

A close-up photograph of a scientist wearing a white lab coat and safety goggles, looking through the eyepiece of a microscope. The scene is lit with a warm, yellowish light, creating a focused and professional atmosphere. The scientist's face is partially visible through the goggles, and the microscope's lens is prominent in the foreground.

REPORTER

APRIL 23, 2004 | WWW.REPORTERMAG.COM

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- 16** Inside Microchip Technology at RIT
- 27** Ivan Greene Boulders at Red Barn



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EDITORIAL

Don't Forget the Vermouth

I was going to have fun with this week's editorial and talk about what superpowers I wish I had and why. I normally try my hardest to tie my editorial to the content of the magazine, and this week superheroes and their powers were both reviewed (pg. 12) and considered (pg. 13).

However, I can't seem to pick one superpower in particular and come up with a justifiable support for its preference over, say, flying or being invisible. Would I rather have the power to know what everyone is thinking before they open their mouth or the power to make people exhibit flawless manners? Would I rather have the power to say just the right thing at exactly the right moment or the power of a seamless sense of direction—in more ways than one, for that matter?

I think that my difficulty with picking a superpower lies in the fact that superpowers are something that I associate with the Saturday morning cartoons of my childhood and I've been acting very grown-up lately. I've been trying to balance a leadership position with the rest of my life. I just signed the lease on a new apartment downtown—my first off-campus dwelling after two years of being a Resident Advisor. I've been thinking a lot about having only two semesters and a few weeks standing between being a college student and being a college graduate. In addition, I've needed to take a number of slightly trying experiences in stride lately—I've needed to have what grown-ups call perspective. Not very childlike.

The most recent example of my acting like a grown-up: spending a charming Saturday evening with my friends, making fondue and sipping on dry white wine. I repeat: Not very childlike. But a thoroughly pleasant experience nonetheless, especially when compared to many of the other grown-up-type things I've been doing lately, and definitely a culinary activity that I highly recommend. So few things are so elegant and yet so very easy.

I recommend starting with a cheese and baguette fondue—an inexpensive fondue pot can be found pretty much anywhere that sells kitchen-type things. Our cheese fondue consisted of shredded gruyere and jarlsberg cheeses, a whole garlic clove just to soak, and slightly generous portions of dry vermouth. There's no exact science or concrete measurements for any of this, at least not as far as we were concerned—we just sort of made it up as we went along, watching carefully as it melted, stirring attentively. Once at the right consistency, we dipped our bite-sized slices of bread into the dish hungrily.

After an intermission that consisted of sharing a bottle of dry white wine, we ended the evening with a traditional chocolate and fruit combination—there's no reason to mess with a classic. Melted semi-sweet chocolate, milk, some more attentive stirring—the result is a perfectly scrumptious dessert.

There's so much more to good fondue than the right cheese and the right kind of alcohol, however. There are more important ingredients than perfectly ripe strawberries and gourmet chocolate. Fondue is a delicacy that is impossible to truly enjoy and experience without the company of good people. It's just as much about the experience as it is about the end result, made charming and complete by the laughter and conversation of friends.

Kind of like superpowers, I suppose. I imagine that most superpowers are kind of a waste if you're not surrounded by people that you care about with whom to share the perks. What's the sense in flying if you can't take someone else along for the ride? What good is there in always knowing the right thing to say at the right time if you don't have people to say all of the right things to?

I think that the kind of superpower I truly wish I had is the power to provide exactly what the people I care about need at exactly the right time—to be intuitive enough to know how to give people what they need even when they don't know how to ask for it. I want the power to fix things for the people I care about, plain and simple. These superpowers aren't lucrative or flashy or hero-like; they're not reminiscent of Saturday morning cartoons or classic comic books. They're kind of sentimental, yes, but they're also kind of like superpowers for grown-ups, to be subtly enjoyed like good fondue and casual Saturday evenings.



Ren Meinhart
Editor in Chief

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Ian Irving watches Ivan Greene test out one of the Red Barn's climbing walls on the night of Friday, April 16. Kim Weiselberg/REPORTER Magazine.

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New options have been added to the RIT - Information Access Center!



April 19 Summer (20034) registration began.

NEW OPTION! GREAT LOOK!!

You can now view the following quarters on-line:

- Spring (20033)
- Summer (20034)
- Fall (20041)
- Winter (20042)
- Spring (20043)

April 26 Fall (20041) registration begins.

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A student Identification Number and a Personal Identification Number (PIN) are NOT required for access.

- Schedule of Courses **NEW**
- Open/Closed Courses
- List Online Courses
- Exam Schedule

Students

SIS is Confidential and requires the use of a Student Identification Number & a Personal Identification Number (PIN).

- Student Information System
- Unmet Needs **NEW**

**Check it out at:
www.rit.edu/sis**

Sheila Sarratore and David Blonski: SG Elects

by **Becky Ruby**

Of the 1,686 people that took part in voting in this year's Student Government (SG) election, a total of 793 votes put Sheila Sarratore, third year New Media Publishing major, and David Blonski, second year Industrial Engineering major, over the top to win the hot spots of President and Vice President for the 2004-2005 academic year. After the relatively last-minute final decision to run, weeks of campaigning, and trials of debating, Sarratore and Blonski have the opportunity to take a breath before embarking on the task of leading RIT's major representative body, starting fall quarter.

Despite the excitement of the win and the immediate necessity to call home to share the good news, Sarratore shared that, after the announcement, her true sentiment was that, "I was just relieved—glad that it was over." To get to this final successful point, the two running mates campaigned to many clubs, groups in and around the SAU, students on the quarter mile, and others who couldn't help but notice the bright orange flyer campaign in the breezeway.

With all of this campaigning and drive for

marketing already under their belts, it comes as no surprise that a major initiative under Sarratore and Blonski's administration will be to improve the name recognition of SG and its events. "I want to work on marketing Student Government's name and presence on campus," Sarratore said. "We want students to know that Student Government is for the students—it's the voice of the students—and anything that is going on on-campus, they have a right to voice their opinion."

In terms of their campaign platforms, Sarratore and Blonski have big plans to tackle issues both academic and social: academic flexibility in terms of double majors and business minors, increased support in terms of academic advising, greater support for athletic programs (including possibly a football team), increased collaboration with Major Student Organizations, and more positive, student-driven programming throughout the year.

The pair also wants to follow up with RIT's Strategic Planning Committee to, "make sure that the things they've been talking about get put into action," Sarratore said. "It's going to be a year of action. We want to jump on the train

and make sure that stuff gets accomplished for students, and that it is moving in the right direction—the way that students want to see things get done."

Sarratore and Blonski bring a wealth of on-campus experience to the table that they hope will aid in filling their new roles. Sarratore has been extremely involved on campus, taking part as President of Greek Council, playing on the women's tennis team for three years, being a member of PUB, and working as a sports writer for *Reporter* during her freshman year.

Blonski has served as President of the Residence Halls Association (RHA) this year, as well as being a member of the Honors Program, the Body Positive team, and a variety of other organizations on campus.

The President and Vice President elects have plans to reach out to the students through forums, the SG website, and weekly or bi-weekly lunches at the Ritz, dinners at Gracie's, to "be out with the students," and "get a real pulse," for what the students are thinking.

For more information, go to www.sgvote.com, Sarratore and Blonski's campaign website, or the SG site, www.sg.rit.edu. ■

Mystery of Missing Clocks Solved



by **Emily Ianacone**
illustration by **Bill Robinson**

A few days before April 1, all of the clocks in Wallace Library were removed. One of the maintenance men declared that, "RIT can't afford the clocks." Rumors began to circulate about this alleged lack of funding for the maintenance of indoor clocks, leading to gasps and disbelief from the students. Concerned members of the RIT community wondered whether it was an elaborate April Fool's joke, or if RIT was truly cutting corners to hide the truth of a dire financial situation.

After talking to Marty Becker, Director of Facilities Management, it was uncovered that the rumor was only slightly accurate. Becker explained that although clocks around campus were taken down on account of financial purposes, the reason was that it was not financially advisable to continue the maintenance of the archival system they ran on.

The first Institute academic buildings were constructed in the 1960s, and at that time, centrally located clocks were installed in seven of them. The first seven buildings were Eastman, Wallace, COLA, Gosnell, Gleason, Booth and Gannett. The master unit was located in the Eastman building. The buildings built thereafter (except for Lowenthal) did not have clocks installed that were connected to the master unit. To explain why none of the other buildings had clocks that ran off the master unit, Becker stated, "I attribute this to changing thoughts and changing 'times' (pun intended)."

The clocks in the original seven buildings and Lowenthal had a multitude of problems. The system was dated, which made them difficult to repair and expensive to replace. The actual expense for the maintenance at that time is unknown. Facilities decided a few years ago

to make the system obsolete by allowing the clocks to slowly die out. When some of these clocks broke, they were either abandoned displaying the time of their demise, or replaced with new battery-operated versions.

The big finish to the clock system came last summer. Facilities lost the underground connection from Eastman to the other six buildings on account of the construction of the stairs for the Kodak quad. Lowenthal and Eastman were the only buildings that remained dependent on the central system.

The clocks in Wallace library have already been replaced with battery-operated clocks that now cover the metal placards that were drilled over the spots where the old clocks had been.

The mystery of the clocks has been solved, and in good time. It was not a lack of school funds that led to the removal of the old clocks, but rather that, according to Becker, "RIT consistently evaluates what it 'should' afford...always with an eye to optimizing the use of finite resources to deliver the most value to students."

For more information about this topic, visit the Facilities Management website at <http://finweb.rit.edu/fms/>. ■

BrickBeat

by Patrick Rice

Team Vertigo Car Show

Team Vertigo, RIT's Sport Modified Car Club, will be hosting its third annual car show May 1 in G and H parking lots, starting at noon. Over the past two years, the club has had over 80 cars each in each show. Food will be provided during the event by Salvatore's, and there will be live DJ's for the entire day.

The RIT Sport Modified Car Club was formed to bring together RIT students, alumni, and local area residents who all share the common bond of love for automobiles. They have members who drive trucks, cars, and a few motorcycles. Meetings are held every Saturday in S Lot at 12:30 p.m. New members are always encouraged and welcomed.

For more information, email administrator @teamvertigo.org, or go to the club website, www.teamvertigo.org.

The Servant of Two Masters

The RIT Players will show off their latest production this week with performances of Carlo Goldoni's *The Servant of Two Masters*, an 18th century slapstick comedy based on a form of Renaissance improvisation. The play follows

the young couple, Clarice and Silvio, whose engagement is disrupted by the reappearance of Clarice's former fiancé, thought to be dead. The scheming Federigo, alive and well, demands her hand in marriage. The plot builds with the confusion of undelivered messages and mistaken identities.

The College of Liberal Arts and the RIT Players sponsor the event, and tickets will be available at the door for \$2 to the RIT community and \$4 to the general public. For more information, contact Peggy Noll in the College of Liberal Arts at 475-6095.

Save the Arts Festival

The second annual Save the Arts Festival will take place Saturday, May 1 at the Administration quad near the Sentinel sculpture. The event, sponsored by the Student Volunteer Office, Student Government, College Activities Board, and the Student Illustrators Guild, became an annual event to help raise funds for local schools. An entrance fee of \$2 is suggested, but all donations are welcome. The money raised will go to the Jefferson Middle School

and Marshall Public School art programs, both of which were hit by budget cuts to the visual arts in the past two years. For more information, contact the Student Volunteer Office at 475-6056. Those interested in displaying their work to sell at the event can register online at www.rit.edu/~cml7711/artsfestival/ or email theritartsfestival@hotmail.com.

Engineering Fair

The E-cubed Engineering Fair for Middle School students will take place on Thursday May 6 in the Ritter Ice Arena. The event brings together professionals and students from a variety of Engineering fields and presents to visitors the purpose of each field within engineering. The event will focus on opening the eyes of middle school students to the opportunities that exist in engineering. Interactive display booths will be set up by local engineering firms, schools, and societies for the promotion of engineering. The event is free and open to the public from 9 AM-1 PM For more information, contact Satish Kandlikar at sgkeme@rit.edu. ■

HistoRIT

Get your current events elsewhere

by Jeff Prystajko

Open Hailing Frequencies

In late April, 1959, the presence of RIT on the airwaves had its humble beginnings as "WRIT" (not WITR) went live. The ambitious endeavor was largely championed by then-President Bob Miller, and would proceed to occupy part of the eighth floor of the old downtown campus's NRH dorm.

Tactful Diploma-cy

Responding to criticism over a diploma design in place since 1975, the RIT administration announced in April, 1981 a revised, more distinctive look. One upset student had even mailed back his diploma to the registrar, thinking that it was merely an announcement the actual degree was on the way. ("You've got to be kidding!" he replied when told.) Replacing a plain white sheet of paper with the brown square RIT graphic symbol ("we cut corners") and simple text, the new version was

printed on parchment-like paper, had orange and brown color elements, and replaced the graphic symbol with a gold-embossed RIT seal. Additionally, font fanatics will rejoice knowing that world-famous typographer Hermann Zapf specially designed a new typeface for the new diploma's headings.

Sweatin' to the Bricks!

Fitness guru and infomercial superdiva Richard Simmons invaded the campus on April 24, 1982, threatening to banish fat and unhappiness from this world using his powers of motivation and dancing. As a predominantly-female crowd of 3,700 piled into the Ritter Ice Arena's bleachers and floor space, Simmons led the enthusiastic fans through an exercise routine complemented by his own unique brand of relentless enthusiasm. Describing his own youth, Simmons said he lost half

his weight after once maxing out at 268 lbs.; afterwards, he got a face lift and a hair transplant. Jokingly, he hoped he would turn out looking like Tom Selleck. Instead, "I look like a poodle."

The End of Eisenhower

Eisenhower College, a financially-troubled liberal arts school acquired by RIT in 1979 (see HistoRIT, 4/9/04), failed to make a comeback after several years of trying. In April, 1985, RIT decided there was little more it could do, and transferred the property and buildings to the US Government. RIT President M. Richard Rose noted, "We took on Eisenhower College because it was the right thing to do... It didn't work out, but I would hate to think we didn't have the courage to try." ■

CrimeWatch

compiled by Andrew Bigelow

April 11 – Nathaniel Rochester Hall

Burglary

A resident left a digital camera unattended in an unlocked residence hall room in NRH between 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.; during this timeframe, it was stolen. The camera, valued at around \$600, was not recovered after canvassing the area. Crime alert postings were distributed.

April 11 – RIT Inn

Criminal Mischief

A glass door was reported broken at the RIT Inn. The lock was repaired and glass was cleared.

April 14 – Gracie Watson Hall

Criminal Mischief

Unknown people or persons accessed the roof to Building 25 on the night of April 13 and left graffiti on the north windows facing into Gracie's dining hall. They wrote "Vote for Chris and Tom for SG <http://sgvote.rit.edu>" in three-foot tall, black letters. The investigation continues.

April 15 – Student Life Center

Petit Larceny

A student reported his wallet and its contents stolen. The wallet was placed in an unlocked temporary locker in the SLC. Currently, there are no suspects.



Students take advantage of the spring weather to get a game of hacky sack going in front of Wallace Library. Christopher Zajac/REPORTER Magazine.

ThisWeek

submit your events to reporter@rit.edu

10:00 AM–1:30 PM

Taste of RIT

SAU Café. RIT Food Service sponsors the 12th annual all-you-can-eat event with appetizers, entrees, desserts, and beverages from over 20 vendors. Faculty/Staff/Students-\$5, Other-\$4. Contact: Michelle Seger: mlsgrl@rit.edu, 475-4968.

6:30 PM–9 PM

Caribelast

Webb Auditorium. Sponsored by the Caribbean Student Association. Cost TBA. Contact: Chris Raby: osr0744@rit.edu.

4/23

8:30 PM–9:30 PM

Robert Channing: The World's Greatest Mentalist

Grace Watson. Presented by RHA. Channing reads minds, bends metal objects, and starts fire with his thoughts. \$1. Free ice cream sundaes. Contact: Paul Sudzak: pls1892@rit.edu.

4/24

10:00 AM–11:30 AM

Photoshop for Web Graphics and Backgrounds

Wallace Library-VIA. Learn how to make your images look good on the web. Image files will be provided, but you can bring your own. Contact: Margaret Bartlett: mbbwml@rit.edu.

9:00 PM–11:00 PM

Open Mic Night

RITZ. Sponsored by CAB. Prizes for winners. Contact: Itzel Morales: iam2919@rit.edu.

4/26

12:00 PM–12:00 AM

Phi Kappa Tau Booth for Paul Newman's Hole in Wall Camp

Quarter Mile. Free. Contact: Andrew Knutson: ark1082@rit.edu.

7:00 PM–8:00 PM

R. Spencer Wells, Ph.D.

Carlson Auditorium (76-1125). Geneticist Spencer Wells speaks on "The Journey of Man." Limited seating, RIT ID required. Free. Contact: Asst. Dean Eileen Marron: edmsse@rit.edu, 475-7045.

4/27

7:00 PM–11:45 PM

Brick City Battle

Quarter Mile and Greek Lawn. A three-day event with a concert on the April 30. Free. Contact: Brian Lavigone: bl16447@rit.edu.

4/28

3:00–4:30 PM

Financial Literacy Workshop

CIMS 2140. Learn the nuts and bolts of bankruptcy. Free. Contact: Debbie Lazio: cpd@cims.rit.edu, 475-6200.

7:30 PM–9:00 PM

Gannett Lecture Series

Webb Auditorium. Professor of Music Carl Atkins speaks on "Protest and Music: A Global View." Contact: Cassandra Shellman: cls3740@rit.edu, 475-2057.

4/27

RIT Considers Cutting Social Work Program

by Adam Kriedman

As RIT works to avoid a budget crisis, students enrolled in RIT's Social Work major are facing a crisis of their own. Andrew Moore, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts (COLA) recently proposed that RIT cut the Social Work major completely as soon as students currently in the Social Work major graduate. In response to the Dean's recommendation, students and faculty in the Social Work program have taken action to show RIT that the Social Work major is a worthwhile investment.

Roy Rodenhiser, Chair of the Social Work Department, expressed his disappointment with the news. "I don't think the decision is in the best interest of RIT," he said. According to Rodenhiser, Moore offered various reasons that he believed the Social Work major, which was established in 1971, should be cut. "His reasons are that enrollment is lower, the quality of students in the program are lower than the rest of the student body based on our SAT scores; financially, we're losing money; and finally, that we're in too competitive a market regionally."

In response to the statement that enrollment in the program was low, Rodenhiser said, "On the 21-Day Report, we were at 62 [students]. We actually gained 13 students in the past few months." The 21-Day Report is a statistical

document used by the managers of RIT. It was last updated in the fall, before the present student number of 75 was reached. To put this figure into perspective, it should be taken into account that many other Liberal Arts majors have anywhere from 80-100 students enrolled at any given time.

The Social Work major consists of half hearing students, and half deaf or hard-of-hearing individuals. This equal division has led to the combining of the Social Work student body into what Rodenhiser described as "the only fully integrated deaf and hearing program in the nation." In a presentation created for the College Curriculum Committee, students in the Social Work program cited "the unique deaf and hearing learning environment," the "empowerment of disabled students," and the fact that the major is "training social workers to work with the...deaf and disabled communities" as some of the most important reasons to keep the program available to students.

If the Dean's recommendation is supported by RIT, the Social Work major would not immediately be removed. "It would probably mean keeping the program going for three more years," said Rodenhiser. Students coming to RIT in subsequent years would no

longer be able to enroll in the Social Work major, making current first-year Social Work majors the last students to be in the program.

Rodenhiser hopes that the complaints of the students and faculty of the Social Work program will not go unheard and that they will understand how important the Social Work major is to them. Rodenhiser summed up the situation: "The students are very unhappy about this recommendation. They've organized; they've been meeting regularly to develop a response to the College Curriculum Committee (CCC). They've made buttons; they've conducted a fundraiser; and they've prepared a presentation for the CCC. They've written letters to organizations that support us. They're energized. They've met with the Dean, they've questioned the Dean. They're very, very unhappy with this decision."

Once the CCC has heard all sides of the matter, they will make their suggestion to Dr. Stanley McKenzie, Academic Provost. At that point, the final decision is in the Provost's hands as to the future of the program. ■



Rock FES

by Justin Harsch

Mike Hogan of Rochester band Dis-Harmony rocks out at Sigma Alpha Upsilon sponsored Rock Fest in the Fireside Lounge Saturday, April 17. Lauren Faggiano, The Smoking Orchids, and Xela also led their rock stylings for the crowd of 70. A portion of the proceeds went to the Children's Miracle Network, a non-profit organization dedicated to raising funds for children's hospitals across the country. To learn more or donate, visit www.cmn.org. ■

Just Looking THE LIFE WHERE YOU BELONG

by Erhardt Graeff

illustration by Sean Carner

The stereotypical college lifestyle is one of excess, something of a gluttonous pinnacle in one's life by route of alternately partying and studying, in binge. Such a structure leaves a student with little time, but plenty of self-satisfying want. And the bottom line here quickly becomes good ol' cash money. Like most students, I am not a millionaire. Yet, many of my peers do not allow such inconveniences crimp their vainglorious lifestyles, flossing an expensive taste and/or quantity of drinks, audio equipment, and clothing. For some reason, I can't seem to part with my money like that. When I look at the latest album by Modest Mouse, my wallet resigns, "I would prefer not to."

Essentially, if I can make any kind of solid claim to ownership of a sum of money, it is hard to part with. I have been like that as long as I remember. My parents didn't teach me such hoarding stinginess. My father, for example, is extremely careful with money, yet he is also extremely generous with it. Many times in my younger days, he gladly forked over the moola so that I could see a movie with friends. The only funny thing about this was that every time I went on such an outing, the leftover change would, without fail, bury itself deep within the

clandestine recesses of my pocket. I just have this penchant for not letting go, sure that the hard-or-not-so-hard-earned dollars will go to waste. My knack for unbridled purchasing reluctance is not inherited, but rather inherent. It seems I am a scrimp, a miser, a cheapskate.

This is why I am also a window-shopper. Of course, many people engage in this activity, but this is how I binge. Over time, it has become my predominant form of shopping. I rarely shop to buy, mostly shopping to compare. I only want the best deal on an item. So, I refuse to purchase it until I know that to be true. I find that I will postpone the purchase of an item as essential as milk, just so I can check the other local stores for prices. I'll sacrifice quality for cost in a flash, too.

Perhaps I have some ability to quickly distinguish between need and want, wherein my inner curmudgeon is able to pulverize my Want into submission. Whatever it is, it allows me to stave off the purchasing of most things. Example: If I'm on campus and didn't pack a meal, I refuse to buy something unless I am quite certain that death is nigh, at which point I will go to the food service venue where I believe the most food for the least amount of money can be found. And, upon arrival, I



will look at every item and check every price before deciding that either I don't really need to eat, or that I can get by on just water and a candy bar, thereby maximizing the calorie-to-cent-ratio.

Now, I'm sure this is all sounding slightly unnecessary, perchance even ridiculous, and frankly it is. But, I can't stop—it's terrifically addicting. Are my actions fiscally sound or downright masochistic? Well, probably both. But for now, I'm just going to keep scrutinizing and ogling over fancy foods, imported CDs, and those random items that look like Pier 1 Imports rejects. Dollar bills sealed away; it's all good. I am a miser in my second year at college. Truly, if the money doesn't want to come out, who am I to force it? ■

Johannas-art.com < Just Like the White-Winged Dove

by Sean Hannan

One of the easiest disagreements to get into is an argument of aesthetics. Take, for example, our seven-million-dollar steel overlord. One need not interrogate the campus too intensely to garner a wide range of opinions from "rusty, 70-foot gazebo" to "I'd rather it was a fountain." Sure, bitching about The Sentinel may keep your art criticism chops from getting rusty, but it doesn't prepare you for the horrific awesomeness that is Johanna Pieterman.

Located at johannas-art.com, the online presence of this Dutch artist is a sight to behold. Her work is best described as an odd concoction simmering in an iron cauldron. The base of the mixture consists of new age portraits of endangered animals done in the style of a skilled mall airbrush artist. To that, add some surrealist Escher-ripoff pen-and-ink pointillism. Finally, toss in a 20-sided die, *The Lord of the Rings*, and a participant from the local Renaissance Faire.

Perhaps the most intriguing work on the site is that for which Ms. Pieterman has garnered the most praise. You see, Johanna specializes in portraits of Stevie Nicks. Yes, Stevie Nicks, the

illustrious front-woman for Fleetwood Mac, not to mention quite possibly the most skilled tambourinist known to man. Johanna certainly has a knack for capturing those sandy tresses and faux-gypsy mysticism that only the Gold Dust Woman can provide. For a rather substantial sum (prices start at \$242), Johanna will be more than happy to create a portrait of you with Ms. Nicks. Be forewarned: Stevie Nicks' rabid following among middle-aged wives and "misunderstood," shawl-wearing, 15-year-old-girls has caused a six-month waiting list for any custom Stevie art.

The problem with Johanna Pieterman isn't that her art is bad—it's rather skillfully done, I must admit—but rather that it is very unexceptional. However, the kitschiness of an artist who specializes in images of such a B-list celebrity as Stevie Nicks is just too good to pass up. ■

Design ★★☆☆ Information is disorganized and can be hard to find. If that weren't enough, the site is slathered with Johanna's pink pastel abominations.

Content ★★☆☆ Despite having gallery upon gallery of violently mediocre artwork, something about the site leaves you wanting more.

Safe for Work ★★☆☆ Even though it's crap art, it's still art that can get away with a few tastefully done nude model pieces.

Not a Fad ★★★★★ As long as there are people who buy their art from flea markets, there will continue to be a place in the world for Johanna Pieterman.

The Best Comics Today

Old Friends, New Names, an Invasion, and a Coup D'tat

by Elliot Jenner

Comic books: a regular dose of the fantastic and extraordinary. From superheroes to ninjas, comics have it all, and they deliver on a monthly basis. However, not all comics are created equal. Here's the good stuff:



Superman

The first superhero remains one of the best. Now that he has married Lois Lane and Lex Luthor is no longer president, you'd think things would calm down. Unfortunately, his numerous absences as Superman have

finally caught up with his life as Clark Kent. How long can Lois keep him from finding out that his job is in jeopardy? And, is that Kara Zor'el, the supergirl from Krypton? You know, the one who died?

Things are looking up for the Man of Steel's comics. The writers have finally moved beyond both Kryptonite-centered stories and ultra-long brawls. What results are thought-provoking tales that are interwoven across dozens of issues, creating a greater sense of fulfillment when everything comes together.

★★★★☆



Fantastic Four

The first family of comics is still going strong. Doctor Doom is dead, and the Fantastic Four are accused of treason. They have been thrown out of their home, and everything they had has been taken away. But

before they can deal with all this, they have to save one of their own. The Thing is barely alive, sustained by machines. Mister Fantastic has a way to get him back, so the team sets out to bring their friend back. To do this, they will have to break down the gates of heaven.

The **Fantastic Four** has finally moved on from being the "family" comic book. No more easy wrap-ups, and no more clean story lines where all the good guys come squeaky clean, spouting morals. Things have finally gotten nitty-gritty.

★★★★☆



Exiles

X-men+ Quantum Leap+ Sliders. When things go wrong in the multiverse, the Exiles are sent in to fix it. At stake: their pasts. If they don't fix alternate realities, their own will change. But now a madman with the

power of Superman, bent on world conquest, has taken command of Weapon-X, the Exiles' opposite number. Strained to the breaking point by tragedy, can the Exiles stop a team with enough power to destroy entire worlds? This series really lets the writers go to town. They can think up whatever world they want to have the characters appear in next, which often leads to places you wish you could see more of.

★★★★★



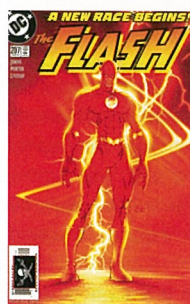
Transformers & Voltron

The 80s classics return. Having staved off the evil Drule Empire, the Voltron Force is shocked to have the lions stolen right from under their noses...by the forces of Earth! Meanwhile, things haven't slowed down

for the Transformers, as the semi-victorious Autobots find themselves faced with their greatest foes yet: Starscream's insane, occult-powered clone, and the united military of Earth, which has declared the Transformers the single greatest threat the world has ever faced.

Goodbye simple, formulaic plots; goodbye staid dialogue. No more "form blazing sword," no more of Spike going along on missions just so he can be captured. These are the real deals. We'll see how things go with realistic characters.

★★★★★



Flash

The Scarlet Speedster gets a new start as the Spectre erases everyone's memory of the Flash's identity, including his own. Tormented by the death of his unborn children, which both he and his wife blame on the Flash, Wally West is glad that

Flash has gone missing. However, when an accident occurs in front of him, everything slows to a crawl. How will he handle becoming the Flash all over again?

With his identity no longer public knowledge, The Flash finally has the chance to have a life again. The question is, will he like that life? His wife has left him, and everyone he met as the Flash no longer knows him. Plus, the Justice League wants to know why they know that they used to know who he was, but they don't know anymore.

★★★★☆



The Authority

Forget about government sanction. Forget about public opinion. When the US government begins an interstellar war, the Authority has had enough. If the government is too concerned with itself to improve the world, then it is time for someone else

to take matters into his own hands. Having completely overwhelmed the US government, The Authority has taken over America, and things are going to change for the better. That is, if things don't go out of control first.

It's about time that we saw some heroes who were about being good. They aren't here just to kick super-villain butt, and then stand back as a corrupt government continually screws up. The question is, just how well will this benevolent dictatorship work out?

★★★★★

WORD on the street

compiled and photographed by Becky Ruby



Q: If you could have any superpower, what would it be and why?

1 "The power to summon ninjas, because ninjas are so damn cool. And, so if I came across a band of pirates, they wouldn't stand a chance."

Steve Hill

First year
Software Engineering

2 "Invisibility, because I would love to be able to just disappear and totally freak people out. Laughing at people getting all confused—that's got to be awesome."

Beth Liebel

Third year
Social Work

3 "I guess to read people's minds, so I know what the hell is going on."

Jazzy Jones

Fifth year
Business

4 "The power to make chicks hotter, because we need some more fine-looking ladies here."

Dan McCabe

First year
Computer Science

5 "Super-speed, so I could get more things done in less time."

Shawn Frazier

Fifth year
Information Technology

"The power of allure, because I'm a lonely guy."

Greg Kerrigan

First year
Computer Engineering

"Read people's minds, because I'd love to know what people are thinking."

Eric Alley

First year
Computer Engineering

"Well, it's obvious! The power to make money come out of thin air. I am Inflation Man!"

Chad Sutliff

First year
Electrical Engineering

"Probably teleportation so I can go anywhere I want. You know, there are 50 states, like a million countries. You have to get out of 585, you know?"

David Azer

Fourth year
Information Technology

"Just flying. It would make getting around a lot easier. You wouldn't have to worry about flights and stuff. It would have to a decent speed, though."

Greg Doelger

Second year
Mechanical Engineering

"Beaming power, so I could beam myself from one place to another and not have to worry about flying."

Inga Grote

First year
International Business

"I would have to say the power to be super-smart, so I don't have to go to class."

Charlie Consagra

First year
Applied Networking and Systems Administration

"I would want the power to make clones of myself, because I could get many things done at the same time."

Artur Pinkasov

Fourth year
Applied Computer Technology

"The ability to read minds. I think everybody should have power because people would be forced to be honest."

Thoron Richardson

First year
Information Technology

"The ability to shape shift, so I could turn into anything I wanted."

Philip Dumala

Second year
Information Technology

RIT 3 minute interviews

compiled by Becky Ruby



Saul Lapidus

5th year
Physics, Applied Mathematics
Hometown: Spring Glen, NY

What is your greatest ambition? To actually make a difference in the world.

If someone forced you to get a tattoo, what would it be? Some sort of Chinese changi (symbol from the Chinese alphabet), I don't know which, I haven't put a lot of thought into it.

Favorite word: Verily.

Least favorite word: Uber. I use it all the time, but I hate it.

Is the glass half full or half empty? Both.

Who is your hero? My dad.

What's your favorite cheese? Very sharp cheddar.

When you were a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up? A fireman or a garbage truck driver.

What is your porn star name (first pet's name plus the street where you grew up)? Dundee Tice.

What do you remember about third grade? I didn't go to third grade; I was home-schooled.

Do you have any eight-year-old memories, then? I remember falling from the top of a tree that was like 30 feet tall, and being thankful that I was alive when I hit the ground.

If you could trade places with someone for a day, who would it be and why? Bill Gates, it would be nice to be one of the richest people in the world.



seven weapons we'd use to ward off the deadly man-eating zombie invasion

Fireman's axe—heavy, but it will get the job done.

Chainsaw—it's efficient at chopping through trees...and the undead.

A good 'ol fashioned machete. Light and quick with pretty good reach.

The 12-gauge double-barreled Remington. S-Mart's top of the line. You can find it in the sporting goods department.

One Mac-10 Uzi Sub-Machine Gun. Cut down zombies with a steady stream of 9mm rounds.

Acid-filled SuperSoaker squirt gun.

Pen and paper to write your last wishes.

> from the ARCHIVE

The Easter Bunny and Easter Gorilla take a break from their busy schedule of giving out candy in the College Union Building on Thursday April, 19. *Reporter Magazine* April 27, 1973.



cdREVIEW Squarepusher Brings Electronic Music to New Level

by Dan Backus

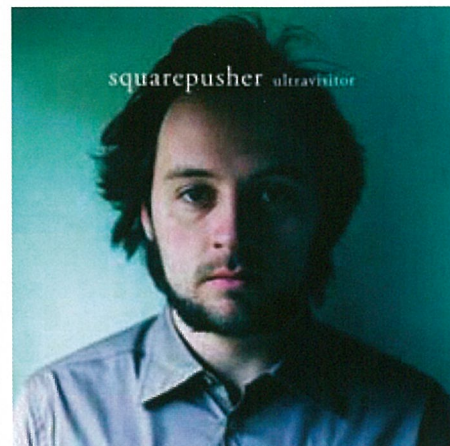
A few crowd cheers presage the eruption of electronic madness that constitutes the title track and first song of Squarepusher's *Ultravisitor*. A rollercoaster of frenzied beats spill from the speakers, and an intricate synth dances behind the wall of percussion while somewhere, a madman twiddles with EQ, reverb, and delay knobs. The eight-minute, 33-second song climaxes in waves of distorted noise, dropping into a brief and tense organ interlude, and ending with some nice, fat bass plucking.

At this point, particularly if you're unfamiliar with the work of Tom Jenkinson and his one-man-band Squarepusher, you may be wondering: Are you sure this is music? Sometimes I'm not sure, but regardless, it's damn interesting. Admittedly, certain portions of this IDM ("Intelligent Dance Music") album are difficult to listen to. A wall of white noise hides subtle harmonies with piano accompaniment on "An Arched Pathway," while "Steinbolt" is a synth-guitar and breakbeat jam-fest washed in hissing distortion. On the other hand, many tracks of the album are stunningly beautiful in ways that Squarepusher has never been before, with rich piano, guitar, and bass harmonies. There's method to Jenkinson's madness, and it shines through on most of the tracks.

Tom Jenkinson has made in *Ultravisitor* a confusing and obsessive-compulsive

masterpiece the likes of Miles Davis' *Bitches' Brew*, obviously with a wholly different sound. Vocoded rants and poetry slams are sampled liberally (providing the only vocals on the album), and innocent sounds are gutted, turned inside out, and strewn across tracks, while freestyle electronic jazz fusion leapfrogs along. Sudden drops, time signature changes, reverbs building to a loud drone, and more esoteric musical meddling is undertaken with malevolent glee. Squarepusher draws from a profusion of musical styles and combines them into a contradictory sound: harsh at times, yet beautiful; chaotic, but calculated.

Squarepusher has been a groundbreaker in IDM for over ten years, and this album, although it will probably never hit a rave near you, is a huge step forward for the artist. Jenkinson had already mastered the use of breakbeat percussion at breakneck speeds, accompanied by bass noodling and the unpredictable sampling of other instruments. He put his skills to work on seven earlier releases, among them *Do You Know Squarepusher?* and *Feed Me Weird Things*, and has been copied by drum n' bass artists ever since. Rather than retread the more than ample ground he has already staked out, he created with *Ultravisitor* a new space of genre-bending music all his own. This album certainly shows the time and dedication Jenkinson has put into it over the last three years. It is more



Rating: ★★★★★

concentrated and well-crafted than previous efforts, and even the distortion and noise are shaped meticulously.

If you have an open mind and like to hear a much more interesting side of electronic sound than you would hear in the bland, repetitive offerings of most dance halls, do pick up this album. Just don't expect to make peace with it in the first five, ten, or even more hearings. *Ultravisitor* is a wild ride through the confusing space of Tom Jenkinson's mind, and though occasionally painful on the ears, it is by parts astounding, entertaining, confusing, and enriching. ■



Poker NIGHT

by Kim Weiselberg

Dan Dececco (left) watch as Eric Johannesen throws his cards in surprise after he lost all his money to Patrick Saccoccia at the Phi Epsilon Pi Texas Hold-em Poker Tournament held at the SAU last Friday night. The tournament was held to as a fundraiser for Phi Epsilon Pi. ■

A person wearing a full-body cleanroom suit, including a hood and gloves, is standing inside a large, industrial-grade lithography machine. The machine is enclosed in a glass safety enclosure. Above the entrance to the machine, a sign reads "Exitech" with a logo of a square with an arrow pointing right, and "ADVANCED LASER TECHNOLOGY" below it. The interior of the machine is dimly lit, showing various mechanical components. In the foreground, there is a desk with a computer monitor and some papers. The overall lighting is a warm, yellowish glow from the machine's interior lights.

Exitech
ADVANCED LASER TECHNOLOGY

Microchip Keeps Head A

How RIT Res
Field by Stor

The Exitech machine, located in the Microtechnology Labs here at RIT, is capable of creating circuits containing 90 nm lines. Someday this machine will be able to use the immersion lithography technology to create microchips with 38 nm lines.



Above Water:

Research Takes Lithography

by Becky Ruby

photographs by Christopher Zajac

As if walking onto the set of a science fiction film, I am suddenly surrounded by the sights of machines and systems that extend the length of the room, ultramodern-looking lasers, and faceless figures in white, one-piece suits. No inch of skin is exposed, just the whites of the scientists' eyes through safety goggles as they toil curiously over their microscopes and silicon microchip wafers. Clutching my notebook with my blue gloves, as if I am observing another world, I am bathed in yellow light and exposed to the occasional hum of the clean fans. Every sight is futuristic and extraordinary.

The truth behind this seemingly surreal place is that it is home to students my age who are discovering the scientific breakthroughs that will someday make my computer faster, my car smarter, and my healthcare more intricate and exact. Led by Dr. Bruce Smith, Intel Professor in the Microelectronic Engineering Department and Associate Dean of the Kate Gleason College of Engineering, a groundbreaking team of students and research staff assistants has made scientific leaps in the area of lithography—the process of imprinting patterns on semiconductor materials to be used as integrated circuits, or “chips.” This research is already being coveted by companies like IBM, Sematech, Intel, and Motorola. Smith’s tiny chips can mean big relationships and big opportunities for RIT.

The Science Behind the Process

Using a century-old theory that water bends light greater than air—meaning its “refractive index” is higher—Smith and his team have developed and worked to apply this theory to creating microchips. More bended light means more light hitting a microchip. Much like when a pencil is dipped into water, and the image of it appears bent, immersing a silicon wafer in water makes the images naturally reduce in size. “All of these lights form a pattern on the microchip, and those will be translated onto metal layers,” explained Anatoly Bourov, a PhD candidate in the Center for Imaging Science, who works closely with Smith. “Those will be used to form wires, gates, parts of the chip.” Basically, these etched pathways control devices like cellular phones and computers.

More light translates to a greater number of “line spaces” that can be imprinted on the chip. The greater the frequency, or “pitch,” of the line spaces mean faster chips. Faster chips mean faster processors—this is where the consumer starts feeling the benefits of such intricate research. As stated in a *Democrat and Chronicle* article about the technology, “the easiest way to boost a chip’s power is to pack more circuits into a smaller space.”



This is the lab where Anatoly Bournov, left, with Yongfa Fan and Prof. Bruce Smith successfully pioneered the use of water in immersion lithography. The yellow light is used to filter out the UV light rays to which blank microchips are sensitive.

The research has the potential to benefit future students as well. "Research will continue in this particular area at RIT for another three to five years with the current students involved, as well as new M.S. and PhD students. This is the extent of our current funding," Smith said. "Beyond this, we plan to explore another phase of advanced lithography, namely polarization enhancement. We've already started research in this area in conjunction with the immersion lithography."

Smith also foresees "follow-up funded research, publications, facilities development, attraction of more students, faculty, and research staff, support of graduate and undergraduate programs," stemming from the current project. From the patent technology, RIT could also see great financial benefits.

"It's applying age-old things," Smith said. "In semi-conductor microlithography, where the demands of optics are pushed harder and farther than any other application of optics, we're making use of something that was discovered 125 years ago, invented by a guy named Ernst Abbe." Abbe was responsible for creating an immersion microscope in which a researcher replaced the air between the lens and the specimen with something of a higher refractive index, and took advantage of the refractive color of the fluid, so that it became an optical component. "So, the idea of the immersion microscope—using immersion fluid to increase the resolution power of a microscope—we're using now for lithography," Smith said.

Though following the same basic principle of light, Smith and Abbe's innovations have a striking contrast: microscopy works where "you start with something small and you enlarge it—make it big, make it visible—where we take something large and reduce it. We make really tiny things using optics," Smith explained. These "tiny things" will usher in the next generation of lithography. Where now the Intel Prescott processor runs on 90 nanometer technology, this research puts the industry down to a 38 nanometer level.

What New Chips do for RIT

"In the microelectronic engineering program, we've had strong partnerships with companies for 20 years," Smith said. "We'd like to strengthen those relationships with those companies. [The research] allows us also to branch out internationally. There are companies in Europe and Asia. And, we're becoming more of a research and technology center for lithography than we've ever been." This strengthening of relationships, expansion of RIT's technological influence geographically, and heightening to a new level of notoriety are just some of the motivations for pursuing immersion lithography.

For Bournov and Yongfa Fan, a PhD candidate in Microsystems Engineering and fellow researcher on Smith's team, the opportunity to perform the immersion lithography research means new open doors in terms of job placement, work experience, and information for doctoral theses. When boiled right down to the main objective for taking part in this project, Bournov said he just hopes to get a degree. After his time at RIT, he "hope[s] to continue doing research at a place that's best for the industry."

What New Chips do for the Consumer

The applied research taking place will "allow us to continue down the road of smaller, faster, cheaper, lower power," according to Smith. "To the consumer, it allows you to continue to expect new devices at a similar pace." For uses in computer processors, new biological tools, computing devices in newer car models—basically anything with semiconductor technology—immersion lithography will break boundaries in terms of speed and efficiency.

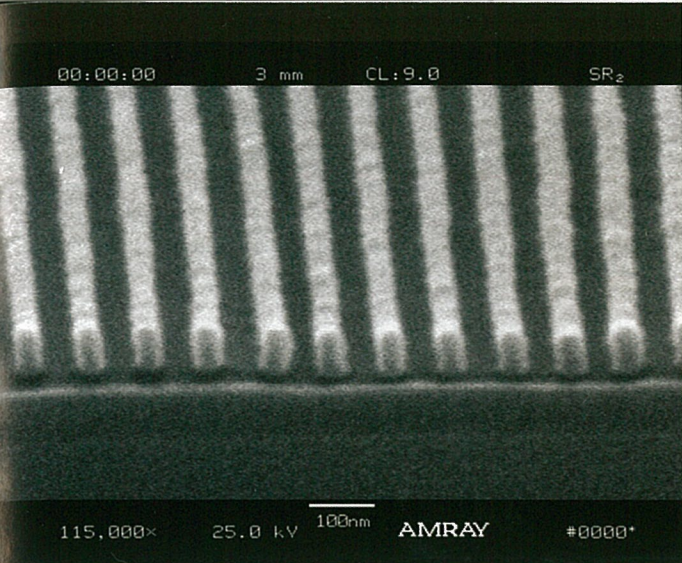
"What made the Internet possible was the microchip—everybody wants a faster surfing system," said Dr. Santosh Kurinec, Head of and professor in the Department of Microelectronic Engineering. "You have to make it faster, and be able to do more computations per unit cost." And, according to Kurinec, Smith's technology will do just that: it will tackle "the constant need for better computing."

In addition to its breakneck speed, the new technology will be taking the market by storm by its ability to cram a lot of information into a very inexpensive frame. In agreement with the positive financial aspects of the new technology working with other current computer equipment, Kurinec said, "I think that technology always gets better and better, and the driving force is the economic constraints...We are doing more function with less cost." Her example for this idea of "more for less" was the fact that as computers become faster and faster, "the technology has become very sophisticated, but still, computers have come down in price."

Financially, Smith and his team's research will aid major companies by allowing them to not have to revamp their entire factories. Instead, the manufacturers will simply have to modify their techniques to incorporate the new immersion lithography practices into their existing microlithography techniques.

Who Will Do the Work

After the current Master's and PhD students graduate or move on to other research initiatives and jobs, RIT will have to fill these positions with new interested students and innovators. "I think we act as a magnet program," Kurinec said. "And therefore, there are some responsibilities to maintain it as a magnet program." These responsibilities include keeping the labs in shape, the faculty up-to-date, and the programs constantly working to keep with the changing technology.



This is an image of new lines on a microchip that are 45 nanometers wide. The photograph comes from an scanning electron microscope at 115,000 times magnification.

Currently, the Microelectronic Engineering department, created in 1982 (the same year as the advent of the personal computer), encompasses the nation's only Bachelor of Science in Microelectronic Engineering. It also offers two master's programs: Master of Engineering in Microelectronics Manufacturing Engineering, and the Master of Science in Microelectronics Manufacturing Engineering. Both of these programs are intended to prepare students for a career in the semiconductor industry. In addition, the department boasts an online Master of Engineering degree program. Lastly, "we have a BS/MS program; it is BS in Microelectronic Engineering and MS in Materials Science. This is a unique combination takes five years, and will result in two separate degrees," Kurinec explained.

The students that aid in Smith's research initiative, as well as the others under the umbrella of Microelectronic Engineering, will be able to take their hands-on experience directly into the workforce after completing their degree programs. "We are producing students that are highly trained engineers that get into the workplace and are ready to go," Kurinec said. "The students are very familiar with the materials that they use."

Despite its strength in terms of technology and equipment, the Microelectronic Engineering program has a limited number of people to pass on the technology to, with a small class of between 50 and 60 freshmen this year. Tour group after tour group gapes and gasps at the high-tech clean labs, and yet the number of students they draw is somewhat limited. According to Kurinec, the Microelectronics program is "national in nature," but that "enrollment could be better." She went on to say, "Because [the Bachelor's degree program] is one of its kind, that's another challenge of increasing enrollment. Students feel that it's too specialized. Our program is dynamic, but I want to clarify that the program is not impossible—it's not difficult."

Looking to the Future

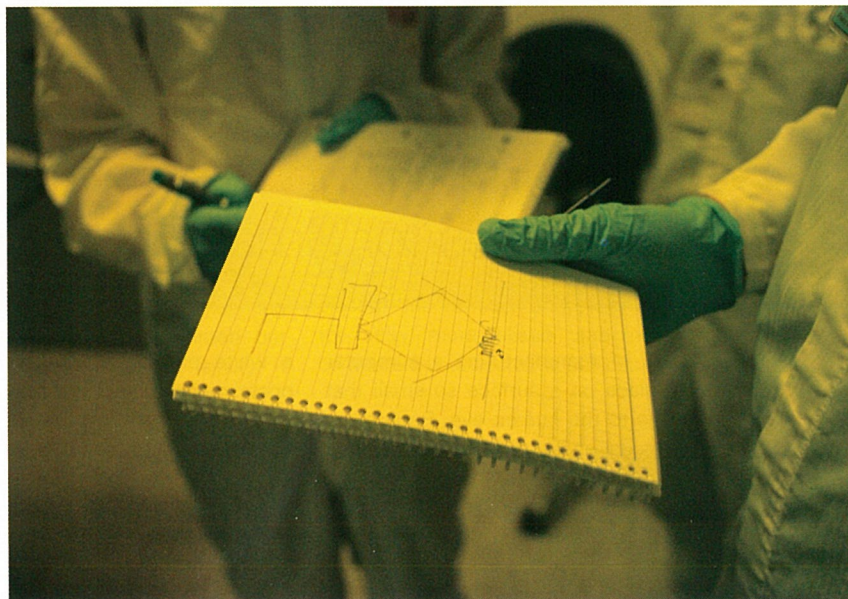
Moore's Law, an idea that dictates that an exponential growth in the number of transistors per integrated circuit, was a term coined in 1965 by the media in reaction to Gordon Moore's predictions about how heavily packed a chip could be with lines spaces. In their attempt to continue to break barriers and evolve exponentially, Smith and his team's research will allow "us to

continue along Moore's law; it allows us to continue lithography. I think this will allow the industry to do optical lithography until probably 2010 to 2013," Smith said. "It's six years that might have been two or three years otherwise."

RIT's research and innovation in this breaking field of immersion lithography still has a ways to travel before reaching its ultimate goal: reaching the physical limits of line space pitch. However, as soon as two years from now, consumers will see the new technology being implemented into everyday devices. RIT, however, will not be mass producing these devices, but passing off the task to its many high-profile affiliates, such as Intel or Motorola. "Dr. Smith's research is pushing the technology of microchips, but after that, there is a lot more to be done," Kurinec said. "We have to decide what materials go. Dr. Smith will tell how to get a very small chip size, and we have to worry about how to move and assemble the right materials."

As for the Microelectronic programs in general, Kurinec looks at the future all the time. "We have to keep our eye on the horizon, on the future, so that semi-conductor road-map is taught to our students," she said. Her dream is to bring on more top-notch faculty to add to the mere eight professors there are now; she will also continue to investigate new major and minor programs.

Kurinec is confident in the future of the department, as long as it can find some positive publicity to aid in encouraging new students. "No other program in the nation offers the kind of the programs that we offer in Microelectronic Engineering." And, no other university can pride itself in creating the world's next microchip-fabrication technique. ■



Ph.D. candidate Anatoly Bournov makes some notes as to the basic operating principle of the immersion lithography system. This system operates like a photographic enlarger, which makes a small negative a big print, whereas this lithography system makes big things really, really small.



PLACES OF RIT:

Semiconductor and Microsystems Fabrication Lab: Big Machines for Small Parts by Patrick Rice • photograph by Christopher Zajac

The process of manufacturing a computer chip takes place on a surface so small that it isn't visible to the human eye. Regardless of this minuscule scale, the facilities needed to make these chips is 10,000 square feet and takes up a large portion of Building 17. The Semiconductor and Microsystems Fabrication Laboratory (SMFL) is a one-of-a-kind facility that only a handful of universities in the US have the opportunity to possess. RIT's facility, however, presents itself as one of the most unique.

Not just anyone off the street can walk into the SMFL, also known as "The Fab." Imagine the Intel commercials from several years back:

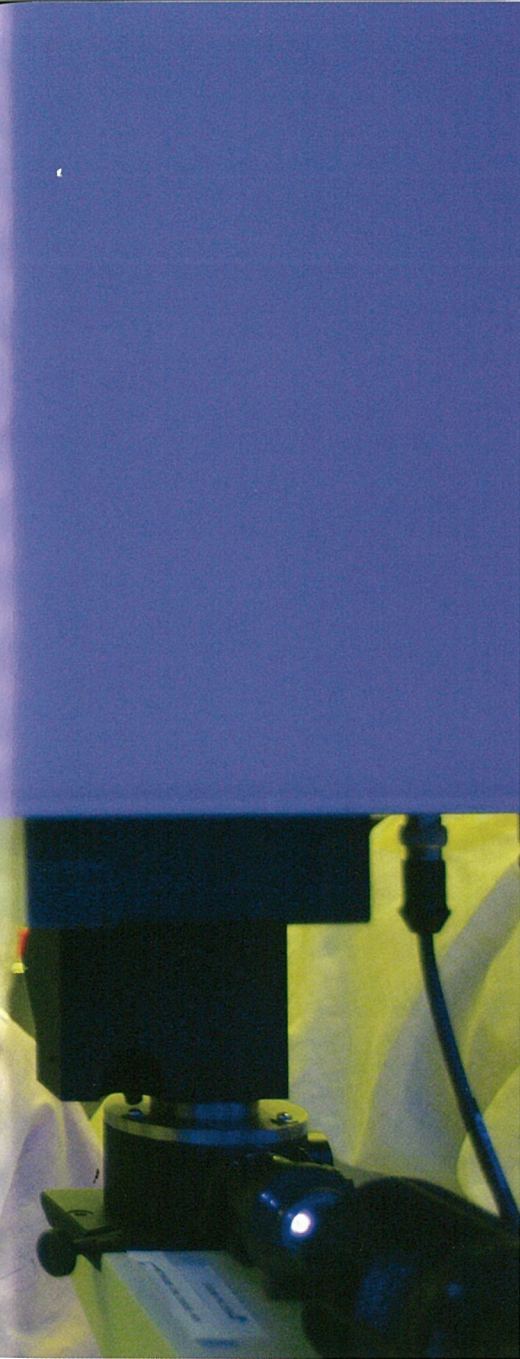
a white one-piece suit, hood, face mask, boots, rubber gloves, and safety goggles make up the familiar outfit that all workers, students, and visitors alike are required to wear. The purpose of this is to maintain the cleanest possible environment for the manufacturing of microchips.

RIT's SMFL is considered a class 1000 lab, while the labs at corporations fall in the area of about class 10—the lower the number, the cleaner the facility. Although seemingly far from close to industry standards, for a university to be a class 1000 lab is a major accomplishment. In order to reach the level of cleanliness in industrial settings, a majority

of handling of the silicon disks that chips are made on would have to be handled by robots.

Access to the facility isn't completely limited, however. Dr. Karl Hirschman, Director of the SMFL, noted that often photography students request access to the lab for various assignments, not to mention the local media, who also take advantage of the facility for pictures. In addition to its appeal as a high-tech facility to the media, local businesses have also made use of the facility for research purposes.

While both Kodak and Xerox have similar facilities for their own manufacturing purposes, SMFL Operations Manager Thomas Grimsley explained that, "when a production line gets



While the SMFL does possess the ability for small scale production, the purpose of the lab is not to make products for the market, but rather produce high-caliber students, prepared to work in any area in the field.

When working in such a high-tech field like microchip fabrication, the ability to work with the most up-to-date equipment can be a challenge. Hirschman explained that RIT's equipment is approximately "a generation behind the industry." While a generation may seem like a long time, in terms of microelectronics, a generation is approximately only ten years. To be a generation behind the industry, in terms of equipment, puts RIT on par with other top research institutions such as Cornell University and University of California at Berkeley. "RIT's method of hands on learning sets it apart from its closest competitors," Hirschman said.

After suiting up to enter a fab lab at any other university, a person would have to be a grad student or trained professional to use the multi-million dollar equipment required for research. But at RIT, a person may be surprised to walk by the SMFL and learn that the students on the other side of the windows are only sophomores working on lab practicals. RIT's curriculum is directed towards student interaction with equipment to better prepare them for a career in the microelectronics field. The hands on approach also makes RIT students more appealing to industry leaders for co-ops and full-time careers.

Hirschman pointed out that though the facilities might be similar between RIT and other programs, RIT's lab focuses on academics first; such is not the case at most institutions. Cornell specifically has been awarded grants from the Federal Government for research, which outlines the specific work that has to take place in their labs at certain times. At RIT, on the other hand, the use of the lab is specifically for learning purposes, although Hirschman pointed out when private companies use the facility, it does generate revenue for the Institute. "The SMFL is still a self-sustaining laboratory, as a staff of dedicated technicians works to keep the equipment running, and the professors and advisors keep students well-informed," Hirschman said.

RIT's SMFL is run by four technicians, a Director, an Assistant Director, an Operations Manager, and a Process Engineer. Hirschman gives a great deal of credit of the SMFL's success to the expertise of the technicians. The four technicians, Rich Battaglia, John Nash, Bruce Tolleson, and David Yackoff are responsible for keeping the machines online

and properly functioning, which is not always an easy task. When a machine goes offline at RIT, it may take a few days of troubleshooting to diffuse a problem. However, technician David Yackoff noted that, "in the more grueling world of corporate chip manufacturing, technicians are often equipped with a cell phone and pager for contact anytime day or night to solve problems that may be costing a company millions of dollars when a production line goes down."

Process Engineer Sean O'Brien oversees the work being done by the technicians and also helps in the upkeep of the equipment. Thomas Grimsley is the Operations Engineer and ensures that classes run seamlessly with the technology, including the magnetic card-swipe access system, which recognizes each user and the equipment they are entitled to use. The magnetic card-swipe system was developed by Associate Director Al Raisanen. The system tracks users and the time they spend on each machine, but also requires them to choose the class and assignment they will be working on while in the lab. This system requires each user to use a separate ID card assigned to them by the SMFL lab.

Recently, the SMFL lab was the recipient of some very good news: the New York State Office of Science, Technology, and Academic Research (NYSTAR) awarded RIT a grant to expand facilities, but also acquire new equipment to dedicate specifically to research in the field of Microsystems. Microsystems entails the creation of computer chips that not only function digitally in the transfer and processing of data, but also function mechanically. An example is a chip that controls ink flow in printers.

The work that takes place at the SMFL is more than another instance of high-tech learning at RIT, however. Some of the most important research in the field of microelectronics takes place in the lab each and every day, allowing for faster, more reliable, and more efficient computers and electronic devices in general. ■

going, the last thing you want to do is interrupt, that's where RIT's SMFL comes in." Because of the lack of assembly lines, those who have the proper training are able to take advantage of the lab or hire RIT faculty and students to do their research for them.

Through donations from companies such as Intel and AMD, the SMFL has become highly regarded both for the equipment it possesses, as well as the highly trained professionals and students who work there. Both companies, as well as many other smaller companies, utilize these resources at RIT for research, but Hirschman was careful to point out that the SMFL lab is not a manufacturing facility.

For more information on the SMFL, visit their website at smfl.microe.rit.edu.

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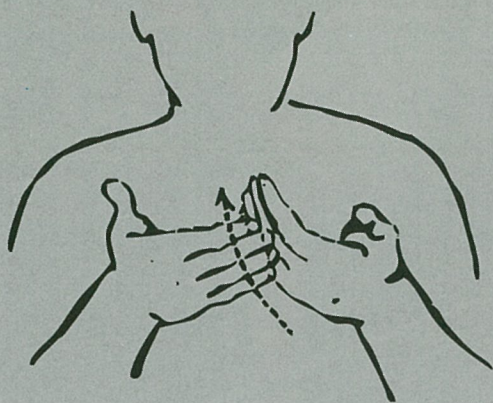
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S P O R T S D E S K

by Matthew Doak

Baseball

The Tiger baseball team has clawed their way back to the .500 mark after winning three of four this past week.

On April 9, RIT split a double-header at Hartwick. The Tigers took the first game 4-0 as senior **Dan Weglinski** hurled another gem, pitching a two-hit shutout, while striking out six. **Colin Bradley** drove in two runs while going one for three, and **Andy Scroger** drove in a run as well. **Rob Ogbourne** also had two hits for the Tigers.

RIT dropped the second game of the day 6-5. **Jamie Schild** had two hits, while **Jeff Ware**, **Mark Sapienza**, Ogbourne, and Scroger all had RBIs.

The next day, the Tigers traveled to Utica for another double-header and swept both games. **John Byrne** went two-for-four

with three RBIs in the first game to lead RIT to a 9-4 win. Scroger had two RBIs, while Ware and **Matt Singer** picked up one each. **Chris Haigney** picked up the win on the mound.

In the second game, **Bo Mahaney** got plenty of offensive support as the Tigers rolled, 14-6. Seven different Tigers drove in runs including Byrne and Ogbourne with four each.

Men's Lacrosse

The men's lacrosse season is quickly drawing to a close and thus far, it has been very successful for the Tigers.

On April 10, RIT picked up their tenth win of the season with a 20-5 win over Union. **Josh Molinari** had three goals and set an RIT record for assists in a game with 10. **Chris Copeland**

Brooke Thompson scrambles against a St. John Fisher player for a loose ball during the lacrosse game. Christopher Zajac/
REPORTER Magazine.

had five goals, **Dave Thering** four, **Colin Jesien** and **Robert Frustaci** three, and **Ryan Neward** two.

Four days later, the Tigers suffered just their second loss of the season at the hands of Ithaca, 15-10. By scoring five goals, Copeland became RIT's all-time leading goal scorer. Thering scored three goals, while Neward and **Zach Bednarz** each scored one.

Men's Tennis

The men's tennis team had a busy week and came out of it with a 3-1 record.

On April 8, the team defeated St. John Fisher by the score of 4-3. The doubles team of **Jon New** and **Tim Patterson** was victorious while **Frank Solome**, **Rod Razavi**, New, and Patterson won in singles play.

Following a 7-0 loss to St. Lawrence, the team got back on track on April 10 by beating Elmira. The doubles pairs of **Darren Stanley** and Salome, **Chris Leary** and Razavi, and New and Patterson were all victorious. Stanley, Leary, Solome, New, Razavi, and Patterson all won singles matches as well.

On April 15, the Tigers improved their record to 5-2 with a 4-3 win over Roberts Wesleyan. The doubles team of New and Patterson won their match, while Salome, New, Razavi, and Patterson were victorious in singles.

Men's and Women's Track and Field

The men's and women's track and field teams competed at the University of Rochester on Saturday, April 11.

Curtis Howard led the men winning the 800-meter run in 1:58.84 and the 1500-meter run in 4:04.77. **Jesse Williamson** placed second in the 1500 with a 4:06.82 performance. **Dean Ganskop** placed second in the 400-meter hurdles in 58.25, while the 4x100-meter relay team placed third with a 45.63 second performance. **Dave Falcinelli** continued his impressive freshman campaign by winning the pole vault with a 4.26-meter performance.

On the women's side, **Heidi Spalholz** broke her own record in the 100-meter dash with a time of 2:21.98. **Erin Canfield** placed second in the 400-meter dash in 1:01.28, while **Danielle Simmons** placed third (26.8) in the 200. **Danyelle Yondura** placed second in the javelin with a 30.30-meter throw.

Women's Lacrosse

After being blown out twice last week, the RIT women's lacrosse team came incredibly close to winning their first game of the season.

On April 10, Hartwick beat RIT, 12-4. **Pinckney Templeton**, **Callise Wiley**, **Lisette Silver**, and **Kirsten Smith** scored the goals for RIT.

After being rocked by Geneseo 20-2, the Tigers played their closest game of the season, losing to Alfred 12-11. Templeton and **Kelly Martin** each scored four goals, while **Andrea Ervay**, **Jen Rynda**, and Wiley each scored one.

Softball

The softball team has been playing well as of late and continued their success this week with a double-header sweep of Alfred.

In game one, the Tigers jumped out to a 3-0 lead and held on for a 7-3 win. **Elaine Vonderembse** went three-for-five with an RBI and a run scored. **Shari McNamara** went 1-4 with a run



Andy Scroger, Tigers third baseman, tags out an Ithaca player attempting to take third base. Christopher Zajac/REPORTER Magazine

scored and two RBIs. She also picked up the win on the mound, striking out eight and walking two.

In the second game, RIT scored in each of the first four innings and went on to a 5-3 win. **Josa Hanzlik** went two-for-two with two runs scored and an RBI, while **Kelly Iagulli**, McNamara, and **Allie Sitton** each had an RBI. Sitton picked up the win on the mound.

The team's record currently stands at 9-9.

Men's and Women's Crew

On April 10, the RIT women's crew team traveled to take on William and Smith, along with the men who competed against Hobart.

The men's varsity eight finished in a time of 7:07.96, losing to Hobart who crossed the line at 6:49.62. The tough Hobart team also defeated the novice men.

The varsity women also didn't fare so well against William and Smith, finishing in a time of 8:09.18, while William and Smith took the flag at 7:51.94. ■

ThisWeek at Home

4/24	Saturday 1 p.m.	Men's Lacrosse vs. Hartwick
4/25	Sunday 12 p.m.	Baseball vs. Hilbert
4/26	Monday 3 p.m. 4:30 p.m.	Softball vs. Brockport Women's Lacrosse vs. Cazenovia
4/27	Tuesday 2 p.m.	Baseball vs. U of R

"Consistency is our biggest strength, but when we aren't consistent it is our biggest weakness," said RIT men's baseball coach Rob Grow. "When we lose, there are too many mistakes in one inning, and when we win, we are playing consistent-solid defense with good pitching."

The men's baseball season started off in Florida at the Coco Expo where the team played their first six games ending three and three. After the trip to Florida, the team competed in Washington D.C., and finally broke their five game losing streak against Catholic University, winning 14-5. "Pretty disappointing," Grow said, regarding the rough beginning. Inconsistent play was the reason for the rocky start. "We lost three-one run games in our first six games," Grow explained. "During that time we found out a lot about our pitching—we have a pretty young pitching staff."

Freshmen who have stood out as consistent contributors to the team are Brian Lindenau and Andy Scroger. "It's nice to see them have some success," said Grow. Lindenau, from Tucson, Arizona, plays first base, while Scroger, from Spencerport, NY, plays third base.

Both infielders have been "a nice surprise for us," Grow said. "They've had big hits, especially against St. John Fisher." The team dominated a double header against St. John Fisher at the end of March, winning the first game 8-4 and the second 8-0.

Seniors Geoff Cusano and Jeff Ware are having a strong season as well. "They both have been big hitters this season," said Grow. Cusano is the other senior pitcher, and Ware plays outfield. Ware earned RIT Athlete of the Week honors for March 16, 2004. He contributed to the St. John Fisher sweep with three hits including a double and an RBI.

Pitching for Success: Men's Baseball

by Rachel Pikus | photograph by Eric Sucar



Cusano, Ware, and junior infielder John Byrne have stepped up as leaders on the team this season. Grow said of Byrne, "He is one of our most consistent guys—he works hard and knows what is expected of him." His hard work has paid off with a .368 batting average, 12 RBIs, and a .980 fielding percentage so far this season. Against St. John Fisher, Byrne scored two runs, and in the double header against Utica, he had a pair of hits to lead the team to victory.

With a large roster, the men on the team have all contributed in their own ways to the recent success. "We have a good core of sophomores in the field and on the pitching mound—I think that really brings the team together," said Grow. "The chemistry is really good." Last year, the team lost eight seniors, but has been able to fill in the gap with many new and talented underclassmen.

Grow described the team in one word—fun—because "it is such a good group who work hard." Succeeding this season has taken a lot of dedication from players who are willing to put in the effort. "They enjoy the work so it makes it easy for me as a coach to have fun—I don't have to push them, because they are looking and wanting to do more," Grow said.

With this kind of attitude, the team remains focused on the goal that they came into the season with, "to continue to be a quality team and be successful in the post-season and ECACs," Grow said.

To achieve this goal, Grow thinks the team needs to "avoid the big innings. When we lose, there are too many mistakes all in one inning—there's a walk, then there's an error, and we haven't been able to get past that." The team discusses this issue a lot during practice and it has made a noticeable difference throughout the season.

Even though there is a short time left in the season, the baseball team still has a significant amount of games to go. There are 18 non-conference games to go, and the ultimate goal is to get to 20 wins. Grow and the players think the goal is definitely in reach, "as long as we avoid that bad inning." ■

Out of the 13 pitchers on the team, there are only two seniors—one is Dan Weglinski, who is "having a phenomenal year," according to Grow. "He also handles the leadership position well. You need that senior leadership on the large pitching staff." Thus far this season, Weglinski has a 3-1 record and a 0.41 ERA. He is second on the team with 16 strikeouts, and against him, opponents have a .163 batting average. He has allowed just one earned run and 14 hits. This is the kind of consistency that has helped the team recover from the unsteady start to their season.

Since Washington D.C., the baseball team has become a fierce competitor in the Empire 8 conference with a record of 9-9. If they keep up the quality of play, the team could have a good shot at first place—a position they have not held since the 2000 season. "We knew we were a pretty good team, we just had to put some things together," Grow said.



afterwards was entertaining and informative," Connelly said. "I really liked the fact that it was down to earth, and that Ivan was so interactive. He was able to answer many questions, and he really adapted the show to the audience."

Spectators might be left to wonder why Greene continues to boulder despite suffering several injuries including a broken toe, sprained wrists, broken elbow. "It's a real natural thing," Greene explained. "It's not something I really think about—I just go to a focused place where it is just me and every move I am making." He also explained that most bouldering is safe, when proper equipment and procedures are followed. Some bouldering, known as "highball bouldering," is not safe and should not be attempted unless the person is 100 percent comfortable with his or her talents. These high risk climbs can be as high as 25 feet.

To train for bouldering, Greene suggested climbing as much as possible, and also cross training, because the power for bouldering comes from the grip and arms. To become mentally prepared, Greene does yoga. His largest suggestion is "to focus on your weakness and really work toward making it stronger."

One of Greene's weaknesses as a boulderer is his short height. "Being short is not an advantage," he pointed out. "Sometimes I just can't reach things that others can." To keep with his humor he continued, "I just get more climbing in than tall people—being a midget is great."

In addition to his many videos, Greene has also written two books, his most recent is entitled *Bouldering in the Shawangunks*. The Gunks, as they're called, are located north of Albany, New York.

Ryan Giunta, the local NY Red Bull Team Manager, arranged for the event with Greene. "RIT is one of the only places with such a unique facility such as the Red Barn on campus," he said. "It gave a lot of people into the scene the opportunity to meet with Ivan, and ask him questions as about bouldering in the northeast." He also enjoyed the video stating, "It is amazing what he can do. It has inspired me to want to try climbing and bouldering."

Greene's visit to the RIT Red Barn has inspired many climbing and bouldering enthusiasts, as well as newcomers, to get out there and continue their quest to become better. Green said, "Bouldering is all about making yourself uncomfortable, kind of like life." ■

Bouldering to the Limit, then Surpassing It Professional Athlete Ivan Greene visits RIT

by Marci Savage
photograph by Kim Weiselburg

"If you always go out of your comfort zone, you will constantly improve as your comfort zone continues to increase," said master boulderer Ivan Greene. Greene, who began as an avid climber in 1988 and began to climb competitively, moved on to bouldering in the mid 1990s, presented his video, *Bouldering in the Northeast - Featuring Ivan Greene*, to approximately 40 RIT students on Friday, April 16. He then answered the audience's question and demonstrated his bouldering ability on the wall at the Red Barn.

Instead of using a rope and traditional climbing equipment, bouldering loses all of that to attempt free climbing short pieces of rock. At the base of the wall, there is a crash pad, which resembles a mattress, and is there for when the body decides enough is enough and wants down. Boulders generally have people at the base to spot and encourage.

Believe it or not, one of Greene's favorite bouldering locations is New York City, mainly Central Park. He recalled one time that the police came by when he and two friends were bouldering in the park. "The cops didn't know what was going on," Greene said. "Three shirtless guys climbing on rocks—the cop was like, 'what are you doing?'"

Greene also chuckled when explaining the looks he gets when preparing to boulder in the park. "When I get on the subway with the crash pad on my back, people think I am homeless and carrying my bed," he said. "The looks are crazy," Greene said. "People stop and watch [at the park], and the little kids in the park always want to join, but they always get it right away because they are little monkeys."

Greene travels all over the world bouldering, but his absolute favorite location is "the one that I haven't found yet." One of his other favorite locations to climb is Fountainbleau in France. He has also bouldered in other European locations and Asia.

Teaming with Red Bull energy drink for the last two years, Greene has been traveling to colleges on the east coast on his Red Bull College Tour. "I love touring because I meet people as passionate as I am about bouldering and have the same love," Greene said. "I also hope the video I have gets newcomers psyched into doing it."

John Gerweck, an avid climber and boulderer felt that excitement: "The video was excellent due to the high level of climbing. It really makes me want to go climbing even more."

Tom Connelly, who maintains the Red Barn, was also impressed by the presentation. "The video was really cool, and the presentation

3 STARS

by Matthew Doak



Dave Falcinelli – Men's Track and Field

Another example of young talent on the men's track and field team is freshman Dave Falcinelli. Recently, at the University of Rochester's Spring Alumni Track and Field Invitational, Falcinelli won the pole vault with a 4.26-meter (13'11.75") performance.

Coach Dave Warth said Falcinelli has improved a lot recently. "Dave works with local coach Rick Suhr, and has gained increased confidence and skill over the last few months," said Warth.

His coach also believes that he will be able to continue winning pole vault events for the rest of this season and beyond. "His best jumping season is ahead, especially as the weather improves," said Warth. "He is relatively new to pole vaulting, and with his physical skills and tenacity, he should be in a position to challenge the school record later this year or early next year."

Dean Ganskop – Men's Track and Field

The men's track and field team is loaded with talented individuals—veteran performers and newcomers. Freshman Dean Ganskop is one example of the bright future that is in store for the team.

Ganskop recently finished second in the 400-meter hurdles at the University of Rochester's Spring Alumni Track and Field Invitational. "I was impressed with his run in the 400-meter hurdles," said Coach Dave Warth. "He ran strong despite the weather and the fact that he had run the 400 earlier in the day."

Warth said that Ganskop is already stepping into a leadership role on the team despite being just a freshman. "He is already a team leader, if not through words, through action."

Warth expects Ganskop to be a long-term contributor to the team. "Dean's work is consistent and hard, and he will be a major contributor and immediate NYSCTC [New York State Collegiate Track Conference] scorer," said Warth. "I think with the new field house coming on line next year, Dean will have an even greater chance of succeeding—especially in the hurdles—and could challenge to make the NCAA meet in the next couple of years."



Elaine Vonderembse – Softball

Senior outfielder Elaine Vonderembse was recently named the RIT Female Athlete of the Week and Empire 8 Co-Player of the Week after her performance at the plate in a double-header against Hartwick.

Vonderembse, who also played in goal for the women's hockey team, went eight-for-nine with three runs scored and four RBIs as the Tigers swept past Hartwick College. During the first game, she went five-for-five with two RBIs and two runs scored. In the second game, she went three-for-four with two RBIs and one run scored.

Vonderembse currently leads the team in several offensive categories. Her average is a team best—.555—and she leads the team in hits with 30 and slugging percentage (.557). She also has the most runs scored with 16, most total bases with 36, and is second in RBIs with nine.

Vonderembse was a first team Empire 8 All-Conference performer last season, and is well on her way to earning that honor again this season.

photograph by Eric Sucar

photograph by Eric Sucar



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A Biblical Problem

by Elliot Jenner
 illustration by William Robinson

I have a lot of one hour holes in my schedule. I have to sit around Building 8 and kill an hour quite often. What I like to do most during these times is read. If I have only an hour off, I am certainly not going to trek all the way back to my dorm, nor can I really go and do anything. It is the perfect time to sit back and enjoy a good book. Unfortunately, I don't have one to sit back with.

People often complain that no one reads at RIT. There is a certain amount of "I am so sick of this" that goes on here, after all the reading we have to do for classes. However, there are many people who separate class and fun reading—though it is difficult to find such individuals. And that is because it is almost impossible to find books to read on campus.

The library is the primary culprit. Walk in and go around the central column and you will be greeted by the four half-full shelves and pair of turn-tables worth of non-academic books that make up the 14-day section. This isn't to say that these are the only entertaining books in the library. Unfortunately, the rest of them are hidden on the third floor of the library, where you aren't going to find them unless you look really hard. And they are all old, classics, mostly there for use by the literature courses.

If you want to read anything that is younger than you are, and most do when reading for fun, all you have to choose from are those bookshelves on the first floor. To add insult to injury, visits to the 14-day selection often yield frustrating results—finding only the latest book in a series. If you haven't read the rest, you're out of luck. This all around unpleasant experience makes it no surprise that most people don't bother. The vast majority of people who go to the library are there to use the computers or do research for a class, not to enjoy themselves.

Our other option is to go to the local book stores, such as Barnes and Noble, Walden Books, or Border's. They are excellent books stores, and they might make up for the library's lack of selection. There is one big problem, though: students, particularly RIT students, on the whole, are poor. It costs thousands of dollars to come here. Then more for housing. Then another two to five hundred dollars a quarter for text books. Maybe a car on top of that. After all of this, most RIT students are lucky to eat. Some don't. They certainly haven't got the funding to go out and buy books. If I had to choose between eating and reading, eating would win. So what ends up happening is that everyone who goes to the stores just sits around reading in the store. While this is by no means bad, it certainly doesn't help during holes in your schedule, nor does it help the bookstores stay in business. The idea of browsing is to find things you want to buy. Many a good store has gone under because too many people treated it like a library.

What all this adds up to is a general lack of reading on campus. Aside from complaining, there is one last thing we can do. Everyone has a few books. Since the library we are paying so much to use is only good for class work, we students, as usual, have to make up for the lack of service.

Be your own library. If your roommate or your friend needs something to read, offer some of your stuff. If everyone pitches in, I am sure we can make it through the year. Unlike other activities, you can't cite the weather as the reason you don't read. In fact, with all the time we spend in our rooms, we should be reading more. You can only stare at your monitor for so long before getting either bored or sick. Take a break, and see if your roommate has something you can pass the time with. You never know what you will find in a book. ■





spring festival

RIT 2004

**FRIDAY
APRIL 30**

SG BBQ (Noon)
Outdoor Movie,
Caddy Shack,
& Miniature Golf (8 PM)
Carnival (6 PM - Midnight)

**SAT. MAY 1
10 AM - Midnight**

Sdve the Arts Festival • Car Show
Live Music • Wing Wars • Karen's Walk
Carnival • Psychics • LAU Wet Down
Handwriting Analysis • BACC BBQ
Caricatures • Inflatables • Human Chess
Henrietta Hots • Hustle for Habitat

**SAT. NIGHT
MAJOR CONCERT- 8 PM**
with opener Matt Nathanson



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