

# REPORTER

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**The Beginning and the Beginning of the End**

Ever since I was a little kid, the first day of school was something to look forward to. Buying new school supplies and back-to-school clothing was an event. I remember barely being able to sleep the night before the first day of school, full of excitement and anticipation over what my class would be like, would I like my teachers, who would be in my classes, what would we do... the list is endless. Then again, I was always kind of a geek.

Fast forward to my feelings upon starting this year of school. The phrase "do I have to?" comes to mind.

Don't get me wrong, I'm excited about my classes and I'm definitely looking forward to seeing and spending time with my friends after an eventful summer away and yeah, I enjoyed the whole back to school shopping thing. I'm even looking forward to a whole new year of making *Reporter* every week with the rest of the staff listed to the left.

But, this school year is unlike any other that I've started: It's my last.

Normally *Reporter* editors use the first editorial of the year to welcome the new class to RIT and to give them advice on how to approach the coming year. And so, while me talking about the end of my college experience when so many people are only just beginning theirs might seem out of place, I can't think of anything more appropriate.

Because, as far as I can tell, there's nothing like being a senior to make you feel like a freshman all over again.

I've been asked where I'm going after I graduate a lot lately. Where I think that I want to move to find a job, find an apartment, start a life. New York? Boston? Dallas?

For students entering their final year of their undergraduate career, this is the question du jour and let me tell you, it carries quite a punch. It reminds me that I only have a couple more semesters to "get it together." It reminds me that in less than a year I'm going to be on my own, working to support myself and my accumulated student loans; that in less than a year I'm not going to have the comfortable landing pad of college (and that is exactly what college is: a soft, understanding place to break your fall). Before I know it, I'm going to be starting all over from the beginning.

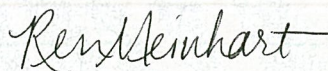
Kind of like being a freshman. A lot of the apprehensions I have about graduating are the same ones that played at the corners of my mind as I came to this campus. I'm sure that there are currently over 2,000 new students that know exactly what I'm talking about. I'm sure the questions, "Where are you going to school? What are you going to major in? What do you want to do with that degree?" were as frequent for you as they were for me.

I didn't know what college had in store for my then anymore than I know what to expect as a soon-to-be-graduate. I can say however, that the incredible college experience that I've had so far makes me hopeful for what's to come and so I'm trying not to dwell in anxiety. I encourage those of you in a similar position to do the same. Stress leads to ulcers, or so I hear.

I'm not going to give those of you in the incoming class a ton of advice—there's plenty of good advice elsewhere in this week's magazine. I'm just going to leave you with my plan for the year, a sort of "new school year resolution," if you will. Take it as you will, whether this is your first year at RIT or your last (or somewhere in the middle).

This year, I'm not going to settle for anything less than the very best from this school or from myself. RIT prides itself on being an excellent, competitive, and burgeoning on elite institute of higher learning and every bit of that should start with us, the students. We should directly feel the benefits of that reputation. I'm going to challenge the mediocrity that tends to slip in mid-semester when everyone gets bogged down and the "new school year" motivation wears off. I'm going to be completely pro-active when it comes to my education, taking it upon myself to get as much out of my professors as they have to give, not waiting for them to impart it in passing moments—too often, those moments don't come at all. This year I'm going to challenge RIT to give me exactly what I'm paying for: its very best, whether that be in the classroom or beyond.

Of course, I know that I will have to put forth the same stellar effort to make this work. I'm ready to go.



Ren Meinhart  
**Editor in Chief**



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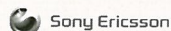


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# Cdigix Offers Legal Alternative to Pirating Music

by John-Michael Stern

photograph by Eric Sucar

Copyright laws and school policies have not been enough to lure students away from snatching music off RIT's high-speed Internet connection. RIT's department of Information and Technology Services decided that if they cannot beat pirating by punishment, they may as well offer an alternative.

On July 19, ITS signed an agreement with Colorado-based Cdigix to provide a digital music library to students who choose to subscribe to it at the cost of \$2.99 per month. Students pay an additional \$0.89 for each song off the library that they wish to burn onto a CD or download to an mp3 player. The library houses over 800,000 songs.

Diane Barbour, ITS Chief Information Officer, said RIT has opted not to pay for the service so that "the cost will not be reflected in increased tuition or fees." The point of signing the agreement with Cdigix, she said, was to allow the company to locate a server on campus that would optimize the speed for downloading.

Cdigix is a two-year-old digital entertainment and educational media provider that focuses exclusively on the college marketplace. Along with RIT, Cdigix is providing services this fall to Marietta College, Ohio University, University of Denver, Wake Forest University, and Yale University.

Cdigix offers three separate services, including the music-downloading service that RIT has signed up for—Ctrax. The other two services are Cflix (video on demand) and Clabs (educational media).

When shopping for music, RIT students currently may find themselves in a moral-financial dilemma: they can either pay a dozen dollars for a new CD and safeguard themselves from the law or they can steal songs for "free" online and assume the possibility of being caught. Ctrax makes the idea of paying for copyrighted music more inviting for students, because of its low downloading cost.

"It's more getting students used to the idea that when you're using copyrighted material, you have to pay for it," Barbour said.

RIT receives daily notifications from the Recording Industry Association of America of illegal music sharing.

"RIT is still receiving many notifications each day that RIT students are downloading music illegally," she said. "Students who are accused of illegal file sharing must immediately remove the illegal materials. If they do not, they are denied access to the network. Students also go through the normal judicial process for violations of the Code of Conduct for Computer and Network Use.

"RIT does not impose criminal penalties. However, if confronted with a subpoena, RIT is required to turn over to



the authorities identifying information. Copyright law outlines a range of penalties. The court has imposed fines of up to \$250,000 per infringed work and felony prison sentences of five years."

When asked whether students will take advantage of the Ctrax service, she said, "It is hard to say. I am hoping that they will. Ctrax provides a legitimate way to enjoy the benefits of downloading music for personal enjoyment."

Sheila Sarratore, Student Government president, related her uncertainty. "Students always want to listen to music and they're always trying to find the newest songs and keep up to date," she said. "The institute is trying to help the students find a way to do that legally. We're hoping the students use it and like it, but it's hard to tell with 15,000 students exactly how people are going to react."

"I have no idea if I (personally) am going to like it better than something else or not," said Sarratore. "It just really depends on how good the service is."

File sharing of music is not the only concern at RIT. Barbour said they also receive notifications of copyright infringement for movies, software and games. Although Cdigix does provide a digital movie library with Cflix, RIT decided not to sign up for the service. "We have decided to address this problem one step at a time," said Barbour.

RIT may consider adding Cflix later on, she said, but some issues could arise, such as how the service might conflict with RIT's existing Time Warner contract for cable services.

While many students continue to misuse RIT's computer system without being caught, others have faced subpoenas.

A former RIT student, Stephen Ryan Widemaier of Warren, Pa., pleaded guilty in June in U.S. District Court to a single count of copyright infringement. He confirmed that he pirated computer software while at RIT.

Barbour said RIT received a subpoena last fall for another student. "The bottom line is that copying or sharing copyrighted materials of any kind without permission is illegal," she said. "Those who are caught engaging in this activity will be subject to fine, imprisonment or both. RIT is trying to avoid that happening to RIT students."

Cdigix has been up and running since September 1 at [media.cdigix.com](http://media.cdigix.com). David Pecora, ITS operations manager, said the first 3000 students who sign up with the service for the full academic year will receive a nine-month rebate. Service costs may be charged to campus debit cards. ■

**CAPTION:** RIT Chief Information Officer Diane Barbour (left) and ITS Operations Manager Dave Pecora (right).



# Year-long Celebration marks 175th Anniversary

by John-Michael Stern

RIT celebrates its 175th anniversary this year, and Dr. Albert Simone and the planning committee have described it in three words, "Education. Exploration. Innovation."

The celebration, which began at Commencement in May 2004 and continues through Commencement of May 2005, is packaged with a smorgasbord of events.

The anniversary celebration kicked off on May 21–22, the culminating days for many graduates at the convocation and commencement ceremonies. Rochester on the Rise and the Corporate Awards Gala followed on June 10. The Undergraduate Research Symposium wrapped up the summer festivities on Aug. 13 by honoring outstanding undergraduate work in KGCOE, COS, CAST and GCCIS.

During each month of the school year, colleges will take turns celebrating the anniversary in their own way. This month, CIAS will be providing an exhibition in Bevier Gallery of the works of M. Louise Stowell, the first female faculty member of the Mechanics Institute. Monthly celebrations will continue with, in order, COLA, CAST, COS, GCCIS, KGCOE, NTID and COB.

"Each college is highlighting what they're doing now, but many of them are going back to their historical roots so that students of the colleges will become more aware of the legacy," said Simone.

The fall celebration will commence September 18 with "Reaching Out for

Community Service" Day, or, "RIT ROCS." The civic-minded event is set to bring students, faculty, and alumni together in Rochester and alumni chapter locations throughout the country, as well as RIT's campuses in Croatia and Kosovo, to give back to their respective communities.

The Brick City Festival will follow on October 21–24 with several celebrities taking the stage in the new Gordon Field House. The Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra will present a concert at 7:30 p.m. October 21 with world-renowned classical composers John Williams and Jeff Tyzik. Robert Redford, actor and film director, will give an afternoon speech October 23 as part of the Horton Distinguished Speaker Series and David Spade, stand-up comedian and actor, will perform at the Gordon Field House at 8 p.m. October 23.

Malcom Spaul, RIT professor in the School of Film and Animation, is producing a documentary on RIT that will premier in the Ingle auditorium at 4 p.m. November 11. The documentary, now several months in the making, is a collaborative piece by Spaul, staff, and students in conjunction with local PBS affiliate WXXI.

The anniversary celebration is the work of a 27-member planning committee that began meeting in August 2002. The committee includes representatives from faculty, staff, students, retirees, trustees, alumni, the Nathaniel Rochester Society and the Institute of Fellows.

Deborah Stendardi, co-chair of the planning committee, said, "One of the most important things to come out of this year is an increased sense of history and an appreciation of the evolution of RIT into what it is today—a nationally recognized technological university."

Stendardi is joined by co-chair Fred Smith. "The events that we're doing are almost all open to the Greater Rochester community and have received national visibility," he said. "The anniversary is an opportunity to showcase all the accomplishments of RIT to the external community and an opportunity for the campus to enhance pride and sense of community and support the current capital campaign."

President Simone stressed the importance of current RIT students recognizing the history and tradition that the anniversary is celebrating. "It's a rich history rooted in the community but also committed to serving industry by preparing students for careers."

When asked what he thinks RIT will look like at the turn of the bicentennial, twenty-five years from now, Simone said, "If we follow the road map described in the Strategic Planning, 25 years from now we will be what I call a category of one university, a university that is a benchmark for all universities that have a similar mission."

Visit [www.rit.edu/175](http://www.rit.edu/175) for further details. ■

## BrickBeat

by Ren Meinhart

### Official Opening of Gordon Field House

To celebrate the grand opening and dedication of the Gordon Field House and Activities Center, the RIT campus and community is invited to a day of participation, dedication, and good fun on Friday September 10.

The celebration kicks off at 2:30 p.m. in the new multi-use facility with invigorating performances by RIT student athletes in aquatics, fitness and field, martial arts, and juggling.

The dedication ceremony at 3:30 p.m. will feature ROTC members, student athletes and cheerleaders and a special appearance by Jim Kelly, the four-time Super Bowl quarterback of the Buffalo Bills and a member of the Pro Football Hall of Fame. This hourlong ceremony

will be followed by a reception and continued demonstrations of the facility.

At 9:30 p.m. that evening, Second City comedy troupe, Chicago's legendary comedy theater, will be the first major act to perform in the Gordon Field House. The touring troupe's performance features sketches, songs, improvisations, and on-the-spot topical comedy.

Tickets for this performance—at a price of \$2 for students, \$5 for alumni, faculty, and staff and \$10 for general admission—are available at the candy counter in the Student Alumni Union or by calling 475-5210.

Late night activities include a midnight bagel break and open swimming will top off the evening, starting at 11:00 p.m.

### Big Shot Returns to RIT

RIT will hold its 21st "Big Shot" on Sunday September 12 at 7:30 p.m. as part of the university's year-long 175th anniversary celebration.

Big Shot features a lighting technique known as "painting with light." At the cue of project coordinators, participants armed with camera flash units and flashlights bathe the subject area in luminance during an extended period of exposure. This year's subject matter is RIT's very own administrative circle. The 73-foot Sentinel sculpture will be in the foreground of the shot with the George Eastman Building and Student Alumni Union in the background.

Visit <http://photography.rit.edu> for details. ■



# CrimeWatch

compiled by Andrew Bigelow

## July 17 – Andrews Memorial Drive Criminal Mischief

A student drove on several unpaved areas causing extensive turf damage throughout campus. He was observed by a Campus Safety Officer and filed the area. Student was located at his apartment and admitted causing the damage. He was referred to Student Conduct for disposition.

## July 17 – K Lot Endangering Behavior

Student admitted to setting off fireworks that he had purchased at home. A search was conducted of his vehicle and residence hall room and he was referred to Student Conduct for disposition.

## July 24 – University Commons Unauthorized Use Of A Motor Vehicle

Student reported his 1996 Mazda 626 was taken from a parking lot near UC Building 14 between July 23 and 24. Campus Safety Officers located the vehicle in F-Lot a short time later. No damage

reported to the vehicle and nothing was missing from inside. Crime alert notices were distributed at University Commons.

## July 26 – Colony Manor Burglary

Maintenance found damage to the dry wall inside a vacant apartment at Colony Manor. Unknown persons entered through a window, and caused damage to the drywall in two rooms. A neighborhood canvass was conducted, and Crime Alert notices were distributed in the apartment complex.

## July 26 – S Lot Possession Burglary Tools

An officer observed a suspicious person in S-Lot looking into parked cars. The officer approached the individual and observed him carrying tools. Monroe County Sheriff's Office arrested the non-member for Possession of Burglary Tools and he was banned from campus. No damage or thefts were reported from our parking lots.

## August 12 – Colony Manor Leaving the Scene of an Accident

An officer observed a large sign damaged at Colony Manor. Area parking lots were checked for the striking vehicle and the student driver was identified. The case is referred to Student Conduct for disposition.

## August 31 – Colony Manor Vandalism

Housing Operations reported names and phone numbers written on a wall in black magic marker inside a Colony Manor apartment. Investigation continues and the persons involved will be referred to Student Conduct for disposition.

Please call Campus Safety immediately at 475-3333 (v/tty) when you see suspicious behavior on campus. Opportunities to identify persons responsible for crime increase tremendously when Campus Safety is alerted quickly.

# Welcome Back RIT students

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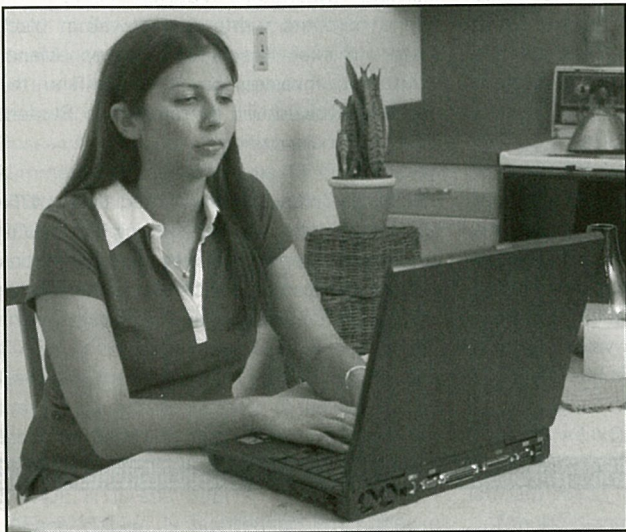
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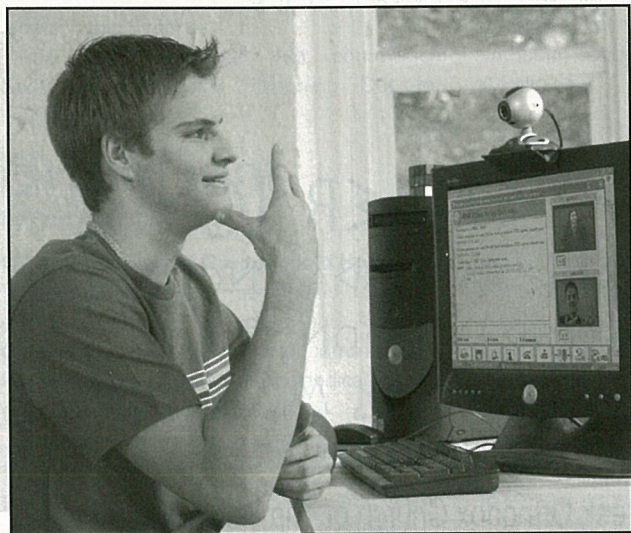
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## The Princeton Review said WHAT?

The Princeton Review recently released its rankings for the 357 Best Colleges of 2005, which included RIT as one of the best 357 as well as one of the best in the Northeast. RIT was also ranked in two special categories: 10th on the list of campuses that are tiny, unsightly, or both, and 19th on the list of schools boasting the unhappiest students. Way to go!

Quote

No man needs a vacation so much as the person who has just had one.

— Elbert Hubbard

> Reporter Recommends

**The Crawfish Etouffee at Beale Street Café is a pleasant combination of peppers, onions, and crawfish tails prepared over rice. It will do you right like a spicy panacea.**

*Lamb: The Gospel According to Biff, Christ's Childhood Pal* by Christopher Moore gives an appropriately irreverent look into the thought-to-be-lost years of Jesus' life. The book is laugh-out-loud funny and very refreshing in its perspective on the monolithic religious icon Josh (JC).

**Random REVIEW**

# AT YOUR

# LEISURE

## Things and Stuff, and People too...

Rochester is the birthplace of Cab Calloway, the famous song and dance man featured in the movie *The Blues Brothers*.

In a day's time, more people live than die.

Because of all of the parks and gardens, including the historic Sonneburg Gardens, in and around Rochester, the city has accrued the nickname of "The Flower City."

The house where Susan B. Anthony was arrested for voting is a historic landmark in Rochester.

This past summer, Rochester celebrated the 100th anniversary of the invention of the ice cream cone. Unfortunately, the modern dessert apparatus was introduced to America via St. Louis.

## These Must Be Facts



Everyone has a soft spot for music. Music touches us in a way that can uncover a new personality. Live music can magnify these emotions, sending that shiver down your spine as the bass line shakes your soul. The live music venue provides an arena for the unexpected—a place where you can let loose, be comfortably carefree, and perhaps a bit irresponsible as well. Every city its favorites, and Rochester is no different. This guide to Rochester hot spots will let you find your musical nirvana.

**Milestones Music Room** 170 East Ave.

**What's Playing:** Everything from Rock to Celtic.

**Web:** [www.milestonesmusicroom.com](http://www.milestonesmusicroom.com).

Located in the heart of Rochester's East End cultural district, Milestones Music Room plays host to an eclectic array of talent ranging in genre from hard rock to funk to Irish Celtic.

The club itself is the perfect size—the small stage, often-crowded dance floor and ever-busy bar lends an intimate, energetic atmosphere. The club brings in promising local acts and occasionally better known out-of-towners. Band contests and open jams sprinkle the schedule and every Wednesday night a rotation of resident DJs and MCs lead an evening of drum and bass jams. Cover charges range from \$5 to \$18 for the "larger" acts—ages 18 and up permitted, but be sure to bring ID. Spot Coffee is less than a block away—a great place to get a pre-show cup of coffee so that you're wired and ready for a night of serious music.

unless you get there early, you may have to cough up \$5 on Friday and Saturday nights. While the clientele is mostly scene-snobbed 21–31 year old professionals and the happy hours are mellow and sophisticated, the crowd gets younger as the night goes on. If you want to hear Rochester's premier DJs bring the beats and join the frenzied, energetic dance floor, bring your ID; Tonic is 21 and up.

**Beale Street Café** 689 South Avenue

**What's playing:** Blues.

**Web:** [www.Bealestreetcafe.com](http://www.Bealestreetcafe.com).

Boasting that "in here, every day is Mardi Gras," the Beale Street Café's relaxed atmosphere, award winning Cajun BBQ, and some of Rochester's best Blues music truly brings a little bit of Louisiana to our fair city. This gem of a bar is located at the corner of South Ave and Gregory Street in the South Wedge and can be found crowded with Blues fans on Tuesday nights



**Tonic** 336 East Ave.

**What's playing:** Progressive house and techno DJs, Live reggae.

**Web:** [www.tonic.com](http://www.tonic.com).

While Tonic is definitely upscale, pricey, and generally cliquy and trendy, the DJs that spin here are the best that Rochester has to offer. Club-goers can drink and dance to progressive house and techno on Friday and Saturday nights, or can sit back and enjoy live reggae, wine tastings, and an impressive view of the Rochester skyline from Tonic's deck on Thursday evenings. While there's plenty of parking behind the building,

from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., Thursday nights from 9:30 p.m. to 1:00 am, and on Friday and Saturday nights the music starts early and don't stop 'till 2:00 a.m. The crowd is predominantly comprised of over-zealous middle-aged folks—its not a place to dance and mingle and meet new people, but if you want to kick back with some friends, watch some slightly comical characters do-si-do, and enjoy some impressive blues jams, be sure to check it out. Bring your appetite, and, if you can, be sure to get a seat up front—you wouldn't want to miss out on any conversation-fodder.



**Water Street Music Hall** 204 N. Water Street

**What's playing:** Everything from funk to punk.

**Web:** [www.waterstreetmusic.com](http://www.waterstreetmusic.com)

Claiming to be Rochester's premier concert room, Water Street is one of the best place in town to take in some live music. Water Street Music Hall is the largest club concert hall in Rochester, so with the exception of the occasional Blue Cross arena concert, this is your best bet to see some more high profile acts. The talent Water Street brings in runs the gamut from nationally recognized superstars, to that band you hear is pretty good, all the way to your favorite local acts. This club will surprise you with the range of genres it brings in too. From hip-hop to hard rock, from funk to punk and everything in between, Water Street has something for everybody. In the September schedule alone, you'll find hip hop DJ's, nü metal, pop punk, blues, and a psychedelic jam band.

The layout of the hall is pretty standard. The shoulder height stage is separated by a barrier and a moat of security, the balcony can give you a nice birds eye view, the bar is ready to serve you overpriced drinks, and the rest of the space is either a nice sized dance floor, mosh pit, head banging zone, or whatever you kids do at concerts these days that the circumstances call for.

As an added bonus, if your lucky and show up at a sizable concert, you may get to be serenaded by Rochester's own Accordion Guy, a staple at most concert lines, whose versions of "That's Amore" and "Who let the dogs out?" are just as entertaining as what you'll see inside.

However, a few local promoters will book some pretty substantial hardcore and metal shows at this venue too. When that happens, the kids pile in and the bar transforms into a solid venue. Its low stage and no barrier between you and the band make the Arcade perfect for stage dives and sing-alongs, creating quite the intimate experience. The sound is usually above par for this kind of place and the speakers are guaranteed to make your ears ring...in a "that was a hell of a show" kind of way. Disappointingly, admission is not, in fact, a penny, but are still top notch and totally worth it. Located right next to Lake Ontario on Lake Ave, its not hard to get to, parking is free, and there's an excellent ice cream bar right next door. So keep an eye on the shows in *Freetime* magazine or [www.heavyroc.com](http://www.heavyroc.com).

**The BugJar** 219 Monroe Ave.

**What's Playing:** As eclectic as it gets.

**Web:** [www.bugjar.com](http://www.bugjar.com)

There are few places in Rochester that are as eccentric and eclectic as the Bug Jar — and few places that are as just plain cool. This club boasts that they're of a dying breed of nightclub—the kind truly dedicated to live music and plenty of it, hosting everything from disco, funk, metal, hip-hop, electronica, ska, punk, reggae, and R&B. The Bug Jar features major label artists as well as independent recording artists alike, and literally have something going every night of the week. The highlights? Manic Monday (80s disco nights), Open Jar Jams on Sundays,

by Ren Meinhart and Justin Harsch  
photographs by Ren Meinhart

# Rochester

**Penny Arcade** 4785 Lake Ave.

**What's playing:** Hardcore and Metal.

The Penny Arcade can be a nice place to grab a drink and enjoy some music. Weekly Karaoke nights and open mic nights, frequent tribute bands and local acts are usually on the stage of this quasi-intimate bar. The atmosphere is just the same as any local watering hole, complete with pool tables, dart boards, and drink specials.

Thursday Night Fever DJs, "Unplug at the Bug" Friday happy hours, and kickin' Saturday night shows. Every Wednesday, Skyehigh DJs—some of Rochester's best DJing talent—send the crowd through the roof with high energy steady vibes. To keep tabs on this talented crew, visit [www.skyehigh.com](http://www.skyehigh.com).

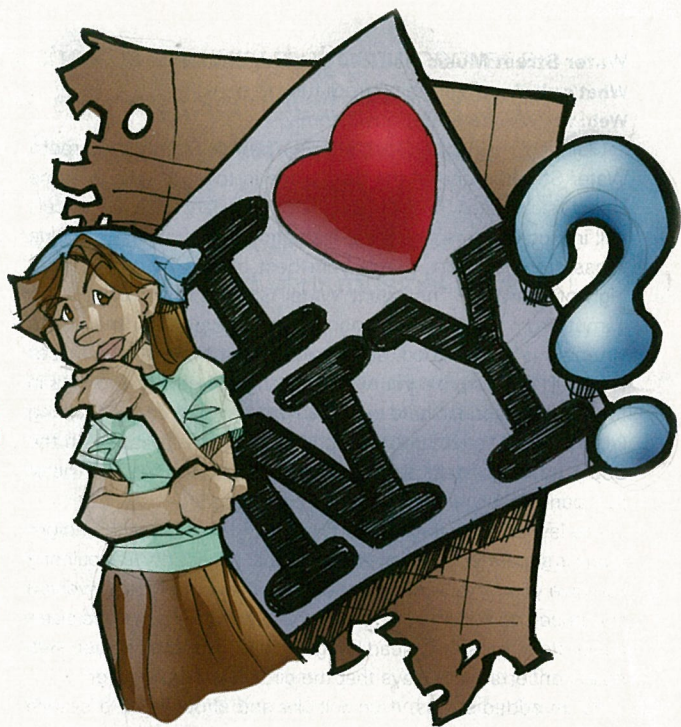
The décor at the Bug Jar is just as hot as the music—an upside-down 50s style kitchen is glued to the ceiling of the dance room. In fact the only drawback is that the Bugjar is 21 and up most every night of the month.

**Don't forget to keep an eye on these local favorites listed on page 15.**



# The Way Things Worked

by Kate Bloemaker  
illustration by Sean Carner



**REPORTER** Senior Editor Kate Bloemaker journeys to New York City for a summer magazine internship. Will she become Sarah Jessica Parker from *Sex and the City*, coveting pointy shoes and concrete? Yes, yes she will; then again, maybe not.

## 6/5/04 The Art of Haz-Mat

I thought I had given up this whole journal thing last year when I wrote my formal goodbye to all of my faithful readers. Like a significant other in a slowly-disintegrating relationship, my diary had become an apathetic chore. Now, though, I sit in a Manhattan apartment, knowing about five people on an island of millions, thinking things that I'd like to share.

My roommates and I got kicked out of the Guggenheim today. What an odd building—ugly on the outside, all cracked and peeling, but lovely inside. We were enjoying some beautiful photographs when a crowd of frantic guards appeared, shouting that we all had to leave IMMEDIATELY. We exited the building and were confronted by a dozen firefighters on their way in, followed by men in bright turquoise Haz-Mat suits. Apparently they were taking care of a “mysterious package” left in one of the galleries. Turned out to be nothing. Hmm. I did get a photo of the Haz-Mat guys rushing past the hot dog stand in front of the museum, though.

## 6/8/04 Celebrity Death List

What with J. Lo's shotgun wedding and the death of Ronald Reagan, everyone has been too busy at work to notice the intern. So, I began randomly looking through all of the folders on the company server...and guess what I found? A folder crowded with advance obituaries of celebrities the staff thinks might die soon. Paul Newman, the pope, Ray Charles, Rosemary Clooney, Dick Cheney, and so on. Turns out they'd had the Reagan one written for ten years already. There were even a few young people like John Goodman (heart attack?) and Robert Downey, Jr. (overdose?). It was morbidly fascinating.

## 6/11/04 Good Touch, Bad Touch

Beer: the only reason the carry a driver's license in a city with subways.

I wonder sometimes how freeing it might be to be a man and not have to worry about sexual predators or realize that at some point on my way home, someone probably looked at me and thought about how they'd like to do me. I feel some slight degree of violation every time I get on public transit, thinking about the guy who groped me on a crowded subway my first week here. He was purposely pushing up against me, and I can still feel his hand trying to reach up my dress. I just moved across the train, not saying anything, and I don't know why. I regret not pushing him away or shouting at him. *I'm not your wife or your girlfriend or your whore!* It makes me sick that people think they can violate others like that.

Funny how Ray Charles just died, right after I wrote about his advance obituary.

## 6/17/04 24-Hour Sun

My clothing has been attacking me all week. Someone stepped on my shoe, yanking it off as I crossed Broadway the other day, and I was left stumbling shoeless in the middle of the intersection, trying to find a single flip-flop in a sea of oblivious commuters. It eventually returned to me. Then my skirt got caught in the escalator at a movie theater in Times Square, and I almost had to take it off and stand in my underwear, watching my clothing be eaten by the escalator. Miraculously, I was able to rip it free at the last second, although my sweater mysteriously disappeared on my way home. And I just recently tripped over my own shoe.



# ThisWeek

submit your events to [reporter@rit.edu](mailto:reporter@rit.edu)

If you look out a window in Times Square, it looks like daytime even if it is 4 a.m.

## 6/20/04 Keeping Up Appearances

I saw something peculiar yesterday.

I was waiting to get on the subway, listening to a guitarist who was playing in the corner, his case open for spare change. A weathered-looking middle-aged woman shuffled by, wearing scraggly clothes and slippers with holes in them. She tossed some money into the guitar case.

The train arrived, and after I had boarded, the woman got on too and began asking people for money to feed herself and her daughters. I remembered having seen her on the train before, asking the same thing.

So the question is, was she lying, or was she just sharing what little money she had?

## 6/22/04 Chagrin

I am a skeptic. My rational nature prevents me from buying into conspiracy theories too much.

But wouldn't it be funny if, right before the elections in November, the government announced that Osama bin Laden had finally been found?

I may go to grad school. Somehow, rushing around trying to find the skinniest-looking picture of Mary-Kate Olsen does not at this time appeal to me as an intellectually fulfilling career.

On the upside, my roommate somehow got an invitation to a Godiva Chocolates trunk show, which involved being served chocolate martinis by attractive boys and being given \$100 worth of truffles to take home for free. Mmm.

## 6/29/04 New Yorkers

Everyone in this city goes from plays to shoe stores, work to subways, bookstores to bars, and I wonder if they have any time for thinking in between. The noise is everywhere except in this room.

I think I saw Rod Stewart today. He was coming out of an elevator in my building, and he was very tan. I didn't really care. Who would I be excited to see? I don't know, maybe Dave Matthews or Kevin Smith. Today sucks. I should go to the Met again this weekend and find the Vermeers.

## 7/12/04 Space/Time

I am not dead. I'm pretty sure, anyway. I've always wondered if maybe I am actually some

old person in a retirement home whose mind isn't all there, who just thinks she's a twenty-one-year-old woman sitting at a computer on the thirtieth floor of an office building in New York. Maybe I'm a ninety-year-old man.

I walked around to everyone's offices today, asking if they needed anything, and was met with "a margarita on the rocks," "a day off," and "brain-to-computer osmosis." Great. How entertaining that I work for witty people, but couldn't I have some sort of function around here?

I saw my first Vermeer painting today and nearly cried; it was so amazing.

## 7/23/04 All You Need Is

I have spent the past few years desperately trying to figure out what I am in love with, for fear of being a nihilist. I really want to give a damn. Is it photography? Writing? Art as a whole? I suppose it is like asking which kind of food you could eat the most days in a row, and still be happy to taste, and which ones would make you throw up.

The only thing I know I love for sure is other people. I'm not in love with any of them, though. I'm not sure what or whom I would die for, and how much the dying part would have to hurt before I said "Enough! Nothing is worth this." It will be interesting to see if life is worth it.

## 8/2/04 Home

I have been getting all sentimental about home the past couple weeks. It's the first time I've realized that I might want to move back there someday. Right now I want nothing more than to be home, stepping out my front door and seeing NO ONE, and inviting myself over for dinner at my neighbors' house. Maybe really amazing sex followed by intellectual conversation and chocolate mousse torte might be better, but that's about it.

It's like looking all over the house for your favorite coat, and then realizing that it's right in the closet where you left it.

## 8/6/04 Jump Up in the Air; Click Heels Together

So long, thanks, and good riddance, NY. ■

9/10

6:30 pm–9:30 pm

Auditions for *The Shape of Things*

60-1510. A mix of actors is sought to be double-cast (one deaf and one hearing per role) in a drama that challenges society's ideas about art, manipulation, and love. Contact: Jim Orr: [ntidtix@rit.edu](mailto:ntidtix@rit.edu).

9/11

9 am–4 pm

RIT's 10th Annual Softball Saturday

Softball Fields. Call to find out whether your college or division is forming a team for the tournament. Refreshments served throughout the day. Free. Contact: Lex Sleeman: [atsped@rit.edu](mailto:atsped@rit.edu), 475-7372.

3 pm–7:30 pm

Get Wet Pool Party

Gordon Field House. Presented by LAU and OCASA. Free food and live DJ. Free. Contact: Omar Meija: [oam3292@rit.edu](mailto:oam3292@rit.edu).

9/13

6:30 p.m.–9:30 p.m.

Auditions for *The Boys Next Door*

Panara Theatre. A mix of deaf and hearing actors is sought to be double-cast in a comedic drama about the lives of mentally handicapped people who live in a group home, and their burned-out social worker. Free. Contact: Jim Orr: [ntidtix@rit.edu](mailto:ntidtix@rit.edu).

9/14

3:30 p.m.–5:30 p.m.

Lecture

The Perfect E-Storm: Emerging Technology, Enormous Learner Demands, Enhanced Pedagogy, and Erased Budgets. 70-2400. Learn about how emerging technologies are generating waves of opportunity in K-12 and in higher education..



# Knowing is Half the Battle:

by Sean Hannan

## A web guide for those just tuning in

Between the pamphlets, syllabi, and motivational speakers running amok touting principles of collegiate success, here is yet another addition, a little handbook of digital life to help first-year students figure out what is going on.

### Student Information System | <http://www.rit.edu/sis>

SIS is exactly what it claims to be, a system that provides student information. Through SIS, you can view your class schedule, financial aid information, exam schedules, and your grades. The site can calculate your current GPA as well as predict your upcoming GPA, a helpful tool when deciding whether to withdraw from or drop a class.

These are all useful tools; however, you should be aware that the overall campus impression of SIS is one of sluggish frustration. This site is based on the geriatric-but-reliable VAX system and is routinely down for maintenance. SIS particularly begins to show its age whenever course registration time comes around. Be prepared to set your alarm for 5:45 a.m. on that fateful day in an attempt to get the classes you want.

In light of SIS's shortcomings, the Institute is actively making changes to the system to ensure a swift site that also addresses student scheduling concerns. Be nice to SIS, and SIS will be nice to you.

### Wallace Library | <http://wally.rit.edu>

Much like its brick-and-mortar incarnation, Wallace Library's online presence is a fantastic resource. You can search the entire library catalog as well as catalogs from other libraries across New York. Wallace Library is somewhat lacking in its fiction collection, but chances are that you can borrow the new intergalactic-vampire-detective-with-a-penchant-for-PCP bestseller via ConnectNY, an interlibrary loan system connecting RIT with other New York colleges. Within a day or two, the book will be available for pickup at Wallace Library, and you will barely have had to leave your room.

Dead trees not your thang? Wally has a wonderful collection of e-books that you can read online. Before you go and drop a sizeable chunk of change on textbooks, see if they are available for free as e-books.

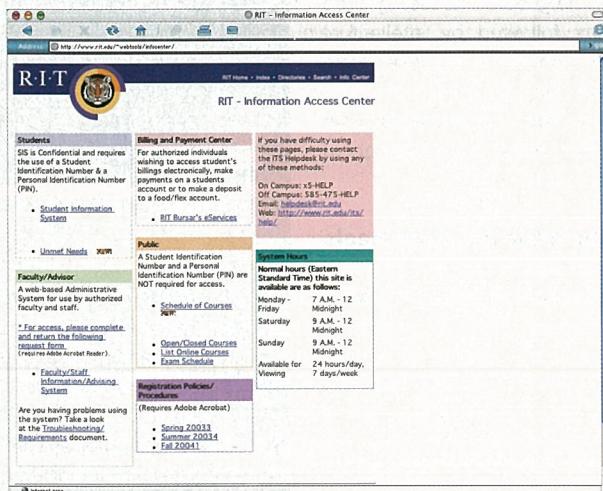
The library site also has a wonderful section on how to find and cite the information you need for papers. By far though, the best feature on the site is the opportunity to renew checked-out books without having to set foot outside.

### Student Employment Office | <http://www.rit.edu/~967www/>

Looking for some extra cash? The SEO website is a good place to find local opportunities for student employment. The site is broken down into on-campus (for the lazy or car-less crowd) and off-campus (for the motivated and auto-enabled students) listings. A description, hourly wages, estimated number of hours, and contact information are given for each opening. Most positions posted through the Student Employment Office are flexible with scheduling and have supervisors who are understanding of class commitments. So go ye children, and become cogs in the capitalist system. Milwaukee's Beast isn't going to buy itself, now is it?

### Information Technology Services | <http://www.rit.edu/~wwwits/>

This wonderful department of the Institute handles all things computer-related. If you're having computer issues, ITS ought be the first place you contact. Its people can perform all sorts





of tasks from troubleshooting and upgrades to getting you set up on the network.

On the site you will find useful information such as how to set up your e-mail and how to receive free anti-virus software. Also available are listings of the ITS-run computer labs and the software installed in each lab.

ITS e-mails everyone on campus ad nauseum concerning new security threats and necessary system updates. While it may seem alarmist and obnoxious, it is important to heed the warnings as you would any usage policies found on the ITS site; failing to comply may result in temporarily losing your internet access. Clearly, ITS takes pride in its infrastructure and actively monitors traffic. So, be warned that passing around kinkycheerleadersex.jpg might not only get your connection cut off; it might get you a knock from the FBI.

**Clubs & Organizations at RIT | <http://clubs.rit.edu>**

RIT has an amazing number of clubs on campus. If you have some sort of hobby, there is most likely a group of people who share the same interest. You should seek out these folks; it's a great way to meet new people. Throughout orientation and FYE, this concept will be thoroughly beaten into your soft little skull, but it's true. It doesn't matter that your only interest in life is sitting in your room and masturbating to pictures of bonobo monkeys. Hell, there's probably a club for that.

**RIT Events Calendar | <http://events.rit.edu>**

The RIT Events Calendar debuted last year as a remedy to the standard complaint that nobody knows what is happening on campus. This excuse is now null and void. You do not get to use this excuse. **Ever.**

The calendar features *everything* that is happening on campus. From sporting events to concerts, interesting lectures to club meetings, they're all there. Use this resource frequently, and you may escape the clutches of the dreaded apathy monster that seems to lumber along the quarter mile.

**City Newspaper's Event Listings | <http://www.rochester-citynews.com>**

While there is a considerable amount of things occurring on campus, you are truly missing out if you do not venture outside

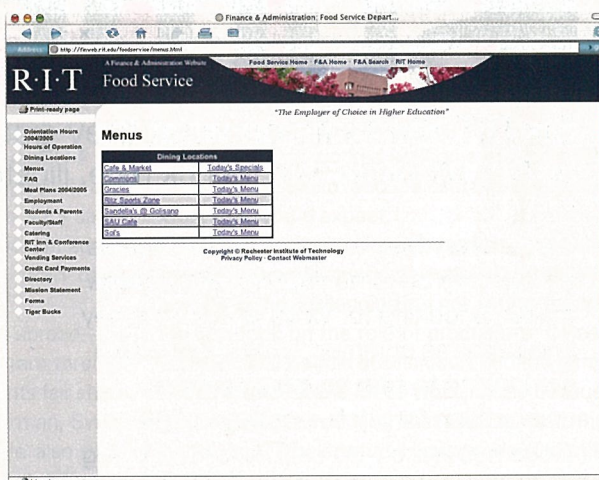
our brick confines. Rochester is quite an amazing city to explore, and it will not disappoint. Everything can be found in *City's* event listings: concerts, gallery openings, street fairs, local theater, and even cemetery tours.

Your time in Rochester is a lot shorter than you realize, and it will be long gone in a few short years. So suck it up, befriend the kid on your floor with a car, and get out to see Rochester.

**Food Services Menu | <http://finweb.rit.edu/foodservice/menu.html>**

It is a known fact: if you do not eat, you will die. A lesser-known fact is that despite all of the grumblings, RIT offers a large variety of dining options on campus. This handy-dandy page lets you know which entrees are featured where and when. Not listed on the page, but well worth checking out (if you have the means) is Petals, a restaurant located in the RIT Inn. Petals accepts your RIT meal plan, and the food is quite unlike anything you'll find on campus.

A link on this page allows you to change your meal plan. Take it from someone who knows; you want to change your meal plan to the one that gives the most debit. Meal plan changes can only happen within the first two weeks of a quarter, so get cracking. ■



# ROCKchester, continued...



Local rock group Candid, led by RIT graduate Corey Paige (center) light up the night at Milestones. Ren Meinhart/REPORTER Magazine.

**Dinosaur BBQ** 99 Court Street.

Blues and BBQ are the name of the game at this Rochester favorite. Check out [dinosaurbarbque.com](http://dinosaurbarbque.com) for music listings.

**The Ritz** Rochester Institute of Technology.

That's right. In your own backyard. Every Friday night CAB is hosting live music in the basement of the SAU. Check out [cab.rit.edu](http://cab.rit.edu) for a complete schedule.

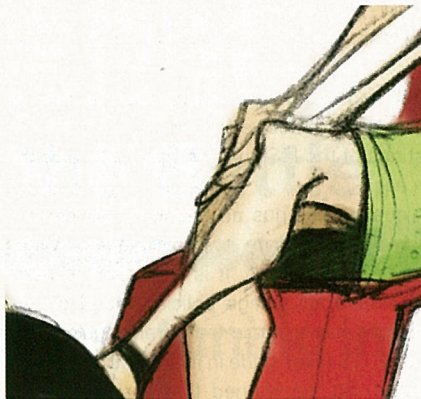
**Daily Perks Coffee House** 389 Gregory Street.

Open mics, small acoustic acts, intimate atmosphere. Visit [www.dailyperkscoffeehouse.com](http://www.dailyperkscoffeehouse.com) for a full schedule. If you're looking for more acoustic-loving coffee houses, visit [www.dynrec.com/coffee](http://www.dynrec.com/coffee) for a more complete list.

**The Montage Grille** 50 Chestnut Street

National and regional jazz, folk, bluegrass, and more. Check out [www.montagegrille.com](http://www.montagegrille.com) for more information on their Signature Concert Series.

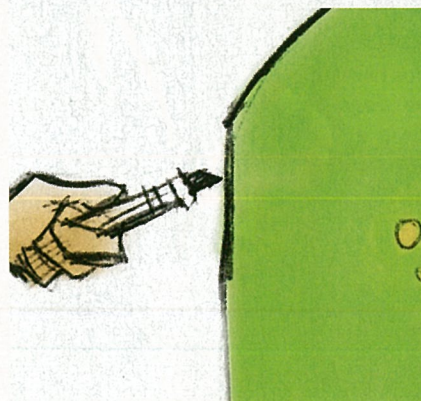
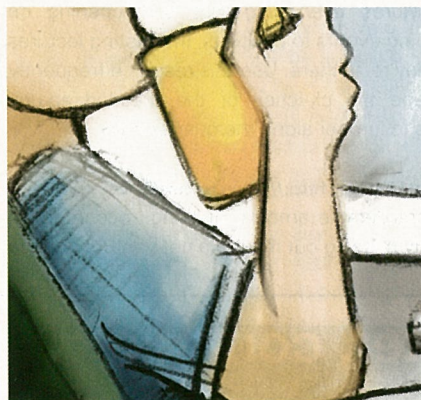




# 1HOT summer

Six RIT Students on what they got out of their summer  
by Ren Meinhart with Patrick Rice, illustrations by Bill Robinson

Come every May towns and cities across the country become flooded with college students looking for ways to make money and pass the summer. Whether students are looking to gain an edge on future competition for a job, working to fulfill those needed co-op credits, or just trying to score some cash, most everyone does something that sets summer apart from the regular school year. ¶ While many students may be complacent with mounting a John Deere or arming themselves with an ice cream scoop, frequently the ice cream stand is traded in for the office environment, and suddenly the only trimming to be done is that “I’m too lazy to get it cut” hair. ¶ The need to occupy one’s time however, does not necessarily mean joining the ranks of the corporate world—for some it’s a studio environment, or an educational or international one. RIT students spend their summers in all of these environments and more. And so, *Reporter* asked these six students “How did you spend your summer?”







**Ryan Kidder**  
**USB Investment Bank—Zurich, Switzerland**

When computer Science major Ryan Kidder went looking for a summer co-op, he decided to set his sights on something a little more international. Going through The International Association for the Exchange of Students for Technical Experience (IAESTI), Kidder landed in Zurich Switzerland, working for USB Investment Bank—the largest bank in Switzerland and one of the largest in the world.

Kidder worked in USB's Foreign Exchange where he worked on testing a XML accelerator that the company wanted to use in its currency trades and, in the end, provided the company with a purchasing recommendation. Kidder explained, "What I work on is a tool to trade large blocks of currency. It's basically like playing the stock market, just with foreign currencies instead. Let's say you think that the Euro (or any currency) is going to gain in value against the dollar, then you would buy a bunch of Euros and they would gain in value and then you would sell them back."

But it wasn't all work for Kidder, who said that he's having a "tremendous amount of fun. One of the cool things that IAESTI does is there's a local committee in Zurich where all of the trainees from all over the world—like, I have friends from Canada and Norway and Iran and Russia—we all get together once a week and then on the weekends there's usually a trip planned." One of these trips included bungee jumping off of a cliff in Ticino in the Italian part of Switzerland—the very same jump featured in the James Bond Goldeneye movie. He added that opportunity to make friends with students from other countries was the biggest perk of the entire trip.

This wasn't Kidder's first time living and learning abroad—he participated in a 10-month study in Germany program through the Computer Science department—but it still took its fair share of adjusting. For one, though Kidder is fluent in German, Swiss German proved to be a whole different matter. He also cited unusual Swiss rules as being a bit of an adjustment, "They're very strict. I'll say they're very *Swiss*—what you would expect from a country that hasn't been invaded in a couple hundred years, is neutral, and is kind of like the only child of Europe—they've never had to share their toys or anything like that."

He added, "Living in the U.S., you sometimes get this closed mindedness about outsiders but living here has definitely changed my opinion. Because, you're actually an outsider here and you're in the minority and you have to learn to adapt to their way of life.

I'd say I'm better prepared to move to an entirely new place and get settled there and start a new job and everything like that."

Kidder is already seeing the fruits of his summer co-op. "just the fact that since I've got this on my resume, that I worked for a bank in Switzerland, in Zurich, I've gotten four interviews for positions in the fall," one of which he has already accepted. "Companies are like, 'well if you're good enough to work in a Swiss bank, then you're obviously good enough to work for us.' The actual learning of programming and things like that aside, it's one of those things that is a tremendous opportunity to go, learn, travel, and it also looks really good on paper."



**Pat Wilson**  
**Garage Games—Eugene, Oregon**

For computer Science major Pat Wilson, arriving at his summer co-op at Garage Games in Eugene Oregon was almost like a trip home. In contact with the company founders since high school, Wilson has co-oped at Garage Games several times over the course of his time at RIT. While many might find this repetition monotonous, for Wilson it's an opportunity to do what he loves to do.

This summer, Wilson led a team of programmers working on porting a game called Marble Blast to Microsoft's X-box system. While the game itself was, for the most part, finished when Wilson and his team got a hand on it, "it was still a really big task to go from something that worked well on the PC to something that worked well on a console. We had to redo the controls, we had to redo the user interface, and it was a lot more work than you'd expect."

While Wilson did a lot of programming himself, he also came up with a work plan and delegated it to the rest of his team—a task he found challenging but not, by any means, overwhelming. He also took on the role of producer at times, interfacing with his team and people at Microsoft and the game's publisher.

If it sounds like a lot of work, that's because it is, but when you're doing something that excites you, the work becomes worth it. "This is what I love to do. I don't really think that there are many game programmers who do it who don't like it because we work really, really hard—80-hour weeks are not uncommon. Especially when the project gets toward the end and you're on crunch time you pretty much live there," he said.

And living at Garage Games is what he plans on doing once he graduates. "I've thought about it for a while. You don't get paid as much here but this is a company where you could drastically affect the company the company and the direction that it's going. Whereas, if I work at Microsoft, I'm basically just a cog in a machine and I really have no say on where the company goes."

Having a say and working towards something that matters is important to Wilson. "I get to play all day. I mean, it's a lot of work but I'm always working toward something that I think is fun and that I think will matter. We do independent games—we're kind of fighting away from 'normal,' trying to get away from big companies with big publishers controlling everything. The whole experience here is to do something that I like, which is make games and the games that I make also stand for something that I believe in which is kind of 'antiestablishment.' My whole job is kind of a perk."





### **Bill Gavett**

#### **Bausch & Lomb—Rochester, New York**

Bill Gavett, a fourth year Management Information Systems student didn't have to go far to work towards his co-op requirement this summer. The Walton, New York native found a co-op right in our own backyard in Bausch & Lomb's Global Sourcing and Procurement department.

This department works on finding, selecting and purchasing items, materials and services for specific functions within the business. Specifically, Bill worked on redesigning the department's intranet website to a more functional and efficient design in addition to other business-oriented day-to-day functions.

"MIS is a major that has two different spectrums—business and IT. My last co-op (at Kemper Insurance) had been programming, and this one was going to be more on the business side of the major," he said.

This change proved to be valuable for Gavett. "I learned about the other side of my major and now I feel that I have a better understanding about how I want to start my career path."

Gavett the used the opportunity to get an inside look at the corporate world. "The thing I learned most was about how large companies run their business. There were some office politics, but that will come with most corporate jobs." He went on to add that "Bausch and Lomb has a great co-op program and really takes care of their interns."

Overall, Gavett's co-op and Bausch & Lomb gave him a good opportunity to build his communication skills, which will serve to be invaluable as he enters the real world. "During a typical day at work I would communicate with many different people. I feel that I can approach people easier now since it was one of my daily routines in the office—I feel more confident about communicating with people in any environment."

### **Matt Mudge**

#### **General Electric—Schenectady, New York**

For car enthusiast and mechanical engineering major Matt Mudge, a summer co-op at General Electric not only gave him an excellent opportunity to see classroom concepts come to life but it also opened his eyes to the possibility of a whole new line of engineering.

Like many major corporations, GE is broken down into a head-dizzying list of major businesses, departments, and offices. Mudge works in the Department of Thermal Performance Services, under the umbra of GE Energy Services. This particular department supports, monitors, trains, and tracks all of the fleets of GE turbine engines all over the world.

What exactly does a turbine engine do? "These gas and steam turbines they pretty much produce electricity for the entire world. Its really really important for the world to produce all this power," Mudge explained. "We work with both gas and steam turbines and combined cycles [to increase efficiency]."

As if that weren't enough, Mudge went onto say that, "On top of that, while we deal with the turbines, GE is so big that we also deal with hydropower, with water dams. Solar power, wind power, the energy division encompasses a number of facets which produce power and electricity."

Specifically, Mudge has been working on a rollout called a "Thermal Performance Customer Witness Display." This online system allows GE customers who own turbines to witness live tests remotely while simultaneously allowing them to see incoming data.

All of this gave Mudge the opportunity to apply knowledge gained at RIT. "We do a lot of thermal analysis, thermal dynamics, and fluids and I've taken that at RIT and I see where that comes into play, It's really good when you go out on co-op and see [a practical application]. I've learned a lot so far and I expect to get a lot out of it."

He continued, "Going on a co-op like this is really great because it opens up new fields which I maybe never considered [within engineering]. Without a coop like this, I would have been very limited as to my focus and what I was thinking about for employment, but if find this work very interesting and I had never considered before."





**Anthony Russo**  
**JDK Design—Burlington Vermont**

As classes drew to a close at the end of the last academic year, fifth-year Illustration major Anthony Russo packed his bags and headed not for home but for Burlington, Vermont—home of progressive design firm Jager Di Paola Kemp Design (JDK). What he found when he got there was more than just a design firm and a more than average intern experience.

According to Russo, “This place literally just oozed cool from the walls,” a statement backed up by descriptions of a skate park underneath the office building, a community screen-printing workshop where employees printed posters and t-shirts for fun, and a décor that screamed “amazing design.”

And that was only the building. “The actual employees there and like no one I’ve ever met—I would say that they’re like a mix between pretentious hipsters, really good artists, and amazingly down to earth people. I’ve never worked with just so many funny, cool people. Everyone was so laid back.”

It was in this setting that Russo worked 12-hour days in the firm’s “Lab,” or its digital production department. While JDK has an impressive list of high profile clients such as Microsoft’s Xbox, American Eagle, MTV, and Rock Shox, Russo was hired specifically to work for just one: Burton Snowboards.

Surprisingly, Russo got to be on the creative end of things as well as his main responsibilities—a lot of production-oriented work on approved designs. “I did get a little bit of design and illustration work on two boards so that’s going to be a great thing to put on a resume or to gloat about,” Russo said, laughing. “It’s weird because it’s a real thing. This is stuff that people in Japan are going to see. I get a big ego about it and I want to go into a Burton store and be like, ‘that’s a great board, don’t you think? Yeah, I drew that.’”

Because Burton’s new line of snowboards was due at the end of the summer, “it was crunch time—a perpetual night before the project is due,” something that, as a RIT student, Russo is familiar with—but not for long. “I already have a way better work ethic than I did leaving.”

The perks of his internship went far beyond the free dinner that Burton paid for every night or the bragging rights of getting artwork onto a major product—many of the perks were completely intangible but definitely impacting. “The one thing that I do know that I got out of my summer is that I’m more confident in my artwork now,” said Russo. “You wouldn’t think you would have this much stamina to continue to be creative

and to continue to pump things out but you do and somehow it happens. A lot of coffee.”

“JDK did more for me in three months than RIT did for me in three years—and if not, it was equal. I learned not to sell myself short as much as I used to. That goes for all designers.”

**Sara Stump**  
**Denmark Design School—Copenhagen, Denmark**

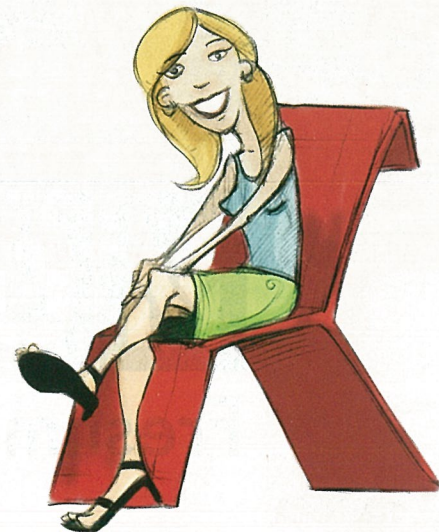
Artistic inspiration can come in any size or form, but at times the well of inspiration can run a little dry. For 13 RIT students, including fourth-year Industrial Design major Sara Stump, that well of inspiration flooded when they chose to study abroad at Denmark’s Design School in Copenhagen, Denmark.

The intensive seven-week program introduced students to the history and importance of furniture design in Scandinavian culture. Students worked on designing a chair for the first two weeks, generating ideas and sketching concepts, visiting various museums and furniture show rooms, and discussing their ideas with three of Denmark’s renowned furniture designers, who also happened to be their professors. They then began building their chairs out of one of three materials, solid wood, bent tubular steel, or bent plywood (veneer). Students were aided by several of Denmark’s master cabinet makers during the process.

Stump felt the time she spent in Denmark was very worthwhile, leaving her wanting more. “I wish, now that I look back, that I had done the full six month program,” she said, noting the semester option that is offered during the academic year. Not only was the program worthwhile for learning history of Scandinavian Furniture Design, but the hands on approach used to teach the class taught students how to build furniture in the traditional Scandinavian style as well.

Though class work and trips through the Copenhagen metro area were all part of the hands on approach, the sixty furniture students were also taken (by double decker bus) on a nine day study tour through Western Denmark, Sweden, and Finland, giving them access to some of the world’s most renowned furniture designers and manufacturers including Fritz-Hansen, PP Mobler, and IKEA. “I learned so much about design approaches” said Stump “but I also gained a great deal of perspective.”

As is the case with many students who choose to study abroad, the chance to immerse oneself in another culture is part of the allure. “I really learned a lot about myself and the difference between our cultures” said Stump. “Here we always seem to be in a rush, [the Danes] are so much more relaxed.”







**Left**

Parents and their students are busy moving their belongings into their dorm rooms on freshman move in day.

**Jacob Hannah/REPORTER Magazine**

# MOVING ON IN:

## Freshman class settles into life at RIT



**Left**

Incoming students and parents wait for their opportunity to move into the dorms on Sunday, August 29.

**Michael Sperling/REPORTER Magazine**

**Right**

Student wait in line to receive orientation information from their colleges during move in day.

**Michael Sterling/REPORTER Magazine**



**Left**

Ray Carlson (right), Stephanie Carlson (middle), and their nine-year-old son Adam Carlson (left) try to find their way through RIT by looking at one of the map directories scattered around campus. The Carlson family drove up from Frewsburg, NY to drop off their son Benjamin at his new school on Thursday, September 2.

**Eric Sucar/REPORTER Magazine**





**1** "I'm a software engineering major and this is one of the only schools with software engineering. I got accepted into the honors program too and that was a draw for me. And, the school was big enough that it had lots of organizations that I could get involved in- like the Brick City Singers!"

**Tom Guzewich**

Third year  
Software Engineering



**2** "There are a number of film schools in the country but I chose RIT because as a result of being close to Eastman Kodak it's developed a strong film program with a strong reputation. There are a lot of RIT grads out there in the industry."

**Nicholas Hardenburg**

Second year  
Film and Animation



**3** "I was in a four-plus-one program so I came back to RIT for business so I could do it in a year. Originally, I came to RIT because the faculty was amazing and really impressed me during my Orientation."

**Joy Kuhn**

First year Graduate Student  
MBA



**4** "Honestly, I wish I knew. Because, if I could do it all over again, I probably wouldn't."

**Scott Glover**

Fifth year  
Electrical Engineering



**5** "To meet girls."

**Dave Tam**

Third year  
Information Technology



**6** "It was actually because of the suburban campus and the co-op program. I was either RIT or RPI and RPI is in Troy, NY and it sucks. And the size of this campus—this campus is huge and has a lot to offer. But, the co-op program was the big thing. On-the-job experience is what employers are looking for."

**Aaron Vera**

Third year  
Civil Engineering Technology

"I came to RIT because of the program New Media Publishing—it was the first program of its kind and we have such a great reputation with the printing industry."

**Katie Cole**

First year Graduate Student  
Print Media

"It was close to home and had a ROTC program that I wanted to do. And- because I like "The Sentinel."

**Jason Barnes**

Fifth year  
Mechanical Engineering Technology

"This was actually the only school I applied to. I wanted originally to do graphic design but I also wanted to be in an art field—I had a love for computers but I wanted to do art too so it was the perfect mix."

**Sharon Lasser**

Fourth year  
Illustration

"I came to RIT so I could make movies—because RT has a really bitchin' film school from what I was told at the time. I also came for the warm weather."

**Michael Barakat**

Fifth year  
Film and Video

"I came for the girls and the partying, but I was sadly disappointed when I got here. I suppose the education."

**Lindley Garcia**

Third year  
Electrical Engineering

"It was one of the first schools to have my major—Information Technology. And, it has excellent lab facilities."

**Will Mullaney**

Fifth year  
Information Technology

"I came to RIT because I knew it had an excellent computer science program, that the level of education here would provide a great technical background, and because of the co-op program here."

**Dave Campbell**

Recent Graduate  
Computer Science



# you come to RIT?

# freshmen edition

**7** "RIT is one of the only schools with my major"

**Alex Mann**

Micro Electronic Engineering  
Pittsford, New York

**8** "I am here to have a little fun, hopefully"

**Chris Gannon**

Information Technology  
Buffalo, New York

**9** "Out of all the schools I applied to for photo this one is supposed to be the best"

**Elliott Salta**

Photography  
Long Island, New York

**10** "RIT is far from home"

**Jeanett Toikelson**

Photography  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

**11** "They had the program I wanted and it was the place for me. I felt at home."

**Jessica Schnurr**

Physicians Assistant  
Staten Island, New York

**12** "I felt most at home when I came to visit here and I like the way the co-op works"

**Joe Solari**

Applied Networking and Systems  
Administration  
Bennington, Vermont

**13** "RIT offered me a good financial aid package"

**Otto Beltre**

Criminal Justice  
New York City, New York

"I like the way the program is set up and I like the area"

**Ben Wager**

Mechanical Engineer  
Eastern Shore, Maryland

"I just have a good feeling about the place"

**John Michalski**

Computer Science  
Horshman, Pennsylvania

"I came to RIT because RIT is the only school that has a campus and video game programming courses. Most schools with those courses don't have a campus, you have to commute."

**Peter Mottola**

IT New Media  
Neptune City, NJ

"I came to RIT because of the bio-informatics program—I'm interested in genetics and it was the best program for the value and they gave me an amazing financial aid package."

**Joshua Horn**

Bio-Informatics  
Greensburg, Pennsylvania

"I came to RIT because they had the best photo department in the country, basically. It just seemed like everyone here was really interesting and diverse and it seemed like just a really good place to be. There's so much to do already!"

**Sarah Czernicki**

Photojournalism  
Annapolis, Maryland

"I knew some people here already and they had high opinions of it."

**Casey Dill**

Undeclared Engineering

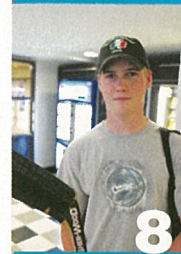
"Close to home, relatively, not too far, not too close. And it offered what I wanted to do. I wanted to do Industrial Design. And there aren't too many places that offer it."

**Mike DiCocco**

Industrial Design



7



8



9



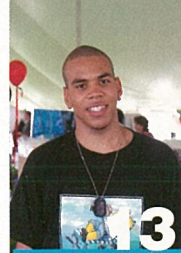
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11



12



13



# WELCOME to the MICHAEL PHELPS SHOW:

## Please Have a Seat Or, An Olympic Roundup



by Kate Bloemker

It was preceded by fears of terrorism, empty seats, and unfinished stadiums. It began with centaurs, botoxed Olympic officials, and a cigar-shaped torch. Somehow, though, when all of the athletes gathered around the same vaguely phallic torch to celebrate the closing of the 2004 Olympics, they—and we—were able to breathe a collective sigh of relief.

The Athens games were not perfect. Swimmers competed in an unfinished stadium, and yes, many seats were empty. Greece, like almost every host country in modern Olympic history, lost millions of dollars. One thing it gained, though, was respect. The games were not rudely interrupted by terrorist acts, and athletes of warring nations were able to put aside their differences. We saw Michael Phelps and Ian Thorpe chat like buddies, and learned what a dolphin kick was. We saw women wrestle, and witnessed the U.S. win its first fencing medals in over 100 years. Here are more of the standout moments of a successful Olympic Games:

### The GOOD

#### U.S. Wins Double Gold in Gymnastics Individual All-Around, Sort Of.

Carly Patterson says “um” and “like” a lot, but there is no denying that she is a great athlete. The Texas teenager overcame nervous missteps in team competition to become the first American woman since Mary Lou Retton to win all-around gold. She beat out Russian diva Svetlana Khorkina, who before arriving in Athens had said, “I want to win as much as I want to mother my own child.”

Reigning Men’s World Champion Paul Hamm, despite being an even more accomplished athlete than Patterson, had a controversial journey to the podium. Hamm was considered out of the medal race when he fell so far out of bounds on the landing to his vault that he had to be pushed off the judges’ table. He clawed his way back up in the rankings, through near-flawless performances on parallel bars and high bar, and through a series of dismal mistakes by his competitors. Hamm grabbed the gold medal by the narrowest margin ever, 12/1000 of a point. After medals had been awarded, though, officials discovered that a scoring mistake had prevented South Korean Yang Tae Young from winning gold instead of the bronze medal he was awarded. Protests have been filed, but no duplicate gold has been awarded as of yet.

#### Iraqi Soccer Team Gives Brilliant Performance

When they were airlifted out of their wrecked nation to be flown to Athens, the Iraqi soccer team was 44th in international rankings, and Iraq hadn’t won an Olympic medal since 1960. After years of being locked in nail-filled closets by Uday Hussein as punishment for not winning, all they wanted was to play without fear. They did, thrashing Costa Rica, Portugal, and Australia to make it to the bronze medal game versus Italy, and providing the Olympics with some of its only sold-out crowds. They lost. Italy was a better team, but that didn’t prevent Iraqi stars Younis Mahmoud and Hawar Mulla Mohammed from celebrating their finish as a victory. Iraq is still in ruins, but its people finally have something to celebrate.

#### Dramatic Swimming Relays

Almost no swimmer at this year’s games felt unchallenged by the powerful U.S. team. They had come to Athens to win—nine times, in Michael Phelps’ case—and didn’t let anyone forget it. Nowhere was the desire so evident as in the men’s and women’s 800-meter freestyle relays. Four years after the Australians had won in Sydney, Michael Phelps, Ryan Lochte, and Peter Vanderkaay waited in suspense as teammate Klebe Keller battled it out with Aussie Ian Thorpe on the final leg of the relay. Keller held off Thorpe, and was met at the wall by his screaming teammates, jumping up and down like giddy schoolboys.

The U.S. women provided a finish that was just as dramatic, and even more politically significant, than that of the men. The race was so fast that four teams finished under the Olympic record of 7:57:80. Natalie Coughlin, Carly Piper, Dana Vollmer, and Kaitlin Sandeno of the U.S. put in powerful performances to win gold and break the oldest swimming world record in existence by over two seconds. The 1987 record of 7:55:47 had been set by the infamous East German team, whose heavy steroid use was only discovered after the fall of the Berlin Wall.

### The BAD

#### Men’s Dream Team Fails Miserably

Yes, they won bronze. No, we’re still not sure why. The U.S. men’s basketball team, a ramshackle construction of second-tier NBA players, began the Olympics with the worst shooting





average of any team, missing nearly every three-point attempt they made. The so-called Dream Team, which was almost beaten by Greece, lost not only to Lithuania, but also to U.S. territory Puerto Rico. Imagine for a second that all 50 states combined lost a basketball game to the 51st state. That is essentially what happened. Even coach Larry Brown began projecting an "it's-not-my-fault" attitude toward the team that had been chosen for NBA faces rather than actual ability. Somehow, the U.S. men clung to the bronze medal for dear life, defeating Lithuania 104-96.

The men's embarrassing performance was luckily countered by an expected gold in women's basketball, a medal won through true team effort. U.S. women fared extremely well in team sports in Athens, winning gold in basketball, soccer, softball, and beach volleyball.

#### **Marion Jones' Awful, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day**

After winning five medals in Sydney, Marion Jones had a lot to live up to. When she only qualified for two events this year after giving birth to a son and being accused of steroid use, she knew she wouldn't be able to give quite so stellar a performance. However, she had no idea that it would be as bad as it was. The American track star began with a lackluster performance in the long jump, either fouling or jumping too soon on most of her attempts. She finished a disappointing fifth. The day became a nightmare when, in the 400-meter relay, Jones couldn't get the baton to Lauryn Williams in time. After two failed attempts, Williams had exited the 20-meter passing zone. The Americans, favored in the race, came in dead last. The four teammates embraced in a show of support for Jones and Williams afterward, and anchor runner LaTasha Colander said "In the Olympics, it's not always the win. It's the struggle; it's the journey to get there...We'll be back."

#### **Doping Scandals**

It happens at every Olympics, but officials had been hoping this year would be different; increasingly accurate steroid tests had been keeping athletes in check. However, the nation of Greece received what was possibly the hardest blow of the Olympics when Greek sprinting stars Konstantinos Kenteris and Katerina Thanou pulled out of the games the day before the opening

ceremonies after failing to show up for a drug test. Kenteris, the scheduled torch-lighter and current 200-meter Olympic champ, and Thanou, who had won silver in Sydney, claimed they had been in a motorcycle accident but were unable to provide enough proof. The Greek media blamed the withdrawal of Kenteris and Thanou on an American conspiracy to ensure the victories of U.S. sprinters, an idea that fueled some of the only anti-American sentiment of the 2004 Olympics.

Three Hungarian athletes were stripped of their medals for doping, and Irina Korzhanenko of Russia was forced to give up her shot put gold medal as well. The scandals prompted a stern-faced Bob Costas to give a closing commentary on how perhaps we should return to the Greek way of dealing with cheaters: requiring each one to pay for a monument bearing their name, to be erected in a "cheater's row" at Olympia for everyone to see.

### **The JUST PLAIN WEIRD**

#### **Kilted Intruder Disrupts Marathon**

Brazilian Vanderlei de Lima was leading the men's marathon by 46 seconds with three miles to go when Cornelius Horan, a defrocked Irish priest wearing a kilt and knee socks, leaped across the road and shoved de Lima into the crowd. Horan was grabbed by spectators and a visibly shaken de Lima was able to finish the race, but he lost his lead and finished third. Far from being angry, as most competitors would have been, de Lima looked grateful to have even finished the race, smiling and swooping his arms back and forth in an airplane motion as he crossed the finish line.

It was later discovered that Horan was no stranger to disrupting sporting events, as he had run out onto the track at the British Grand Prix the year before, forcing cars traveling at 200 miles an hour to frantically swerve around him for 20 seconds. For his Olympic disruption, Horan was fined and given a suspended sentence. De Lima, on the other hand, was awarded the Baron Pierre de Coubertin Medal, a sort of Miss Congeniality Award for the Olympics. Apparently, good sportsmanship pays off. ■



# Fall Sports Schedule

## Men's Cross Country

Date	Opponent	Time
09/11/2004	U of R & Fredonia	12pm
09/25/2004	St. Lawrence Invite	11am
10/09/2004	Brockport Alumni Invite	TBA
10/16/2004	Roberts Wesleyan Invite	12pm
10/23/2004	RPI	11:45am
11/06/2004	NYSCTC Championships	12pm
11/13/2004	NCAA District Qualifiers	12pm
11/20/2004	NCAA Championships	TBA

## Women's Cross Country

Date	Opponent	Time
09/11/2004	U of R & Fredonia	1pm
09/25/2004	St. Lawrence Invite	12pm
10/09/2004	Brockport Alumni Invite	11am
10/16/2004	Roberts Wesleyan Invite	11am
10/23/2004	RPI	11am
11/06/2004	NYSCTC Championships	11am
11/13/2004	NCAA District Qualifiers	11am
11/20/2004	NCAA Championships	TBA

## Men's Soccer

Date	Opponent	Time
<b>09/11/2004</b>	<b>Hamilton</b>	<b>12pm</b>
09/17/2004	St. Lawrence	4pm
09/18/2004	Clarkson	1pm
<b>09/25/2004</b>	<b>Utica</b>	<b>12pm</b>
09/28/2004	Buffalo State	4pm
<b>10/02/2004</b>	<b>Alfred</b>	<b>12pm</b>
<b>10/05/2004</b>	<b>Univ. of Rochester</b>	<b>4pm</b>
10/09/2004	Ithaca	1pm
<b>10/15/2004</b>	<b>Elmira</b>	<b>4pm</b>
10/20/2004	St. John Fisher	7pm
10/23/2004	Fredonia State	1pm
10/27/2004	Nazareth	3pm
11/03/2004	Empire 8 Tournament	TBA
11/06/2004	Empire 8 Tournament	TBA

## Women's Soccer

Date	Opponent	Time
<b>09/11/2004</b>	<b>Clarkson</b>	<b>2:30pm</b>
<b>09/15/2004</b>	<b>Hamilton</b>	<b>4pm</b>
<b>09/18/2004</b>	<b>Elmira</b>	<b>12pm</b>
09/22/2004	Univ. of Rochester	7pm
09/25/2004	Utica	12pm
<b>09/30/2004</b>	<b>St. John Fisher</b>	<b>4pm</b>
<b>10/02/2004</b>	<b>Potsdam State</b>	<b>2:30pm</b>
10/06/2004	Alfred	7pm
<b>10/09/2004</b>	<b>Ithaca</b>	<b>12pm</b>
10/12/2004	William Smith	4pm
<b>10/14/2004</b>	<b>Roberts Wesleyan</b>	<b>4pm</b>
10/23/2004	Hartwick	2pm
<b>10/27/2004</b>	<b>Nazareth</b>	<b>3pm</b>
<b>10/30/2004</b>	<b>Fredonia State</b>	<b>12pm</b>
11/03/2004	Empire 8 Tournament	TBA
11/06/2004	Empire 8 Tournament	TBA

## Women's Tennis

Date	Opponent	Time
09/13/2004	Alfred	4pm
09/16/2004	St. John Fisher	4pm
09/18/2004	LeMoyne	1pm
<b>09/19/2004</b>	<b>Wells</b>	<b>1pm</b>
09/21/2004	Oswego State	4pm
09/21/2004	Nazareth	1pm
09/24/2004	ITA Regional Champ.	TBA
09/25/2004	ITA Regional Champ.	TBA
<b>10/02/2004</b>	<b>Geneseo State</b>	<b>1pm</b>
<b>10/03/2004</b>	<b>Elmira</b>	<b>1pm</b>
10/09/2004	Empire 8 Championships	TBA
10/10/2004	Empire 8 Championships	TBA
<b>10/13/2004</b>	<b>William Smith</b>	<b>4pm</b>
10/15/2004	NYSWCAA Championships	TBA
10/16/2004	NYSWCAA Championships	TBA
10/17/2004	NYSWCAA Championships	TBA

## Women's Volleyball

Date	Opponent	Time
09/10/2004	Ithaca Tournament	3pm
09/11/2004	Ithaca Tournament	10am
<b>09/17/2004</b>	<b>RIT Tournament</b>	<b>4pm</b>
<b>09/18/2004</b>	<b>RIT Tournament</b>	<b>11am</b>
09/21/2004	Univ. of Rochester	7pm
09/24/2004	Carnegie Mellon	TBA
09/25/2004	Carnegie Mellon	TBA
09/28/2004	Alfred	7pm
10/05/2004	St. John Fisher	7pm
10/08/2004	NYU Tournament	TBA
10/09/2004	NYU Tournament	TBA
<b>10/13/2004</b>	<b>Nazareth</b>	<b>7pm</b>
10/15/2004	Oswego Tournament	TBA
10/16/2004	Oswego Tournament	TBA
10/23/2004	Empire 8 Crossover	TBA
10/24/2004	Empire 8 Crossover	TBA
<b>10/26/2004</b>	<b>Buffalo State</b>	<b>7pm</b>
10/30/2004	NYSWCAA Tournament	TBA
10/31/2004	NYSWCAA Tournament	TBA
<b>11/02/2004</b>	<b>Brockport State</b>	<b>7pm</b>
11/06/2004	Empire 8 Tournament	TBA



# Athletic Involvement Made Easy

by Mike Eppolito

While sports may not have been your number one reason for choosing to attend RIT, the athletic opportunities presented to students are as diverse as the majors offered. There are ways for everyone to get involved regardless of athletic ability and amount of free time available. RIT offers intramural, club, and intercollegiate teams which cater to the varying athletic abilities and interests of its students. In addition to those teams, the Wellness department provides a means to participate in a variety of activities that may or may not be included in the organized team sports. The following is a breakdown of what RIT offers and how you can get involved:

## Intramural Sports:

The intramural teams offer a laid back and friendly approach that allows students to compete in a variety of sports and choose their own teams. The time commitment is relatively small, as the teams only meet for games once a week. The teams can choose to be placed in Divisions 1, 2, or 3 depending on collective skill level. On intramural teams, the competitive side of sports tends to take a back seat to the more visible goals of having fun and meeting new people. Coed teams are always welcome, so make sure to include all your friends (or, if you're in the dorms, your floor mates) in the fun.

**Fall Quarter:** Basketball, Flag Football, Golf, Ice Hockey, Racquetball, Soccer (Indoor/Outdoor), Softball, Table Tennis, Tennis, and Volleyball

**Winter Quarter:** Badminton, Basketball, Ice Hockey, Racquetball, Soccer (Indoor), Table Tennis, and Volleyball

**Spring Quarter:** Badminton, Basketball, Golf, Racquetball, Soccer (Indoor/Outdoor), Softball, Table Tennis, Tennis, and Volleyball

## Club Sports:

Club sports offer a blend of fun and wholesome competition, but vary in terms of time commitment. The teams compete against club teams from local colleges and participate in out-of-state competitions and tournaments. Since all of the clubs are run independently, it is difficult to generalize what they all have to offer. Many of the teams have websites (Start your search on the RIT webpage.), and you can contact the president of a club to find out any and all requirements for membership. If you don't see a club sport that suits your needs, you can always work to create your own.

**Coed:** Alpine Skiing, Biking, Bowling, Equestrian, Fencing, Ultimate Frisbee, Kendo, Martial Arts, Billiards, Weightlifting, Roller Hockey, Running, Table Tennis

**Men's:** Rugby, Soccer, Volleyball, Water Polo, Lacrosse

**Women's:** Rugby, Water Polo

## NCAA Division III Intercollegiate Sports Teams:

The intercollegiate teams are made up of the best athletes that RIT has to offer in each sport and compete against other colleges as representatives of RIT. The teams compete locally for the most part, but also travel out-of-state and out of the country to compete. Anyone interested in joining a team should contact the team's coach in order to find out about informational meetings and tryout times.

**Men's Teams:** Baseball, Basketball, Crew, Cross Country, Hockey, Lacrosse, Soccer, Swimming/Diving, Tennis, Track/Field, Wrestling

**Women's Teams:** Basketball, Cheerleading, Crew, Cross Country, Hockey, Lacrosse, Soccer, Softball, Swimming/Diving, Tennis, Track/Field, Volleyball

## Wellness Programs:

The Wellness department has done a wonderful job of coming up with new and innovative classes that students enjoy taking while at the same time fulfilling graduation requirements. The classes range from typical team sports to funk aerobics and scuba diving. If you like getting outside, then maybe hiking, jogging or cross-country skiing is a good choice for you. If you feel more comfortable in the water, then you can sign up for one of many activities in the pool such as diving or water relaxation. A wide range of martial arts classes are also available, as are classes in CPR and massage therapy. If you feel so inclined, you can learn to bust a move while taking dancercise or dance-aerobics classes, or the more unique ballroom, country-line, or Irish dancing classes. The list goes on, but the point is that everyone can find something to spark their interest that allows them to participate in athletics.

If after all of that you still aren't interested in going out for a team, then you can always support your friends and fellow RIT students by watching them compete. Attending RIT sporting events is a great way to bolster school spirit and to take a breather from the monotony of academic life. Most sporting events on campus have free, open admission, although some (like ice hockey) require a free ticket which can often be obtained from the Residence Halls Association office underneath Baker Hall. A few events charge a nominal, but very much worth it, fee.

When it comes down to it, no college student's life is complete without some sort of physical activity, so find what interests you and do it. For those interested in sports, there will never be a better or easier time to get involved than now. For more information on any of the above activities, stop by the Student Life Center or visit the Center for Human Performance's website at <http://www.rit.edu/~311www/>. ■



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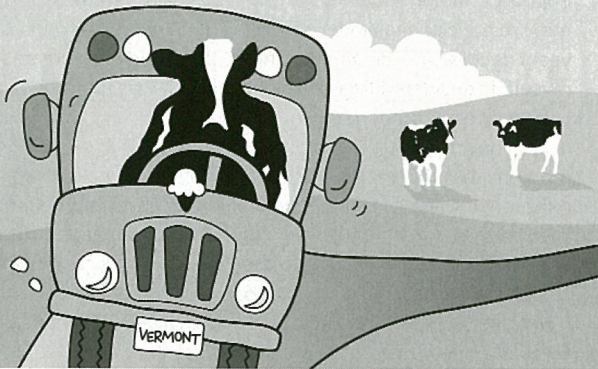
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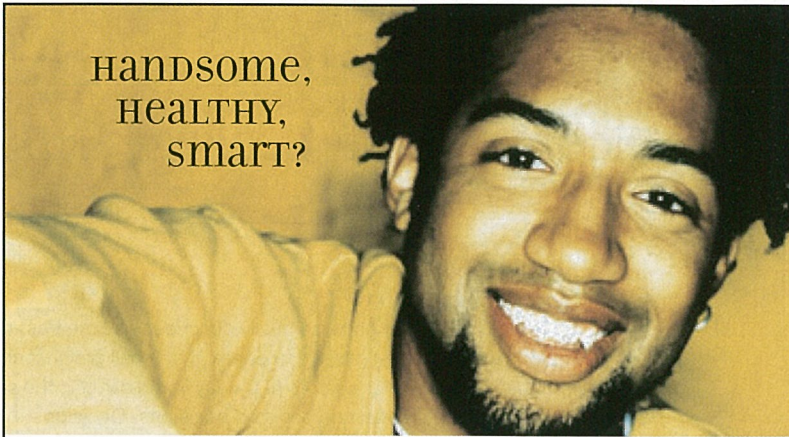


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# Fall Career Fair

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## Wednesday, September 22

## 1:00pm - 6:00pm, Gordon Field House

It's a great chance to:

Learn about companies! Talk with recruiters! Start your network!

For more info go to the "Get Career Fair Info" link on our student site:  
Lists of participating employers, career fair prep workshops and more.

[www.rit.edu/co-op/careers](http://www.rit.edu/co-op/careers)



## Welcome to the “College Experience”

by Bryan Hammer

The college experience is usually described as “the best time in your life,” your first gasp of freedom, that small grin that crosses your face once your parents pull away in the car. It is the chance for you to start making your own decisions. Decisions that will decide your start in the “real world,” shape you as an individual, and help you decide your course in life.

Being on your own, especially at a place of higher learning, is a great chance to look a little deeper at what else is going on around you in the world.

No doubt most of your pre-college experiences happened inside the bubble of your home, high school, and hometown atmosphere. Growing up in suburban New Jersey, I was influenced by much of the politics and values that the community around me held in high esteem. There were certain religions, political, and professional positions that were valued and pushed, while exploring outside possibilities was not encouraged—sometimes even hard to discover without a lot of digging.

“Becoming aware of other options will help you to find yourself, your style, and your niche.”

College puts these new experiences right in front of you, and sometimes forces you to confront them. Almost nothing is permanent in college, so don't become permanent in your views—at least not too soon. This is your chance to be curious, to ask questions. Chances are you don't know all the answers, and many times there are no right answers to life. Becoming aware of other options will help you to find yourself, your style, and your niche.

If you asked me four years ago what I would be doing today, I would have told you that this was my last year of school, and after this I was going to pursue a career in the field of Mechanical Engineering. I decided my future even before I moved into my dorm room. Consequently, this will not be my final year here at RIT, and being an engineer is the furthest thing from my mind. For a year and a half I succeeded in hating my engineering work, regardless of the good grades I was earning. Basically I just accepted it because, well, schoolwork sucks. Doesn't it? At least I was doing well.

Right?

After four years I can tell you that you won't love it all, but at the end of the day you should enjoy what you do. It didn't matter that I was good at doing the work because I was miserable the whole time I was doing it. Sounds simple, but surprisingly this

important factor escaped me my first years here (and believe me, I'm not close to alone in this regard). During my sophomore year I decided to look outside of the little world I had created for myself. I considered transferring, thinking it was the school, and I also looked at other majors.

I am now majoring in Industrial Design, and I know the exact moment that this major crossed my path and hooked me in. I remember being miserable, pounding out physics problems in Java Wally's, when I began listening to a conversation going on behind me. The kid was describing design to his friend, and it just clicked for me. I didn't want to be on the analytical side of future products, I wanted to be on the creative side. That's what I was missing.

Design opened a door that really showed me that the sky can be the limit, and once you've discovered something that you love, you'll feel the same way. All it took was a little bit of listening and looking.

College is more than a means to an end. Think of college as a place to tweak your talents or start completely over again. Whatever you do, don't be in a rush to just get out. At least try something else, something new or unexpected. You'll never know what you might find. It is truly a once in a lifetime opportunity to have the time and resources to do so much exploring and experimenting. In the end you'll undoubtedly have a better understanding of the world and yourself.

Maybe some of you freshman will encounter some of the same things that I have; maybe some of you won't experience it till next year. Either way, it is important to take college for what it is: an experience. Challenge yourself and don't be afraid to test the limits of your talents.

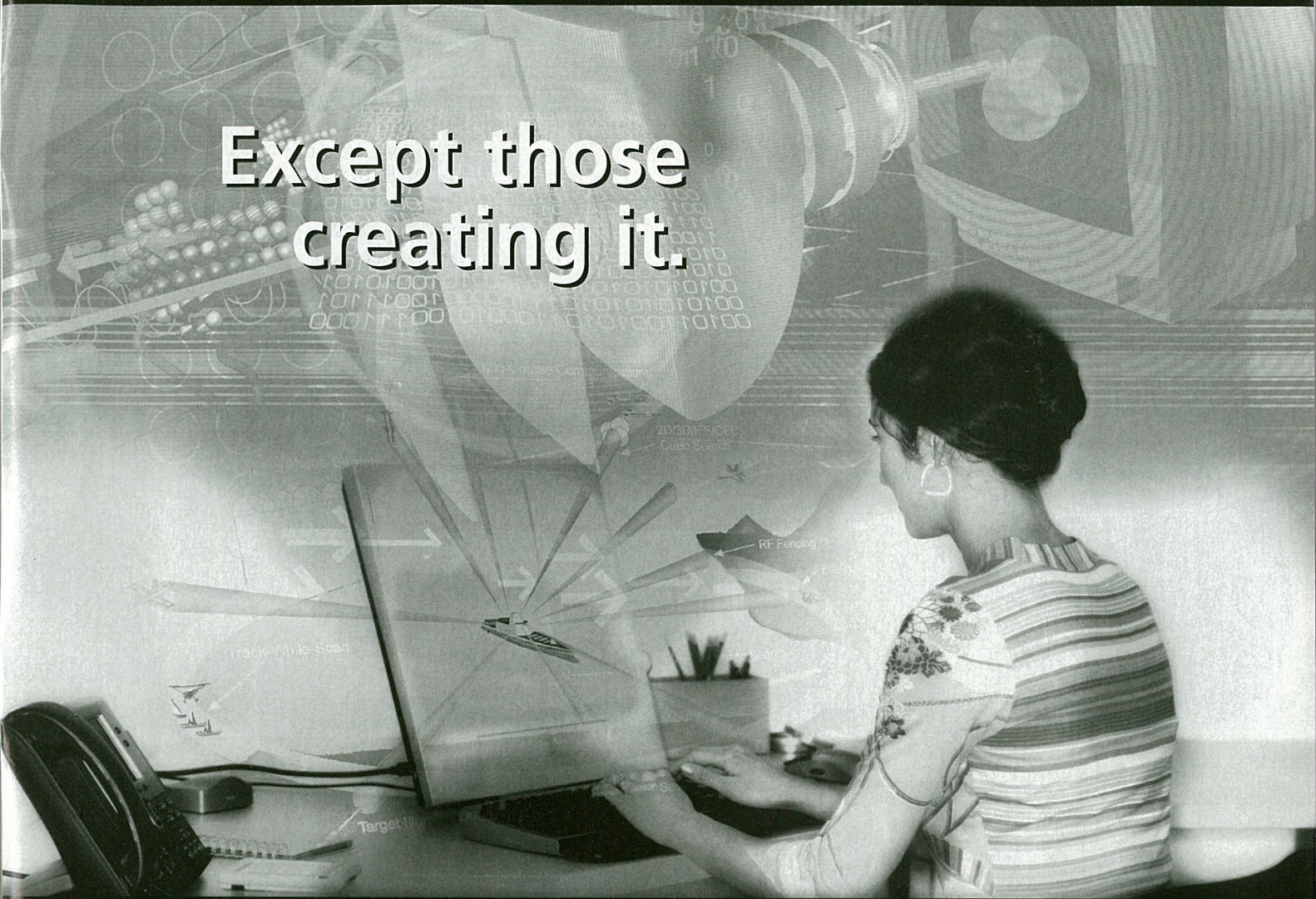
There is something to learn from every situation, every person. I believe the key to surviving college, and life in general for that matter, is to find your niche. Find something that will help you define yourself, and help you find a place for yourself not just at RIT but also in the real world. The first couple of years are the ones that you will see your beliefs, and values become questioned and perhaps changed. You'll have an endless string of opportunities to see things from a different point of view. Issues and opinions will no longer come entirely from your parents or your background, they'll come from you as you are truly set free to become your own person. ■

“...it is important to take college for what it is: an experience.”



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