

REPORTER

MARCH 25, 2005 | WWW.REPORTERMAG.COM



EDITORIAL

The Tale of the Burrito Boss and the University President

Half of this story is true. The man with burritos is provided as a fictional foil to tell the true story of the President of Harvard and how he came to be issued a "lack of confidence" note from the Faculty of Arts and Science.

John Grant runs a well-respected chain of restaurants called Habañero that make, among other menu items, burritos. As a result of his high position, Grant is invited to speak at an annual conference concerning burrito quality.

Lawrence Summers is president of Harvard University. He is real. His position in the academic world is comparable to, if not of higher visibility than, Grant (in his world). Similarly, Summers is invited to speak at NBER Conference on Diversifying the Science & Engineering Workforce.

After studying all the burrito research presented, Grant speaks on three principles which seem to be at the root of burrito quality issues: "One, I think burritos are currently too small. Two, data show me that the recipe for guacamole is not in balance with the burrito. Three, I think the liberal use of guacamole has been historically discouraged in our establishments. Those are our issues; in what I believe to be their order of importance." Grant attempts to broaden research focuses, and challenges conference attendees to prove him wrong.

At the NBER conference, Summers works to synthesize all of the research on women in science and engineering. He speaks on three principles that seem causal to him: "...the first is what I call the high-powered job hypothesis. The second is what I would call different availability of aptitude at the high end, and the third is what I would call different socialization and patterns of discrimination in a search. And in my own view, their importance probably ranks in exactly the order that I just described." Those are his actual words. Summers feels that women, first, are discouraged by inflexible long-hour work weeks demanded by specific jobs, second, have genetic differences in aptitude for visual-spatial (abstract math and science) versus verbal skills, and third, are effected by the injustice of discrimination—in that order.

Word of the conferences, and of the speeches, cuts across the affected communities of burrito-dom and academia. The media latches on. An uproar results.

The AAA (Avocado Advocates of America) is quick to jump into the fray against Grant because, to them, the most important issue is certainly the liberal use of guacamole. And the burrito chefs attack, proclaiming that there is nothing intrinsically different about guacamole recipes; claiming that Grant's conjectures were heavy with ignorance.

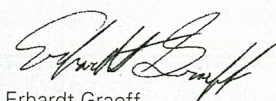
On the academic front, Summers is ripped to shreds by NOW (National Organization for Women) because, to them, the top issue should be protecting women from the injustices of discrimination. Similarly, the Faculty of Arts and Sciences at his home institution, Harvard, are appalled at Summers' apparent ignorance in purporting that women are not as capable at math and science as men.

Two months after the burrito conference, John Grant is given an official letter by the burrito chefs denouncing his "bad taste."

On March 15, 2005, members of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences (FAS) at Harvard pass a non-binding motion of no confidence in Summers, 218-185 with 18 abstentions. They also vote to formally rebuke Summers (253-137-18), citing his recent speech, which many felt was inappropriate and carelessly worded, as an example of his abrasive leadership style. (wikipedia.org)

Though John Grant does not exist beyond this page, both he and President Summers' plights are the result of failed rhetoric in their respective remarks. Each meant well by trying to inspire conversation and research via controversy, but at such a height of visibility, they could not simply hope their words would be received as intended. Presidents deal with politics. Harvard's president played poor politics. He—like the burrito boss—neglected to calculate the possible backlash to his comments.

This is where I enter the story. I am the eater of fine burritos. I am the prospective graduate student. I really like what Habañero and Harvard have to offer. But Chipotle and Princeton are in equal standing with them. Really it boils down to a simple matter of opinion whether one thinks Harvard is truly less female friendly due to President Summers. But just think...Princeton doesn't have this problem on their hands, and there is no controversy over the burritos at Chipotle.



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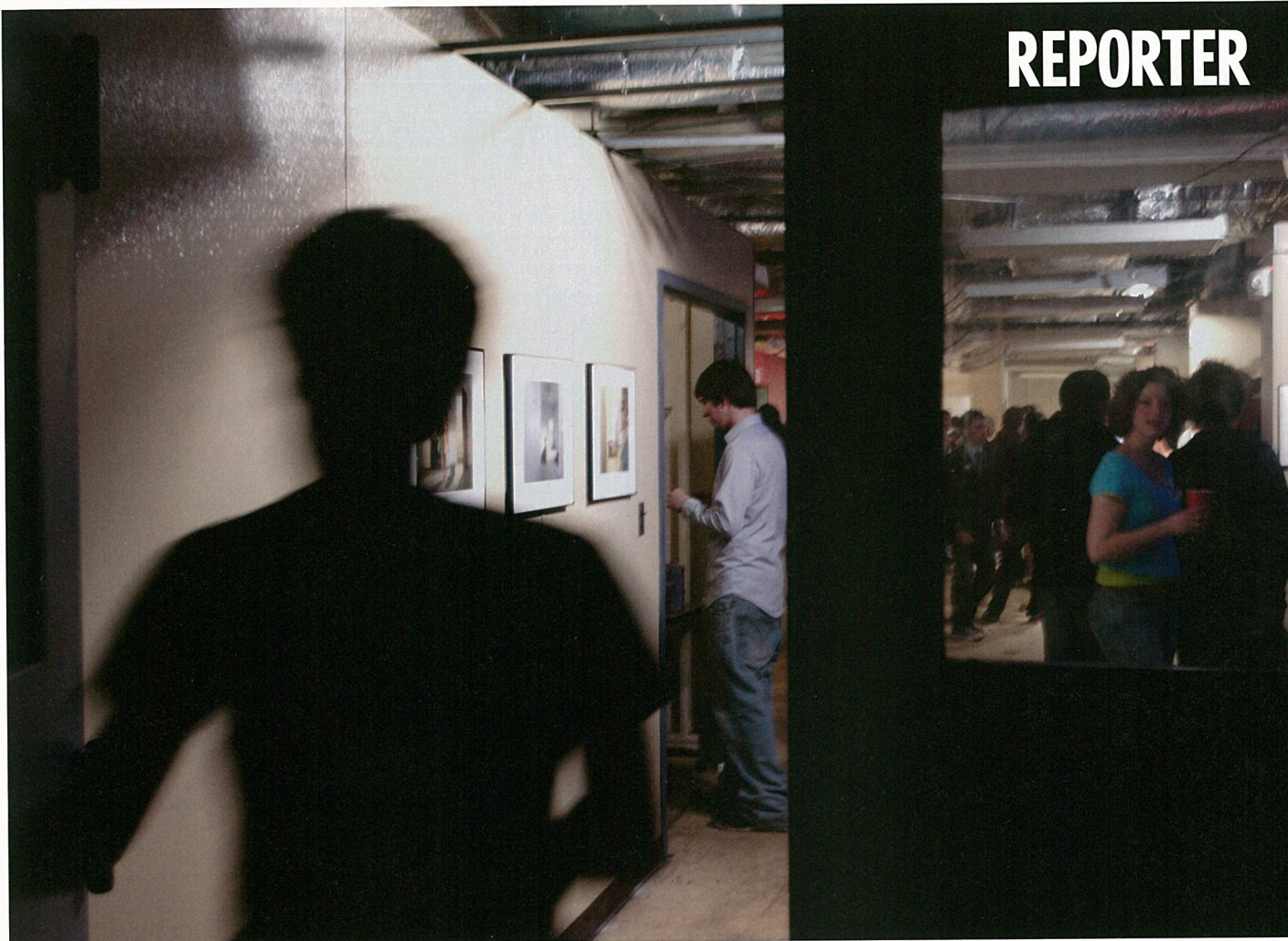
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Visual and performing arts were on display at the Door 7 Gallery during a fundraiser on March 19. Door 7 is a gallery space where RIT students can share their work (visual, film, installation and music) within the Rochester community. Thomas Starkweather/REPORTER Magazine.

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Cover photograph by Thomas Starkweather

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. "...a moderate to severe case of lead poisoning, and the earliest case of Alzheimer's ever recorded..." Please don't kill me for cropping Thom, please! 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.



ADVISING Made Easier

Joli Blaha has been appointed director of the Institute Advising Office. Blaha joined RIT in 2001 as assistant director of the Center for Student Conduct and Conflict Management Services, and as an instructor for First Year Enrichment. Since accepting this new role, she has focused her energy on learning various aspects of RIT's eight colleges. Eric Sucar/REPORTER Magazine.

by Andrew Brooks

"At 16 years old we ask you to choose a program and a focus," said Joli Blaha, newly appointed on January 3 to the recently created position of Institute Advising Office Director. The previous reasoning might be why "Somewhere between 30 to 40 percent of all college students change majors," said Joli Blaha. RIT has been known as an institute, (as opposed to a university) and that focus on one field has made it difficult for some students to switch disciplines during their college careers, whether internally or to a different college. Each college has their own standard of acceptance, policies of academic advisement, and requirements for classes. It is the aim for this position, which was implemented as part of President Simone's Strategic Plan for this year, to coordinate all the information on majors, colleges, and opportunities at RIT to help make students prosper in their college years plus improve retention.

The new consolidated services allow her to provide a "place of second and third chances." These services include basic career counseling, broad based information on majors and exploratory classes in other majors, and a point in the right

direction. In a university where there are more than 3,500 staff and faculty, it can be somewhat difficult for students to look up information for the right people. She has to talk to parents sometimes too because "they aren't always too happy when students change their minds." Being used to providing people with information, she is very excited to be in a position where she can offer more.

Joli Blaha's experience as a career counselor at Canisius College in Buffalo, before completing a M.S. in College Administration there, made her a qualified applicant for the new job title; as did her time as an First Year Enrichment Instructor for 4 years in GCCIS, CIAS, and KGCOE, and as the Assistant Director of Conduct in the Office of Student Conduct. Her previous experiences at RIT provided an extensive list of contacts and friends with faculty and staff throughout the university. Being used to helping students succeed right from the start, she can set her goals higher to include, "seeing as many students, to help them stay at RIT, and to meet their interests and learn." As an advisor she offers a more neutral bias than some because she has "no vested interests in where you go." She is not tied to any college and can work with students' interests plainly to see where they would be most successful. Her philosophy: "I want to give people all the options and if RIT has what you're looking for—we want you to stay." •

Celebrating the Visual:

RIT Co-sponsors the First Deaf Rochester Film Festival

by Monica Donovan

Rochester is already hailed for its celebration of the moving image in festivals like the High Falls Film Festival. A new one has joined the fray: the first ever Deaf Rochester Film Festival (DRFF), held last week. An all-weekend event—the festival included panel discussions, luncheons and brunches, a keynote address by Dr. Jane Norman, and, of course, screenings. The films were shown in four venues: The Little Theatre, Rochester Museum and Science Center's Strassenburgh Planetarium, NTID's Panara Theatre, and RIT's Webb Auditorium. There were two feature films to open and close the festival, as well as a range of documentaries, shorts, children's films, and student films.

It is surprising that there is a deaf film festival here only just now. With the highest per capita deaf population in the world, one would think Rochester is naturally the place to pioneer an event such as this. However, deaf film festivals have been garnering international attention for the past three or four years in locations across the United States and the world. The University of California at Berkeley, Chicago, and Portland, Maine have all been host to deaf film festivals in recent years, in addition to foreign locations such as England, Holland, Denmark, Australia, and Sweden. England's BDA Wolverhampton Deaf TV and Film Festival held its ninth annual event last fall.

Patti Durr is the artistic director for DRFF, and the one who first pushed for the idea of a deaf film festival in Rochester. She and others reviewed more than 65 films, finally accepting 44. "We were very fussy with the screening," she said. "Some of the other festivals accepted anything." In order to be considered for DRFF, a film had to be produced or co-produced by a hard-of-hearing or deaf filmmaker, be highly visual in design, or be about deaf people and deaf experiences. If a film met at least two of these criteria, it made it to the festival's Selection Committee. A number of student films were chosen, including some from deaf RIT students. After two years of planning and organizing with a committee, Durr is hopeful that the festival will expose the world to deaf film and inspire other deaf people to pursue filmmaking. "We're [also] hoping to open hearing people up to the culture and language of deaf people," she said.

There is a strong parallel between American Sign Language and the language of cinema. ASL, by nature a visual-spatial language, uses a variety of gestures,

facial expressions, and body movements to indicate close-ups, medium shots, and long shots. Taking this into account, it seems only natural that the deaf would turn to film as a medium of expression. In deaf cinema, the highly trained visual eye more than makes up for the diminished presence of sound. Karen Christie, Public Relations Coordinator for DRFF, spoke of the intense visual expression of ASL poetry. Only a month or so ago, Kenny Lerner and Peter Cook, renowned ASL poets, performed for a packed Panara Theatre at NTID. "I see Peter and Kenny's visual expression, and I want that to be translated into film," she said.

Christie also spoke of the evolution of deaf filmmaking and her hopes that DRFF would take deaf filmmaking one more step up in visual sophistication. "The first generation of African-American artists only imitated art, then later it evolved into their own unique art form—that's the way it is with most cultures," she said. "The same is happening to us. I think this weekend we will see a few glimpses of what's real." Durr agrees. "During [Saturday]'s short films, and especially the student films, I think we will see some breaking away."

DRFF's keynote speaker, Dr. Jane Norman, believes that the mainstream media has yet to understand the fullness of deaf culture and all of its capabilities. "Once the media understands and accepts this," she said in a recent City News article, "the possibilities and range of stories of deaf people are powerful, universal, and without limits." Irene Taylor Brodsky, a filmmaker with two finished films and a work-in-progress that were shown last week, believes that technology will play an enormous part in the movement. "We'll see more as we put more technology in the hands of creative deaf minds. It's only going to get exponential from here because it's so cheap to make films now," she said. •

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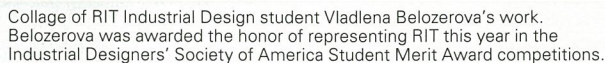
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Step 4: Look for your "letter" to the Editor in the next issue.

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RIT has previously displayed excellence at the IDSA Student Merit Awards. Last year's campus winner, Sam Aquillano, went all the way to the regional competition and blew the

Besides the recognition, the winner at each level gets a free IDSA membership—for one year in the case of the college level award, and three years in the case of the district award. The award is not only based on the student's work, but also his or her presentation of their work. When faculty members nominate a student, they keep in mind whether he or she would be a good "ambassador for RIT," said Reddig. The society has greatly enhanced the public's knowledge of the industrial design field, as well as the talent within it. •



BrickBeat

by Govind Ramabadran

Insights Shared by Undergraduates at Communications Conference

Undergraduate communications majors from eight colleges from all over the State of New York will be highlighting their research pursuits at RIT's second annual Conference for Undergraduate Research in Communication. The conference, sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts' Department of Communication, will give students a platform for exchanging ideas with communications majors from other colleges. In addition to students from RIT's Professional and Technical Communication major, students from communication departments at Alfred University, Hamilton College, Ithaca College, Marist College, Roberts Wesleyan College, St. John Fisher College, State University of New York-Albany, and SUNY-Geneseo will be presenting on a range of issues including film, propaganda, ethics, the impact of mobile phones, and student voting behaviors. The presentations of research will be in the form of both oral dissertation by select students as well as in poster presentations—which will be viewable by the public throughout the day.

"I see this expanding a little every year. I think this is getting to be a premiere event, one that focuses on undergraduate research but also draws attention to us," said Dr. Patrick Scanlon, RIT communications professor and conference coordinator. "Undergraduates probably don't get enough opportunity to show off their research work. Students really don't have a forum where their work is valued in a public way. RIT is probably ahead of the curve on this in valuing undergraduate research and billboarding it." The conference begins at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, April 6, in the Fireside Lounge of the SAU. The student presentations and the poster sessions are free and open to the public. For more information, visit www.rit.edu/~jde7802/con2005/index.html.

Athenaeum Hosts Spring Preview

RIT's Athenaeum, the educational organization for adults over 50 at RIT, will be hosting a preview session of spring classes for both returning members and new members on Wednesday, March 30, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. The course preview will describe some of the variety the Athenaeum has to offer in courses, from "Readers' Theatre" to "US Foreign Policy: The Bush Doctrine". In addition, new members will also be learning about other activities occurring this spring and summer, which include weekly guest speakers, out-of-town trips, and other social activities. For more information, contact the Athenaeum at 585-292-8989 or visit www.rit.edu/athenaeum.

Cary Library Exhibit is Flying High at RIT

RIT's Cary Library will be hosting a traveling exhibition called "In Flight: The Guild of Book Workers' 2003-2005 Triennial Exhibition." This is a collection of flight-related book arts commemorating the centennial anniversary of the Wright brothers' first flight. The traveling exhibit arrived on March 14 and will be available at RIT for viewing until April 22. It consists of 51 different pieces made by Guild members specifically for this show. The exhibit is free and open to the public; with an opening reception planned on Thursday April 7 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Cary Graphic Arts Collection is part of the greater RIT library system, located in the second floor of the Wallace Memorial Library. For more information, contact David Pankow, curator of the Cary Graphic Arts Collection, at 585-475-2408 or e-mail him at dppwml@rit.edu. You can also visit <http://wally.rit.edu/cary> for more information.

CrimeWatch

Compiled by Andrew Bigelow

February 25

Fraud – Campus Connections

A student purchased textbooks from the bookstore using New York state funds. Then the student returned the books at the book buyback window for cash. The student was referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Grand Larceny – Campus Connections

A non-member was caught trying to leave the bookstore with textbooks but no receipt. He was allowed back into the store and soon re-exited carrying a laptop computer. He slipped away before Campus Safety arrived, but was later identified. He was mailed a letter banning him from RIT property. The Sheriff's Office is also attempting to locate the suspect.

March 1

Criminal Mischief – Colony Manor

Housing Operations noticed several holes in the walls of a Colony Manor apartment ranging in size from 6 by 6 inches up to 5 by 2 feet, as well as a broken window. The residents claimed that the damage was done while they were away playing hockey by unidentified people. The case has been referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

March 9

Forgery – Fraternity/Sorority Housing

Upon leaving RIT housing, a second year student's vacant room was inspected by Residence Life and Campus Safety. A forged ID and forgery tools were found in the room. The student was located and the evidence confiscated. The case has been referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Petit Larceny – Campus Connections

A second year student attempted to steal three textbooks valued at \$124 from the bookstore. He claimed that the books were required for class and too expensive for legal acquisition. The case has been referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

March 12

Weapons Policy Violation – Sol Heumann Hall

It was reported that unknown people were throwing beer bottles from the ninth floor of Sol down the stairwell. When residents suspected of throwing the bottles were questioned, they denied throwing the bottles but did admit to having alcohol in their room. Upon searching the room, alcohol, knives, a homemade bong, bottle rockets, fireworks, and a length of fuse surfaced. The alcohol was disposed of, the knives were seized by Campus Safety, and the fireworks were turned over to the Sheriff's office. The case has been referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

March 13

Auto Stripping – Colony

Five people reported their car's rear lights being smashed-in while they were parked in Colony Manor on the night of March 12. A neighborhood canvass was conducted, but the investigation is closed pending new information.



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Door 7*

My art is
better than
your art. } (waaay better)

by Nathan Liebold

Artists: here is a new home for your skillfully crafted canvases, your film and your sculptures, a place for your messages to dwell. This abode is the Door 7 Gallery, located at 439 Central Avenue in downtown Rochester. It is a place where "people don't need to whisper, like in other [galleries], because people feel comfortable here," said Dustin Johnson, a Door 7 artist and Fine Art Photo major.

Door 7 is a spacious, newly renovated, student-run gallery that, according to the website (www.door7.org), is open to "artists that are looking for a place to create and inspire [their] work ... not only a studio space, a gathering place and a 'home.'"

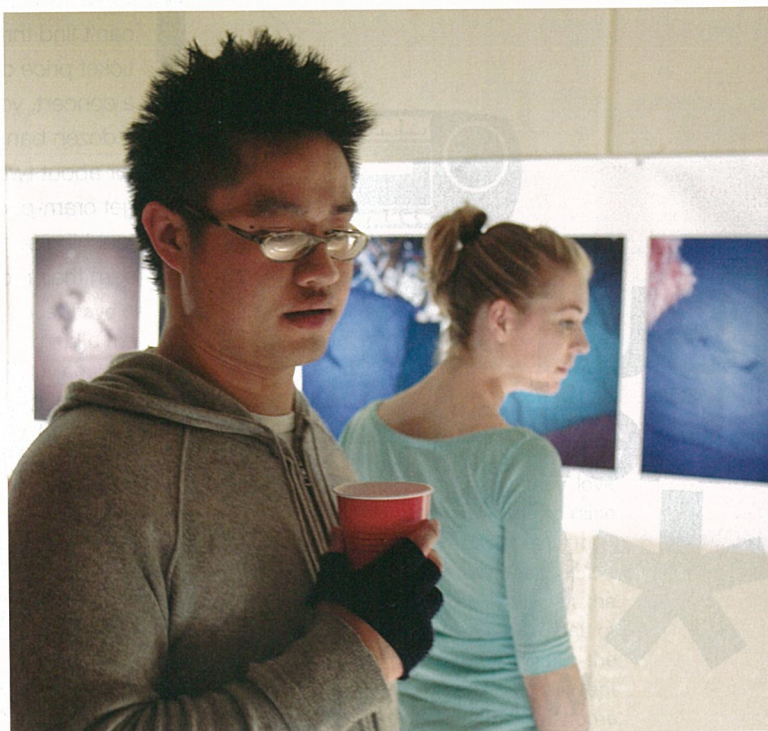
The artists involved hope that this space will fill a unique niche in the Rochester art scene. "It's a great thing when a group of students can create a space, as a community of artists, on their own," said Cat Angst, whose ceramic work is on display.

A gallery fundraiser, featuring Mynah and other bands, took place March 19, complete with artwork from RIT students, alumni, and other Rochester area artists. A substantial gathering of RIT students, faculty, and outside enthusiasts showed up for the company, the art, and the music. Art displayed included photography, ceramics, video displays, and even a live exhibition involving a still-wet canvas and speeding paintballs. Some of the work was up for sale, with proceeds going to the artist and the gallery. Bands rocking the house included Mynah, Monkey Space Station, Que Pasa?, The Gentleman's Club, Ambrose Bierce, and Miracle of Birth.

"I liked it," said James Demetri, a second-year Film major, of his experience at the gallery. "There's nothing else like it around." These feelings are just what the Door 7 artists aimed to achieve. "It's always good to see student work in a real public gallery," said Johnson.

This was the second fundraiser this year for Door 7. On February 19, the Door 7 space opened its doors for the first time to the public. Several bands played, and many visitors got a chance to see the potential of the 14,000 square-foot space. There was no entrance fee, but t-shirt sales raised a nice bit of money for the rent. The space did not yet feature any artwork, but the potential for the gallery was clear.

The Door 7 gallery wasn't always as it is now, but rather has its roots in the "SpaceSpace" gallery. The earlier gallery was created a year ago by then-RIT Film student John Yost and current Photo student David Kaplan. It opened at Door #7 in



Tom Souannavong and Lynn Barry view art on display at the Door 7 Gallery during a fundraiser event on March 19. Thomas Starkweather/REPORTER Magazine.

downtown Rochester's Hungerford building in May of 2004 with over 200 attendees. A one-time project, it closed after three weeks. However, Yost wanted to take the gallery to a higher, more permanent level, and Door 7 was born.

Door 7's new home on Central Ave. had been out of use for years. Yost and current Film student Tom Papows partnered together for this most recent incarnation of the gallery. Their long-term goals, according to the site, are "to make Door 7 a year-round collaborative gallery, artists' residence program, and not-for-profit organization." The gallery also hopes to obtain fiscal sponsorship by the New York Foundation of the Arts.

The gallery has come a long way since Yost and Papows first set foot into its dormant concrete boundaries. "The place was decrepit," said Yost, "abandoned for ten years with a dropped ceiling, and half of the electrical didn't work ... nothing worked." Chemical stains, leaky plumbing, and water damage greeted the artists when Yost first secured the space in January. Nevertheless, in about a month, the room was opened for the public with the help of over thirty dedicated artists.

While discussing the future of Door 7, Yost mentioned hopes for similar projects in other cities, but said, "I always want it to be in Rochester, in some form, even if it's not in the same space."

Door 7 will host an official opening in May. All interested artists can submit their works to John Yost (name5026@yahoo.com). According to the gallery's website, "The only requirements are an openness to working alongside other artists and an eagerness to help with the transformation of the space." •



Tsunami Relief Benefit ★ Concert:

by Casey Dehlinger

Where it's Exceptionally Distasteful to Do the Wave

Back in my hometown of Buffalo, NY, something is terribly wrong if you can't find three musical acts in any given spring week for a combined ticket price of less than \$10. If you're going to dish out more than \$20 on a concert, you might as well blow it on some sort of "fest," where at least a dozen bands dish out their musical concoctions on side-by-side stages for about twelve hours. These events, given the space they're held in, get cram-packed rather quickly. You can't sneeze without accidentally touching someone's ass. In Buffalo, we like to make our event security earn their money. The music is for music. The music is for fun >>



Kevin Hunt, drummer for Dudley Dawson, waits backstage before performing at Project Relief, a benefit concert for Southeast Asian victims of the tsunami. The concert was held in the Gordon Field House and Activities Center on March 18. Kim Weiselberg/REPORTER Magazine

Last weekend, March 18, the Gordon Field House hosted ten bands. Their music was for something more, though; it was for charity. All proceeds, from the \$5 student entrance fee to the \$8 t-shirts and the \$1.25 bottled water, went to aid those devastated by the tsunami tragedy at the end of 2004. Sara Stumpe, the director of Project Relief, was at the helm of the event, arranging all that needed to be arranged and contacting bands who were more than willing to play free of charge, even if it meant canceling paid gigs. As Sara stated, the bands were "all about it."

So the details were set: ten bands in eight hours on the night after St. Paddy's Day. Started to sound like a good old taste of a home-cooked rock fest with a hearty side dish of old-fashioned humanitarianism. That was until I got to the floor of the Field House, which was covered in big blue mats as though a quorum of people were about to wrestle. Looking around, I saw the blue floor and blue sea of seats surrounding me while a punkish song played on. I realized that something was wrong, and it wasn't the fact that the blue seats mildly resembled a tsunami. It was that there were only about two elevator cars worth of people on the dance floor.

I clearly wasn't in Buffalo anymore. Given the talent of the bands and the nature of the cause, I shouldn't have been able to see the floor. Of course, attendance waned and waxed, peaking at about a full busload before dropping back down to short bus capacity. The crowd would've looked sufficient in, say, Java Wally's, or Ingle Auditorium, but in the Gordon Field House, (a building with a maximum capacity of over 8000) it felt like sticking half a tic-tac in a magnum condom.

Local bands will always be local bands. I'm convinced they say, "You guys are great, thank you, have a great night!" to the back of their garage doors at every rehearsal. From the Autumn Divers to the Fashionistas, from Dudley Dawson to Candid, every band hit the stage with enough energy to fill the space, but the audience couldn't be moved beyond a collective rhythmic head-nod. Adrenaline injections at the concession stands wouldn't have helped, either, because the audience was enthusiastic; it merely lacked the numbers to create the appropriate outlook for letting loose and assimilating with the sound.

Apparently, volunteers became impromptu propagandists, exploiting the dorms in an attempt to recruit party-hearted Samaritans ready to support the tsunami cause and dance about it. Residence residents had other plans, though (insert generic Counter Strike joke here). The RIT Announce e-mail system even sent out informational messages about the concert—unfortunately, they were sent out ten minutes after the event started.

Assuming they enjoyed the music as much as I did, security must have had a pretty good time. At some points during the night, I'd have gone so far as to bet that along with Tech Crew, they could've paired off with attendees and had a few staff left over. There's really no need to anticipate a mosh pit when half the audience is sitting on the floor, motionlessly staring forward into the reflection of the lights off the shiny surface of a guitar.

The idea was ingenious: let the bands do what they love most, give the campus community something to do, and raise a few bucks for some people in need. In the midst of executing the plan that she had begun working on at New Year's, Sara Stumpe noted midway into the night's first act, "Without the bands, we wouldn't have a concert." With the greatest of intentions, she had no reason to suspect that it wasn't the bands that had the power to decide whether or not the event was a concert. That's what made my experiences at home different; even if the band was terrible, if you threw enough people in a room with that band, a good time was to be had. Imagine the possibility of excellent bands and a noble cause filling the Field House.

**So, where was everyone last Friday?
In other words, where were you? •**



Kevin Hunt tightens one of his cymbal stands in preparation for a performance at Project Relief. Kim Weiselberg/REPORTER Magazine

* REVIEW > WEB



Chipotle.com

→ Spanish for “hott” } (inferno)*

by Sean Hannan | illustration by Brittney Lee

When it comes to food-related websites, there's very little in terms of instant gratification that can be had. You can't, after all, reach inside the screen and pull out a pot roast, for example. Thus, any site that can verifiably make someone crazy for a particular food product must be doing something right, eh?

One site in particular that accomplishes this goal is Chipotle.com. This, of course, being the digital presence of the Chipotle restaurant chain that is winding its way across this great nation of ours. Not familiar with Chipotle? Well, neither was I until I visited their site, so don't feel bad, cowpoke. The closest incarnation of this high-class Mexican eatery is out near Cleveland—though after visiting the site, you might be willing to take a nice 4-hour detour to sample their delicacies.

When you first visit the site, you are presented with an odd little chili pepper in the center of the screen. Moving your mouse over this will cause avocados, tomatoes, or tortilla chips to excitedly fan out and present you with a menu of options. Let's select the 'Eat' option. In this section of the site, the restaurant gives its little spiel about how it only uses the highest quality of ingredients as well as its commitment to co-op based farming and free-range pork. That's some pretty pinko commie leftist thinking for a company that is 90% owned by McDonalds. Also in this section, they have useless-but-fun features such as live webcams wherein you can watch avocados ripen and chicken marinate. Neat-o.

Moving on to the 'Feel' section, you get a true sense of what it is like to be inside one of these stores. The aesthetic leans towards exposed ductwork, glossy wood, and corrugated steel. You know, that hip, East Village loft look? Did I mention that these are Mexican restaurants? Adding to this atmosphere is their in-store music selection, which they allow you to peruse on the site. When you visit this subsection, you get to see a random Chipotle employee dance on top of a turntable to your music selection. Not that you can exactly call what these people are doing dancing; at least one of the woman can successfully do "The Elaine."

A large part of what keeps the site up to date is its foaming-at-the-mouth fans. Under the 'Play' section is a place where burrito buffs can send in pictures of themselves promoting Chipotle in the far corners of the world. Of particular note is a picture of crack-dealer-turned-rapper (who knew?) Fat Joe, posing in his favorite bohemian burrito joint. One section over—playfully titled 'Boorito'—shows off the pure ingenuity of Chipotle fanatics. Last Halloween they ran a promotion that if you came into one of their restaurants dressed as a burrito, you got to eat one for free. What follows is a bunch of pictures of tin-foil covered crazies all very pleased with themselves. Some clever folks decided to go off-script and dress up as gift cards, fountain drinks, and a paper bag with Chipotle written on it. That last one though, I'm thinking, was not so much a fan as a cheap bastard.



There's another website that true fans frequent and that's named—shockingly enough—chipotlelovers.com. It's not affiliated with Chipotle proper, but it's a great resource if you want to catch up on the latest 'potle news, peruse nutrition information, or chat with others that frequently have digestive tract troubles. •

theVERDICT ****

Design: ****

It's the little animation flourishes that make this site really pop. Sure, you may not call a woman getting crushed by a mountain of burritos a "design", but it works for me.

Content: ****

This site projectile vomits content at you in such a way that makes you want to lick it up and then drive cross-country to one of these stores.

Safe For Work: ****

The only work environment where this site would not be a welcome addition would be a humorless void of darkness and despair.

Not A Fad: ****

If this can be construed as a fad, I want to ride this fad train all the way to a delightful little land where websites do not suck.

* AT YOUR LEISURE } things, stuff and people too.

STREAM* OF FACTS:

MARCH 25th

On **March 25th**, 1655, Saturn's largest moon, **Titan**, was discovered by Christian Huygens.

In Greek mythology, the **Titans** are among a series of gods who oppose Zeus and the Olympian gods in their ascent to power.

The Titans played a prominent role in poems attributed to **Orpheus**.

While several etymologies of the name Orpheus have been proposed, the most probable is that it was an actor-noun derived from a hypothetical archaic verb orphao, "to be deprived, to long for." Cognates include the Greek *orphe*, "**darkness**," and the English "orphan."

The **Darkness** won three Brit Awards for their album *Permission to Land*, despite not even getting nominated for any Grammys. This strange cultural divide was covered in the March 2004 issue of **Blender** Magazine.

A **blender** is a kitchen appliance used to blend ingredients or puree food. The term typically refers to a stationary, upright electrical device, distinguished from a hand-powered or **electric** mixer that may be used for similar purposes.

Breakin' 2: **Electric Boogaloo** is a 1984 movie about a developer trying to bulldoze a community recreation center. The local breakdancers, including Paulette McWilliams playing the role of **Firefox**, try to stop him.

Firefox is the fast new web browser competing with **Internet Explorer**, winning praise from users and the media for making the web fun and easy again. Firefox's slogan? "Take back the web."

A new day opened for the **internet** when Ward Cunningham opened the first wiki, the Portland Pattern Repository, on March 25th, 1995.

PLAYLIST:* The Best of the Crayon Box

Yellowcard—Believe
Redman—Beat Drop
The White Stripes—Astro
Green Day—Basket Case
Lucerin Blue—Game
Slayer—Raining Blood
The Black Crowes—Blackberry
Deep Purple—Hey Joe



the**HAIKU***

by Brian Garrison

Sharp blades spin wildly
Don't put your hand in, unless
You like red milkshakes

QUOTE*

"Dignity and love do not
blend well, nor do they
continue long together."
—Ovid

RANDOMREVIEW*

Looking for a little more blend in your life? The Osterizer Classic Blender will give you all the power and style you can handle. This blender features a metal base and solid glass pitcher top, and can easily crush ice and liquefy fruit. The red metal beehive-style base gives the blender a classic look. As far as a college blender goes, the Osterizer has two small drawbacks. First, the pitcher is glass, which can be dangerous when you get the urge to blend heavily at your next party. Second, the blender is a little pricey at around \$50 dollars. However, blenders are serious hardware and you will be hard pressed to find one for under \$35. All in all, a classic look and dependable blending power make this a must-have kitchen appliance.

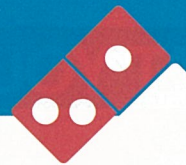
REPORTER* RECOMMENDS:

Make your own smoothies. Buy some fresh fruit, juices, and maybe some yogurt. Load up on frozen fruit—not ice, which can make things watery—and get blending. Way cheaper than shelling out the big bucks for one from Java's or The Commons, a home-brewed smoothie is limitless fruity fun.

FINISHit*

...was probably the best Twister partner in the room, I thought for sure that with our combined strengths, those zombies would...

Get the door. It's Domino's.



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**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

Large Wings Combo

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

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deep dish extra

555 deal
3 PIZZAS \$5
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R.I.T.

FIRST-CLASS MAIL



To: Graduate, Class of 2005

Re: Academic Convocation

Friday, May 20, 2005

Dear Graduate,

For the first time graduates will participate in the processional and recessional at the Academic Convocation.

We welcome you as part of the first class to process, in cap and gown, into this important event. You and your classmates will have special seating and be recognized, by college, during the official conferral of degrees. You can stand and take a bow, because You Are Done!! (Except for your college's individual ceremony—don't miss that.)

How very exciting!

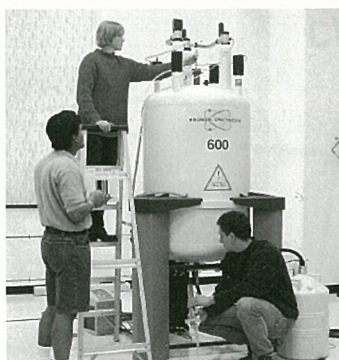
See you there!

Line-up—3:15 p.m., Student Life Center Basketball Courts

Procession—3:45 p.m., Gordon Field House and Activities Center

Graduates should come to line-up with their caps and gowns.

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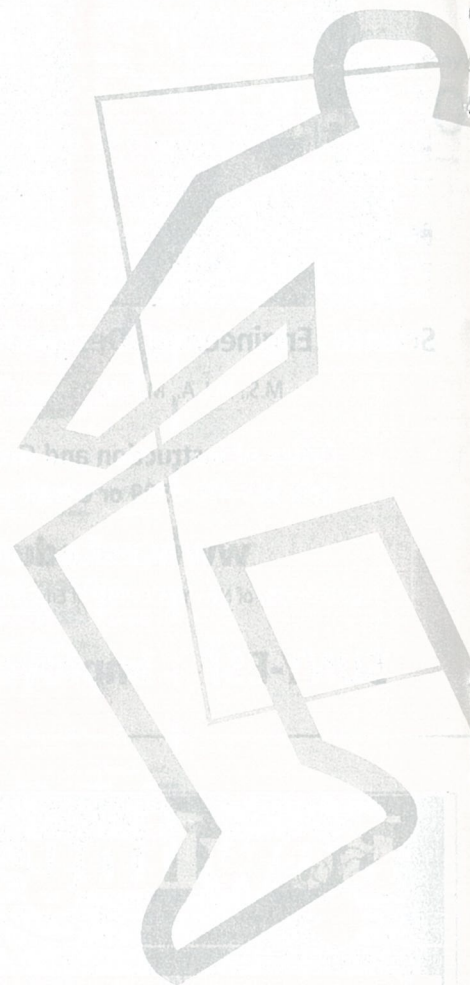


CRIME^{at} RIT

by Brenna Cammeron

Imagine a crime-proof campus, completely safe in every way. Dogs sniffing backpacks. Laptops being swabbed for suspicious substances. Metal detectors at every door, each manned by security guards so intimidating that they make Campus Safety look downright congenial by comparison. Regular armed patrols keep potential troublemakers from getting any smart ideas.

Sure, it's safe, but do we really need a campus lockdown? Some seemed to think so after October's shooting at the Crossroads Café. The shooting led to a small media bonanza on the usually placid RIT campus, which caused both the administration and students alike to ask the question, "How safe are we...really?"



CRIME ON CAMPUS: CROSSROADS

Those who were present remember the morning well. On Monday, October 4, 2004, just before 6:00 a.m., three men entered the Crossroads building through an unlocked back door right before the eatery opened for the morning's business. According to court documents, the men were armed with knives and a gun as they forced three employees of the Crossroads facility into a manager's office and proceeded to rob cash drawers of approximately \$600. As the three fled the facility, one of the men fired two apparently random shots at two of the employees. Both employees were injured: one bullet grazed one employee's head, while the other bullet hit the other employee's hand. The employees were both sent to Strong Hospital, treated for their injuries, and released by the end of the day.

The shooting left students and faculty alike shaken and full of questions. The relatively odd time at which the shooting took place led to much speculation that the perpetrators had inside knowledge of the Crossroad Café's admittedly lax security processes at the time. Meanwhile, the Institute did its best to calm the worried campus population by assuring them that the incident was indeed an isolated one.

CROSSROADS: AN UPDATE

Over five months have passed since the Crossroads incident. After the initial barrage of media attention focusing on student concerns for their safety and the Institute's plans to change policy, life has returned to normal for the average RIT student. However, the investigation into the Crossroads shooting has continued.

On Wednesday, March 9, 2005, Travis L. Rutley pled guilty to owning the .22 caliber pistol that was used to wound the two employees on October 4, 2004. However, 20-year-old Rutley claims that he handed the pistol to one of the other two men present at the shooting and fled the scene before any shots were fired. Rutley claims that he is not sure who fired the shots that morning. However, he has agreed to an indictment that charges him with first and second degree robbery, first and second degree assault, and second and third degree charges of criminal possession of a weapon. Rutley will be formally sentenced on April 6, but he is expected to receive ten years in prison and five years under the supervision of a parole officer.

Two other men have also been charged in relation to the Crossroads shooting: 25-year-old Dwight D. Rutley and 30-year-old Chicko A. Dillard both await court dates. Dwight Rutley, a cousin of Travis Rutley, worked in the Crossroads building on a temporary basis and told police investigators that the idea to rob Crossroads took root when he observed money being handled loosely at the facility. According to court documents, Dwight Rutley and Travis Rutley blame each other regarding who fired the actual shots on that morning.

Meanwhile, the victims of the Crossroads shooting remain out of the media spotlight. Both have chosen to remain anonymous and were unable to be contacted for this article.

HOW SAFE ARE WE REALLY?

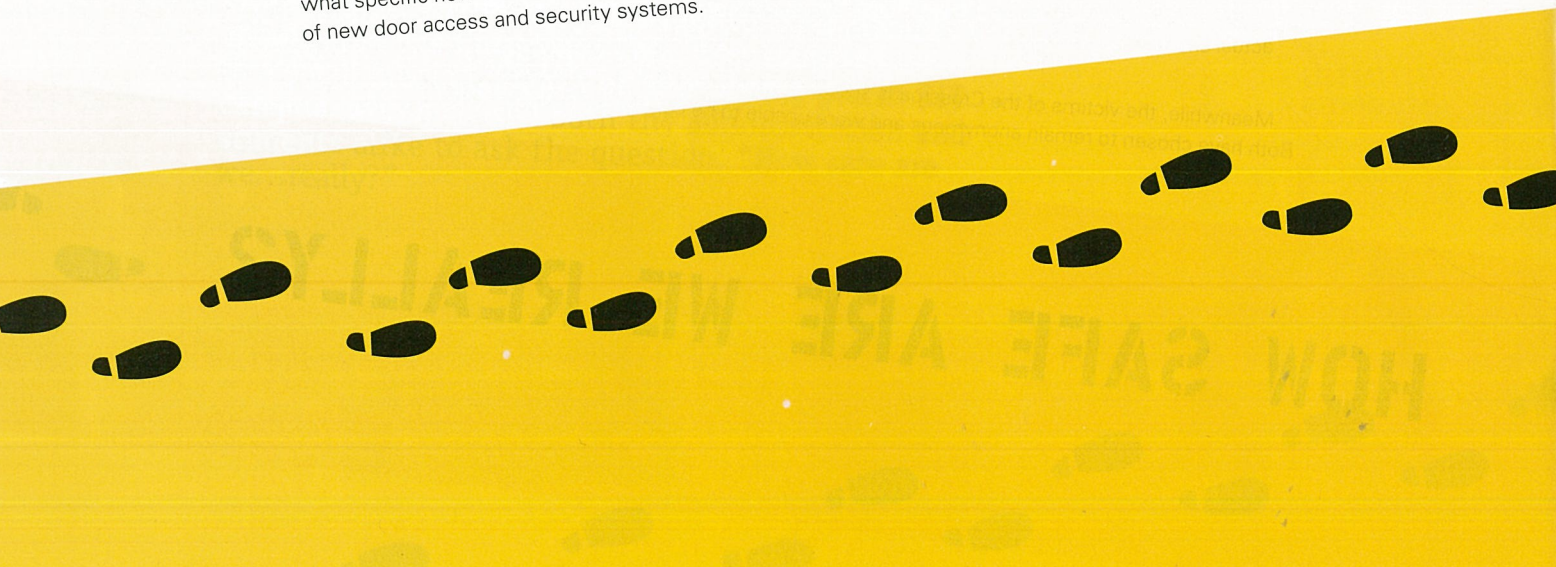
EVERYTHING'S CHANGING OR IS IT?

Immediately after the Crossroads shooting, the RIT administration rushed to assure faculty and students that not only was the event an isolated one, but also that the Institute would be working tirelessly to make the campus even more secure. Campus Safety increased security patrols and heightened their visibility on the campus. Cafeterias across campus were instructed to keep the doors of the dining halls locked before and after business hours—a policy that had never been strictly enforced before the shooting. But five months later, is our campus really that much safer than before?

Jim Bingham, director of Food Services, says that the answer to that question is irrevocably yes. Immediately following the Crossroads shooting, Food Services and Campus Safety teamed up to create a series of training programs for all full-time employees that aimed to increase security awareness on several levels, from the way that employees handled cash to the times at which the doors to the facilities were locked. Although Food Services is reluctant to divulge all of the details of the security updates that have been made, Bingham stated that a variety of security updates have been made on several levels of operation. These updates include changes to when and where money is counted and the manner in which doors are secured before and after business hours. According to Bingham, the Crossroads incident was “a sort of an awakening... something like this always triggers an opportunity to step back and say ‘how can we do this better?’ Although we’re sorry that it happened, it’s always something like this that causes you to take a fresh look at how you do things. We’re the better for it.”

Student workers, however, don’t always agree. Adam Bojak, a fourth year Criminal Justice major, is a student manager at Crossroads. According to Bojak, the changes that have occurred at Crossroads since the shooting have been less about creating new policy and more about enforcing policy that already existed in the first place. Predictably enough, Bojak also says that after the initial lockdown in the first few weeks after the shooting, safety policies have once again become a little less stringent, although they remain “more strict than they used to be.” Robin Hayes, a worker at the Ritz, agrees. When Hayes, who was working at the Ritz at the time of the Crossroads shooting, is asked whether she has seen any policy changes since, her response was “not that I’m aware of.” According to Hayes, after about a week of tension at the Ritz, it was back to business as usual. Nevertheless, there’s no doubt that incident left many of the student workers in food services worried for their safety. As Hayes puts it, “I wasn’t afraid that it would happen again, but just knowing that it could happen was scary.”

Regardless of whether students feel that policy has changed or not since the Crossroads shooting, the Institute insists that change has occurred. Although the administration chooses to remain quiet on the topic of what specific new security measures are in the works to be implemented, Bingham does mention the possibility of new door access and security systems.



HOW DO THE STUDENTS FEEL?

When asked whether they feel safe on the RIT campus, students here responded with an overwhelming "yes." "I feel safer than I do in most of Rochester," says Becca Nelson, a second year Professional and Technical Communications major. However, this basic feeling of safety on campus has changed slightly since the Crossroads shooting. Eric Fabricant, a fourth year Information Technology major, feels that "the campus was probably safer right after the shooting...I would be more worried now, because policies aren't as strict [as right after the shootin]."

Although most students have stopped consciously considering the ramifications of the Crossroads shooting, there is no doubt that it continues to affect the actions of some students on campus. Kim Golis, a second year New Media major, says "I used to walk alone across campus at night without a second thought." Golis says that she now takes more precautions. "This year, especially after the shooting, I always try to bring someone with me."

Students here feel so safe that, unfortunately, for some Campus Safety is considered more of an annoyance than a viable security presence. "Campus Safety is definitely good for jump-starting your car," Fabricant says. "That's pretty much it."

Regardless of the safety that most students appear to take for granted, some students still find themselves wondering if the Institute is just a little too overconfident in the security of the school. John Kusovski, a fifth year Information Technology major, contends that "I think there could be a stronger campus safety presence...there are some days when I won't see a patrol car drive by. That's a little disconcerting."

Campus safety here at RIT appears to be one of those issues that few people can agree fully about. Although the majority of the student body and the faculty think that RIT is generally safe, there appears to be an underlying sense of unease that perhaps the school would not be fully prepared if another, perhaps deadly, event like the Crossroads shooting ever occurs. RIT's status as an open campus may make it more vulnerable to outside criminal activity, but the layout of our school leaves little opportunity for change in this matter.

So the question remains: how safe is our school...really? Although some crime-conscious students may actually like the idea of the metal detectors at every door, most would agree that little can be done by the Institute to make the campus safer than it already is. Perhaps the best solution to campus safety for the time being is for every student to watch out for each other. As Bingham is quick to point out, "no matter what...nothing takes away from the responsibility of the individual." •

HOW DO WE STACK UP?

The Jeanne Cleary Act, which is part of the Higher Education Act of 1965, offers a look at the criminal activities of over 6,000 campuses and universities nationwide. The US Department of Higher Education now hosts a website that offers statistics provided by each college and university on criminal activities both on and off-campus. So how does RIT stack up to other local colleges?

	RIT (Pop. 14,687)			U OF R (Pop. 8,466)			NAZARETH (Pop. 3,062)			ST. JOHN FISHER (Pop. 3,153)		
	'01	'02	'03	'01	'02	'03	'01	'02	'03	'01	'02	'03
Murder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sex Offenses (Forcible)	16	9	3	7	8	6	0	0	1	1	0	1
Robbery	0	0	0	4	2	8	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary	35	73	39	54	89	74	5	1	1	4	4	12
Aggravated Assault	0	1	2	0	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0

All data courtesy of <http://ope.ed.gov/security/>

Stepping off the Quarter Mile
and into the City:

CRIME in ROCHESTER



by Brenna Cammeron | illustration by Bill Robinson

Take a moment and consider the things that you think about the most while at RIT. Of *course*, schoolwork comes first. But what after that? Unless you've got a thing for whipping wind and ice storms, you probably spend a lot of your time wondering how to get warm and stay that way. If you're a guy, your next worry probably has something to do with the (too often griped about) boy-to-girl ratio. Regardless, chances are you're not worrying much about whether you're about to be mugged, maimed, or murdered... *Maybe you should.*

It's a little known fact that the city of Rochester has a disturbingly high crime rate—one so high that even city officials don't seem to know what to do about it. According to a recent article in the *New York Times*, the homicide rate per capita in Rochester has been the highest of any community in the state for seven out of ten years. In fact, Rochester's murder rate for 2000-2003 is almost four times higher than in other similarly-sized cities. Statistics tell us that Rochester's crime rate is above the national average for murder, forcible rape, robberies, burglaries, larceny/theft, and vehicle thefts. **The best news one can find on Rochester's crime rate is that the number of aggravated assaults in Rochester is a whopping 3% below the national average.** But why is Rochester such a dangerous place to live?

Many people choose to blame Rochester's geographical location as key in our city's crime rate. Rochester's placement between New York City and Canada makes it key for drug trafficking: drugs pass through Rochester between Canada and New York City, where they are filtered through to the

rest of the 48 states. **Rochester's "convenient" location makes it perfect for drug dealers, which of course leads to the formation of gangs.** City officials have only recently recognized the gang problem; in a recent article titled "Breaking the Gangs Down, One Merciless Step at a Time," Michelle York of the *New York Times* uses Rochester as a case study in examining various ways to stop gang activity. According to the article, gang activity "accounts for 60 to 80 percent of the city's homicides." The federal government has taken all of this into account: in 2004 it designated Rochester as an area of high-intensity drug trafficking. Although this is certainly nothing to be proud of, the city's new title will allow several million dollars to be poured into fighting drugs and gangs on the streets of Rochester.

Although gangs and drugs may have much to do with the city's violence problem, there is no doubt that other factors also play into it. Rochester has been deteriorating economically for years; one only has to walk down Main Street in the middle of the day to see that the heart of the city is practically a ghost town. The recent debate over closing several inner city schools to help close the budget gap has only heightened the sense that officials are becoming desperate when it comes to the city's financial problems. **In a community where the suburbs are booming but the city is floundering, it's no wonder that crime is a very real problem.**

So is there any end in sight to Rochester's crime problem? It depends on who you ask. City officials have taken a hard look at the drug and gang problem in Rochester and have



formed a coalition called "Operation Ceasefire" to fight back. **"Operation Ceasefire" is an attempt to crack down on gangs by imposing harsher punishments on offenders and more aggressively seeking to break down crime rings in the city.** The project has received some criticism for not addressing deep-seated social issues such as poor education, the breakdown of the nuclear family, and the lack of jobs in the city. Instead, it focuses on strengthening legal ramifications for perpetrators that are affiliated with Rochester's gangs.

Regardless of the criticism that "Operation Ceasefire" has met, it has had moderate success in changing the face of crime in Rochester. "Operation Ceasefire" has been instrumental in breaking up four prominent city gangs: the "Thurston Zoo," "Dipset," "Trust Street Crew" and "Murder Unit." **And recent numbers show the homicide rate in Rochester appears to be decreasing.** While there were 57 homicides in 2003, there

were only 38 in 2004. However, it will take several years of steady improvement to determine if Rochester is becoming a statistically safer place to live.

Hidden away in Henrietta's middle-class suburbia, it's easy for the average RIT student to become complacent about safety. So the question becomes: as long as RIT is generally a safe place to be, why should any student care about the city's crime rates? The answer can be found in the dozens of parties offered off-campus every weekend, as well as the variety of activities that can only be found in the heart of the city. It is important to be aware of crime in Rochester, not only for one's own safety but to heighten awareness in watching out for others when venturing downtown. Sure, it might just be another thing to worry about, but watching your back in a dark alley might be slightly more important than dwelling on that damn ratio. •

WORD on the Street

compiled and photographed by Jodi Goldenberg

Q: What is your favorite movie and why?



"Lately *The Incredibles*, it's entertaining for anyone; you can take your little sister and still be amused!"

Blair Brown
Environmental Science
Third year



"*The Cutting Edge*, it has some of the funniest lines and I think I have memorized all of them."

Cheena Jain
Graphic Design
Fourth Year



"*Dr. Strangelove*, there is nothing funnier than the end of the year!"

Joey Macintosh
Film and Animation
Fourth Year



"*The Passion of the Christ* spoke volumes about the world and I am a devout individual!"

John Wentz
CET
Fourth Year



"*Pulp Fiction*, Uma Thurman is hot!"

Lauren Young
Biotech
Second Year



"*Robin Hood, Prince of Thieves*; Kevin Costner is hot!"

Tom Krall
IT
First Year



"*Blazing Saddles*, it just makes fun of everyone!"

John Mehen
Computer Science
Fourth Year



"*The Sound of Music*, what could be better than a love story with a happy ending, and all the singing!"

Mari Taylor
Psychology
Third Year

"*Kill Bill* vol. 2, Quentin Tarantino is all I need to say!"

Christina Anabel
Biology
Third Year

"*Ferris Bueller's Day Off*, it is every guys dream to be him for a day!"

Mike Klein
Biotech
Second Year

"*Napolean Dynamite*, it is about nothing; the world has too much drama anyway...gosh!"

Ariel Meltzer
PTC
Second Year

"*Cool Hand Luke*, Paul Newman is Amazing!"

Sean Dyroff
Photography
Second Year

"*My Fair Lady*, I love how they randomly break out into song; just like how live my life."

Brittany Wooten
Photography
Second Year

"*Dumb and Dumber*, it is just hilarious!"

Scott Cirno
Civil Engineering Technology
Fourth Year

"*Wayne's World*, why not?!"

Chris Dailey
Film and Animation
Fourth Year

"*Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*, I can relate to the characters and all of their experiences!"

Ross Weadeau
Industrial Design
Fourth Year

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"We've all had good ideas that fell into the Valley of Death, never to be seen again. At the same time there is increased pressure for new and more profitable products. ...how do we get more of our better product ideas across the Valley and accepted by the market. **Champions are seen as people who know how to cross the Valley.** Attending this presentation will provide the attendee with an introduction to the challenges, tools and techniques champions use to cross the Valley of Death."

Steve Markham, NCSU



Hear the Champions tell their Stories -

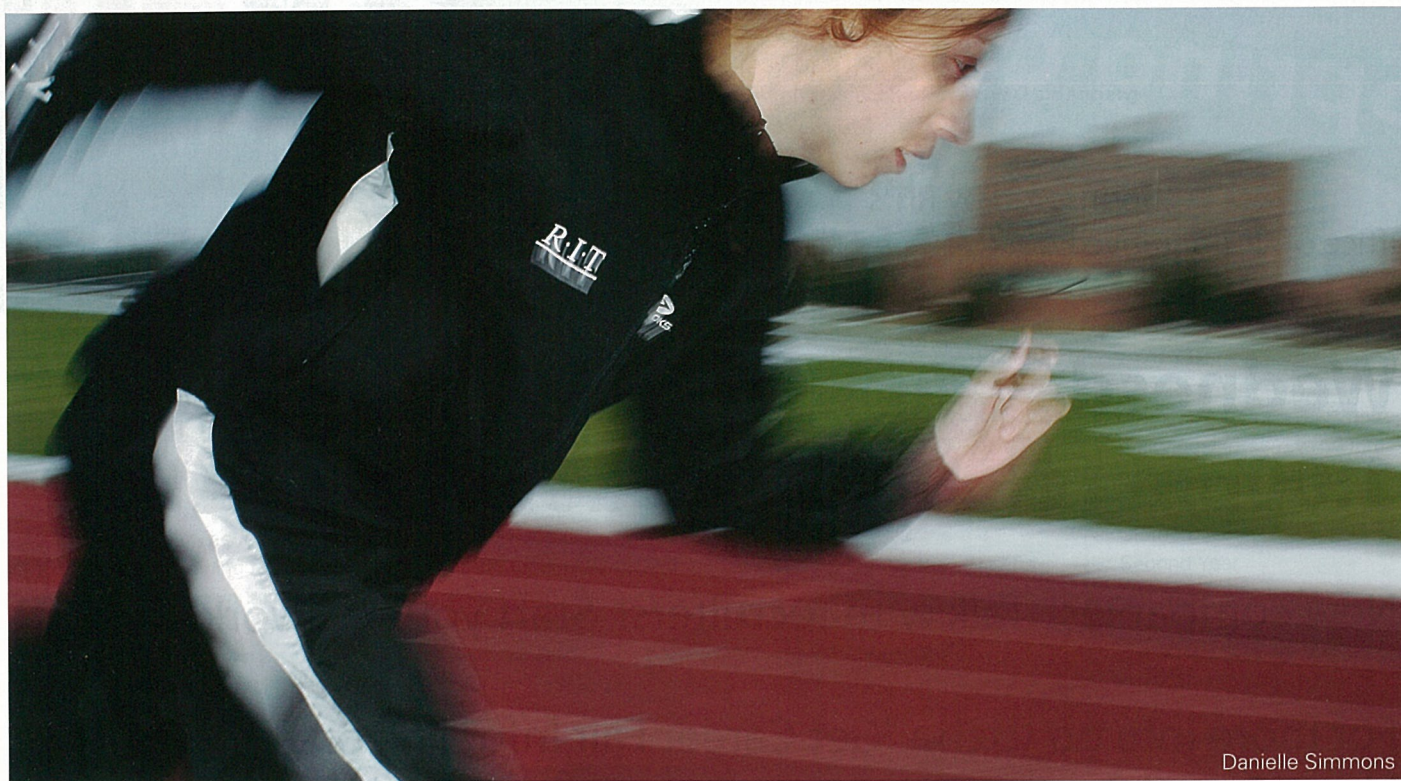
Jeffrey Carlson, Deputy Mayor, City of Rochester
Championing the Fast Ferry
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Danielle Simmons

Sports **DESK** by José Plaza | photograph by Jacob Hannah

Men's Lacrosse

March 12: Two games into the 2005 season, and RIT men's lacrosse has pushed both games into overtime. This time it was against Union College, who won 12-11. For RIT, Zach Bednarz played a strong game, supplying the Tigers with three goals and five assists.

Final Score: L 11-12

RIT Goals: Zach Bednarz (3), Joe Argese (1), Andrew Ruocco (3), David Thering (4)

March 19: Men's lacrosse couldn't seem to catch a break, and ended up losing their third game in a row. Oneonta State started off the game strong with a 4-0 lead over RIT at the end of the first quarter. RIT was held scoreless in both the first and third quarters, and ended up losing 7-10.

Final Score: L 7-10

RIT Goals: Zach Bednarz(2), Andrew Ruocco(3), Stephen Papa(2)

Record through 3/22/05: 0-3

Softball

March 2: The RIT Softball team was in Lee County, Florida for two games during the day. In the first game, Loras College shut out the Lady Tigers 5-0. In that game, RIT only produced three hits. In the second game of the day, Notre Dame broke the 0-0 tie in the bottom of the sixth with the only run of the game, helping them to win the game 1-0.

vs. Loras

Final Score: RIT 0, Loras 5

vs. Notre Dame

Final Score: RIT 0, ND 1

March 3: RIT pitcher Allie Sitton led the Lady Tigers to victory. Her strong performance allowed only 2 runs. RIT offense did the rest, producing 3 runs for a 3-2 win over Alma. In the second game, Sienna Heights proved to be a tough competitor, but once again in a close game, RIT pulled out the win with a score of 5-4.

vs. Alma

Final Score: RIT 3, Alma 2

vs. Sienna

Final Score: RIT 5, Sienna 4

March 4: In the last day of competition in Florida, RIT went 0-2. Both games, against Ohio Northern and Capital, ended the same way: 1-2 losses. These put RIT at 5-5 in Florida.

vs. Ohio Northern

Final Score: RIT 1, Ohio 2

vs. Capital

Final Score: RIT 1, Capital 2

Record through 3/25/05: 5-5

Women's Track and Field

March 11-12: During the two-day span, RIT women's track and field participated in the NCAA Championships at Illinois Wesleyan University. Sophomore Danielle Simmons received All-American recognition with her fourth place finish in the 800 meter run. Allison Griggs competed in the weight throw and the shot put, but failed to qualify for the finals. Overall, the team placed 34th out of 60 teams.



Women's Track: Finally Getting What They Deserve... **(Recognition)**

by Frances Cabrera | illustration by Brittney Lee

Without much fanfare or public recognition, the women's indoor track and field team has slowly grown over the past several years, with members consistently out-running, out-jumping, and out-throwing many of the teams in our area and the nation. RIT recently stepped into the forefront of track and field teams in the nation when the U.S. Track and Field/Cross Country Coaches Association named Danielle Simmons the Indoor Track Atlantic Region Female Athlete of the Year, and Coach David Warth the Atlantic Region Indoor Track Women's Coach of the Year.

"I think [the team members] were a little surprised, as they are not used to our program receiving this level of recognition," said Warth. "I have had to remind them that the team has reached a new level—third place team in our very tough conference (NYSTC Championships), for example. And these types of awards, both Danielle's and mine, are the result of achieving at that level." This level of achievement includes over a dozen new records and three NCAA bids this season alone. Leading the team in breaking records and representing RIT at the NAAs was Simmons, a second year Imaging and Photographic Technology major. Simmons, a self-proclaimed sprinter, has been on the track team both years and has, somewhat unintentionally, become an 800 meter All-American runner, taking fourth place at this year's NAAs.

"I had the ambition of being a good 400 meter runner," said Simmons. "But I found out I was a better 800 meter runner." She only began running the 800 meter race at the end of last year, so she didn't know what to expect this season. Given her inexperience with the race, she surprised herself and many others by breaking the previous 800 meter record time twice, and pre-qualifying for the NAAs with a time of 2:17.13, all before February. "Everything happened so fast this year. I was named the Cornell MVP and the Athlete of the Meet at States," said Simmons. "Everything just came out of nowhere. It all means a lot to me, but I don't know what to do with it. It hadn't been a goal I had."

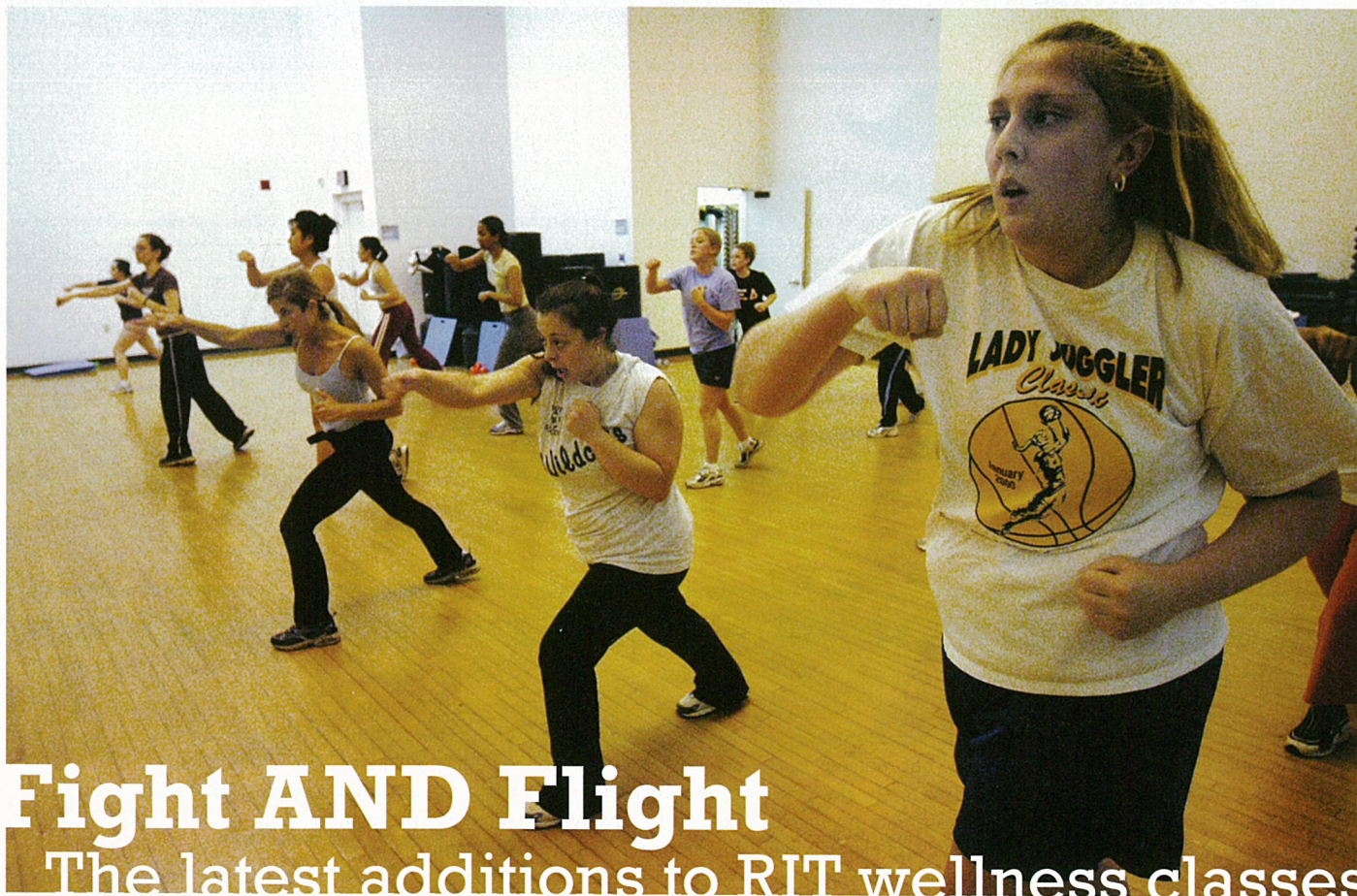
Simmons has not abandoned her original goal of being a sprinter, which has added to her depth on the track and has further set her apart. "Her top times and places are among the best in the district, but she also has incredible ranges, as evidenced by her winning the 200 meter at the NYSTC Championships in February," said Warth. Simmons also won the 500 meter run and medaled in three relay events at those championships.

While recognition means a lot to her, Simmons and her teammates all agree that Warth's recognition was the highlight of the ceremony. "He sits down [after he receives his award] and we both have awards sitting on the table since they both went to the same school. It was really exciting," said Simmons. "It's good that he is finally getting the recognition he deserves. He has made fantastic progress out of something that didn't exist and people usually didn't get excited over."

Warth has been coaching the male and female cross country, indoor track, and outdoor track teams for eight years. Warth has led the women's track and field program to 25 broken school records and three All-American performances in the past five years. "It made me proud to realize how far the women's running program has come in my eight years here," said Warth. "[The recognition] is partly a validation of what we have accomplished not only this year but also over the entire eight years in the program."

With these plaques earning a place on the trophy shelves, Warth and Simmons are now looking for ways they can build upon this high ground. "The qualifying time for nationals this season is 2:12 [for the 800 meter]. I would like to get that near the middle of the season," Simmons said. "If I could finish the season with around 2:11, that would be amazing." Her top time for the indoor season was 2:13.70. As for next year, Simmons said that she will be pushing her limits, since this year's success came as a surprise. Warth said that he wants to continue the upward trend the women's program has demonstrated, with "more national qualifiers and All-Americans, along with consistent top 5 finishes in our conference meet."

A lack of recognition should no longer plague the women's track team, as it has finally established itself as one of the premier teams in the nation. "The track team doesn't get the same recognition as other teams," Simmons said. "Recognitions like this put the team out there so that people realize we have a track team, and we're good at it!" •



Fight AND Flight

The latest additions to RIT wellness classes

by José Plaza | photographs by Eric Sucar

Since its opening last year, the Gordon Field House has been an inspiration to the RIT community. With the success of the facility's pool, weight room, and track, RIT has continued to build new opportunities for students at the athletic level. Now, with the introduction of two new fitness courses this spring quarter, "Turbo Kick™" and "Jogging: Training for the 10K," RIT students and faculty alike are taking the average "gym class" experience to a whole new level.

Turbo Kick™

If you want your body to be pushed to the limit, and you want to feel good about it, this course might hold your interest. Turbo Kick™ is being billed as "One of the hottest exercise classes around" and "the ultimate cardiovascular challenge." But don't let the name fool you. If anything, Turbo Kick™ could be sued for false advertising, since kicking is just a small fraction of what this class is all about. The style of this fast-paced kickboxing style blends punching, kicking, and a few other exercise routines. All of this ensures that by the time a single session is finished, your calorie-burning gauge will have broken.

What makes the course so unique is the environment and pace at which it is taught. Turbo Kick™ instructor Michelle Blinnd, RIT's Wellness Program Specialist and also an FYE

instructor, is the one in charge of leading the class in a workout filled with fast-action moves complemented by upbeat workout music that keeps the body and mind in the zone. "The first few weeks, we work on technique and form, the third and fourth weeks, we work on strengthening our punches and kicks and the remainder of the time, we focus on full-body power and endurance," said Blinnd.

Simulated fight sequences are sometimes executed, but they are carried out at lightning speed to keep the enthusiasm of the class in check. With everyone doing moves in unison, to upbeat music, the smiles on the participants faces and the sweat dripping off their bodies, tells you that the participants are working out, and loving it. Kris Dunham, one of the students in Turbo Kick™ class says "It's a good cardio workout, but it also includes strength training, and gives definite noticeable results." In some ways it can be related to a Billy Blanks session of Tae Bo, with Blinnd yelling at the top of her lungs through her headset, guiding and motivating students through each routine.

If you are worried about the intensity level, don't be. The class does sink into a more relaxed tempo towards the end, employing floor mats to do various other exercise routines targeting key areas of the body. Blinnd stresses the fact that, "Turbo Kick™ is an interval based class that allows participants of any fitness level to participate and custom-tailor their workout."

At the end of the ten week course, Michelle Blind believes her students will be at the top of their game, fitness wise. "At the end of 10 weeks, participants will feel strong, athletic and powerful! Turbo Kick™ is different because I put the needs of my participants first. Each Round gives me, as an instructor, the tools I need to customize the workout to fit my unique students."

After just two class sessions, students like Ray Pauszek, a third year Chemistry major, are feeling the heat. For him, the first two sessions have been "Really fun, but really exhausting. It just proves that when you think you are in shape, there's always more you can work on." Kris Dunham, also in the class, happily added, "It's a little unnerving to have to jump around like an idiot when people can watch. So all in all, so far I like it even better than aero boxing, and would definitely recommend it to anyone." It is quite possible that when you walk out of the class, you will feel better about yourself, and your body will reassure you of it. If you'd like to learn a little more about Turbo Kick™, check out <http://www.turbokick.com>.

Jogging: Training for the 10k

So you might be wondering, "Is this going to be another gym class where we get together once a week and run around together?" If that's what you're expecting from this class, you are more or less 10% correct. Yes, the class meets once a week, and yes, it does run together as group. But what you don't know is that your final exam is a 10K. An actual 10 kilometer race. This course helps you to prepare for Rochester's Lilac 10K, and any other 10K-like races you might confront in the future.

According to the course description, this brand new course will motivate students to help themselves achieve both "long

and short term health benefits." During the span of ten weeks, course instructor Cha Ron Sattler will help students prepare themselves both physically and mentally for the Lilac 10K. The class begins the quarter by running routes around campus, allowing them to gauge their initial potential and fitness level. From there, the necessary areas of improvement are determined, and students are given individual input to help them achieve their goals. Different forms and techniques are taught as the course progresses, through hands-on, or more accurately, leg-on training. Aside from the physical component of the class, there is also a mental component, which is fulfilled by a reading requirement (Yes everyone, a book in gym class). The reading materials allow the students to learn techniques and acquire beneficial tips to help their running performance reach its optimum level.

Chris Patterson, a 3rd year IT major and intermediate runner, thinks that for most students, "this course will provide gradual progression for your running form;" along with the outside training students are encouraged to do (2-3 runs per week), "one will be ready for the 10K by the time you're done." When the time comes for a grade, students are evaluated on their level of improvement, and on their participation and completion of the 10K. So, if you want to come out on top the next time you hear "On you marks, get set, GO!" this might be the way to get there. •

◀ Sarah Benoat (far right) and other students perform punch and kick exercises during an hour long Turbo Kick™ class on Thursday, March 17. Created in 1997 by Chalene Johnson, Turbo Kick™ is arguably the most popular group exercise program in the country. The course consists of intense high and low kicks and punches to pop music.

▼ Local running legend Bill Hearne, founder of the running group "Oven Door Runners Club," discusses different ways of keeping yourself healthy through nutrition and exercise to a group of students during the Jogging: Training for the 10k class on Thursday, March 17. Bill Hearne was a guest speaker that day filling in for the instructor Cha Ron Sattler. The course is intended to prepare students to participate in and complete a 10K race.



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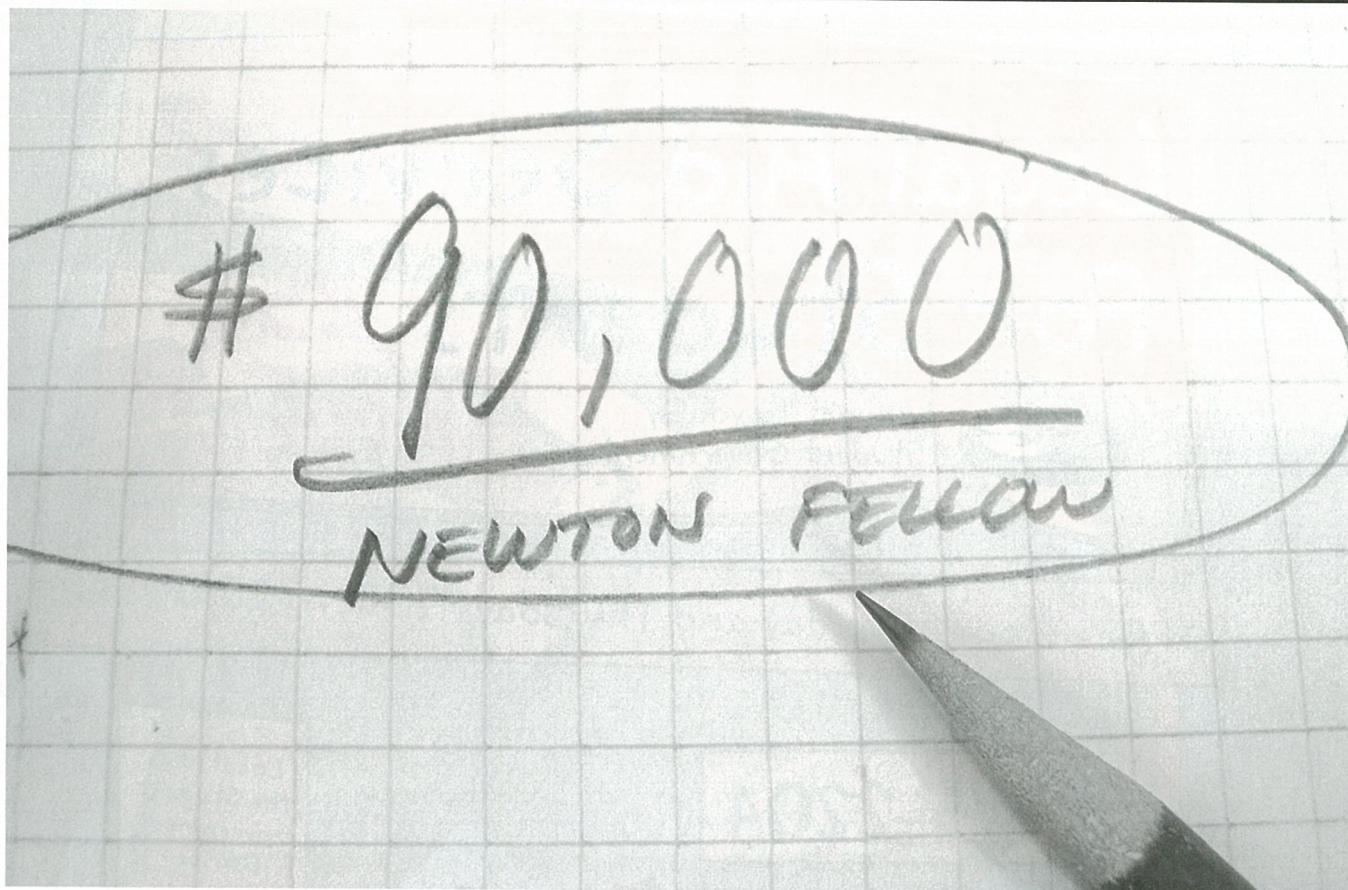
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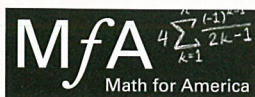


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