday after church."  
**Kevin Gonzales**  
Fourth year  
Math

3 "T-Bones, off exit 119, on the way to Erie, Pennsylvania."  
**Tom Smolenski**  
Third year  
Animation

4 "Probably Ruby Tuesdays. They have really good cheese fries."  
**Ray Pauszek**  
First year  
Chemistry

5 "Bahama Breeze."  
**Hyeyon Yi**  
First year  
Applied Math  
and  
**Tracy Lester**  
First year  
Undeclared

"Home cooking."  
**Eli Landesberg**  
Fourth year  
Photojournalism

"Taco Bell."  
**Rich Dirmyer**  
First year  
Applied Statistics

"It was China Buffet, now it's Salvatore's. You can't beat it."  
**Ian O'Reilly**  
Third year  
Biotechnology

"Fully Belly Deli. It's near Tully's on 252."  
**Christine Lennon**  
Fourth year  
Math

"Texas Roadhouse. I don't know if they have them here."  
**Nicolas Shaykle**  
First year  
Statistics

"Country Sweet and Friday fish fry at Campi's."  
**Cedric McClary**  
Fourth year  
Electrical Engineering

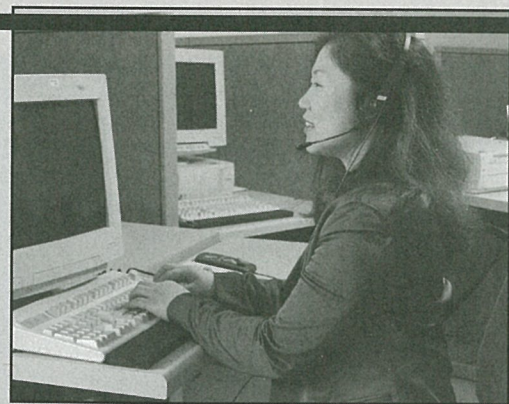
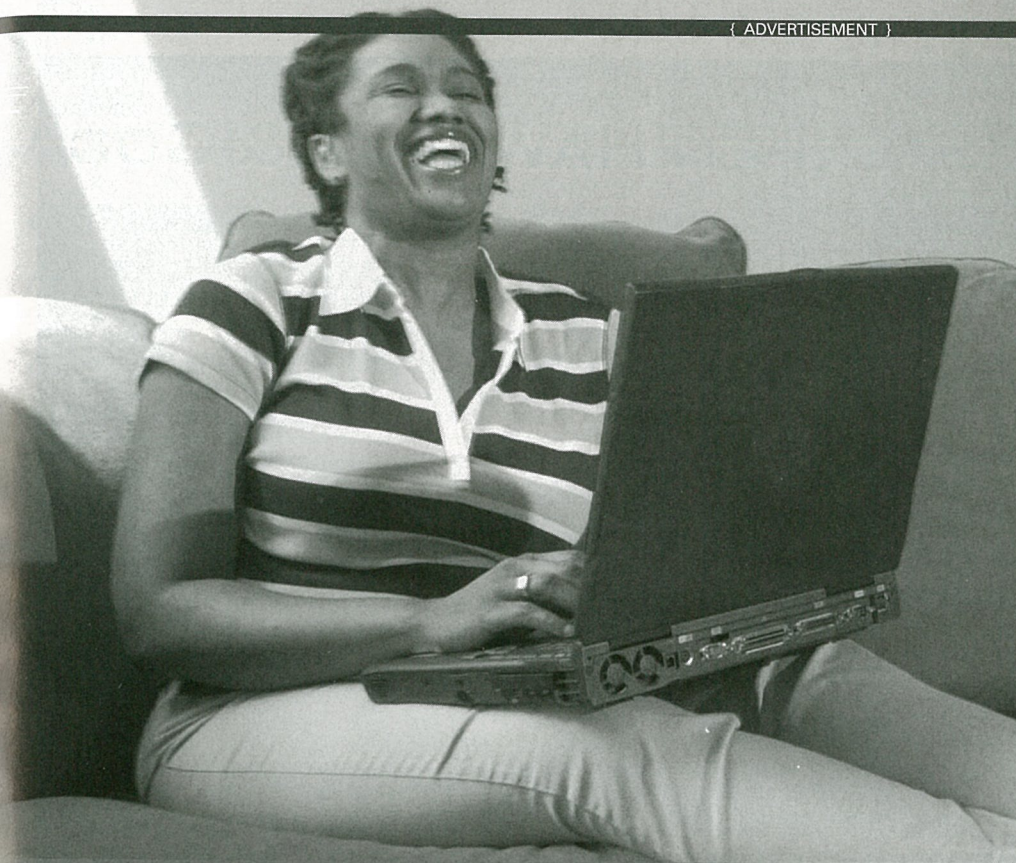
"IHOP in the mornings on Friday and McDonald's."  
**Christopher Morrison**  
Fifth year  
Computer Engineering

"Macaroni Grill. The scampi is good."  
**Bigyan Sijapati**  
Fifth year  
Electrical Engineering Technology

"The King and I's sesame chicken is good."  
**Milli Ahuwalla**  
Fourth year  
New Media Design

"A place that does not exist in Rochester—Dairy Queen."  
**Eugene Connif**  
Third year  
Animation

"Umm... the only place off-campus I ever eat is Buffalo Wild Wings."  
**George Privon**  
Second Year  
Physics



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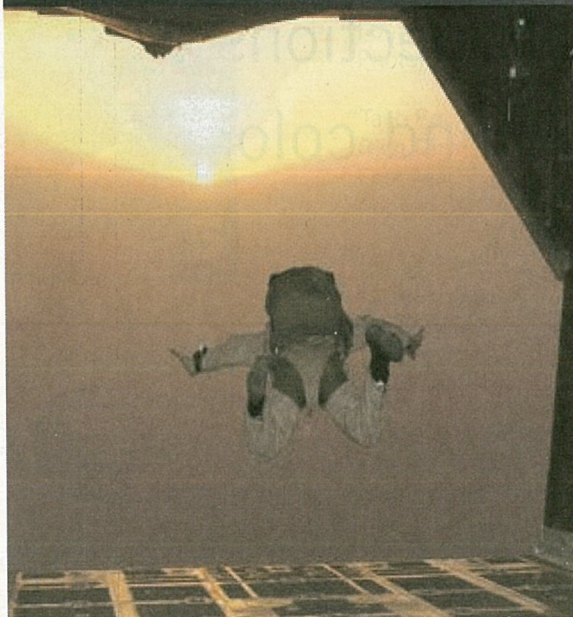
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# SPORTS DESK

by Matthew Doak

## Baseball

The RIT baseball team traveled to Washington, D.C on March 20 and 21 to play a trio of games against Catholic University. The Tigers returned home with a record of 1-2.

During the first game of a double-header on March 20, the Tigers trailed 3-0 heading into the top of the seventh where **Matt Singer** led off the inning with a walk, advanced to second on a single by **Jamie Schild**, and scored on **Jeff Ware's** double. **John Byrne** drove home Ware, but the Tigers were unable to get any closer, losing by the final score of 3-2.

Game two had a lot more scoring, but RIT again came out on the short end, 13-7. Schild hit three home runs and drove in four for the Tigers. **Mark Sapienza** and **Brian Lindenau** also picked up an RBI each for RIT.

The next day, RIT picked up a 14-5 win to salvage the trip. Byrne went 4-5 with four RBI and Colin **Bradley** went 3-4 with

four runs scored. **Dan Phillip** picked up the win on the mound, and **Dan Weglinski** provided four innings of one hit relief. On March 31, the Tigers continued their success by sweeping a pair from St. John Fisher.

In the first game, RIT scored in each of the last eight innings on their way to an 8-4 win. Ware and **Andy Scroger** each had three hits and combined for three RBI. Byrne continued his solid play with another pair of RBI. Phillip picked up another win on the mound for RIT, and **Dylan Rees** pitched two scoreless innings to finish things off.

In game two, the Tigers got a complete game six-hit shutout from Weglinski and pounded out 12 hits to win by the score of 8-0. Bradley, Schild, Sapienza, and Scroger each had two hits, while Bradley and Byrne each drove in two runs. Now riding a three game winning streak, the team's record stands at 6-7 on the season.

**above** Sophomore Daniel Phillip pitches to a St. John Fisher batter. The Tigers beat St. John Fisher by the score of 8-4 and Phillip improved his record of 3-1. Eric Sucar/REPORTER Magazine



### Men's Lacrosse

The men's lacrosse team is off to an impressive 7-1 start this season.

On March 20, senior co-captain **Jon Manley** led RIT's defense as the Tigers held Oneonta to just four goals in a 6-4 win. **David Thering** scored three times for the Tigers, while **Josh Molinari**, **Ryan Neward**, and **Zach Bednarz** each scored once.

On March 24, the team continued their success by beating Brockport 16-5. Molinari had a goal and seven assists for the Tigers. Neward and **Chris Copeland** each scored four goals, while Bednarz scored two.

Cortland sent the Tigers to their first loss on March 27 by the final score of 11-4. Neward scored two goals for RIT, while Molinari and Copeland picked up one apiece. The team got back on track with a 12-5 win over Elmira on March 31. Copeland scored five goals, while Thering, Neward, and **Colin Jesien** scored two each.

### Men's Tennis

The men's tennis team started their season on March 30 with a match against the University of Rochester. The Yellowjackets defeated the Tigers 9-0.

### Men's and Women's Track and Field

The men's and women's track teams got their seasons underway in Fredericksburg, Virginia at the Battleground Relays. On the men's side, the 4x800 meter relay team broke a 21-year-old RIT record with a time of 7:52.40. In the 10,000-meter run, **Jon Booth** (34:48.90) and **Jeff Abbott** (35:11.40) placed third and fourth respectively. **Sean McVeigh** placed second in the steeplechase with a 10:17.07 performance. The distance medley relay team's time of 10:31.19 was good for second place. The women broke even more records than the men. The 4x400 meter relay team broke an 18-year-old school record on their way to placing fourth with a time of 4:11.87. The 4x800 meter relay team also broke a record with their third place finish in 9:55.10 and **Stephanie Matuszewski** set a school record in the pole vault with her ninth place performance. **Heidi Spalholz** placed second in the 3,000-meter run with a 10:51.30 performance, and the distance medley relay placed first in 13:18.82

### Women's Lacrosse

The young women's lacrosse team is off to a tough start this season, but their 0-3 record has come with some bright spots.

In their first game of the season, the Tigers fell to Oswego State by the score of 9-6. After falling behind 2-0, RIT battled back to tie the game at three before the Lakers took control. **Pinckney Templeton** scored twice for RIT, while **Andrea Ervay**, **Kaley Ostanek**, **Jen Rynda**, and **Kelly Martin** all scored single goals.

Three days later, the Tigers found themselves down 5-0 before they could get on the board and 8-1 early in the second half. They played solidly the rest of the way, but fell by the score of 10-4. **Lisette Silver** scored two goals for RIT, while Ervay and Templeton each scored a goal.



RIT's Kelly Martin attempts to get by a Buffalo State player. RIT was defeated by Buffalo St. 10-4. Christopher Zajac/REPORTER Magazine

The team played a strong second half, but dropped their third consecutive game on March 29. Brockport led 6-0 at the half and eventually won by the score of 6-4. Templeton and Martin each had a pair of goals for the Tigers.

### Softball

The softball team has had a light game schedule of late, playing just one double header against Elmira on March 27.

In the first game, **Shari McNamara** suffered a rare loss for the Tigers as they fell by the score of 6-5. **Elaine Vonderembse** led RIT with three hits and a run scored, while **Danielle Miller** and McNamara each went 2-4. Miller drove in three runs and **Tonya Campbell** drove in one.

In the second game, **Mary Keegan** pitched solidly for the Tigers as they picked up a 7-3 win. Campbell went 3-3 with four RBI, while Vonderembse, **Kelly Iagulli**, and Miller each had two hits.

The team's record currently stands at 4-8. •

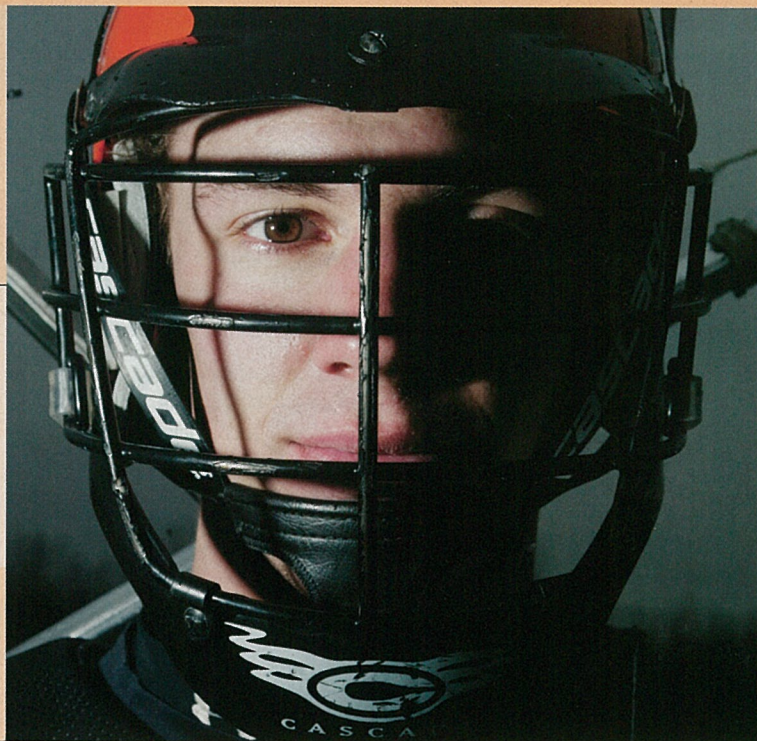
## The Week at Home

4/10	Saturday	
	10 a.m.	Men's/Women's Track and Field (at U of R)
	10 a.m.	Men's Tennis vs. St. Lawrence
	3 p.m.	Men's Tennis vs. Elmira
4/14	Sunday	
	1 p.m.	Softball vs. St. John Fisher
	4 p.m.	Men's Tennis vs. Robert's Wesleyan
4/15	Monday	
	4 p.m.	Women's Lacrosse vs. Alfred

# PLAYER PROFILE

## RYAN NEWARD

BY RACHEL PIKUS | PHOTOGRAPH BY CHRISTOPHER ZAJAC



"Be good to the people on the way up because you are going to meet the same people on the way down—that's my favorite quote," said men's lacrosse captain, Ryan Neward.

And he certainly has been good to those around him throughout his four years at RIT, especially the lacrosse team. He has been a starter on the team since his freshman year and "over the last few years has been one of our best guys," said Coach Gene Peluso. This year, he has changed his position from midfielder to attack, a strategy Peluso sees paying off. "As an attack man, he is getting a lot more opportunities to create points, and he is getting the most out of it," Peluso said. So far this season, Neward is second in scoring on the team with 19 points and nine assists.

But Neward contributes a lot more than offensive firepower to the lacrosse team. "He's a great leader—everyone looks up to him as the example to follow," Peluso explained. "He's quiet and confident, and when he speaks, the guys listen."

Neward's caring nature stems from the motto that he lives by: "the golden rule, that's how I view everything—take a walk in someone else's shoes," Neward said. The biggest influences that have helped shape his attitudes and beliefs were his parents growing up, who "taught me all my moral values," explained Neward.

His parents were also the ones who introduced Neward to the game of lacrosse. "My dad grew up in the Rochester area, and we lived in Buffalo. Lacrosse wasn't big out there yet growing up, but he bought me and my brother lacrosse sticks. We would play around with them without really knowing what the sport was," Neward said. From there he went on to play varsity lacrosse for his high school, Williamsville East, before coming to RIT.

"He has grown as a player and athlete," Peluso said. "He has gotten bigger, stronger, and faster, and has accepted his role as our best player."

Just by talking to Neward, you can tell his family means a lot to him. "My mom and dad are very supportive," he said. "They

are at all my home games; sometimes they travel six or seven hours to make it to away games." That kind of commitment has been the backbone of Neward's strength. "When you are younger, you don't really realize what an influence that has—how really important it is to have them around."

Neward shows an equal amount of support towards his other teammates. "He's really good about helping other students and working with his schedule to balance everything going on," Peluso said.

"It's a great bunch of guys—that's half the reason I enjoy this sport so much," Neward said of his teammates. "'I love the people you meet—teammates and coaches—and I love being in the game and not thinking about anything else but the moment.'"

With his quiet and laid back attitude, one would never guess Neward put so

"I LOVE BEING IN THE GAME AND NOT THINKING ABOUT ANYTHING ELSE BUT THE MOMENT."

much pressure on himself to excel athletically as well as academically. He has a 3.9 GPA in Mechanical Engineering and plans to stay at RIT to get his master's degree next year. After four years of the rigorous schedule, Neward manages his priorities well. "It's tough—you just have to plan ahead and know when practices and games are so that you can balance your time," he explained.

In his free time Neward enjoys much-needed relaxation time. "Whenever I have time, I just like to veg," he said. His other interest outside of schoolwork and lacrosse is working with cars. "I like working with my hands, building or remodeling cars," Neward said. After graduation he hopes to pursue a job at a car company doing automotive engineering, but he really has no official plans. "I am just going to go with the flow, see what happens," he said. "I would really like to do some more traveling once I graduate."

Last summer, Neward and a group of his friends backpacked across Europe. His favorite country during the visit was Switzerland. "Everyone there is very adventurous and just likes to have fun, like skydiving and stuff."

Neward has plenty to look forward to in this year's lacrosse season. The team is currently ranked 19th in Division III, and if Neward keeps up his success, he could go All-American. But, that is all in the future for Neward as he takes each day at a time. "He is such a grounded person," said Peluso. "He never lets his highs get too high or his lows get too low—to him, tomorrow is just another day." •

# Local Hiking Trails Offer Outdoor Opportunities

by Mike Eppolito

photograph by Michael Sperling

*"Climb the mountains and get their good tidings. Nature's peace will flow into you as sunshine flows into trees. The winds will blow their own freshness into you, and the storms their energy, while cares will drop off like autumn leaves." -John Muir, naturalist and conservationist*

Assuming that the weather does eventually turn nice and you feel motivated enough to go hiking, here are some of the best hiking spots in the area:

## Highland Park

If you aren't feeling particularly adventurous, you can head over to Highland Park which is home to various paved hiking trails. The park has over 500 varieties of flowering shrubs and is best known for the Lilac Festival held every May.

**Drive Time:** About 10 minutes

**Hours:** 7:00am – 11:00pm

**Must See:** Lilac Festival

**More Information:** [www.monroecounty.gov/](http://www.monroecounty.gov/) (Highland Park webpage under "Parks")

## Mendon Ponds Park

This is Monroe County's largest park and is home to ten different marked trails and various unmarked trails. The seven miles of trails located in the park range in difficulty from easy (0.67 mile "Devil's Bathtub") to challenging (4.7 mile "East Esker Trail") with everything in between. The trails are used year round for hiking, biking, skiing and horseback riding.

**Drive Time:** About 15 minutes

**Hours:** 6:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.

**Must See:** Make sure you get a chance to feed the chickadees while there.

**More Information:** [www.monroecounty.gov/](http://www.monroecounty.gov/) (Mendon Ponds webpage under "Parks")

## Genesee Valley Greenway

The Genesee Valley Greenway consists of 89 miles of trail along the Genesee Valley Canal and the Rochester Branch of the Pennsylvania Railroad from Genesee Valley Park to Hinsdale, Cattaraugus County, NY. This is a fairly flat and effortless hike along a pathway that is paved in some portions and dirt/gravel in others. The trail is quite extensive and at times confusing, so it would be best to consult the website below before heading out.



**Drive Time:** 10-15minutes (Genesee Valley Park—closest place to get on trail)

**Hours:** 7:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m. (if you enter through the Genesee Valley Park)

**Must See:** There are many historic sites along the pathway which are interesting to stop at if you have the time.

**More Information:** [www.fogvg.org/](http://www.fogvg.org/)

## Chimney Bluffs State Park

The trails located here offer a scenic view of the remains of cliffs that have been naturally eroded over many years into "bluffs." The full hike takes you along the top of the cliffs on the first part and then returns along the beach or vice versa. The main trail is relatively easy with some uneven terrain and can be completed in about an hour. The warning signs on the cliffs which warn people to stay away from the cliff edges are there for a good reason, so don't fool around.

**Drive Time:** About one hour

**Hours:** 6 a.m.-11 p.m.

**Must See:** The scenery is amazing during a good sunset.

**More Information:** [www.rochesterinfo.com/chimney.htm](http://www.rochesterinfo.com/chimney.htm)

## Letchworth State Park

Letchworth Park is known for its high cliffs and thriving forests which overlook the Genesee River as it flows through the gorge and over three waterfalls. Visitors travel from all over to see the park which is often referred to as the "Grand Canyon of the East." It goes without saying that this is an ideal place for hiking, and with over 66 miles of trails, you should be able to stay busy for as long as you want. The trails cater to various skill levels and range in length from a 0.25 mile to 21.5 miles with something for everyone. The experience is well worth the \$5 per vehicle that they charge for entry.

**Drive Time:** About 1 hour and 15 minutes

**Hours:** 6 a.m.-11 p.m.

**Must See:** Aside from hiking, there are numerous other activities that you can partake in, including white water rafting, kayaking and swimming.

**More Information:** [nysparks.state.ny.us/parks](http://nysparks.state.ny.us/parks) (under "Letchworth Park")

## RIT Nature Trails

If you want to escape from your monotonous daily routine into the great outdoors without leaving the campus, you can always check out the RIT Nature Trails. There is a 1.25 mile nature trail that runs through the woods located behind the Student Health Center. RIT also has some smaller trails and numerous measured jogging routes that you can find out about at the SLC. •

## 3

## STARS

by Matthew Doak

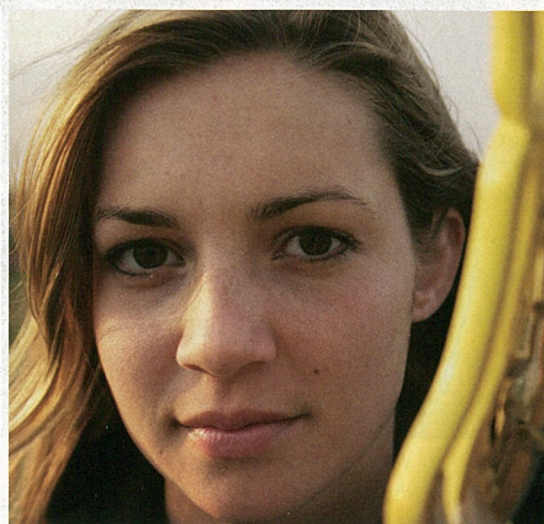
**John Manley**★ **Men's Lacrosse**

Although offensive players often receive much of the recognition, men's lacrosse coach Gene Peluso believes that defense wins championships. One of his leading defensemen has been Jon Manley. "Jon has been the backbone of this team for the past four years," said Peluso, describing Manley as a leader.

The senior from Keuka Park, New York currently leads the team in ground balls with 55. Peluso is appreciative of the three-year captain's willingness to do whatever it takes to help the team win. "He is very coachable because his dad is a coach and his sister (Tricia) is the women's coach at RIT," said Peluso. "He does what the coaches and the team needs to help us win games."

Peluso attributes Manley's success to both his physical abilities and his hard work. "He is a great cover defenseman and has a strong work ethic," said Peluso. "His strength and quickness is tops in the country at his position and he has great feet allowing him to stay with his opponent."

photograph by Kim Weiselberg

**Pinckney Templeton**★ **Women's Lacrosse**

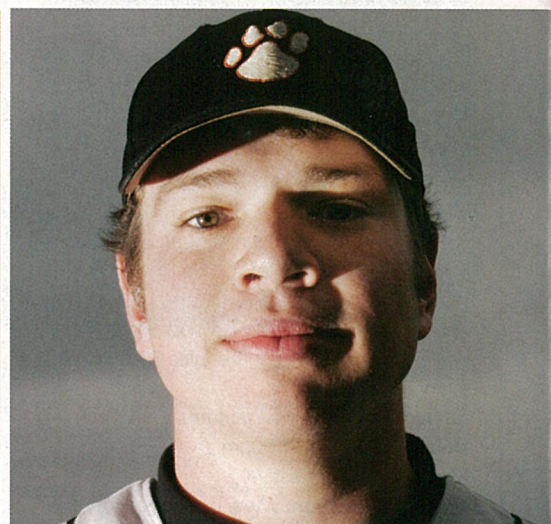
Women's lacrosse coach Tricia Manley describes attacker Pinckney Templeton as being extremely dedicated. Templeton has scored at least one goal in each of the team's three games thus far this season.

Besides being strong statistically, the sophomore from Gulfstream, Florida is an important leader on a young, but athletic team that features eight freshmen. "Pinckney is a positive, strong athlete, and her teammates voted her captain for very good reason," said Manley. "Her leadership qualities are outstanding and she is one of the strongest players on our team skills-wise."

Manley credits Templeton's success with her ability to use both hands equally and her passion for the game. "She is capable of doing anything she puts her mind to," said Manley. "I expect a lot from her because she is one of our leaders."

According to her coach, Templeton is not yet done improving. "Even the best players have to continue to work on their skills," said Manley. "She will continue to excel in lacrosse because she knows her weaknesses and wants to improve to the best of her ability."

photograph by Kathryn Nix

**John Byrne**★ **Men's Baseball**

Infielder John Byrne was named RIT Co-Male Athlete of the Week on March 22 after having a huge game in Washington, D.C. against Catholic University. The junior from East Amherst, New York went 4-5 and drove in four runs in the Tigers' 14-5 win. Thus far this season, Byrne has a .333 average with 16 RBI and a .980 fielding percentage through 13 games.

Byrne is one of the team's captains and coach Rob Grow speaks highly of him. "John is a terrific captain because he leads by example and performs at a high level," said Grow.

Byrne's coach is also likes his player's ability to hit in the clutch. "I believe that John is the most consistent performer on our team and may be the best hitter in this area—I always expect John to get the big hit that we need."

Grow believes Byrne's success is a result of his competitiveness. "John is a hard worker and is successful because of that and the fact that he is a competitor; and, loves the individual battle with the pitcher."

photograph by Eric Sucar



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**Wednesday, March 24**

**6-8 p.m.**

*NYU Midtown Center, 10th Floor  
11 West 42nd Street  
(between Fifth and Sixth Avenues)*

**Wednesday, April 28**

**6-8 p.m.**

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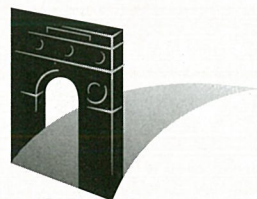
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## What is in an Age?

by Marci Savage | photograph by Kathryn Nix

Is age really just a number? Once we hit 18, we can smoke, and at 21 we can drink, but other than those few rare examples, the Government puts no restraints based upon our age. No one comes to our houses and says, "OK, now you are 19 and you can fall in love," or "When you turn 25, you must be married." Yet, these days I find far too many people are ready to stereotype and jump to conclusions about decisions we make at a younger age.

A little over a month ago I made one of the biggest decisions of my life, becoming Mrs. Marci Savage, wife of a wonderful man named Chris. My wedding day was perfect, just as I had dreamed about since I was a little girl. Beautiful flowers, dresses, surrounded by family and friends, and most importantly, my perfect prince charming.

The road to this perfect day did not come without several objections from people who thought I was too young to get married.

I am 21 years of age.

I heard from numerous people statements such as, "You are too young to get married, it's not going to last," and, "Why are you ruining your life, getting married at 21? You have so much more to live!" To this person, I humorously replied, "I didn't know that once I got married I was going to die." These aren't comments that I should have had to defend myself against. I am in no way saying that people are not entitled to their own opinions, and yes many 21 year-olds might say they are too young to get married, but I was not one of them.

The decisions we make regarding our lives should not be based solely upon preconceived notions surrounding our age, but more by the kind of person we are and what will make us happy. Happiness to me is being with my husband, who is my soul mate and the one I love. In no way do I think that just because of age we are not allowed or incapable of love.

I am sure my husband, who is 25 years old, ran into similar types of criticisms about marrying a younger woman. Several times we discussed our ages and other's opinions, and decided that we were not going to let other people stand in the way of our happiness.

To those who said the marriage wouldn't last because we were too young, I can not reply to their statements of doubt, since we have only been married since February 28. But, what I can point out is that my mom was 22 when she got married and my husband's mother was 18, and both of their marriages are still running strong. This only shows once again that decisions we make will be right or wrong based upon the people we are, not the date of birth on our driver's license.

I am not advocating that two 18 year-olds run off and get married a few months after knowing one another. However, at the age of 21, I feel that I am a mature adult, with a good head on my shoulders, and a clear sense of direction and life goals that are shared by my husband. In our circumstance, marriage was the right thing for both of us. We have been together for a long time and chose to make that lifetime commitment.

We choose not to let negative criticism about our decision stop us from embarking on a lifetime of happiness. We shouldn't have let the concerns of others stop us from a decision we felt (and feel) was right, just because their views differ from ours. Only we know each other and ourselves well enough to judge the appropriateness or timing of our marriage—only we can make a good decision about our future together.

So what, I am 21 and married. I still have my life ahead of me and couldn't be happier. The bottom line is everyone is free to choose their own destiny and make their own decisions. Don't take this right for granted, go out there and make your own decisions that make you happy. You're your own best judge; no one else will know what is right for you and your future as well as you will. Age *is* just a number. •

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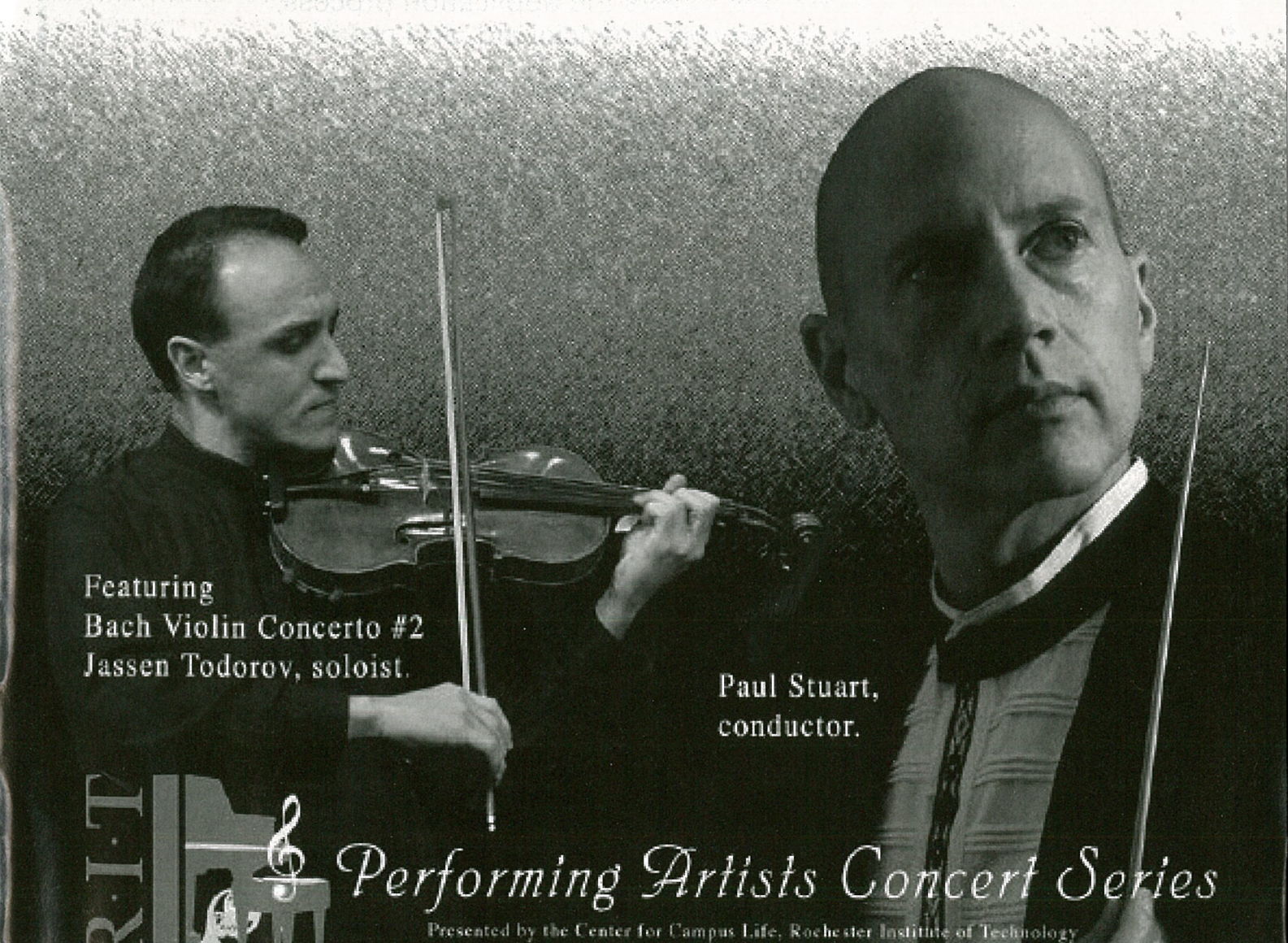
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**WHEN?** Tuesday, April 13, 2003  
5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

**WHERE?** Bausch and Lomb Center (Building 77)  
Room# A-190 (lower level)

*Pizza* and *soda* **will be served!!**

**RSVP:** Office of Part-time and Graduate Studies  
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