

REPORTER

JANUARY 21, 2005 | WWW.REPORTERMAG.COM

RACKING
THE
TABLE



JCI
Excellence To

REPORTER

EDITOR IN CHIEF

Erhardt Graeff

ART DIRECTOR

Joseph Guzman

SENIOR EDITORS

Kate Bloemker, Jonathan Bove

PHOTO EDITOR

Michael Sperling

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Michael Clervi

AD MANAGER

Bryan Hammer

BUSINESS MANAGER

Gregory Smith

NEWS EDITOR

Casey Dehlinger

LEISURE EDITOR

Benjamin Foster

FEATURES EDITOR

Brenna Cammeron

SPORTS EDITOR

Mike Eppolito

ONLINE EDITOR

Sean Hannan

WRITERS

Andrew Bigelow, Jonathon Bove,
Andrew Brooks, Frances Cabrera,
Ben Foster, Brian Garrison,
Sean Hannan, Jose Plaza

STAFF DESIGNERS

Tricia Chin, Emily Ianacone, Ren Meinhart

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHERS

Jacob Hannah, Eric Sugar,
Thomas Starkweather, Kim Weiselberg

STAFF ILLUSTRATOR

William Robinson

CONTRIBUTING ILLUSTRATORS

Brittney Lee, Michael Norton

ADVISOR

Rudy Pugliese

PRINTING

Printing Applications Lab

DISTRIBUTION

Justin Harsch, Joseph Guzman

CONTACT

MAIN 585.475.2212
reporter@rit.edu
ADVERTISING 585.475.2213
reporterads@mail.rit.edu
DESIGN 585.475.2212
rdesign@rit.edu

EDITORIAL

Hello.

One of the simplest ways we can vocally communicate a "greeting" to another human is by saying "hello." But as nice as the "greeting" part is, the importance lies much more with the communication going on.

Communication is "the imparting, conveying, or exchange of ideas, knowledge, information, etc. (whether by speech, writing, or signs)," or so says the Oxford English Dictionary. By that definition, communication sounds a lot like college—going to class and getting an earful of theoretical goodness. And all of that stuff—the knowledge—well that, that's POWER!

However, the power is not derived directly from knowledge but rather from the effective communication of that knowledge. Ben may be able to derive multivariate crypto-analytic equations from theoretical thin air as good as, or better than, Jerry. However, Jerry is able to convey his desire to be a quality research scholar in concise, narrative prose. Jerry has the edge to get into school because of his communication skills, even though Ben wants it just as bad. Sorry Ben, Jerry talks prettier than you, Jerry has the power. From the realm of government, politicians are an example of persons who are not usually experts on the issues they raise. However, by definition, they have the podium. There is the power—being able to spit out your words to idle ears. And when the idle choose to stay idle, it becomes doubly powerful.

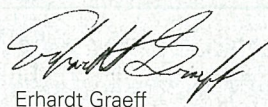
What is beautiful about a college campus, though, is how it facilitates the aforementioned "exchange of ideas" between people. Students and professors can discuss topics of interest with reasonable freedom. Such an environment can be called Open Communication. Open Communication IS democracy. If everyone's ideas will be voiced and everyone's ears will listen, a lot of knowledge—a lot of power—will be floating out in the air. As long as that power is out there, not seized by any single entity, we can have a balance of power—"checks and balances."

Last time I checked, we lived in a country that is known for its "democracy" and its "checks and balances." Politics aside, I think it is reasonable that we can exercise these principles in some Open Communication. The internet is a good place to get one's word out; unfortunately, the internet is a sea of voices with billions of pages shouting "Hear me." Obviously, there is chaos without any centralized power. But until a utopia is realized, we are stuck in some form of centrally mediated existence.

The Latin root of communication is communis—"shared," "common property," "for the common good." The world today is broken up into centralized units by way of cities/communities. But, Communication and Community are not just related linguistically. Mass communication does not need to be with the whole world; it can be simply with your community. Mass Open Communication is on campus. If you have a voice, then you can and should use it in our collegiate community. Put a little free-floating power out there yourself.

This publication, *Reporter*, is the voice of RIT—everyone on campus—you. It is fallacy to imagine all the writers here are just silly pedagogues who craft words for their own pedantic needs. We are an institution assigned to simply facilitate communication between you and...you. We have weekly Friday meetings to bring in new talent, people with a voice that should be heard—your voice. Unfortunately, last week was your last chance to join Reporter on our money-back guaranteed basis. From now on, if you come to our weekly meetings in the basement of the SAU, Room A428, we must pay you for anything you write. Your communication is that valuable to us.

I, being the new guy with his signature on the inside cover—stepping into the finely-tailored heels representing Editor in Chief—would, at this point, like to say to all of you, "Hello."



Erhardt Graeff
Editor in Chief

CONTENTS

NEWS

- 06 Homecoming
Please attend the balls.
- 07 Pre-engineering Conference
It's Electric, boogie woogie woogie.
- 08 Brick Beat
- 09 Crime Watch

LEISURE

- 10 Global Union Unification
Worldly entertainment plus nunchuku.
- 12 Game Review: Snake Eater
Omigod it's the jungle...and it's hott.
- 13 Signatures Poetry Slam
Lots of words, little bit of nudity.
- 14 At Your Leisure

FEATURES

- 16 Defining Generation Y
It's not just bad music.
- 20 RIT Responds to Tsunami
Compassion making waves.
- 22 Word on the Street
Most memorable high school homecoming moment?

SPORTS

- 24 Sports Desk
- 26 Pool and Ping Pong Clubs
More balls, fun, and innuendo.
- 28 Deaflympics Results
Sweet! medals from Australia.

OPINION

- 30 Give Us What We Want
Check out France Mr. MPAA.

Third year Photography major Kyle Morton performs a skateboarding trick in front of the Wallace Library during a rare 60-degree day on Thursday, January 13. Eric Sucar/REPORTER MAGAZINE.

Reporter Magazine is published weekly during the academic year by a staff comprised of students at the Rochester Institute of Technology. Business, Editorial, and Design facilities are located in Room A-426, in the lower level of the Student Alumni Union. Our voice/TTY line is 585.475.2212. The Advertising Department can be reached at 585.475.2213. The opinions expressed in Reporter do not necessarily reflect those of the Institute. "The OC? That show looks awful." "Yeah, but it's so good." Letters to the Editor may be submitted to Reporter in person at our office. Letters may also be sent to reporter@rit.edu. Reporter is not responsible for materials presented in advertising areas. No letters will be printed unless signed. All letters received become the property of Reporter. Reporter takes pride in its membership in the Associated Collegiate Press and American Civil Liberties Union. Copyright 2004 Reporter Magazine. All rights reserved. No portion of this magazine may be reproduced without prior written permission.

ATTENTION SENIORS!

RECEIVE RECOGNITION FOR YOUR ACADEMIC AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACCOMPLISHMENTS BY NOMINATING YOURSELF FOR MEMBERSHIP IN RIT'S

ALPHA SIGMA LAMBDA HONORARY SOCIETY

YOU ARE ELIGIBLE IF:

- You are a full-time, matriculated, senior in a four or five year program graduating by the end of Fall Quarter 2005
- You have a minimum 3.4 cumulative GPA (04-1 cum)
- You have been an active member for one full year in two Institute activities, organizations, or committees and demonstrated leadership.
 - The quality of leadership shall be determined by holding a high elected or appointed office for the total term of that particular office (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Committee Chairperson, Director, or Captain (Co-Captain), in a club or activity.
 - Both paid and voluntary activities will be considered.
 - Citizenship and service to the Institute community will also be considered in the selection process.

Additional information is available on the application.

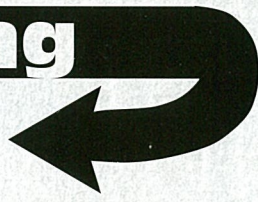
Deadline for applications is Friday, February 18, 2005

Applications are available from:

The Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs, SAU, Rm. 2410,
or on the web at

http://www.rit.edu/~300www/vp_alpha_sigma_Lambda.php3

Bowling Specials



Monday is "College Night"
Every-Other-Game FREE

"2 For Tuesdays"

All Games Are \$2.00

"3 for 2 Wednesdays"

Bowl 3 and only pay for 2

"Nifty Fifty Thursdays"

\$5.00 Cover Charge

.50 Bowling .50 Shoe Rental

.50 Sodas

Cosmic Friday

9:30pm til close

Saturday until 5:00 pm

50 cents off each game

Cosmic Saturday

9:30pm

Every other week starting Dec. 11th

Sunday

"Customer Appreciation Day"

9:00pm til close • \$1.00 off per game

Regular and Cosmic Bowling

Bowl-A-Roll Lanes 1560 Jefferson Road

For more information please call **427-7250**.

TEXAS

Horseplay

SB-05

- 7 miles of BEACH
- 1/2 Hour to MEXICO
- FREE Island Shuttle
- HORSES on the beach
- WATER Sports
- Bayfront DANCING
- CONCERTS
- Greek GAMES

www.springbreak.sopadre.com

SOUTH PADRE ISLAND

Letters to the editor, unless specifically noted, may be edited for grammar, punctuation, spelling, clarity, and if necessary, space. *Reporter* will not print anonymous letters. Please note that while *Reporter* will consider all submissions for publication, letters that are e-mailed are preferred. Send e-mails to reporter@rit.edu, or deliver to *Reporter's* office, room A-426 in the SAU.

If you have feedback regarding letters to the editor, op/ed pieces, or any article in *Reporter*, e-mail us at reporter@rit.edu. If you are interested in writing an op/ed article, submit via e-mail, call us at 475-2212, or visit us in room A-426 in the SAU. *Reporter* reserves the right to edit for libel and/or clarity. Due to space limitations and/or appropriateness, publication is not guaranteed.

"Our Blood Runs Orange" – Homecoming 2005

"Our Blood Runs Orange"—this is vital. It is what ties us all together as members of this community. As a student at RIT, you are RIT. Homecoming week is for the students by the students, uniting and searching for that spirit of a Division 1 school. But wait, we are a D1 school. If you haven't heard the Men's Hockey team is moving into the Atlantic Hockey Association, a Division 1 conference. So, we are there; orange will be what defines us, in the crowds, in the halls and on the quarter mile.

Though the move isn't taking place this season, we still have some good games taking place during homecoming week. Always a huge rival, the basketball and hockey teams take on Elmira. That's right at home, hence RIT's "Home"-coming.

What is Homecoming? For most schools it is the last football game, against the biggest rival when alumni come home. Unfortunately without a football team RIT has to be more creative and invent their own meaning for homecoming. There is already an existing time for alumni to return in the fall. This is known as Brick City Weekend. It focuses on Alumni, family and friends of RIT coming to participate and be part of the community for the weekend.

So what is Homecoming to RIT? It is about the students. Since there already is an alumni event on campus in the fall, what is missing from the traditional meaning of the word? Sports, rivalry, student excitement and unity that are the key elements that are missing, but they are the focus of this year's Homecoming at RIT.

So here it goes' the events and dates. It's not a complete listing, but there will be many ways to find that. Keep your eyes on the *Reporter*, *EventsatRIT* and the events calendar.

This year homecoming has been extended into a week long extravaganza. Starting on Saturday, Feb 5th Homecoming kicks off with the Faculty/Student football game out on the Turf field. Other events to be held during this week are the Superbowl Extravaganza on Feb. 6th in Clark Gym, a Pep Rally on Wednesday the 9th in Clark Gym, Tiger Idol on Thursday the 10th in Clark Gym, and closing with the Elmira Basketball and Hockey Games Friday and Saturday.

I hope to see all 15,000 students at these events, hopefully not at the same event, but hey the more the better. Homecoming 2005—"Our Blood Runs Orange" is going to be the hottest week of the year and you are not going to want to miss it!

Sheila Saratore
President, Student Government

Music that also Rocked

I was very disappointed in your list of top albums of the year. (*Reporter*, 01/07/2005) I think you missed some very important ones. What about Jimmy Buffett's "License to Chill?" After all his years of making music, License to Chill was his first #1 album ever. I'd say that deserves a spot on the list. And what about Iron Maiden's "Dance of Death?" It is quite possibly their best album to date, and I've yet to meet a fan of rock music who didn't like it.

I also think there was way too much of the same types of music in the list. It should have been more diversified. Vintersorg's "The Focusing Blur" is a metal album that really impressed me, and "Horse of a Different Color" by Big & Rich was some excellent country.

Steven Lazarek

Homecoming:

A Lot of **Work** Goes into a Lot of **Play**

by Andrew Brooks and Casey Dehlinger

Usually, when someone thinks of school spirit, their mind immediately thinks of sporting events that are more well-attended than usual, but there is a lot more to homecoming than that. Some people see homecoming as an excuse to pump up school spirit, if only for a week (those Christmas gift RIT hoodies from the parents need to be put on display sometime). Of course, with RIT celebrating its hockey team's recent promotion to Division I and a 175th anniversary to commemorate, this year is expected to be more enthusiastic than usual. As a matter of fact, with such excitement on campus, it's easy to forget the incredible amounts of work that are occurring behind the scenes in order to prepare for such massive events. While many of you will attend and enjoy these events, the weeks, in some cases months, of planning that goes into such an event will go unnoticed.

So who is in charge of this week of school spirit, events, and all-around fun? Student Government, of course. And this week of fun and activities happens to be a rather large undertaking, especially compared to the homecomings that were planned in past years that are so fondly remembered by students of RIT. When asked to comment on the nature of the preparation involved for the week, Student Government President Sheila Saratore remarked, "There are a lot of planning stages that go into homecoming. A few things are reserving rooms, setting up and registering the event so that the proper departments know the things they need to know, ordering [prizes for] giveaways, [dealing with] contracts if bringing in outside events, and a lot of coordination between organizations." In addition to all of this, Student Government has to make sure that they establish and maintain a strong sense of organization—organized not only with the school itself, but also with clubs and all sorts of outside companies in the Rochester area. Above all else, organization is key for those

who work within the Student Government offices in order to prepare for such an eventful week as homecoming.

SG also has to make sure that all the clubs individually have plans for their own events, which is no meager undertaking when so many clubs exist on campus (there happen to be over 150, to give a ballpark figure). A great example of such coordination between clubs and organizations is the Winter Ball, which will be occurring on Friday, February 11. It is being hosted by the Honors Activities Committee in order to raise money for charity. This means that all proceeds received from the dance will generously be sent to the Jed Foundation, a group dedicated to the well-being of students enrolled in college. Specifically, the group works diligently to "strengthen the mental health safety net for college students." The Snow Ball dance serves as a great way to escape the residence halls, get out on the dance floor with a special someone, and support a good cause. But, when attending, be sure to take a second to think of all the hard work and preparation that went into it. The efforts of such on-campus political figures such as the Student Government Cabinet should not go unnoticed.

Student Government hopes to make this homecoming the most successful one yet, both in manner it is operated and in attendance, which is expected to be at an all time high. Such preparation provides for a smooth and less chaotic atmosphere, which, in turn, leads to an exceedingly more satisfactory week than what would occur had events been less meticulously coordinated. So, for the duration of homecoming week and its scheduled events, be sure to go out and take the time to see the school spirit and school activities Student Government and RIT have to offer. The week's events will include Faculty/Student Football games, pep rallies, varsity sports, and RIT's own Tiger Idol competition. Tiger Idol is the campus' local rendition of the hit show American Idol. Although the infamous Simon Cowell will not be in attendance this year (or any year in the near future, for that matter) Tiger Idol will showcase something even better: RIT's students and their incredible musical talents. The Tiger Idol finals will occur on Thursday of Homecoming Week and happen to be only one of numerous activities planned, all of which are bound to be an overwhelming success. For a complete schedule of all of the Homecoming events and activities, go to events.rit.edu or check the profile of EventsatRIT on AIM; a great addition to any buddy list. •

Urban League and RIT Electrify Local High Schoolers

by Ben Foster

Back in high school, how many of us had no idea what we wanted to be? High school guidance counselors were always asking you "so, what are you going to be when you grow up?" This was especially true if you were thinking about a major which doesn't have high school classes. How can you know if you really want to spend your life pursuing a major you have never even tried? One of the most intimidating and difficult careers to decide on majoring in is engineering. Few high schoolers have an idea of what this elusive field is really about. Electrical Engineering, FYE, and the Northstar Center are doing something about this with the upcoming Pre-engineering Conference.

The conference is a simple idea: let high school students know what electrical engineering is. Two groups of fifteen students from the Urban League of Rochester will get a unique taste of electrical engineering on Thursday, January 20 and the following week on Thursday, January 27. Each incoming student will be paired with an electrical engineering student from Charmel Trinidad's College of Engineering First Year Enrichment classes. She is an integral part of organizing this event.

The day will consist of tours of the engineering facilities here at RIT and time to socialize with professors. Both of these events will help acclimate these students to RIT and give them a tiny taste of the college experience. The culmination of the day will be a lab exercise where FYE students and members of the Urban League or Rochester will work side by side on a prototype.

Robert Joslyn, one of Trinidad's students talked about the challenges of working together on a project, and the rewards of interacting with prospective students. Said Joslyn, "It gives me a chance to interact with high school students in a different type of environment; working on a project." The College of Engineering is excited about providing their students with the opportunity to work with these visiting students, and hopes to get the RIT students interested in social work.

The day's primary purpose is to get visiting high school students excited about Electrical Engineering at RIT, but that is not the day's only goal, Trinidad said "[This is a] program connecting our strong electrical engineering program with the Rochester community schools and [specifically with] students who are interested in engineering [to] help them find out a little more about RIT. [We are doing all this] so that when they are making their decision; one, they hopefully feel good about engineering, and two, possibly consider RIT

a good place to do that." So there is clearly a recruitment element involved in the Pre-engineering Conference. Give students their first real taste of electrical engineering, make the experience positive, and get high school students thinking about RIT for their academic futures.

One of the event partners, the Urban League of Rochester, is a local foundation with a focus on serving local youth. The league organizes various volunteer activities throughout the Greater Rochester Area. As stated on their website, www.ulr.org, the mission of the Urban League is "to enable African Americans, Latinos, the poor, and other disadvantaged minorities to secure economic self-reliance, parity and power, and civil rights." The Pre-engineering Conference is aimed at addressing one of the League's three principal strategies for attaining their mission, "Ensuring that our children are well educated and equipped for economic self-reliance in the 21st century."

This event would also not have been possible without the Northstar Center, which helped connect interested Urban League students with Trinidad, she also said that they would be "helping with directions, making sure everyone gets here, and they are also covering a large part of the expenses." This is a serious part of the Northstar Center's purpose, to reach out into the community.

This is the first year the College of Engineering has held this program, but its execution is partly as a result of FYE sections now being split up by field of study. This allows a group of students interested in the same thing to interact, and it makes the logistics of this event much simpler since it allows an FYE instructor to really get behind programs like this. As a result, RIT continues, with this program and others, to achieve a greater presence in the local community. •

BrickBeat

by Andrew Bigelow with Jonathan Bove

Funding Increase for the Women's Center

The RIT Women's Center has recently received a grant from the Department of Justice for \$300,000. This raises the amount of funding from the Department of Justice over the last six years to over \$1 million. The grant will be used to continue the center's mission of academically and personally supporting women at RIT, preventing violence on campus, responding to crimes against women, and strengthening victim support services. The center also received a \$75,000 grant from the Davenport-Hatch Foundation to fund relocation and renovation of the center's facilities in the Student Alumni Union. Davenport-Hatch, a private foundation located in the Rochester area, also provided financial assistance to RIT to help with the construction of the Gordon Field House and Activities Center.

Students' Academic Affairs Taking Priority

Katherine Mayberry, a member of RIT faculty and staff since 1979, has been named Vice President of Academic Affairs. This is a new position at RIT, as well as a unique role in comparison to other schools. "Most universities do not focus [the attention] of the Vice President of Academic Affairs on student academic success... this approach is a new paradigm," according to President Al Simone. Mayberry's new role is to focus on not only overall student success, but also specifically on retention.

Previously, Mayberry was Acting Vice President for Retention. Her new position was created by the recent division of the responsibilities held by RIT's Provost, which until now included the responsibilities of VP of Academic Affairs. Current Provost Stan McKenzie will continue on in his role for the time being, after recently announcing the postponement of his retirement. Simone noted, in regard to the restructuring of the position, "In his role as provost and chief academic officer, [McKenzie] will continue to work closely every day with the deans, faculty, and associate/assistant provosts. He and Kit will interact on issues of curriculum, academic advising, teaching/learning, and other issues which relate directly to student academic success."

Mayberry reacted enthusiastically to the announcement, stating, "From the vantage point of this position, I will be able to oversee and coordinate the wide array of academic inputs. Everything I do will relate to the academic success of students. The creation of this position is yet another mark of the importance of student learning and success to this administration."

Follow Up on New Year's Resolutions

Charles Staley, a professional athletic trainer and coach, will be at RIT on January 21 to discuss fitness. His speech will touch upon subjects such as nutrition, motivation, goal setting, and ways by which one can work out harder as a means of reducing the duration of their work out sessions. This event, which will be held in the Gordon Field House and Activities Center, will last from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Staley's speech is free to RIT students, faculty, and staff, who can register at www.rit.edu/ciar. Although the public is welcome, they will be charged \$200 for admission.

CrimeWatch

compiled by Andrew Bigelow

January 7

Auto Stripping – U Lot

Criminal Possession of a Drug – Grace Watson Hall

A student was found in possession of six grams of cocaine and had admitted to selling \$10 lines in the past. The Monroe County Sheriff's Office responded to arrest and jail the student.

January 8

Alcohol Policy Violation – Kate Gleason Parking Lot

An intoxicated male student made racial slurs towards other students walking towards NRH. Upon arrival of RIT Ambulance, the intoxicated male became verbally combative and threw a plastic bottle. Then the Monroe County Sheriff's Office was called in to arrest the student under the mental hygiene law.

January 9

Identity Theft – Peterson Hall

A student reported received an e-mail from her bank advising her that a hacker had attempted to obtain her bank information. The e-mail contained a link to "Key Bank" where the student entered social security and pin number information. Later, becoming suspicious of the incident, the student called the bank and was advised that the e-mail was fraudulent. The Monroe County Sheriff's Office responded and filed a report.

Burglary – Fraternity/Sorority Housing

Between 12:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m., a student stated that their laptop computer was stolen from an unlocked dorm room. The area was canvassed and crime alert flyers were distributed.

January 11

Criminal Mischief – Colony Manor

Unknown person(s) threw a beer bottle at a window, shattering it. The incident was estimated to have happened between 11:30 p.m. January 9 and 12:00 p.m. on January 11. There are no leads or suspects at this time.

January 12

Burglary – Colby B

A student reported that between 4:30 p.m. and 11:00 p.m., an unknown person entered his unlocked room and took a laptop computer. The area was canvassed to no avail and the investigation is now closed.

Grand Larceny – Lowenthal Building

A student reported that she set down her laptop computer on a bench near the entrance to the Lowenthal building and went to the bathroom. Upon returning three minutes later, the computer was missing. The area was canvassed to no avail and the investigation is now closed.



ThisWeek

submit your events to reporter@rit.edu

1.21

8 p.m.–12 a.m.

8th Annual Snowball

SAU Cafe. Semi-formal to benefit Habitat for Humanity. \$10. Contact: Robin Matusik: ram7897@rit.edu.

9:30 p.m.–12 a.m.

The Whatnot

The Ritz. \$1. Contact: Kendra Fee: kef4979@rit.edu.

8 p.m.–12 a.m.

RIT Comedy Troupe Presents: Stand-Up Comedy!

The Ritz. Free. Contact: Tim Hettler: tph4196@rit.edu.

8:15 p.m.–2 a.m.

Magic Tournament

1829 Room. Magic Tournament Type I. Members: free, Others: \$5. Contact: Eric Heppen: ebh9294@rit.edu.

10 p.m.–3 a.m.

DJ Dance Party

SAU Cafe. Hip-hop, R&B, and reggae party hosted by Alpha Kappa Alpha. Women: \$3, Men: \$5, After 12:08: \$7. Contact: Carmen Council: cac2473@rit.edu.

1.22

6 p.m.–9 p.m.

Tiger Idol Auditions

SAU Cafe. Contact SG to sign up. Free. Contact: Meg Harklerod: meh4536@rit.edu.

8 p.m.–10:30 p.m.

Picasso at the Lapin Agile

Ingle Auditorium. The RIT Players present Steve Martin's play. Faculty/Staff/Students: \$3, Others: \$5. Contact: William Begole: web@mail.rit.edu.

10 p.m.–12 a.m.

Lock, Stock, and Two Smoking Barrels

SAU Cafe. Presented by CAB. Free. Contact: Alexis Ames: ada4106@rit.edu.

1.27

A student sits through a wintery snow shower outside of George Eastman building on Tuesday, January 11.
Eric Sucar/REPORTER Magazine

Global Union Unification

by Brian Garrson

In a not-quite filled Webb Auditorium, Global Union's annual showcase of presentations from groups on campus got underway on Saturday, January 15. Though "technical difficulty" and "hot-mic" seemed to be the words of the night, the show plunged ahead.

Devin Snow sings "Overjoyed" by Stevie Wonder in front of the crowd during the Global Union Unification Talent Show in Webb Auditorium on Saturday, January 16. Eric Sucar/REPORTER Magazine



What could be better for the Global Union than to host a sort of multicultural talent show? After all, they claim, "The organization creates awareness of global and international issues while encouraging interaction, understanding, and union among all the different ethnic groups that converge in RIT." It was a claim that they held up as the last of the crowd moseyed on into the auditorium; music videos from around the world were playing for maximum cultural exposure. To introduce the actual show, Global Union President Manaal Eisa took the stage. Tsunami victims were given a moment of silence, the relief efforts of which will receive all proceeds from the event. Continuing on that topic, the Muslim Student Association then read two poems in honor of the victims.

Putting on the first skit was the Coalition for a Better World. Sitting around a table were students arguing about who has played the most important role in making the U.S. what it is today: Native Americans, Hispanics, Asians, Africans, or Europeans. Though bad microphone feedback made it difficult to hear the facts being presented, the lesson to be learned came when another student walked on stage and shouted, "What are you guys arguing about? Everybody has [had] their fair share of contributions!" Devin Snow, a member of Unity House, then knocked everybody's socks off by singing Stevie Wonder's "Overjoyed" a cappella. Following that were introductions to the Global Union's Executive Board, which was the last bit before intermission.

After a brief "commercial break," Creative Outlet got things moving with a dance routine. Standing out in the group were the two performers sharing a pair of black and white gloves, stirring up images of Michael Jackson from his glory days.

One RIT student's plane trip from Africa was then depicted in the play performed by the Deaf International Student Association. To depict the passage of time, an actor holding two large arrows created a human clock. However, eliciting the most laughter from the crowd was the takeoff and landing, for which the six "passengers" shook as they leaned back or forward in their chairs.

Next came a skit by the Organization of African Students. Through original poetry, they drove home the point that not everybody from Africa speaks Swahili. In fact, a great many countries, and even more cultures, make up the entire continent of Africa. Then International house tried to play a game in which the audience was supposed to guess which country a student was from based on the music that was playing as he/she walked out. Unfortunately, the music was barely audible and others that already knew the answer were all too willing to shout it out.

Concluding the night's exhibition was a display of Martial Arts by Ali Al-Raisi and Adam Hoke. Ali showed off his skills not only by breaking a board with his head and knocking a cup off Adam's head with his nunchaku, but also by kicking an apple off a knife held at head level—while blindfolded! Adam's stunts included some impressive flips and twists, such as breaking a board by kicking it in a back flip. Those willing to wait in line after the show were served some tasty international foods to end the evening.

More about the Global Union, including meeting times and future events, can be found at <http://www.rit.edu/~globalun>. •

Metal Gear Solid 3: Snake Eater

by Nathan Liebold

Though the threat of the Cuban Missile Crisis has been extinguished, flames of The Cold War still secretly rage on. You are Snake, one man set against man, beast, and all else that waits for you, deep in the jungle's shadows. The year is 1964, and you have been sent to Russia to prevent a nuclear war that will bring about the end of all other nations. Volgin, an insane military commander, seeks to seize power from Russia's leaders and bring about a new world order, wielding a vicious army and soon, the deadliest nuclear weapon yet imagined. Sokolov is the one scientist who can complete the design of this killing machine, and it is your mission to recapture him over enemy lines. And, if the machine unexpectedly becomes operational—as war-machines tend to do—it's Snake's job to put it down with a few bullets, a kick-ass and take-names attitude, and the bandana we've come to know and love.

The most noticeable thing about *Snake Eater* is the change in gameplay, but it's definitely one for the better. Snake now has a stamina gauge that controls how fast he heals and how long he can take on the opposition. Once it begins to go down, Snake has to eat, and a whole buffet lies before him in the jungle. Snake can use his knife to catch snakes and rats, or he can tranquilize them to keep in a cage where food won't get spoiled. Snake also has an array of camouflage and face paints, which make him almost invisible when used correctly. Terrain limits now feel almost completely removed; it feels like you can go anywhere and do anything. Players can hide in the grass or atop a tree, blending in with the life around them instead of only crawling into the ventilation shafts and lockers of *Snake Eater's* predecessors. Another important addition is the cure menu. When Snake is shot, cut, or burned, players have to hurry and treat his wounds to keep him from losing massive amounts of health. All of these new features add a great deal of depth and realism to the game.

Back are the unbelievably over-the-top bosses and the epic battles that characterize *Metal Gear Solid*. This time around, the new camouflage, cure, and food abilities play a big part in the fierce clashes. *Snake Eater* brings the toughest battles ever fought in a Metal Gear game, with one taking place back and forth over three huge areas of the jungle in a sniper duel that can take over an hour to complete.

Snake Eater definitely favors the claustrophobic more than previous games in the series. Gone are the cramped rooms and hallways that made up the military bases and oil rigs of *Metal Gear Solid 1* and *2*. Players have a new domain. Now a beautiful vastness lies before them, a boundless jungle teeming with life and swift death. The visuals of the jungle bleed with life, bound at least once to make players stop running and take a look at all around them. The in-game cinematics bring it all together, now letting players zoom in on the action or see from Snake's point of view.

For a break from the gravity of *Snake Eater's* story, Konami includes a mini-game entitled *Snake vs. Monkey*. So, in a ludicrous romp through the jungle—complete with banana camouflage—Snake captures the runaway primates from *Ape Escape*. Once all are apprehended, Snake can advance to the next monkey chase if record time is broken. Don't worry; it's not supposed to make sense. Some fans of the Metal Gear series may think of this diversion as pure stupidity, but it pokes fun at the series' famous penchant for over-the-top impossibility. Besides, it ends up being the best tool for practice, sharpening and quickening a player's aim.

Snake Eater builds even more upon the series' best qualities, combining the best gameplay yet with story and visuals that bury that of *Metal Gear Solid 1* and *2*. Fans of the series will get the most out of the game, piecing together connections between events in Snake's history, but newcomers won't be left out. *Snake Eater* isn't just a sequel or a prequel that relies on an inherited greatness, but rather a game that stands tall on its own, bringing a new level of gameplay to stealth/action games. •

★★★★★



Acquiring an Affinity for Alliteration

Signatures Poetry Slam

by Casey Dehlinger

photograph by Tom Starkweather

Some people have difficulty swallowing poetry, while for others this literary art form gracefully rolls off their lips. Many of the latter and a few of the former attended the Signatures Poetry Slam, held Thursday, January 14 at Java Wally's. The event was hosted by Signatures, RIT's annual literary/art publication, to promote their cause and encourage people to submit work for the 2005 edition.

Signatures advisor John Roche commented that the event "shows the oral side of poetry, the spoken style that is often lost in silent readings." Roche also pointed out that part of the beauty of the Poetry Slam lay in the "variety of style and experience demonstrated by those who participate."

The rules are simple enough: Five judges rated poets on a scale of one to five. Each poet had a maximum of five minutes. Although there were prizes for first through third place, and a token for free coffee to anyone who signed up, competition was the least important aspect of the night. Rather, the main priority was for poets to get things off their chest. For the most part, this involved words, but for one poet, Wendell Smith, words weren't enough; he took off his shirt after explaining that removing clothing is a good thing to do when nervous. The topless Wendell was followed by a poet who read from Vladimir Nobokov's classic novel *Lolita*. Other exceptions to the rule included a song by Demille Khan (Wendell, now with his shirt on, even pulled out his lighter for this one), a short story with an accompanying illustration of an Inuit and an alligator (or was is a crocodile?), and a reading of William Shakespeare's classic love poem, "Shall I Compare Thee to a Summer's Day," read by the tersely named Ola. The typical poems were about love and/or hate, while many angry hip-hop style pieces eloquently criticized the workings of the world at blisteringly fast speeds.

Atmospherically, Java Wally's was an enthusiastic and accepting host, even when whispered commentary blotted out short clips of the softly spoken poetry. Over fifty listeners crowded the corner where the readings occurred, while the Go Club played quietly in the opposing corner. Nervous poets sat on the edges of couches, looking over scuffed printouts and small journals. Many poems

included nervous preludes, like one poet's mention that it was her birthday. After her performance, the audience sang "Happy Birthday," but as the singers reached the end, they forgot that her name was Lauren, so, for the night, she was dear "hmm-hmm." Another poet warned that her poem was sad, and when her audience let out a mournful "awww" at the end of her first piece, she scolded, "I warned you it was sad, but you didn't listen."

After a five-minute break, Shawn Phister kicked off the second half with a blazingly fast poem featuring more words ending in "-iac" than the average person realized existed. After reciting his well-received piece, Shawn mentioned how the Signatures Poetry Slam was "a great way for closet poets to come out and surprise people." He also admitted to being so nervous that he was shaking, but no one seemed to notice.

A highlight of the night was recited by the otherwise anonymous "Miss Witty from Rock City," whose wish to revert to childhood featured beautifully sung renditions of such childhood theme songs as "Reading Rainbow" and "Captain Planet." However, all poets gave excellent performances, and the night was received well by the largest audience the Poetry Slam has had in its few years of existence. A video feed of the event will be posted at www.signaturesmag.com in the near future. •

Quote “Destiny is no matter of chance. It is a matter of choice. It is not a thing to be waited for, it is a thing to be achieved.”
-William Jennings Bryan

Some Facts

A Stream of Facts: January 21

On **January 21**, 1994, Lorena Bobbitt was found not guilty by reason of temporary insanity for severing the **penis** of her husband John.

The **penis** of the **barnacle** is up to twenty times the length of the animal.

The **barnacle** begins its life floating on the tides with plankton. It later settles down, developing six hard **plates** to protect its body.

A **plate** is a type of eating utensil, being a broad and concave, but mainly flat, piece on which food is served. Plates are commonly made from **porcelain** or plastic.

Porcelain is typically biscuit fired at around 1000 degrees **Celsius** (1800 degrees Fahrenheit), and glaze fired (the final firing) at around 1300 degrees Celsius (2300 degrees Fahrenheit).

The scientist Anders **Celsius** spent time in Nuremberg, where in 1733 he published a collection of 316 observations of the **aurora borealis** made by himself and others over the period 1716–1732.

Polar **aurorae** are optical phenomena characterized by colorful displays of light in the night sky. An auroral display in the Northern Hemisphere is called the aurora borealis, or the northern lights.

A pepper mill makes a simple and fairly cheap addition to any kitchen. The joy that freshly ground black pepper can bring to a wide range of cooking is anything but cheap, though. If you want to add a real burst of flavor to your cooking without really having to do anything, try swapping out your carton of ground pepper for your very own pepper mill. You can easily locate one at any number of local department stores. You will not be disappointed with the added zip in your diet.

> Reporter Recommends

A Haiku

by Brian Garrison

You'd better watch it
The boogeyman will get you
If you pick your nose

Vladimir Nabokov's controversial and often unsettling novel *Lolita* is a profound look at human desire. Beyond the obvious pedophile depicted in *Lolita*, lies a touching and often funny story about a complex human character unable to escape his base desires. This strange novel's popularity has risen and fallen since it was first published in France in 1955. Nabokov's poetic style of prose and jarring depiction of an uneven love give *Lolita* an intensity that cannot be ignored. So look past the obvious, and uncover a book far more unsettling because of what it says about human nature than because of anything it says about sex.

Random REVIEW

A number of number band numbers:

U2–Sunday Bloody Sunday
504 Boyz–Tight Whips
Catch 22–12341234
Eighteen Visions–Waiting for the Heavens
One King Down–More Hate Than Fear
Slayer–Raining Blood
Blink 182–Violence
50 cent–21 Questions
Maroon 5–Harder to Breathe

AT YOUR

LEISURE

Things and Stuff, and People too...

Get the door. It's Domino's.



Make it a meal!



Buffalo Wings
Big, juicy wings in Hot or Mild Sauce. With Blue Cheese for dipping.
10 pc. \$5.99
20 pc. \$11.98



Breadsticks
Baked to a golden brown. Includes Marinara Sauce for dipping.
\$1.99



Drinks
Choose from Coke, Diet Coke or Sprite.
12 oz. Cans .75¢
2-Liter Bottle \$1.99



Domino's Pizza Buffalo Chicken Kickers
Tender cuts of all white chicken breast with a kick of Buffalo flavor baked right in. Includes Hot Sauce & Blue Cheese for dipping.
10 pc. \$5.99



Cinna Stix
Breadsticks sprinkled with cinnamon and sugar. Includes sweet vanilla icing.
\$2.99



Cheesy Bread
Breadsticks smothered with cheddar & mozzarella cheese, then baked to perfection. Includes Marinara sauce for dipping.
\$2.99



11am-2am Fri and Sat

11am - 1am Sun thru Thursday

359-3330

prices do not include tax

Monday Madness

Large Cheese 1-Topping Pizza

\$5.99

**After 7pm

Campus Wings Combo

One 1-topping pizza, 10 Buffalo Wings OR Domino's Pizza Buffalo Chicken Kickers

\$10.99 **\$13.99**
medium large



deep dish extra

Starving Student Special

One 1-topping pizza & your choice of Breadsticks, Cheesy Bread OR Cinna Stix

\$7.99 **\$9.99**
medium large



deep dish extra

Large Wings Combo

Two Large 1-topping pizzas, Buffalo Wings or Domino's Pizza Buffalo Chicken Kickers

\$18.99

deep dish extra



777 Deal
3 PIZZAS
Large 1-Topping
\$7.00 each



Special price valid only with purchase of at least three pizzas.
Special offer, so you must ask for it when ordering.



TOWNLINE GARAGE

585-533-2020

Special Student Discounts

✓ Breaks Oil Change Repairs NYS Inspection Tow Service

We Do It All Guaranteed Quality Work

5970 East Henrietta Road Rush, New York

****#1 Spring Break Website! Lowest prices guaranteed.**
Free Meals & Free Drinks. Book 11 people, get 12th trip free! Group discounts for 6+ www.SpringBreakDiscounts.com or 800-838-8202

Start your own Fraternity! Zeta Beta Tau is looking for men to start a new Chapter. If you are interested in academic success, a chance to network and an opportunity to make friends in a non-pledging Brotherhood, email: zbt@zbtnational.org or call 800-431-9674

BE YOUR OWN BOSS!

Learn how YOU can earn \$150K-\$350k+/yr.
Training Provided. Not MLM
1-800-539-1088

Spring Break 2005. Travel with STS America's #1 Student Tour Operator Jamaica, Cancun, Acapulco, Bahamas and Florida. Now hiring campus reps. Call for group discounts. Information/Reservations 1-800-648-4849 or www.ststravel.com.



WHAT MAKES US TICK:

DEFINING GENERATION Y

by Brenna Cammeron

illustration by Bill Robinson

"What defines our generation?" The question was deceptively simple. Tellingly enough, the first image that came to my mind was a bedroom-eyed Paris Hilton, strutting boa-clad down the red carpet.

I stopped short. Although the divine Ms. Hilton is doubtless the most overexposed rich blonde in our generation's new breed of "celebrity royalty," it just isn't possible that she represents the best that our generation has to offer. Sure enough, it took only a little bit of digging to find the people, events, and things that have truly shaped us. From the aftermath of 9/11 to the boom in technology that's led to making cell phones, instant messaging, and iPods commonplace, our generation is unique in its pace and complexity.

MUSIC

The Rise of the Pop Star

We've always had pop, but never has the media made such a concerted effort to produce a sound that was so uniform that all of the groups would soon be referred to using one term: boy band. Steve Fiorelli, a first-year CS major, remembers the mania well. "I always was sort of jealous of the boy bands. They always got all the pretty girls." Of course, many got that sinking feeling that maybe the boy bands had overstayed their welcome when Hanson burst on the scene with the infectious yet incredibly annoying "MMMBop."

And then there were the women. We all remember Britney Spears—looking convincingly innocent in her schoolgirl attire, crooning the catchy yet somehow asinine lyrics to "Hit Me Baby One More Time," inciting a scandalized buzz across the nation. Next to burst on the scene was a (by comparison) squeaky-clean Christina Aguilera, but it wasn't long before she too would be rolling around in the sand, moaning morsels of wisdom such as: "I'm a genie in a bottle, you've gotta rub me the right way."

One somewhat remarkable blip on the pop tartlet radar is the amazing success of the woman that America loves to hate, Jessica Simpson. Never as vastly successful on the music market as Spears or Aguilera, she has somehow managed to morph her pop-star following into an audience eager to watch her ditzzy hijinks on the reality TV show, "Newlyweds." Although her husband, predictably enough boy band hunk Nick Lachey, groans at his true love's idiocy in the background, it's Jessica that runs the show.

Surprisingly Diverse

Despite—or perhaps because of—the amount of attention being heaped on today's pop stars, a surprising amount of people in our generation have found themselves turning to music that's a little more off-beat. Brian Barry, a Professor of Sociology at RIT, finds this refreshing. As Professor Barry puts it, "the rise in independent music...has been a welcome alternative to the formulaic products of Hollywood and the giant music companies." This explosion in musical diversity may very well have something to do with music sharing—never has it been easier to discover new music genres without cost or commitment. In any case, when asked what is being played on their iPods, members of our generation had incredibly diverse answers. "50 Cent," "Jack Johnson," "Marvin Gaye," "OAR," "Death Cab for Cutie," "Iron and Wine," "Eminem," "Phish," ...the list goes on and on.

FASHION

Buried deep within my subconscious is a memory so strongly repressed that even Freud would have trouble recovering it. Once in awhile, through old snapshots or trips to the Salvation Army, I find myself reeling from a painful flashback that hints at the horrible truth of my past.

That truth is this: myself, age twelve, smiling for the camera in what I imagine to be the most stylin' outfit ever. The baggy tee says "Do the Macarena!" and features the ubiquitous

happy faces with little stick-figure arms illustrating the dance. The tee is topped by a cardigan style, shoulder-padded black vest. Purple velvet stirrup pants, rolled knee socks, high top sneakers, and multiple bangles to complete the devastatingly gorgeous (hideous?) ensemble.

My only comfort in revealing this embarrassing truth about myself is the thought that hundreds of you reading this have similar cringe-worthy memories from the late 80s and early 90s. It was not a time for minimalism or restraint in any sense of the word. Big hair and big shoulder pads ruled the scene. Colors and patterns clashed like nations at war—but we liked it that way.

Fortunately, the messiah of modern-day minimalism—Calvin Klein—soon came to power. Aside from the then-scandalous denim ads of nubile youngsters modeling his famous jeans, Calvin Klein brought with him a "less is more" mentality, endorsing clean lines, restrained use of color, and, finally, smoother hair.

Today's fashion is, once again, more diverse than ever. Rather than conforming to one particular style, we find ourselves invited to be unique and express ourselves through our fashion. Walking down the quarter mile at RIT, this is easily seen: the Goths attired in their black and chains, the hippies in their vintage threads, and the fashionistas in their UGGs and Sevens, all adding to a sense of individuality about fashion on our campus.

TELEVISION

It should come as no surprise that when I polled people as to how our generation was unique, one of the most frequent answers was the popularity of "Reality TV." It's a tired concept by now, the idea of following real people's reactions to very unrealistic situations, but the networks continue to fill primetime with these shows, and there's no real end in sight.

It all began in 1992 with the launch of MTV's hugely popular *Real World* series. Next came the *Survivor* series, the first reality show to debut on one of the "big three" networks. It was a phenomenal success.

From there came an onslaught of reality TV, one for every person's particular tastes. For the romantic, there's *The Bachelor* and *Who Wants to Marry My Dad?* For the quirky romantic, you have *The Littlest Groom*—after all, dwarves deserve love too. For the lover of quick fixes, you have either *Extreme Makeover* or *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition*. For those that like to be grossed out, there's always *Fear Factor*. For those that just want to see people fight, there's now the strangely satisfying *WifeSwap*.

There have been a few holdouts against this Reality TV tradition. Both *The Sopranos* and *Sex in the City* managed to gain huge fan bases on HBO. *The Sopranos* has fascinated audiences with superb acting and plenty of mob gore, while *Sex in the City* provides great fashion, witty dialogue about men, and, of course, sex. Most recently, audiences seem to be shying away from the now-passé Reality TV and towards well-written dark comedies such as the new hit, *Desperate Housewives*.

MOVIES

Shocker: The Rise of the Gross Comedy

It began with *There's Something About Mary*. The 1998 comedy was chock-full of shocking innuendos about accidents involving zippers and hair gel. The shock comedy had been born, and there was little that scandalized parents could do about it. Especially aimed towards the teenage male, movies such as *American Pie* spawned several sequels, each aiming to top the preceding ones in grossness and raising the bar of sexual innuendo, and flat-out lewdness, even higher. Although this movie genre appears to be dying out a bit, film studios continue to churn out cinematic gems such as *The Girl Next Door*, *Scary Movie*, and *Not Another Teen Movie*.

The Not-So-Independent Indie Movie

More recently, our generation has become fascinated by movies that once were relegated to the fringes of cinematic enjoyment. The indie flick has always

held a certain cult appeal, representing contempt for mainstream thought and embracing bohemian ideals. However, the choice of certain big-ticket actors, Nicole Kidman and Jim Carey come to mind, to do smaller budget films in lieu of surefire box office smashes has led to once-alternative films becoming incredibly popular and much more mainstream. Movies such as *The Blair Witch Project*, *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*, *Napoleon Dynamite*, *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*, and *Garden State* have all made their way into mainstream cinema without compromising their indie roots. Of course, this assimilation of indie culture into the mainstream has left many purists reminiscent for the days when independent movies were just that—independent.

POLITICS AND WORLD EVENTS

Most of our adult lives have been marked by unprecedented prosperity and relative peace. But if our generation has had one defining moment, it is the horrific events and aftermath of September 11, 2001. On that day, life as we know it, changed completely. Those in previous generations never had to deal with a color-coded system of terror warnings, or of enemies of the same type as Al Qaeda and Osama Bin Laden. Airport security has tightened noticeably, and the constant barrage of media attention regarding the terror threat has shaped how our generation responds to crises. We are no longer the lighthearted generation of few troubles, many luxuries, and little involvement. This was obvious in the most recent election year, which had the highest rate of youth voters in US history. Patriotism and political awareness have grounded our generation and have made us aware of the larger world.

Professor Barry believes that the effects of September 11, as well as more recent events such as the war in Iraq and the tsunami disaster, have “led to an increased sense of a common purpose...and have evoked unprecedented generosity and humanitarianism.” However, Barry believes that if these sort of unexpected and tragic events continue, “there might be a rise in trauma, dispiritedness, and an unwillingness to engage in long-term planning due to the volatility of the status quo.”

TECHNOLOGY

There’s no doubt about it: our generation is defined by the gadgets and gizmos that surround us. Buzzwords and concepts that are second nature to us, instant messaging, iPods, camera phones, text messaging, and now Thefacebook, are a mystery to all but the savviest of parents and grandparents. The boom in technology affects every aspect of our lives—both negatively and positively. Ryan Milewski, a second year mechanical engineering major at RIT, senses the double-edged sword that technology is fast becoming. “The biggest thing technology has done is to decrease the time it takes to do almost anything...but on the flipside it has caused a lot of complications.”

THE INTERNET

We use the Internet to check the weather, pay our bills, find old friends and meet new lovers, buy and sell anything under the sun, share photographs, and do research. And that’s only scratching the surface of it. It’s not surprising, then, that life without the Internet is almost impossible for our generation to comprehend. To think that the Internet as we know it only came into existence in the 1980s is nothing short of staggering.

One of the most pervasive uses for the Internet among our generation is not as a research tool or source of learning, but for its social value. Instant Messenger—often in the form of AIM—has gained such great popularity that the line “Hey baby, what’s your screenname?” has become almost as commonplace as the usual “Can I have your number?”

One of the newest social applications for those in our generation is the brainchild of two Harvard students. Thefacebook.com, covered in depth in the January 14, 2005 issue of *Reporter*, is a compilation of thousands of profiles of students from almost 300 colleges. The term “facebook” has even become a verb for some, as in, “Facebook me!” or “Be quiet, I’m facebooking right now.”

COMMUNICATION OBSESSED

One of my mother’s favorite sayings these days is “you’re so connected that you’re disconnected.” And, to an extent, she’s right. For many college students, losing a cell phone is like losing a lifeline. An uncharged iPod means a day in which one must walk through campus with just the sound of the birds and the bees—or, more predictably in Rochester, a howling snowstorm. We check away messages compulsively over Instant Messenger to see what everyone else is up to. We have extensive contact lists just in case we ever need to call that one person we met at a party three months ago. With one ear plugged into an iPod, and one ear against a cell phone, it sometimes seems like people could care less about real-world socializing. Professor Barry agrees, saying that our generation is “being socialized less and less in the home and more and more by the media and by peers.”

As a result of all of this, it can sometimes come as a pleasant surprise to learn that being plugged in isn’t as necessary as one initially thinks. I learned this when a series of unfortunate events led to my laptop being in the shop, my cell phone battery being dead, and my iPod to be missing in action. After the initial withdrawal symptoms, I found it strangely refreshing to sit in Java’s and just watch the people go by, munching happily on a cookie and waiting patiently for a familiar face.

SUMMING UP “US”

It has been said that it’s impossible for us to judge our generation, simply because we don’t yet have the wisdom that comes from years of looking back. This may very well be true. After all, we are, like so many generations that have come before us, very complex. We’re forever struggling to reconcile our obsession with technology with retaining the value of real-life relationships. Childhoods spent in economic prosperity have left us always wanting the best, while our rapidly changing society has led to what Professor Barry calls “a culture of impermanence.”

Music, fashion, television, movies, politics, technology—these are all symptoms of our generation, but they will never truly define us. The truth of our generation’s character is so much more than that. More than anything, we will be defined by what we make of the incredible opportunities given to us. Whatever we do, hopefully we can make it a little more significant than the supposed role models that surround us: Britney, Christina, and (of course) the divine Ms. Hilton. •

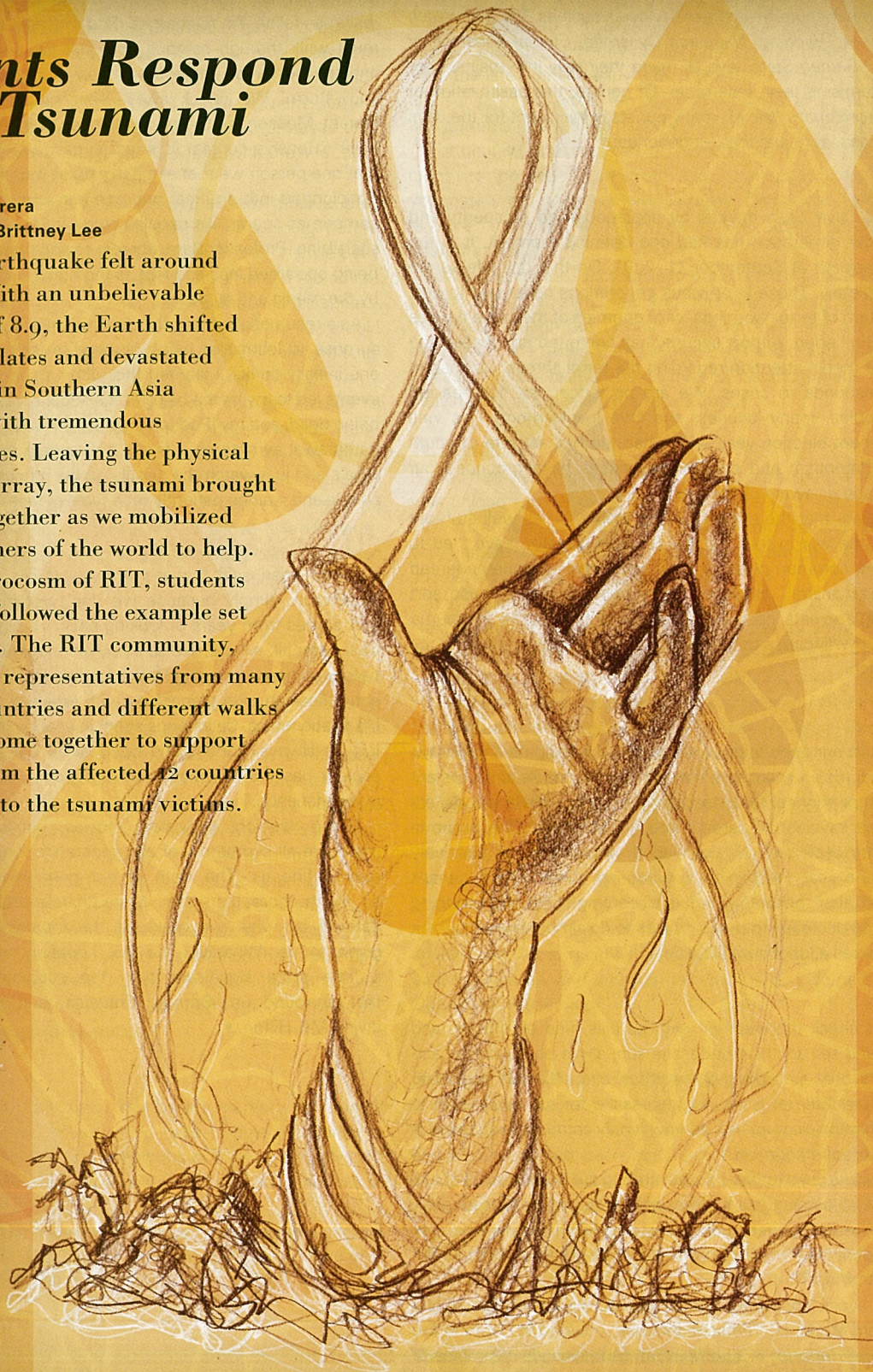
Students Respond to the Tsunami

by Frances Cabrera

illustration by Brittney Lee

It was the earthquake felt around the world. With an unbelievable magnitude of 8.9, the Earth shifted its tectonic plates and devastated 12 countries in Southern Asia and Africa with tremendous tsunami waves. Leaving the physical earth in disarray, the tsunami brought humanity together as we mobilized from all corners of the world to help.

In the microcosm of RIT, students and faculty followed the example set by the world. The RIT community, including its representatives from many different countries and different walks of life, has come together to support members from the affected 12 countries and give aid to the tsunami victims.



The Office of International Student Services was the first to mobilize, opening its offices early for counseling and preparing for the worst. According to Catalina Novac, International Student Services Coordinator, 444 students come from nine of the 12 countries affected by the natural disaster. A student from Sri Lanka lived only a couple miles from where the waves hit, and another student from India missed the tsunami by one day. "Thankfully, we haven't heard of anybody who has been affected directly by the tsunami," said Novac.

Instead of bad news, Jeffrey Cox, Director of International Student Services, said at the remembrance service held for the tsunami victims on January 10 that he found the students "in their typical RIT spirits and quickly forming fundraisers." With just a week into classes after winter break, about 50 groups had already organized fundraisers for the tsunami victims.

"It was on everybody's mind this holiday. Seeing such immense devastation, how could you not want to help?" said Phyllis Walker, Coordinator for Student Volunteer Programs. Immediately after hearing the news on December 26, Walker knew she had to do something. As a result, she is heading this college-wide effort to raise funds to help tsunami victims. She definitely wasn't alone in her sentiments. She returned to RIT to find her email inbox full. "I was shocked by the number of students wanting to help," said Walker.

Through Walker's coordination, the Global Union, the Greek community, Student Government, the Honors community, and various clubs and organizations have come together to organize fundraisers, make ribbons, staff tables, and collect money.

"I had heard a lot [about] how bad everything was and how the death tolls would keep rising and that there were massive food and water shortages. I felt that as a Catholic, and a rich person compared to most of the people in poverty in South Asia, I really should do something to help," said Matt Erhard, coordinator of the Honors portion of fundraising. It was with this mentality that many of the volunteers chose to participate. "The students are so gracious to give," said Walker. "Students are broke, but they are compassionate."

Geoff Watson saw this compassion first hand while manning a donation table for the Honors community. "People were very supportive. Most people seemed very willing to give more than the minimum donation to get a ribbon. Some even gave without taking a ribbon." The Honors community made blue ribbons they hoped to "sell" just two days after they had returned from break. "I just would like to raise as much as we can to help the victims of the tsunami. About 400 ribbons were made, and if most of them could be sold, that would be great," said Erhard. To help sell these ribbons, organizations including OCASA, various clubs, and Student Government staffed the main table in the SAU.

Working with the Honors community and Student Government is the Greek community. "There was a challenge sent out to the chapters to donate \$1 per member in their house (fraternity or sorority) by our advisor, Jessica Berner," said Kevin Kray, Greek Council Vice President. "We are also planning a large scale money raising event that is being planned and should take place before the end of the quarter."

Walker said that the Student Volunteer Office and the Greeks will collaborate for this event and make it into a dance with a cover charge that will be donated to a small charity in the

spring. The money collected recently by the groups during the first three weeks of classes after break was presented today, January 21, to the International Red Cross. Walker and Novac both pointed out that some students from the affected countries wanted to make donations to smaller, more local charities they felt would help their people more. This spring dance, for example, would help those charities.

The Global Union will focus more on the local charities. Novac said that the support group meeting for international students held on January 7 became an open forum for students in the Global Union and students not associated with any international association to come and discuss fundraiser ideas. One of their first ideas was to turn their already planned Unification presentation on January 15 into a fundraiser where a portion of the ticket sales will be donated and an MP3 player will be raffled. "I have students from Brazil coming into my office asking if they can do anything to help," said Novac. National lines are erased in the face of such disaster.

Along with monetary support for the tsunami victims, RIT also offered spiritual support keeping the living and the dead in their prayers and thoughts. RIT held a remembrance service titled "Time of Remembrance and Reflection" for the tsunami victims on January 10. Twelve white flowers representing the 12 affected countries were brought forward in remembrance of those lives lost. A prayer board was set up outside the Allen Chapel after the service. Cox and Dan Irving, Program Director of Hillel, spoke about joining hands in order to "send a message that we care to those around us," in the words of Cox. "We need to recognize that grief is part of compassion and transform it to healing the world," said Irving at the service.

Through the overwhelming number of students giving up their time, money, and spirit to help those affected on the other side of the globe, these various program directors and coordinators and our immediate community have realized what Novac so understatedly declared, "People care." •



Computer Science majors Andy Bak (left) and Govind Ramabadran (right) write messages on a RIT Remembrance sign showing compassion for the victims of the recent Tsunami disaster in Asia. RIT's Center for Religious Life hosted a "Time of Remembrance and Reflection" on behalf of the tsunami victims and nations on Monday, January 10. Eric Sucar/REPORTER Magazine.

WORD on the street

compiled and photographed by Jodi Goldenberg



Q: With homecoming week coming up soon here at RIT, what was your most memorable high school homecoming moment?

1 "I remember trying to match outfit for the dance with our school colors; it wasn't easy!"

Carson McCain

Fifth Year

Mechanical Engineering Technology

2 "What's homecoming?"

Genese Yearwood

Third Year

Accounting

3 "Going to the dance with all my friends."

Jessica Smagner

Third Year

Psychology

4 "The football game and the dance were always good times."

Molly Sebastian

Second Year

Industrial Design

5 "I went to another school's dance, so it was nice to see everyone I never see."

Rebecca Brand

First Year

Undecided Liberal Arts

6 "The football game, or getting crazy before it."

Rob Bowman

Second Year

Mechanical Engineering Technology

7 "Going to the dance with my jeep completely covered in balloons!"

Sean Dekkers

Third Year

Film

8 "I went to an all guys school, homecoming didn't mean anything."

TJ Esposito, WOTS virgin

Third Year

Bioinformatics

"I wore a size 8 Hawaiian dress for spirit week, it was my girlfriend's, so it didn't exactly fit me."

Pete Skarla

Second Year

Industrial Design

"We had a really prissy name so we were never very intimidating,, The Mercy Monarchs."

Nicole Lighthouse

Fourth Year

Psychology

"Powderpuff, where the girls play football; I was the quarterback!"

Amanda Morehouse

First Year

Applied Math

"I only went to one homecoming and it was freezing, but I had letters painted on my chest."

Eric Woodward

Second Year

Mechanical Engineering

"I am a cheerleader so I love the game and the pep rally! Go Tigers!"

Kenya Athill

Third Year

Electrical Engineering

"Each dad was a different theme so I got to dress up for days like decade and pajama day."

Heather Lute

First Year

Graphic Design

"Instead of homecoming king, we have the penny king where you vote by donating money for a good cause. I lost by one cent, all because the guy who won had his girlfriend put a ton of money in."

Corey Hankey

Second Year

New Media Design

"Going to the dance with my jeep completely covered in balloons!"

Sean Dekkers

Third Year

Film



The Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra Presents

RPO PAETEC Philharmonics Partners Program

At the Eastman Theatre
60 Gibbs Street

***Myths and Heroes - Jan. 27 & 29**

***Choral Spectacular - Feb. 10 & 12**

Magnificent Meyer - Feb. 17 & 19

Uncommon Women - Mar. 3 & 5

Grace and Triumph - Mar. 17 & 19

Bravo Brahms! - Apr. 7 & 9

Romantic Favorites - Apr. 14 & 16

Hungarian Rhapsody - Apr. 28 & 30

Galactic Finale - May 19 & 21

***Free
Transportation**

**Tickets are \$5 with a College ID
the Week of the Concert**

**Concerts Start at 8 pm
Ticket Sales Begin at 6:30 pm
on the Night of the Concert**

For More Information Visit
http://www.rpo.org/PAETEC_info.html

Advance Ticket Sales

The RPO Box Office

Monday - Saturday, 10 am to 5 pm
(non-concert Saturdays 10 am to 3 pm)

In Person, 108 East Avenue

No convenience Fee

By Phone 454-2100

\$3 per ticket convenience fee

All Rochester-area **Wegmans** Video Departments
Hours vary by store.

\$2 per ticket convenience fee

www.RPO.org

\$3 per ticket convenience fee

* A free Mini-bus will leave RIT's SAU Circle at 7:20 pm on Saturdays January 29th and February 12th and go directly to the Eastman Theatre. The bus will make a return trip to RIT immediately following the performance.

Civic Engagement Celebration February 1st, 5 - 7 pm, SAU Cafeteria

Free Food and Beverages
Inspirational Speech by Rod Cox-Cooper
Q & A with Mayoral Candidate Wade Norwood

Presented by the Community Service Center 475-6056



RIT's Shabnam Razmpour dishes it off to a teammate, while being double teamed by two SUNY Brockport players. Brockport defeated RIT 65-47.

Sports **DESK**

by José Plaza | photograph by Jacob Hannah

Men's Basketball

January 8: In their second game of the Empire 8 Conference, RIT fell to 18th ranked St. John Fisher, 84-72. The Tigers had a lead of 52-42 at one point, but the Cardinals, led by senior Jeff Sidney, recaptured the lead with an 18-1 run in the second half.

Final Score: L 84-72

Rebounds: RIT (35), Fisher (42)

FG%: RIT (42.6%), Fisher (45.5%)

3-PT FG%: RIT (27.8%), Fisher (38.9%)

January 12: In the opening round of the 2005 J.P Morgan Chase Scholarship Tournament, RIT went head to head against Roberts Wesleyan College at SUNY Geneseo. The number three ranked Tigers proved to be too much for number six ranked Wesleyan, and went on to win the opening round by a score of 84-74.

Final Score: W 84-74

Rebounds: RIT (42), Wesleyan (38)

FG%: RIT (51.7%), Wesleyan (40.9%)

3-PT FG%: RIT (37.5%), Wesleyan (33.3%)

January 14: With a convincing win over University of Rochester on Friday, RIT earned a spot at the J.P Morgan Chase Scholarship Tournament Championship game. The Tigers, who are ranked third, defeated the number two ranked University of Rochester by a score of 66-58.

Final Score: W 66-58

Rebounds: RIT (28), U of R (33)

FG%: RIT (52.4%), U of R (37.5%)

3-PT FG%: RIT (50%), U of R (13.3%)

Record through 1/14/05: 7-5

Men's Hockey

January 8: The Tigers had their undefeated streak broken on Saturday in front of the home crowd, as they lost the game to SUNY Plattsburgh, 5-4. The game was filled with a lot of action, especially during the last minutes of the game, when a 3-3 tie was broken. The final minute of the game consisted of RIT trying their hardest but failing to tie the score at 5-5, which would have allowed them to stay in the game.

Final Score: L 4-5

RIT Goals: Michael Tucciarone (2), Ricky Walton (1), Darren Doherty (1)

Shots: RIT (28), Plattsburgh (35)

Power Plays: RIT (2-5), Plattsburgh (0-6)

January 11: RIT lost its second straight game, losing by a score of 3-5 against SUNY Fredonia. The highlight of this game was when senior Michael Tucciarone became only the 45th player in RIT history to score 100 career points.

Final Score: L 3-5

RIT Goals: Darren Doherty (1), Rob Tarantino (1), Brent Macovi (1)

Shots: RIT (25), Fredonia (38)

Power Plays: RIT (1-9), Fredonia (1-6)

January 14: The RIT Tigers lost their third straight home game for the first time since the 1986-87 season, and did so by a score of 5-2. They lost to number nine ranked SUNY Oswego, with Tristan Fairbairn scoring both of RIT's goals for the night.

Finals Score: L 2-5

RIT Goals: Tristan Fairbairn (2)

Shots: RIT (36), Oswego (36)

Power Plays: RIT (2-10), Oswego (2-9)

Record through 1/14/05: 7-5-1

Wrestling

January 8: RIT competed in the day-long NY/PA Duals competition in Lycoming College. To start the day off, they faced off with Scranton University, against whom they had a close competition, but fell 21-22. This match featured five grappler post wins for RIT. In the next match, they went up against King's College, fairing better with a win of 28-17. Mike Pietrowski, at 141 lbs., was one of five RIT wrestlers posting wins in the match. The last match of the day was against the home team of Lycoming, and RIT was defeated by a score of 27-16. Mike Pietrowski continued his strong performance of the day with yet another victory, and Chad Sutcliffe and Trevor Hiffa won matches as well.

January 14: The wrestling team competed in two matches at the Bud Whitehill Duals at Lycoming. The first match was against number four ranked Loras College, to whom RIT lost by a score of 15-30. The second match didn't go any better for RIT, as they lost to Whitewater College 38-15. Mike Pietrowski, Zach Greenberg, and Trevor Hiffa were winners in the Loras match, while Greenberg, Hiffa, and Julian Nicholas won in their matches against Whitewater.

Women's Basketball

January 8: RIT women played in their second Empire 8 Conference game on Saturday, in which they went up against local rival St. John Fisher. The Lady Tigers were defeated 89-45, which marked RIT's fourth straight loss.

Final Score: L 45-89

Rebounds: RIT (27), Fisher (44)

FG%: RIT (33.3%), Fisher (52.2%)

3-PT FG%: RIT (11.8%), Fisher (50%)

January 11: The 2005 J.P Morgan Chase Tournament kicked off on the 11th, and number six seed RIT faced number three seed U of R in the opening round. RIT lost the game by a score of 64-39 on Tuesday night in front of the crowd at St. John Fisher College.

Final Score: L 39-64

Rebounds: RIT (25), U of R (47)

FG%: RIT (37.2%), U of R (37.1%)

3-PT FG%: RIT (28.6%), U of R (30%)

January 13: In the consolation round of the J.P Morgan Chase Scholarship Tournament, SUNY Brockport handed RIT a 65-47 loss at the Clark Gym.

Finals Score: L 47-65

Rebounds: RIT (35), Brockport (31)

FG%: RIT (33.3%), Brockport (48.2%)

3-PT FG%: RIT (31.3%), Brockport (25%)

Record though 1/14/05: 3-8

Women's Hockey

January 8: In their first game after winter break, the Lady Tigers returned to the ice in strong fashion, closing out a win against New England College with a score of 2-1. Becky Jaiven and Isabelle Richard tallied a goal each for RIT.

Final Score: W 2-1

RIT Goals: Becky Jaiven (1), Isabelle Richard (1)

Shots: RIT (38), NE (31)

Power Plays: RIT (0-5), NE (1-10)

January 9: Sunday night featured a rematch from the previous night, between New England College and RIT. The game was filled with intensity, and with the game clock winding down, RIT's Jackie Fraser scored the game-winning goal. The game ended with a final score of 3-2 in favor of the Tigers.

Final Score: W 3-2

RIT Goals: Jackie Fraser (2), Stacey McConnell (1)

Shots: RIT (39), NE (33)

Power Plays: RIT (1-6), NE (1-5)

Record through 1/14/04: 5-3-1 Overall, 4-2-0 ECAC East



Feel Free To Do It...

on a Table

by José Plaza

Jason Thibado plays a match at the Ping Pong Club in the SLC. Kim Wieselberg/REPORTER Magazine.

Most people tend to do it on green table surfaces. The equipment that the players bring along with them for the competition determines what exactly they will be doing... By now, I hope that all the people with dirty thoughts have realized that they're in the Sports section of the magazine, and that this is in no way a dirty article. I'm referring to the wonderful sports of table tennis and pool, both of which have club affiliations here at RIT. The RIT Pool Club and Table Tennis Club have both created special blends of talent, fun, competitiveness, and raw excitement.

RIT Pool Club

The RIT Pool Club has one goal in mind when they get together to compete. Maybe two, since the first thing on their minds is to do everything possible in order to avoid sinking the dreaded eight ball. Aside from that, though, they just go out there "to have fun." The club is advised by College of Applied Science and Technology faculty member James Hurny, and is led by Pool Club president Kyle Shradel. A student might think they would have to be a professional billiards player like "The Black Widow" (a.k.a. Jeanette Lee) or a trick shot artist like Mike Massey to join the club. On the contrary, anyone and everyone is more than welcome to join the club of over 50 members, regardless of talent. If you are an experienced player, you may learn a new trick or two. If you aren't the greatest billiards player in the world, then this is a chance to learn from your peers and make a name for yourself.

The club members, who have a wide range of pool expertise, compete in regularly scheduled games. The Pool Club meets every Monday and Wednesday from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. in the SAU Gameroom, playing games such as 8-ball, 9-ball, and cut throat. If you are in the mood for more lively competition where you and others can clash head-on for all the marbles, then you can attend pickup games on Monday or small tournaments on Wednesdays. Major events include quarterly school-wide tournaments, in which club members and other students compete for pool cues or a quarter of free pool play in the SAU Gameroom. The club charges a reasonable quarterly fee of only \$15.

Talk about playing against other schools has come up, and Kyle believes that it may be a possibility someday, but that it all depends upon "a combination of finding the right event, and finding the right amount of enthusiasm." Scheduling conflicts make it difficult for everyone to get together and practice on a regular basis, thus limiting the advancement of skills. The only way a player can ever improve on their game is to practice, as we all know that practice makes perfect. As for the club in general, Kyle says "Personally, I love the direction the club is going. Over this past year, we've added many new members, and have held some very successful tournaments. Our growth is something that excites me, and I'm curious to see where we'll end up next."

RIT Table Tennis Club

Apparently, the Table Tennis Club has joined forces, along with the army, in the "We Want You" campaign, as they boldly state that exact message on their information page online. After reading that message, the only decision left to make is whether or not you want to join a club which practices the second most



(Left) Jeremy Fromm and Kenn Meclune (center) play pool, while (from left) Lyle Wilkie, Andrew Kearns, and Rich Dararaksmeys watch at the weekly pool club gathering held in the gameroom by the Ritz.

Kim Weiselberg/REPORTER Magazine.

popular sport in the world for the sole purpose of enjoyment. If you, like many other ping pong players, go for the intense, high-paced head-to-head competition that is extreme table tennis, you might want to take a look at this club. College of Engineering professor Peter Bajorski and club president Igor Tentler, a second year Mechanical Engineering major, head this club, which competes in singles and doubles tournaments on a weekly basis. The club can be found meeting at the SLC Mini-Gym on Saturdays from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. According to Igor, "Saturdays provide a vibrant environment."

Whether you find the slick spinning tricks, the cut shots, or the fierce action with players standing five feet away from the actual table compelling, this is certainly a club to watch. Much like the Pool Club, no one is excluded. Everyone is welcome to join in the festivities and have a jolly good time smacking the crap out of a little defenseless white ball with a paddle.

The club has recently upgraded from two tables to four, so that more people can play at the same time. Also, the club has competed in a few local tournaments. One in particular was the RPI Tournament in affiliation with the National Collegiate Table Tennis Association (NCTTA). RIT fared well against the opposition, tying for third place out of 14 teams. As more and more students join, it opens up even more opportunities to compete and show off the club's skills against table tennis clubs from other schools. Igor, along with the rest of the club, encourages people to show up and enjoy the games. He believes people will be "very excited about coming here."

If you would like to learn more about these clubs, visit the clubs page on the RIT website under Student Life. If that move requires a little bit too much effort for your liking, then feel free to contact Kyle Shradel for the Pool Club at kms2103@rit.edu, or visit the brand new Table Tennis Club website at <http://www.rit.edu/~ixt3368/ritttc>. •



RIT Brings Home the Gold: A Deaflympics Roundup

by Frances Cabrera | illustration by Mike Norton

Gold is coming to RIT. In a spectacular show of skill and power, the women's soccer team annihilated the international competition in this year's Deaflympics held in Melbourne, Australia. The Deaflympics ran from January 5 through January 14 to sold-out crowds full of Melbourne residents, deaf and hearing. RIT had twelve athletes participating in seven sports teams, including the gold-medal winning women's soccer team. Putting valiant effort against the stiff competition, our athletes made their teams, RIT, and the USA proud.

Women's Soccer

Undefeated throughout the entire week they played, the USA women's soccer team was the team to watch. Jenny Buckley, Jennifer "Louie" Fields, Devon Hostetler, Elizabeth "Lizzie" Sorkin, and the rest of their teammates defeated the other five teams competing in women's soccer (Denmark, Norway, Russia, Australia, and Great Britain) with overwhelming leads. A 7-2 victory over Denmark in the semifinals advanced the team into gold medal contention. Their final game was January 16 versus Russia, which they won 3-0. This is the first year women's soccer teams have participated in the Deaflympics, making this gold medal earned by the USA a monumental achievement.

Water Polo

In an outstanding example of both offense and defense on the water, the men's water polo team made it to the semifinals with a crushing victory over Australia. Thomsen Young made six of the 16 goals scored against Australia, and Josh Allman made multiple saves, allowing only two goals to be scored against the United States. Thomsen scored a total of 14 goals in the six games he played. Even though the team missed the chance to play for the gold due to a loss to Hungary, they did play for the bronze against Italy on January 14. The Italians' larger team kept the smaller USA at a disadvantage. Adding to the uneven match-up was the fact that the USA team had exactly seven players—the required number of players on the water. With no extra players, each team member played in every single game all week. Despite the odds against them, the USA water polo team placed fourth overall.

Men's Soccer

With a decisive victory on January 12 versus Greece, the men's soccer team went on to battle for ninth place. After a two-game losing streak against Italy and Turkey, the men turned the tide and crushed the Greek team with a 2-0 victory. Michael Lawson scored one of the two goals of the game. Michael, Donald Slate, and the rest of the team proceeded to victory against the Czech Republic on January 14, taking the ninth place position with a 1-0 win.

Athletics

In athletics, Adam Cross had solid performances in all three of his events. In the 1500m run on January 8, Adam placed ninth with a time of 4:08.02, cutting almost a minute from his preliminary time. Four days later, he competed in the 800m run and the 4x400 relay. He placed seventh in the 800m run with a time of 2:00.01 minutes. In the relay, Adam ran the anchor leg, earning the team sixth place with a combined time of 3:33.16.

Tennis

On the tennis court, Jennifer Hume kept busy, competing in singles, doubles, and mixed doubles competitions. She advanced to the second round in all her events.

Swimming

Swimming in the men's 50m breaststroke and 50m butterfly, Matthew Jenkins remained consistent. Even though this is Matthew's second year swimming after a year hiatus, he was able to swim hard, keeping up with his preliminary times and even slightly passing them. Matthew placed 16th in the 50m breaststroke with a time of 34.70 seconds, and he placed 14th in the 50m butterfly with a time of 28.18.

Wrestling

Competing in the 66 kg weight class, Nate Garrells wrestled against Russia, Croatia, and Belarus. In the third round of Greco-Roman wrestling, Nate came close to beating his opponent from Belarus, scoring four points against him.

Alumni Achievements

Five RIT alumni competed at the Deaflympics with tremendous success. The first gold medal of the entire 2005 Deaflympics was earned by Class of 1997 alumnus Trevor Kosa for the 1000m cycling sprint. He also went on to earn a bronze medal in the 50 km cycling race and sixth place in the 100 km race. Also earning a gold medal was Class of 2004 alumna Kasandra Barrios, a member of the women's soccer team. Jason Jakubowski, Class of 1998, earned fourth place in the 96 kg Greco-Roman wrestling competition, and fourth in the 86 kg freestyle wrestling competition. Justin Davis, Class of 2001, played for the men's volleyball team, which placed seventh overall. RIT even stretched its talent into bowling, where Joe Thompson, Class of 1993, earned a bronze medal for men's doubles in bowling and fourth place in men's singles. •

Overall, the USA earned a total of 32 medals. Eight were gold medals, with RIT students helping to win two of them. Deaf or not deaf, these students and alumni are world-class athletes.

Give Us What We Want

by Sean Hannan

Back in November, the Motion Picture Association of America announced its intentions to sue movie downloaders with bold, full-page newspaper ads that gave out the P2P usernames and partially redacted IP addresses of suspected copyright infringers. It seems like they had given up on the whole "You're actually taking food out of the mouths of grips, boom operators, and makeup artists" tack that they were pursuing. In fact, their entire modus operandi appears to have changed from "Film Industry Advocate" to "Copyright Education and Enforcement Bully." Up until 2000, the bulk of MPAA press releases announced a showing of support for international film festivals and the success of the film ratings scale. Since then, the MPAA has released nothing but statements on their anti-piracy efforts both at home and abroad.

Speaking of efforts abroad, earlier this month, outgoing Commerce Secretary Don Evans took a trip to China to discuss that country's efforts on stemming piracy. Namely, that the Chinese government should start throwing pirates (Arrr!) in jail. Considering that the current U.S. consequences for copyright infringement is a fine of \$30,000 per movie and no jail time, it seemed a bit of the pot calling the kettle black. And of all places, China, which already has a nasty habit of human rights violations, is supposed to start locking more people up?

So, Mr. MPAA, how do you stop us from stealing your movies? Well, one option would be to actually give legal downloads of movies. Since the iTunes Music Store has opened, over 230 million songs have been bought. Clearly, if you make the offer sensible enough, consumers will go on their merry law-abiding way. Currently, there are a few pay-per-download movie services available—CinemaNow, MovieLink, and a couple others—but they're not going to suture the gaping money wound that you claim to have. These

services only offer flicks that could be found at the video store; not what is currently in theaters. And that, my friend, is why applying the hot new music-downloading paradigm won't work. Music does not have a venue where it is exclusively exhibited before it reaches us, the consumer. By showing movies in theaters first, you are artificially creating a demand that would not otherwise exist. This demand also translates to a demand for piracy of the hot new blockbusters. If you really want to stop this problem, give us what we want.

Speaking as a cinephile, someone who treats the Internet Movie Database as a holy text, what I want is movies, and I want them now. If I don't have to trek out in the grey Rochester winter to see a film, I won't. Seeing a film in a multiplex gives me no more pleasure than seeing it in the comfort of my own home. Admittedly, my home theater setup is nothing spectacular, but it beats sticky floors, uncomfortable polyurethane seating, and skyrocketing ticket prices.

There are theaters I will frequent, however. These theaters, specifically the Little and the Dryden, do not treat the movie-going public as a herd of cattle with "\$8" tattooed on their foreheads. Rather, they treat film and their patrons as a culture. Two weeks ago, I saw the highly enjoyable biopic *Kinsey* at the Little, specifically because of the environment that it fosters. I could have seen the same movie at the Regal Henrietta—a theater so close to my apartment that I could spit on it—but no, I took the extra twenty-minute drive to East Ave for the Little Experience.

The Little seems to do pretty well for itself; it's always packed on the weekends. The Dryden is a bit of a different story. Were it not funded by the George Eastman House and the National Endowment for the Arts, a theater like the Dryden would not survive. With a different film each night, ranging from Hollywood heyday classics to freaky flicks from Finland to campy John Waters trashfests, the Dryden is atypical in America. Though there is a place where such theaters thrive—France.

French, more specifically, Parisian, film culture is something to behold. The French treat the experience as culture rather than commodity. For if the film industry treats their own creative works as a saleable (and by extension, steal-able) assembly line product, the audience is bound to do the same.

So if you want our asses in your seats, celebrate the creativity and culture that film once held. If you're not willing to do that, you waive your right to complain when we find our own avenues to your offerings. •

THE COLLEGE ACTIVITIES BOARD PRESENTS

**Dropkick
Murphys**



\$10- STUDENTS (4 TICKET LIMIT)
\$15- FACULTY/STAFF
\$20- PUBLIC

JANUARY 28, 2005
CLARK GYM **8 PM**

AND  **Lit**

TICKETS ON SALE NOW
CAB OFFICE (A402) AND CANDY COUNTER



c.a.b

Hurry & get your tickets
before they sell out.

☆☆ **CAB.RIT.EDU** ☆☆

To charge tickets by phone
call 475-2509



Celebrate Black History Month

Fisk Jubilee Singers
Saturday, February 5, 2005

8:00 PM

Doors Open 7:30 PM

SAU, Ingle Auditorium

General Admission: \$3.00

Students: \$1.00 (**Free until Monday, January 24**)

Tickets go on sale January 3, 2005 at the SAU Candy Counter

RIT Gospel Fest 2005
Friday, February 4, 2005

7:00 PM

Doors Open 6:30 PM

SAU, Ingle Auditorium

Free

Sponsored by the RIT Gospel Ensemble

Performances by

Monroe Community
College Gospel Choir
University of Rochester
Gospel Choir
Save our Sisters Choir
New Life Church Choir

