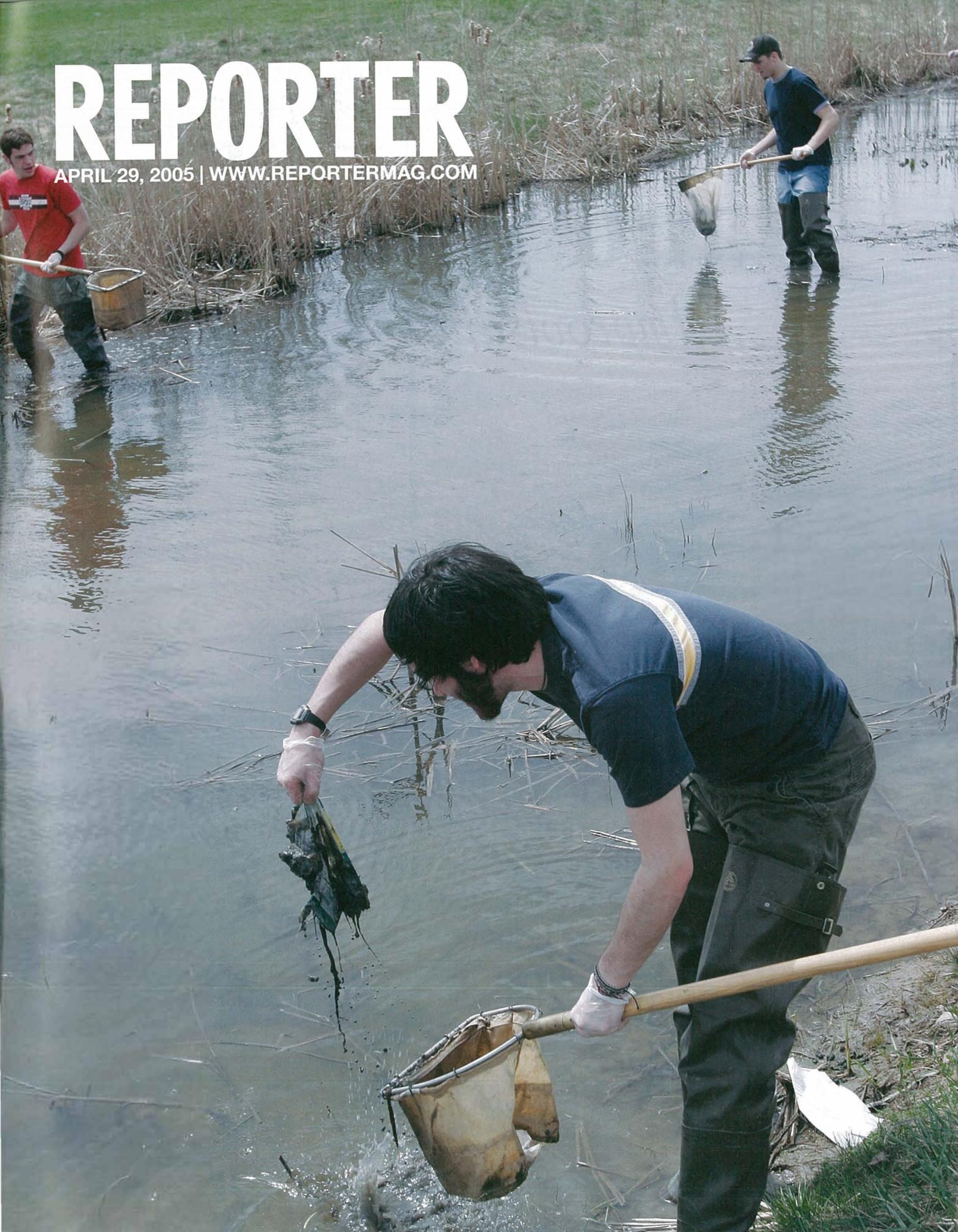


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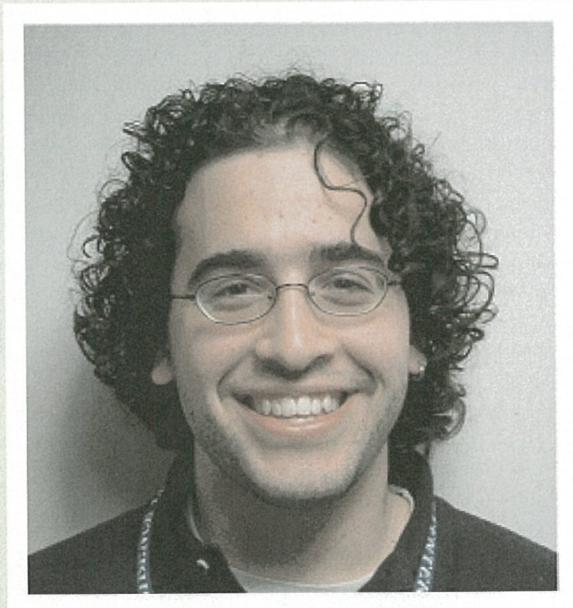
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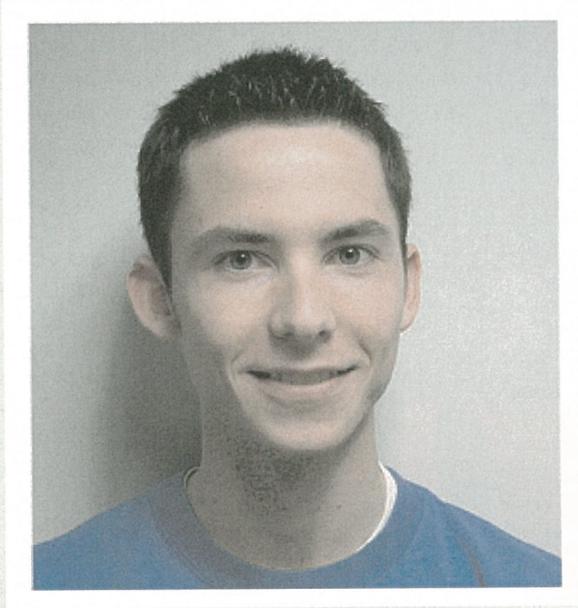
This concert is partially underwritten by a generous gift from the Henrietta Chamber of Commerce.



... And The Winners Are

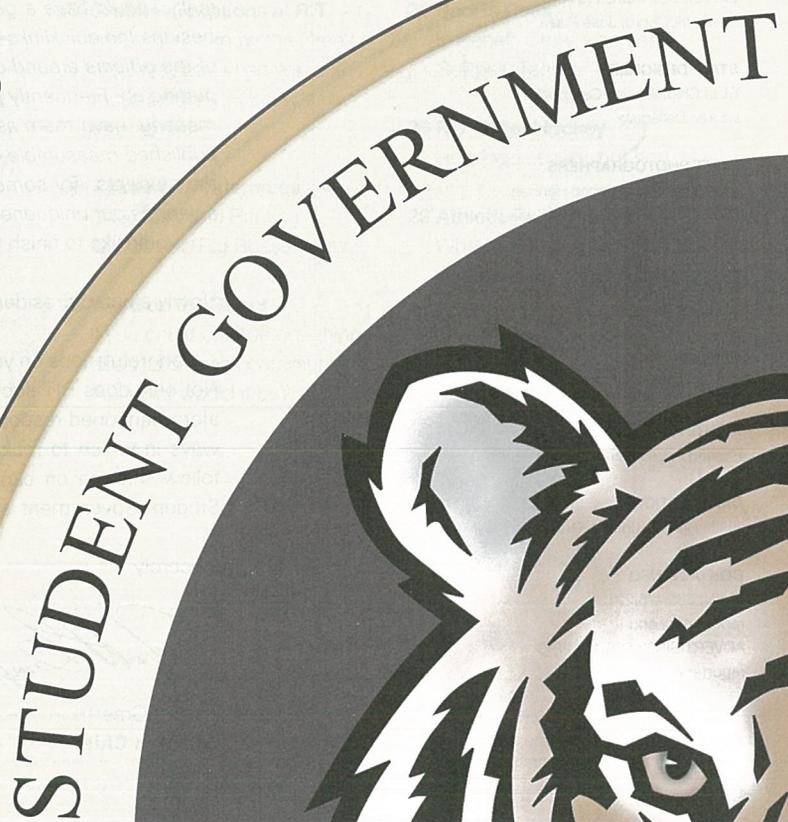


James Macchiano
SG President



Cory Hoffman
SG Vice President

Congratulations to
the winners and
thanks to all
the students
for voting.



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EDITORIAL

QUESTION: What would you like to see the next Student Government do?

The above question was appended to the online ballot for the recent Student Government (SG) elections. What has been saved to SG's database is a collection of 3311 responses from RIT students, which range from biting critical to disparagingly ignorant. However, one of the binding themes which seems to have tainted a majority of the submissions is a total unawareness of what Student Government actually does.

What I find interesting and scary about that theme is the fact that every week I attend the SG Senate Meeting and ask myself the same question: "What does SG do exactly?" So, I have created a stream of student conscience that illustrates my point based on the published list of responses (www.sg.rit.edu/vote)—edited for content (cockboats), spelling (j00 g0t pwn3d), repetition (repetition), and the morbidly stupid (poop):

I'm not sure if this is possible for SG to do, but I would like to see more chairs and couches in academic buildings and an all-night computer lab. Lift the drinking ban! Have a football team become a reality! More free Ben & Jerry's scoop days! Give CIAS a lounge. Industrial Design faculty vacancy: they've had it for quite a few years (class sizes are growing, but faculty is the same or less). Work hard to use cross-platform technologies. Perhaps open a public Linux lab so that everyone can see what is going on? Bring down tuition and stop charging for ridiculous things. Get rid of the exclusive Pepsi contract. Fix housing ops. More school spirit, and, also, seriously evaluate the effects of video games on the academic, social, and collegiate success of students. I'll assume that SG has at least something to do with the musical acts that come to campus. The musical acts that are brought to campus are horrible. Smoke dope and rap.

To offset the deluge of misconceptions of what SG does, it was refreshing to see the volume of students who really want to be involved in the dialogue about school and student policy. RIT wants to know their representatives. The students want to be in communication with them. And they even have some decent ideas on how to accomplish that:

I want to see weekly emails telling us what you lazy [children born out of wedlock] are doing. Isn't there some sort of website, blog, or mailing list the president could keep updated so we know what the heck they're actually doing? I would like to see a forum of some sort on the SG website where students can enter in suggestions for activities and feedback in regards to the president and vice president's productivity. Be more visible...you really should have a general email update monthly, or an area on the myRIT homepage besides the quicklinks—a "what's going on in SG/CAB/OCASA." I would like to see more of the officers around campus supporting the events and activities that SG is so proud of putting on. Frequently poll students to find out what we actually want. Show up to a floor meeting, have them ask/answer questions, then leave—nothing more, nothing less. Set published measurable objectives and fulfill them. I want SG to be more one-on-one with the students. Try something new: like celebrate RIT students' inability to stand in line—celebrate our uniqueness—we are Tigers, but deep down...deep down we are ligers!

I would like to finish this editorial on a future-goodness-hopeful-positive note:

Newly elected President James Macchiano,

Congratulations on your victory and thank you for running on a platform entitled "Unite." Not only does RIT support you in this collaborative undertaking but, by evidence of the aforementioned responses, they truly want to unite. They have even been brainstorming ways in which to make that happen. In the words of one anonymous voter, "Actually follow through on campaign promises." We're counting on you to let us know what Student Government is actually doing and how we can voice our opinions directly.

Sincerely,



Erhardt Graeff
Editor in Chief



Jeanne Morin-Leisk performs as Viola (disguised as Cesario) during the RIT production of William Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night" in Ingle Auditorium on Thursday, April 21. Music was directed by Dr. Michael Ruhling and performed by the RIT Philharmonia. Eric Sugar/REPORTER Magazine

■ NEWS

- 08 Earth Day Extravaganza**
Students clean up swamp and find nerdy detritus.
- 09 Bursar Office Changes**
Saving students from credit debt by throwing them to the loan sharks.
- 10 Commons Closing**
It's time for a makeover with fewer, but fancier, seats.
- 11 Crime Watch**
Weekly look at what your friends and neighbors have been up to.
- 11 RIT Forecast**
List of the upcoming events.

■ LEISURE

- 12 Reviews: New Music**
Bloc Party and Mae. CDs for showering and banging.
- 13 Video Game Review**
Xenosaga II. Beware of crazy German subtitles.
- 14 At Your Leisure**
People, Stuff, and Things.

■ FEATURES

- 16 Greek Perceptions at RIT**
You may not know the Greek alphabet, but when you see those letters you know what they mean.
- 20 Academic Fraternities**
Chemistry and Printing, Bonds and Pig Roasts.
- 22 Word on the Street**
If you could change one thing about the Greek community at RIT what would it be?

■ SPORTS

- 24 Sports Desk**
Baseball, Crew, Lacrosse, Softball, Tennis.
- 26 RIT Roller Hockey**
Hott logo...scary, but hott.
- 28 Athletic Facilities Use**
What a nice new turf field you got there. Look but don't touch.

Cover photograph by Thomas Starkweather

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Community: A Response to the Daniel Pipes Lecture

I must say I was disappointed by the community’s reaction to Daniel Pipes’ lecture on Thursday, April 14. I feel he presented a much more moderate position than the controversial one he was supposed to make according to political groups and even local newspapers. From my understanding, he stated that a specific politico-religious group, the Islamists, an offshoot of fundamental Islam whose goal is to reinstate an Islamic empire, has declared war on Western civilization.

Pipes described the war, however, as an ideological one—a war that is fought with information rather than bombs. The attacks function as messages rather than battles.

To engage in such a war of words, Pipes proposed creating a dialogue within the general Islamic community. By supporting moderate Islam as an opponent of the radical type, rather than reacting to terrorist attacks which present no opportunity for retaliation (the opponent is not an individual, but a shape-shifting network run by a system of thought), the problematic issues within the identity of the Islamic community would be brought to the table and supposedly resolved.

To the credit of Pipes’ opposition, such an abstract view of human interaction, especially when fatalities are the consequence, can seem inhumane. He repeatedly minimized the faults of American foreign policy and the consequences it has on people’s lives, both American and otherwise. It was clear from Pipes’ position that his primary directive was American self-interest at whatever cost.

Yet, Pipes was making an attempt at efficient problem solving, where efficiency is measured by American lives lost. It was his belief that the ideology of Islamic identity was the cause of terrorist attacks against America and that similar attacks will be carried out until the anti-American ideology is defeated. The solution he offered was replacing the dominant voice of radical Islam with that of moderate Islam because it was the only solution he believed would dissolve the ideological opposition and thus, Islamist terrorist attacks on the West.

With such a logical statement, clearly delivered, my question is why did the Rochester community respond with accusatory challenges based on prior misconceptions, instead of further investigating the details of his position. Rather than addressing Pipes’ lecture, Rochester addressed the media’s portrayal and categorization of him. If one has issues with his lack of concern for individuals of other nations, especially those of differing politico-economic positions, one addresses such holes in his argument.

So as to provide for a positive alternative, some questions I feel would have better addressed Daniel Pipes’ lecture might have sounded like: “ How do you figure a moderate voice can compete with a radical one for dominance in a dissatisfied culture that is marginalized by the West?” Or, “Since propaganda in Iraq seems to be largely ineffective, as our military presence in that country drags on, how long will an ideological battle between moderate and radical Islam go on, and how many lives will be lost in the meantime? Is this really the fastest solution?” Questions, such as these, challenge the credibility of Pipes’ logic, and demand a response in terms of his argument. By aiming questions at the lecturer’s argument, the audience gains a more thorough presentation of the argument’s detailed workings and, thereby, the political and ethical implications that they carry.

I write this not in support of or in opposition of Daniel Pipes or any other political identity, but in the promotion of the social discussion that is lacking in the lower levels of lackadaisical American “Democracy.” I put the word democracy in quotations because it implies a universal, active participation, Don’t blame “the man,” take it up with your neighbors. Then you all can take it up with him.

Peter Klinkon

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Mike Hackans (left), Blair Brown (center), and Matt Mroz (right) pull the pieces of an old monitor out of the ponds during a swamp cleanup near the UC Apartments on April 22. Thomas Starkweather/REPORTER Magazine

Earth Day Extravaganza

by Monica Donovan

April 22 marked the 35 year anniversary of Earth Day and the culmination of several events hosted by RIT's Student Environmental Action League (SEAL) to promote their causes and spread environmental awareness.

SEAL members manned a table in the SAU throughout the week to promote their annual fundraiser, the sale of white pine saplings. The proceeds went to the club funds, which often go towards trips. "We're trying to organize a canoeing trip for later this spring," said Mike Burkett, a SEAL member and an Environmental Science graduate student. The group also hopes to organize a snowshoeing trip and bring in an outside speaker for next year.

Throughout the week SEAL also held a nature photo contest. They displayed the top ten photo submissions at their table during the week for voting by the general campus. On Friday, they hosted a campus clean up and an Earth Day Forum, in which several RIT faculty and staff spoke.

Jamie Winebrake, Chair of the Public Policy Department, started the forum off by talking about wind and solar energy. The Director of Maintenance and Engineering Services, Tom Horan, took up the reins by discussing a campus energy plan. "We need to have a policy that lets us try new things without worrying about economics," said Horan during the question and answer session. Finally, Roman Press and Dr. Gerald Takacs, head of the Department of Chemistry, spoke about a proposal to bring landfill gas to campus.

Press is a Biological Sciences professor who received over \$70,000 in funding from the NYS Energy Research and Development Authority to research landfill gas utilization at RIT. He received the grant on his first try, which is a difficult feat in research fields. When asked by a young man in the audience whose decision it was to implement environmental solutions like landfill gas, Press pointed out the window of the Idea Factory to the top floor of the Eastman building, drawing laughter from the audience.

SEAL invited the whole campus to help in the clean-up on Friday afternoon. A crowd of students assembled in the SAU at noon on Friday. They covered a wide area, from the sidewalks to the nature trails behind the Student Life Center to the wetlands near the main campus loop in an attempt to do their part to make Mother Nature look a little more beautiful.

Earth Day has a variety of meanings for students across campus. "I suppose I am just more aware of things on Earth Day," said Jessica Wolff, a second year Fine Art Photography student, "I like to think about the issues concerning Earth Day more." Judd Lamphere, a fourth year Biomedical Photography student, expressed criticism of the general attitude towards Earth Day, "I think [Earth Day] is a good idea but no one takes it seriously," he said. At least very few people take it as seriously as SEAL does. •

Student **Financial** Services: Change for Your Dollars

by **Brenna Cameron**

Aside from the sometimes-daunting lines, students are often frustrated by the fact that one trip to the Bursar can mean being directed to several offices around campus (the far-flung Housing Operations and Campus Safety Office, to name a couple).

But that's all about to change.

The Bursar's Office—or rather, the Office Formerly Known as The Bursar—is in the process of a radical makeover that culminates in a name change to the far friendlier “Student Financial Services.” As the name indicates, the aim of Student Financial Services is to offer so-called “one stop-shopping” to take care of student business concerns. Rather than having to trek across campus to take care of a parking ticket or take care of on-campus housing concerns, students will soon be able to do everything with one quick stop at Student Financial Services.

However, the changes do not stop there. Part of this overhaul is an effort to bring the billing process at RIT into the 21st century through widespread and mandatory use of eBilling. Although eBilling is already available, students will now be required to use eBilling to pay for their tuition. According to Mary Beth Nally, director of Student Financial Services, this change may be an adjustment at first, but will eventually prove even more convenient than the current paper billing process. Although students will have to sign on to Student Information Systems and designate up to three people to receive the billing, parents will now be able to access a student's debit and flex accounts anytime to make sure that young Billy has enough money for books. Of course, students can easily disable this option if they wish to keep their financial matters to themselves.

The change that will undoubtedly cause the most consternation among students and their families, is that RIT will no longer allow students to pay for tuition directly with a credit card. According to Nally, the reason for this is that, “Fees for tuition paid using credit cards are costing the Institute over one million dollars every year...why should students not paying with credit cards have to [share the burden]?” Families that still wish to pay with credit cards will be able to use a third-party site (akin to the popular PayPal) that allows tuition to be paid via credit card for 2.55% of the total cost. Although this may seem insignificant, when it is attached to the 2004-2005 tuition cost of \$22,605, the resultant fee is a hefty \$576.43.

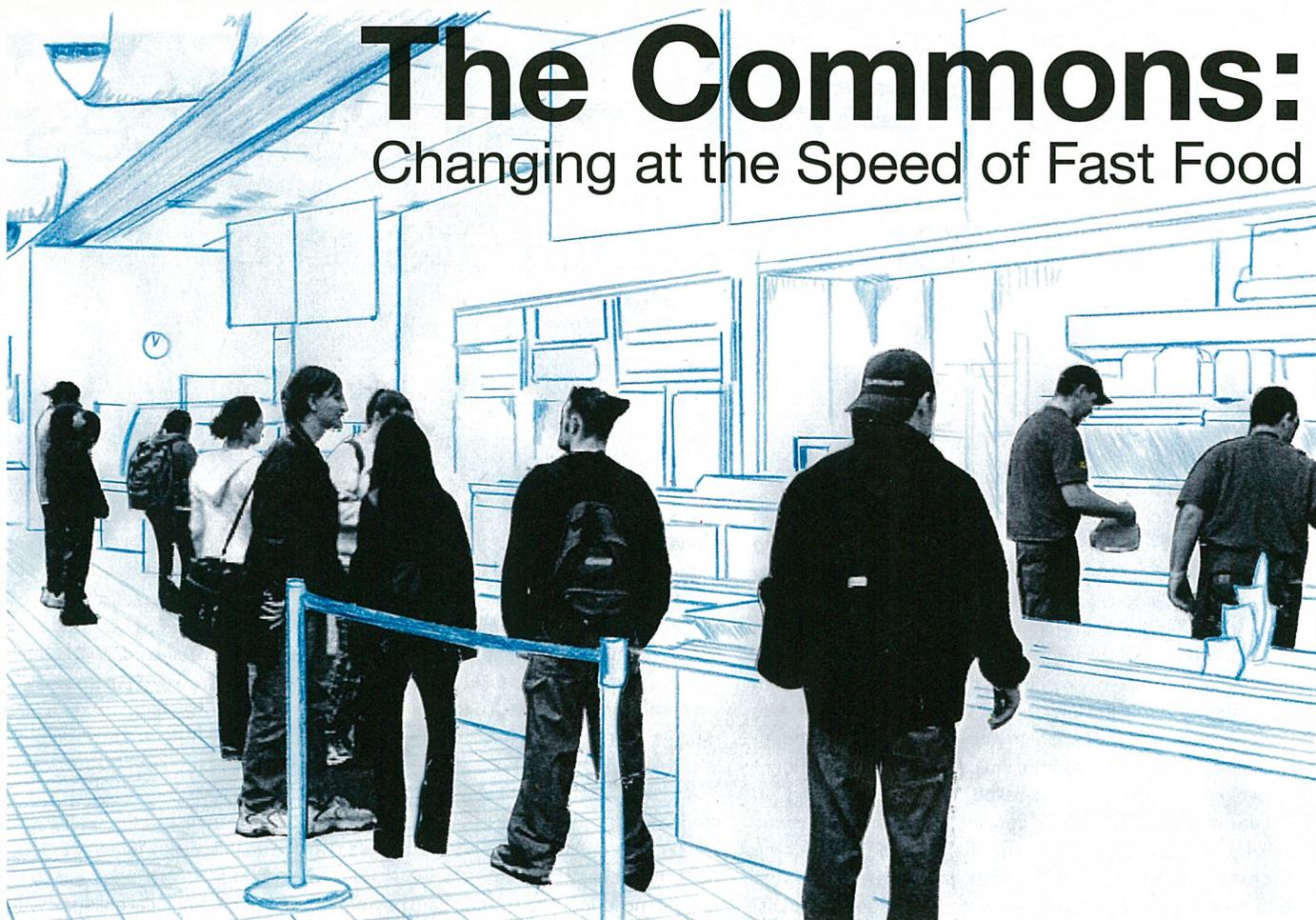
Although the Institute claims that the money saved by not paying for credit card fees will go back into improving the campus, opponents of the new policy will doubtless claim that the fee punishes families unable to pay tuition costs up front. However, the Institute counters by stating that some colleges (Harvard, for one) no longer allow credit card payments at all, and other local colleges with similar policies are using services that charge 3% to 4% of the student's tuition to pay with a credit card. Regardless, students are not happy.

As Steve Miller, a first year Imaging and Photographic Technology major, says, “If someone can't pay for school without a credit card, they won't be able to afford that fee either. At this point, I think it's more important for RIT to encourage students to attend regardless of financial situation than it is for them to make 'campus improvements.'”

There's no doubt that the changes within Student Financial Services will leave some students pleased and others angry. Although the new credit card and eBilling policy may prove a problem for some, others may find themselves pleasantly surprised by the number of things that they will be able to take care of in one stop at the office. •

The change that will undoubtedly cause the most consternation among students and their families, is that RIT will no longer allow students to pay for tuition directly with a credit card.

The Commons: Changing at the Speed of Fast Food



by Casey Dehlinger with Austin McChord

The Commons has boasted the garbage plate on its menu for quite some time. Although found by many to be savory to eat, this concoction isn't the most aesthetically pleasing thing to travel down an esophagus. Someone must feel that the same can be said of the Commons itself, as upcoming renovation plans will completely revamp the dining area. Construction will begin on May 2, forcing Commons aficionados to spend their debit elsewhere. Workers are optimistic that they'll be ready for a light load of summer business starting August 12. The Grind, however, will not reopen at its new first floor location until the 2006/2007 school year.

All of building 55 will be revamped as part of a 20,000 square foot addition. The extra space is meant to provide a little more breathing room for student needs and clubs. In actuality, the Commons will be losing seating, decreasing their capacity of 320 to 220. However, these fewer seats will be nicer, including soft seats placed in various "zones" that will provide different dining environments.

Student opinions vary on this untimely closing, though. Those not on all debit tend to answer much in the same manner as Julio Rivera, who stated, "The Commons is nice, but too expensive for me. You just can't get enough food for a meal option there." For people who eat at the Commons every night its closing has a much larger impact. "Gracie's food has nowhere near the same quality as the Commons. Their burgers are actually cooked rather than thrown onto a grill after untold hours in mystery fluid," said student Ed Wolf.

Whether or not Wolf's burger allegations are correct or not, his opinion is shared by many students who are being encouraged to eat at Gracie's after the Commons closes up. To account for the anticipated rush and dissatisfaction, Gracie's is remaining open for an extra hour every night and lowering its prices for all-debit students to \$5.40, \$6.75, and \$7.75 for breakfast, lunch, and

dinner, respectively. This could work well for next fall after the summer renovation of Gracie's, which includes the addition of a new coffee house.

Students are also encouraged to purchase their vittles in the subterranean Sol's and Corner Store. However, if a student wants an allotted place to sit and eat their meal on the residential side of campus, Gracie's will be their only option.

Another current issue for the on-campus eaters pertains to hours of operation. Those who enjoy sitting down to a dinner after sundown are forced to Sol's and the Corner Store due to early closing times of the Commons and Gracie's. Upon reopening, the Commons will be open until midnight every night and open at 11:30 a.m. on weekdays and 1:30 p.m. on weekends.

Hours aside, students may be deprived of the best pasta toss east of the infinity sign, but the revamped Commons will feature a grill, pizza oven, pasta bar, soup and salad and fruit bar, and a Quiznos that will be more than happy to accept debit or Tiger Bucks. There have even been talks of a pizza and sub dorm delivery service for those who find the commute to be an annoyance.

For all those who are financially concerned, food prices at the Commons will not spike to fund the undertaking. And, although students may be forced to brave other food options for the time being, even Wolf admits that he's looking forward to the upcoming renovations, which many students are hoping will be well worth the untimely closing. •

CrimeWatch

compiled by Andrew Bigelow

April 12

Burglary – Ellingson Hall

An unknown person entered a student's unlocked dorm room and stole the student's laptop computer and mouse while he was asleep. The investigation continues.

April 15

Criminal Mischief – Colony Manor

An officer noticed damage to a soda machine in the Colony laundry room. The investigation is closed pending new information.

Alcohol Policy Violation – Colby D

An RA reported seeing a bottle of whiskey in a dorm room. Campus Safety was called in to confiscate the alcohol. While in the room, officers saw road signs on the walls and confiscated those, as well. The resident was referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

April 16

Criminal Mischief – RIT Inn

A staff member reported finding several interior and exterior lights ripped off of walls. A canvas of the area failed to locate any suspects. The investigation is closed pending new information.

April 17

Possession of Stolen Property – NRH

A Resnet staff member reported that a student brought in a laptop for repairs. A check of the system revealed that its wireless card matched registration for a Campus Safety laptop. The computer was confiscated and the investigation continues.

April 18

Petit Larceny – Ice Rink

A Trek bike was stolen from the men's locker room while its owner was on the ice. FMS and coaches were asked if they saw anything suspicious; they said that they had not. The investigation is closed pending new information.

Student Policy Violation – Ellingson Hall

A Campus Safety Officer found dangerous chemicals in a dorm room. The chemicals were turned over to the Monroe County Sheriff when they arrived to arrest the two students suspected of acquiring the chemicals.

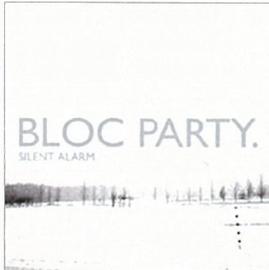
RITForecast

compiled by Casey Dehlinger

Friday	<p>Toll Booth: All day. 1/4 Mile. PKT supports Paul Newman charity.</p> <p>"An Engineer's Journey into Biology:" 4 p.m. lecture. Xerox Aud.</p> <p>Spring Carnival: 6 p.m. – 1:30 a.m. D Lot.</p> <p>Dodgeball: College Democrats vs. Republicans: 6 to 7p.m. SLC.</p> <p>Spring Fever Party: 8 p.m. – 1 a.m. Commons/Ellingson Quad.</p> <p>Movie: The Goonies: 10 p.m. Greek Lawn, if wet, G. Field House.</p>
29 APRIL	
Saturday	<p>RIT Campus Parade: 4 p.m. Start: M Lot. Finish: L Lot.</p> <p>MacRIT Springfest: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Gracie's Lobby. Unreal 4 vs. 4 Capture the Flag Tournament.</p> <p>Karen's Walk: 11 a.m. behind Gracie's. Cardiomyopathy fundraiser.</p> <p>BACC/RHA Annual BBQ: 11 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Behind Gracie's.</p> <p>Spring Festival: 2 p.m. – 6 p.m. Henrietta Hots in the Administration Circle, Inflatables in the Clark Gym, bands outside of the SAU, a Watermelon Toss next to K Lot, and Psychics in the Fireside Lounge.</p> <p>Spring Carnival: 6 p.m. – 1:30 a.m. D Lot. More rides and food.</p> <p>Creative Outlet: 3 p.m. – 5 p.m. Ingle Auditorium. Dance show.</p> <p>Asian Culture Society Spring Luau: 4 p.m. to 2 a.m. Greek Lawn.</p> <p>Ludacris: 8 p.m. Gordon Fieldhouse. Reporter does not condone the scalping of tickets.</p>
30 APRIL	
Sunday	<p>Rollerblade to Geneseo: 9 a.m. SAU Lobby. \$15 Registration Fee. Sponsored by Delta Phi Epsilon.</p> <p>Tsunami Race After Party: noon to 4 p.m. Gracie's Lobby/field behind Gracie's. \$5. Food, inflatable games, and music.</p> <p>RIT Concert Band and Jazz Ensemble: 3 p.m. Ingle Auditorium. Jonathan Kruger conducts (the band; not electricity).</p>
1 MAY	
Monday	<p>Pool-a-thon: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Breezeway. Through Wednesday, throw spare change into the wading pool.</p> <p>International Students Cultural Discussions: Noon to 1 p.m. Fireside Lounge. The word on job opportunities and regulations.</p> <p>Race Day: 6 p.m. – 11 p.m. SAU Cafeteria. For racers and enthusiasts of remote control cars.</p>
2 MAY	
Tuesday	<p>PB JAM: 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. SAU Lobby. Sandwiches for the homeless.</p> <p>Lecture by Howard Wolf: 1 – 3 p.m. SAU Clark C. Listen to the acclaimed author/professor.</p> <p>Lecture by Dr. Carol Christian: 4 p.m. Building 76 Room 1125. A lecture on the public impact of scientific images.</p> <p>French Conversation Hour: 6:30 – 8 p.m. Java Wally's.</p>
3 MAY	
Wednesday	<p>Faculty and Staff Craft Sale: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. SAU Lobby.</p> <p>Pediatric AIDS Fundraiser: 9 a.m. – 8 p.m. Infinity Loop. Through Friday, donuts, cider, pizza, wings, and pies in faces are all promised.</p> <p>Lecture by Bill Truran: Noon. Bausch and Lomb Center room A190.</p> <p>Eisenhart Celebration of Teaching: 5 p.m. – 9 p.m. SAU Cafeteria.</p> <p>Concert: Bach to Bop and Back: 8 p.m. Ingle Auditorium.</p>
4 MAY	
Thursday	<p>"Magazines for Women:" All day conference. Ingle Auditorium.</p> <p>SAE Mini-Baja East: All day. Gordon Fieldhouse.</p> <p>28th Annual Juggle-In: 5 p.m. – 11 p.m. Clark Gym.</p> <p>Ugly Pageant: 6 p.m. LBJ room 2590. \$5. Sponsored by ΣΣΣ.</p> <p>Spanish Conversation Hour: 6:30 – 8 p.m. Java Wally's.</p> <p>ResLife Tunnel Olympics: 8 p.m. – 12 a.m. Dorm Tunnels.</p>
5 MAY	



In Case You Missed This.



by Patrick Kelley

Bloc Party's first full-length album, *Silent Alarm*, is a CD that will light you up and pound you through the floor. If you do own it, you are probably listening to it; if you don't own it, you should. This is certainly the best album I have heard this year—possibly not the most thought provoking, and it may not possess the most depth, but the music is animated. It is concise and tidy, and it can make you feel like you are taking a shower. You will be wrapped up in its speed and it will possess you to do things you have never done before. Most of all, it may remind you that you are alive.

Young kids from Britain these days certainly seem to know what they are doing. Right from the opening track, "Like Eating Glass," the speakers seem to tell me I am inexperienced in the world. Kele Okereke, vocals, is incredibly willing to inform me how cold his house is and how he can't eat, sleep, or dream. And I am right there with him, pounding walls or floorboards. I want to tell him that my house is cold too, but then I remember I really am just listening to an album and I feel a little crazy. I can't remember being pulled into any sound faster.

It is actually impossible to listen to *Silent Alarm* while sitting entirely still. While this may in fact be attainable, I have yet to meet a person who can prove me wrong. They even keep the speed pushing through their slowest, but possibly best, track "The Bluest Light": "And you didn't even notice / When the sky turned blue / And you couldn't tell the difference / Between me and you." The lyrics are often blunt, but shouted with such an urgency that every word pushes into the next.

With a band so young and already so strong, I just want to watch them get better and better until they become SuperBand and take over the world. So go find this album and listen to it a few thousand times, preferably until the point where when you turn it off and still hear it. Caffeine never had a rival so strong.

Rating: ★★★



"Hello, and welcome to *The Everglow* by Mae. You are now listening to the audio portion of the album. To complete your experience, please open the booklet that accompanies the compact disc. Good, you are now ready to experience *The Everglow*. You'll know it's time to turn the page when you hear this sound: [different sounds from the album at once] Thank you, and enjoy your journey."

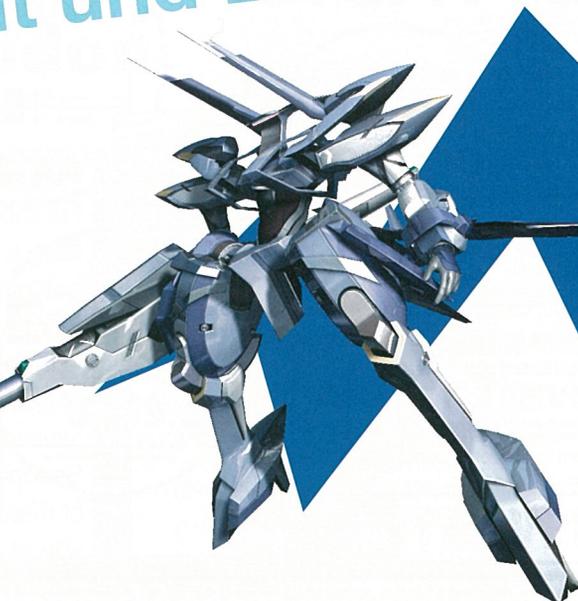
If you make a CD with the above lyrics as the first track, I will be confused as to whether you are making music or a children's book. After reading those words and listening to their indie-rock melodies and shouted sing-song lyrics, I am still not really sure which they wanted. I suppose it is one of those new-fangled concept albums that seem to be all the rage, but the sound itself does not really depart from their debut, *Destination:Beautiful*. It is the content that has refocused itself.

For those of you who might not have the booklet in front of you while listening to the album (ahem, RIAA), let me tell you about it. You are following the journey of a little boy (see cover), across hills, oceans, and forests, trying to find color. Then boy meets girl and starts to find color. Later boy comes to crossroads, where he discovers said "Everglow." The lyrics often go childish and overboard, but then again, they represent a fairytale. "Hey, / The world is ending, Don't you even know? / Well how did evolution get so slow? / The grass don't even grow," begins "Cover Me," a song about asking for protection and taking a relationship a step further. Importantly, each track's lyrics are presented on a separate page with whimsical artwork that completes the image of the children's tale.

In the end, I don't care whether it is a book or an album. They tell me it is a journey of love and of a boy striving for happiness, but I think it may just be a cover-up for refined emo-pop at its best. •

Rating: ★★★☆

Xenosaga II: Jenseits von Gut und Böse



by Elliot Jenner

Mention *Xenosaga* to any video game fan, and the immediate reaction will be nostalgia. Generally hailed as one of the best role playing games (RPGs) in recent memory, *Xenosaga: Der Wille zur Macht* was devoured by fans, for both excellent gameplay and enthralling story. The first of an ambitious six-game story arc, it answered many questions and posed even more. Its sequel was eagerly anticipated by fans.

Xenosaga II: Jenseits von Gut und Böse is an excellent game, one of the best to come out since its predecessor. Even so, it simply does not live up to the standard set by *Xenosaga 1*. Several questionable or downright bad decisions keep it from being a classic.

The story remains excellent, and picks up right where *Xenosaga 1* left off. It should be noted that only the most cursory of attempts were made to enlighten a new player of the story; it is really necessary to have played *XenoSaga 1* first. Though the story is as compelling as it was in the first game, there are some sections in which cut-scene based fast-forwards are used, with a narrator filling in details. The fast-forwarding lends a slightly disjointed feel to the action at times. These jumps sometimes cover major plot twists, and one can't help but wonder why there isn't more involvement of these events.

On the flip side, there are also some places where it is unnecessary to give control back to the player; the player shouldn't have to walk into the room next door to continue the cutscene; it's disorienting. One severely disappointing design decision is the subtitling of the whole game EXCEPT the most important cinemas; the deaf or hard-of-hearing are out of luck here.

Overall, the battle system is excellent. A lack of random battles, prevalent in some RPGs makes puzzles less confusing, and encourages exploration, which you will do a lot of. Combat in *Xenosaga II* is hard, and battles tend to be long, even against normal enemies. Once battle begins, it is immediately obvious that the system is designed for strategy. Simply beating on opponents will get you killed. It is often necessary to "stock" many actions in order to effectively battle enemies. Magic is useful, but the number of spells available quickly overloads the menu screen, and since there is no battle memory feature, there is a lot of scrolling down to find the spell you want to cast. Combo attacks are available, but they are well hidden and generally difficult to utilize.

Unfortunately, character development has taken a major hit—all of the characters draw from a common pool of abilities. The only thing to distinguish them is their stats and individual attack styles. This lack of individuality is exacerbated by the decision to forego both equipment and money. The only way to acquire items is from chests and battles. The much touted mecha-battles are also a disappointment; you won't even use them, except in the opening tutorial, until the second disk.

The updated graphics are superb. The redesigns of most of the characters work well, although Momo is the unfortunate victim of a bad makeover. Those concerned about the changes being jarring need not worry; all the costume changes happen in the story. Although most fans would have preferred for the voices to remain unchanged, the new voices are not bad; the exception, once again, is Momo. Her voice is too high pitched, and you will come to dread using her magic in combat, for fear of the invocation.

The side quests are the worst part of the game. Many of them are just running back and forth talking to people. Some are very obscure, too; the strategy guide is almost necessary to figure them out. The worst part is that you really need to do all of them, a task that will probably consume a good 4-6 hours of game time in itself. Most of the more powerful, useful, and necessary skills and items are obtained through side quests, including almost all of the combo attacks.

Overall, *Xenosaga II* is worth the time and effort. While we can hope that *Xenosaga III* will be better, it is not a complete disappointment. If you are looking for a good RPG, then *Xenosaga II: Jenseits von Gut und Böse* is a good place to go. •

Rating: ★★★☆

AT YOUR LEISURE } Things Stuff, and People too...

STREAM* OF FACTS:

April 29

On **April 29**, Greenery Day is a holiday for Japanese citizens. It is a day to commune with nature. Before 1989, it was the birthday of the Showa Emperor. With the ascension of the current emperor in 1989, the name was changed.

Ludwig van Beethoven's *Piano Concerto No. 5 in E flat major, Op. 73*, known as *The Emperor*, was his last concerto for piano. It was written in 1809. The title of *Emperor* is not Beethoven's own, just like *Moonlight Sonata*.

Moonlight is light that is perceived as coming from the moon, although it is in fact sunlight reflected from the moon. One cannot read books or discern **colors** solely under moonlight.

In quantum chromodynamics, **color** or color charge refers figuratively to a certain property of quarks. It can attain the three values: red, green and blue. Color charge is not related to electromagnetic **radiation** or human color perception in any way.

Adaptive **radiation** describes the rapid **evolution** of a single or a few species to fill many ecological niches. For example, the Darwin's finches on the Galapagos islands developed from a single species of finches that reached the islands.

The late **Pope John Paul II** is quoted as having said: "New findings lead us toward the recognition of **evolution** as more than a hypothesis...The convergence in the results of these independent studies—which was neither planned nor sought—constitutes in itself a significant argument in favor of the theory."

In 1937, the family of Joseph Ratzinger (now **Pope Benedict XVI**) moved to Traunstein, a Catholic town in Bavaria. He joined the **Hitler** Youth at age 14, shortly after membership was made compulsory in 1941.

Adolf **Hitler** married his long-time partner Eva Braun in a Berlin bunker and designated Admiral Karl Dönitz as his successor on **April 29**, 1945, the day before he died.

QUOTE*

"Beyond the mountains, there are mountains again."

-Haitian proverb

theHAIKU* by Brian Garrison

It's not a red dwarf
But it is rather smallish
A haiku is born

RANDOMREVIEW*

For those of you who have the urge to cook something out of the ordinary and have a taste for meat, Skip's Meat Market is, for my money, the best nearby butcher. Located in a suburban plaza on 15A near the DMV, Skip's Meat Market outscores Wegmans in a couple crucial categories. First, the selection is far better. We were looking for ribs, which we found, but they had all manner of fresh and frozen cuts of beef, pork, and chicken, as well as homemade sausages, bacon, and even less common critters such as lamb and rabbit. Secondly, the staff was very helpful and told us that if we want a special cut of meat or something less common, say a whole pig, all we have to do is call ahead and give them a few days. Finally, it's nice to be in a specialty shop where no one is rushing you, and the service really does come with a smile.

REPORTER* RECOMMENDS:

Not buying pomegranate juice. Seriously, that stuff is gross, and come on, how do you get juice out of a pomegranate?? Besides, it's like 3 bucks for a little bottle. Just trust me on this one.

PLAYLIST: * Hey, it's almost May:

Say Anything – Admit It
Stay Gold – City Limits
Bay City Rollers – Saturday Night
Slayer – Raining Blood
Sugar Ray – Fly
Green Day – St. Jimmi
Ray Charles – Mess Around
Andre 3000 – Roses



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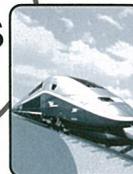
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GREEK PERCEPTIONS at RIT

by Monica Donovan

RIT being a technical university, it should come as no surprise to the average student that Greek life plays a far smaller part in campus life than at state or non-technical private universities. The 17 fraternities and 8 sororities make up just under three percent of the campus population. Here's the shocker, though: some other technical universities, such as the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, boast Greek membership among as much as thirty percent of their populations. So why is RIT's Greek population so abysmally small?

Pavel "Red" Nayer the oldest brother of Phi Delta Theta plays pool in the basement of his on campus fraternity house.
Kim Weiselberg/REPORTER Magazine.



Out of Sync

One major aspect that makes RIT stand out from the rest of the nation's Greeks is its quarterly system. Most fraternity and sorority recruiting at colleges is based on periods of formal and informal recruitment, which RIT Greeks are forced to modify because of the ten-week limits. Instead of the normal two or three weeks of formal fall recruitment, which is the most crucial to getting new members, each Greek organization here has a scant week and a half to complete the same process.

Another issue, says Katie Giebel, former President of the College Pan-Hellenic Council and a current candidate in the Student Government elections, is that this is a technical school. "There's an anti-Greek feeling on campus which doesn't help the overall community grow," she said. Oddly enough, she also says that the RIT Greek community differs largely from the rest of the nation's sororities and fraternities. Giebel recognizes the general stereotype perpetuated everywhere: Greeks party, get poor grades, and cause trouble. "In general, the Greek attitude is different [here] than on other campuses," she said. "Within any group you may have one or two people, but they are not the majority."

A Stereotype Perpetuated

Not everyone is comfortably settled in on Greek Row. Sigma Pi's charter was taken away in the fall of 2002 for breaking their probation. They are now looking to come back to RIT. "It's turned into more of a social club... We're really good friends," said Justin Drew, a fourth year Applied Networking and Systems Administration major. Drew pledged in the spring of his freshman year and has been with Sigma Pi ever since. Drew noted that his friendships are not limited to the rest of his fraternity. "When you join a fraternity you join a social network," he said. "I'm still friends with a lot of different guys and Greeks." He also pointed out that RIT Greeks are typically a far cry from Greeks at other universities, a sentiment shared by Giebel. "[We] are just people that like to be social," he said. "It's mostly jocks and a more distinct group of people at other schools."

There are a few groups looking to add to the Greek community. The Doves, a club consisting of mostly deaf members, hopes to become a sorority after a rigorous application process. "We want to add more diversity to the choices of sororities," said Sarah



Hallway of Phi Delta Theta display the paddles of new recruited pledges from every year.

Kim Weiselberg/REPORTER Magazine

Gordon, a Doves member and a second year Photojournalism major. She noted that there are only two deaf sororities, one local and one national, available to deaf RIT students. The Doves currently has one hearing member and frequent hearing attendees at meetings. The club provides voice interpreters and encourages hearing women to join. "We want a third choice for the RIT Greek community as well," said Gordon. Tau Epsilon Pi, in the meanwhile, is looking to gain recognition from the Greek Council after having their charter taken away several years ago.

The Rest of Us

Opinions of Greek life at RIT seem to be severely divided, running the gamut from scornful to ambiguous to optimistic and beyond." When compared to fraternities at other comparable universities, the fraternities of RIT are less like Animal House and more like a junior high drama club bake sale," said Josh Pierce, a fourth year New Media major. Gina Lorusso, a third year Social Work major, on the other hand, believes that Greeks, while not for everyone, are largely beneficial to the campus. "I know they do a lot of community service," she said. "In a way, they make the campus feel more like a community than it would without them."

Louis Horton, an Information Technology major in his third year, has gained an unusual perspective on Greek life. He helped get

the True Gentleman's Club (TGC) off the ground and running. Today, it has become a full-fledged Greek organization, Sigma Alpha Epsilon (SAE). Horton, however, is not a current member. "I was pretty dissatisfied with some of the ways TGC was working," he said. "They regulated what you did. One or two guys told people what to do and if you didn't do it you weren't part of the group." Now, however, Horton is seeing a change in TGC since its transition and is "testing the waters," neither a pledge nor a member, but still partially involved. "It's more of a deliberative body now," he said. "I would judge each [Greek organization] on a case by case basis. Some have a strongly negative effect and some are really positive."

One fifth year student, who preferred to remain anonymous, feels that, despite the positive impacts of community service, there are some serious imbalances in RIT's student organizations. "We've had a Greek President and Vice-President [in Student Government] for a long time," he said, pointing out that the recent elections are no exception. "There is a power shift and they have a huge voice... they have all the Greek life backing them up, and the previous experience of the people who've run before them." He noted that he has sometimes voted for Greek candidates in elections because he agreed with their stances on issues. He argues, however, that the connections that Greeks have are an unfair

advantage over those who are not Greek-affiliated. "People [without it] don't have that voice on campus," he said.

J.S. Ost, a third year Professional and Technical Communications major, doesn't think Greeks have much presence at all at RIT. "[Greek Life] doesn't do much because it's not that publicized," she said. "No one really talks about it and it's under the current most of the time."

Small Steps

Last fall saw a considerable effort by RIT Greeks to connect with the rest of the campus at the beginning of the year. Club Day has traditionally been on the Sunday before school begins, after all the freshmen move in. Gracie's offers free food for all and the various clubs set up informational tables outside for student perusal. "It wasn't working," said Giebel, noting that students would eat the free food and usually return straight to their dorms. She came up with the idea of adding large inflatables, a band, games, raffle tickets, and prizes to Club Day, turning the event from a lukewarm annual ritual into a mini-carnival hosted by the Greeks. "We took it and ran with it," she said. The event was a success, and a few lucky students took a camera, a TV and other raffle winnings back to their dorms with them. "It's cool that we started something that will be a yearly event," said Giebel.

Looking to the Future

After an intensive self-study conducted by Greek Affairs last year, Jessica Berner, Assistant Director of Greek Affairs, and others helped to develop the Greek Strategic Plan. Berner called the plan, which starts in the fall of 2006, a "renewed commitment" for the Greek community. A few aspects of the plan include a retreat for leaders, a program to help ease new members into the Greek community, and quarterly meetings to review the progress of the entire plan. "Jessica has some great plans for the future," said Giebel of the recently developed ambitions. The strategy, however, does not address the major issue of low recruitment rates. However, Berner said, "[We] are very well aware that recruitment has not been what it could be." She indicated that the Greek Council and governing council are "looking at ways to improve the process by developing a marketing and advertising campaign." The impacts of the campaign and the plan remain to be seen. •

FACTS

- ▶ Greek members have significantly higher retention rates than non-Greek college students. A recent two-year study by the University of Missouri showed that Greek membership not only caused members to rate their college social experience on a higher scale and participate more fully in activities on campus, it also increased retention by 28%. Perhaps Greek recruitment could be considered when looking into RIT's own retention rates, particularly in areas like Computer Science, which loses an average 30% of freshmen every year.
- ▶ The seesaw, tents, and collection buckets you see scattered on the quarter mile throughout the year are part of the philanthropy of various fraternities and sororities. These activities raise thousands yearly for various charities, and Greeks provide more than 50% of the community service at RIT.
- ▶ 24 presidents and 17 vice-presidents were fraternity members. 85% of Fortune 500 executives are Greek, and 76% of Congress and Senate members belong to a fraternity or sorority. A very partial list of famous fraternity men and sorority women:
 Neil Armstrong, astronaut and author
 Dinah Shore, actress
 Dr. Benjamin Spock, pediatrician
 Georgia O'Keefe, artist
 Harrison Ford, actor
 Goldie Hawn, actress
 Steven Spielberg, director



(From left) Mary St. Laurent and Erin McFadden, members of Zeta Tau Alpha, make ribbons for Think Pink week. Kim Weiselberg/REPORTER Magazine

STATS

	% Males on Campus	# of Fraternities	% Females on Campus	# of Sororities	% Students involved in Greek Life
Carnegie Mellon University	60	13	40	4	17
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	57	28	43	5	30
New Jersey Institute of Technology	80	17	20	5	6
Rensselaer Institute of Technology	76	28	24	4	info unavailable
Rochester Institute of Technology	69	17	31	8	3
Stevens Institute of Technology	78	10	22	3	33
Virginia Tech	59	30	41	13	info unavailable
Worcester Polytechnic Institute	76	11	24	2	32

ACADEMIC FRATERNITIES: Not the oxymoron it sounds like.



by Brenna Cammeron | illustration by Bill Robinson

Okay, so maybe RIT isn't exactly a frat-oriented campus. We don't allow alcohol in the dorms. The famed "Girls Gone Wild" are pretty much non-existent. We're more likely to spend the night in the labs than in some frenzied pledging ritual. So what does a guy or girl in need of a social scene but still dedicated to schoolwork do? The answer for some is simple: academic fraternities.

It may sound like an oxymoron at first, but academic fraternities make up a growing segment of student groups at RIT. Like a traditional fraternity, academic or professional fraternities offer social activities, community service, and camaraderie. Unlike a traditional fraternity, the groups are formed not on the basis of an interest in Greek life but dedication to a specific academic pursuit. Given the average RIT student's commitment to schoolwork, it's not surprising there are an abundance of academic fraternities on campus.

Alpha Chi Sigma

You can say they've got chemistry. You can say they've formed close bonds. But bad jokes aside, Alpha Chi Sigma is a remarkably close-knit group of young men and women brought together by a common desire to expand their academic horizons through the study of chemistry. With 88 chapters nationwide and over 56,000 members, the RIT division of

Alpha Chi Sigma—the Beta Sigma chapter—is only a small part of a vast network of chemistry-minded individuals that have discovered the academic and social perks of being part of this particular academic fraternity.

Although chemistry certainly isn't the largest major at RIT, Alpha Chi Sigma is constantly working to be one of the more active academic fraternities on campus. The fraternity strives to provide a general mixture of both academic and social events. Members of Alpha Chi Sigma offer informal tutoring to non-members and help each other out with assignments; since most members of Alpha Chi Sigma are in similar classes, it's only natural that they also help each other out with what can often be a very rigorous workload. It is, however, important to point out that members of Alpha Chi Sigma aren't necessarily chemistry majors. As Matt Gawryla, president (or "master alchemist") of Alpha Chi Sigma says, "Chemistry's not a very big major, but there's still a lot of people interested...no matter what kind of science you're studying, there's always some sort of chemistry involved."

But Alpha Chi Sigma isn't only about academics; the fraternity participates in a lot of traditional fraternity activities, too. From trips to the Rochester Science Museum to get kids interested in chemistry by making slime to more traditional activities such as benefit walks, community service is a major part of Alpha Chi Sigma's events calendar.

If you haven't heard too much about Alpha Chi Sigma, don't beat yourself up over it. Gawryla says he likes it that way. "A lot of people don't even know we exist, because we're not out there on the quarter mile [creating visibility]...we kind of want people to be interested in us." Many members of academic fraternities such as Alpha Chi Sigma see themselves as dedicated to a special breed of student. As Gawryla says, "I think we're for a slightly different group of people. With an academic fraternity, we still do the same community service... we still get together and have a good time, but we're just not as high profile as the Greeks."

Gamma Epsilon Tau

Let's play word association. Printing fraternity.

Chances are, you didn't come up with "Giant pig roast with unlimited food, drinks, live music, games, and prizes, all set in a picturesque park conveniently located only a few minutes from RIT." But that's what Gamma Epsilon Tau is focusing on these days. Like many other academic fraternities, Gamma Epsilon Tau works hard to achieve a careful blend of academic dedication, community involvement, and social interaction. Right now, members are focusing on the social aspects of the fraternity. As the year winds down, Gamma Epsilon Tau is looking forward to its annual pig roast, which draws alumni from across the nation back to Rochester.

But savory pork isn't the only thing that makes Gamma Epsilon Tau special. The fraternity, which is one of eight chapters nationwide, is open to new media design, new media publishing, new media IT, photography, and graphic media majors. The range of talent found within these different majors allows for great opportunities in networking and a sharing of talents that might otherwise not be found. According to Jill Gardner, president of Gamma Epsilon Tau and a third year New Media design major, "In my major, we only learn about design, and just a little bit about the output...but being involved in Gamma Epsilon has broadened my horizons so very much."

Gamma Epsilon Tau is involved with several activities around campus. Most notably, the fraternity is responsible for making a calendar incorporating the artwork of kids from Margaret's House. Gamma Epsilon Tau has also just recently started work on a book detailing the history of the fraternity since its' founding at RIT in 1955.

When asked whether academic fraternities such as Gamma Epsilon Tau had enough visibility, Gardner seemed to think that a little more attention could be in order. As Gardner puts it, "We're all here at RIT for one purpose: to learn. It's all about schoolwork first, everything else next. That's what Gamma Epsilon Tau does...it makes you learn to multi-task and helps you in the professional world. Isn't that what college should be about, anyways?" •

TROUBLE FINDING YOUR NICHE?

Haven't heard about an academic fraternity for your major? That doesn't necessarily mean that there isn't one. Alpha Chi Sigma and Gamma Epsilon Tau are only the tip of the iceberg when it comes to academic fraternities on campus. From Tau Beta Pi (the engineering fraternity) to Lambda Pi Eta (the communications fraternity), almost every academic department at RIT has some sort of fraternity affiliation.

For those who find themselves without an academic fraternity to call their own, or want a fraternity that incorporates students from a variety of majors, Phi Sigma Pi might be the answer. Phi Sigma Pi is an honors fraternity open to students campus-wide with a GPA of 3.0 or higher. With about 50 active members, the fraternity operates on what president Josh Baker defines as "scholarship, leadership, and fellowship." Phi Sigma Pi hosts a variety of social and community events throughout the academic year, with the upcoming Karen's Walk benefit being one of the highlights of spring quarter.

WORD on the Street

compiled and photographed by Jodi Goldenberg

Q: If you could change one thing about the Greek community at RIT what would it be?



"I want the Greek community to be more accepted by other students on campus."

Ashley Hennigan

Fine Art
Second Year



"I would want all the chapters of sororities and fraternities to work more together as a collaborative unit."

Candida Allen

Imaging Science
Third Year



"Take the frat and sororities out of the dorms, more room for them and incoming freshman."

Eric Steiner

Graphic Media
Third Year



"I would like them to have parties with girls at them."

Laren Olson

Mechanical Engineering
Fourth Year



"More interaction between Greek and Non-Greek, right now it seems so segregated!"

Erin Snyder

New Media Design
Second Year



"Better parties."

Giuseppe Pettinari

Marketing
First Year



"More free barbecues."

Jeff Clarkson

Micro Electronic Engineering
Second Year Grad



"They aren't very open to people outside their own circle."

Miatta Nyanforth

Biotech
Fourth Year



"Get rid of the Greek community, at least there would be more freshman lodging."

Travis Rodgers

Mechanical Engineering
Fifth Year



"They should not suck. All [they] are is a bunch of frats, you join them just to meet more guys."

Steve Melocco

Accounting
First Year



"The housing issue, the chapters are in different areas of campus, it would be much more beneficial if they would come together, like an actual community."

Kara Bush

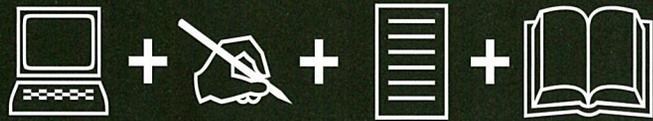
Graphic Design
Fourth Year



"I don't even know what frats and sororities there are, isn't the point to be more involved in the community and have activities open for the public?"

Erin Canfield

Mechanical Engineering
Fifth year



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deep dish extra

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Buffalo Chicken Kickers



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

SPORTSdesk

by José Plaza

Baseball

April 16 The Tigers had their perfect Empire 8 record snapped in their double-header versus Ithaca College.

Game 1

Score by Inning (RIT-Ithaca)

First: 1-1, Second: 1-4, Third: 1-4, Fourth: 3-5, Fifth: 3-7, Sixth: 3-9, Seventh: 3-9

Final Score: L 3-9

Game 2

Score by Inning (RIT-Ithaca)

First: 0-0, Second: 0-7, Third: 0-7, Fourth: 0-8, Fifth: 1-11, Sixth: 2-11, Seventh: 2-11

Final Score: L 2-11

April 17 RIT traveled to Schenectady to play Union College and was defeated 3-6.

Score by Inning (RIT-Union)

First: 0-0, Second: 1-0, Third: 1-0, Fourth: 1-2, Fifth: 2-3, Sixth: 2-3, Seventh: 2-6, Eighth: 3-6, Ninth: 3-6

Final Score: L 3-6

April 20 RIT and cross-town rival U of R combined for 17 runs in the game, but RIT got the lower share of the runs produced. University of Rochester defeated RIT 10-7.

Score by Inning (RIT-U of R)

First: 0-3, Second: 4-5, Third: 4-7, Fourth: 4-10, Fifth: 5-10, Sixth: 7-10, Seventh: 7-10

Final Score: L 7-10

April 22 RIT split a pair of games versus St. John Fisher, winning the first game and losing the second, despite the home field advantage.

Game 1

Score by Inning (RIT-Fisher)

First: 0-0, Second: 0-0, Third: 0-0, Fourth: 2-0, Fifth: 2-1, Sixth: 4-1, Seventh: 4-3

Final Score: W 4-3

Game 2

Score by Inning (RIT-Fisher)

First: 2-2, Second: 2-8, Third: 4-12, Fourth: 4-18, Fifth: 4-18, Sixth: 4-19, Seventh: 4-20

Final Score: L 4-20

Record through April 22: 12-9 Overall, 4-3 Empire 8

Men's Crew

April 17 RIT competed against RPI, WPI, and Tufts on Lake Quinsigamond in Worcester, MA. The Tigers put up an impressive showing, capturing the Varsity Eight category (6:15.7) by more than six seconds over Tufts as well as the Varsity Four category (7:04.81) by a narrow 0:00.61 over WPI. RIT also placed second in both the Second Varsity Eight (6:34.41), and Frosh/Novice Eight (6:44.84).

Women's Crew

April 17 The Lady Tigers traveled to Worcester, MA to compete against RPI, WPI, Tufts, and William Smith. RIT ended up winning two out of the three events they participated in, winning both the Varsity Four (7:56.70), and Novice Four (8:21.60) races. RIT placed third in the Varsity Eight race about four seconds behind the lead boat, with a time of 7:07.66.

Men's Lacrosse

April 16 RIT turned in their strongest performance yet this season against number two Nazareth College. They out-hustled Nazareth, scoring fifteen goals in the 15-10 win.

Final Score: W 15-10

RIT Goals: David Thering (3), Andrew Ruocco (3), Colin Jesien (2), Stephen Papa (2), Brandon Wilkin (1), Dan Jernick (1), Zach Bednarz (1), Joe Argese (1), Wes Adam (1)

April 19 The RIT Tigers and Utica Pioneers put on a great offensive show for the Utica crowd. RIT held off the explosive Utica offensive, winning 19-14.

Final Score: W 19-14

RIT Goals: Andrew Ruocco (7), Stephen Papa (3), Zach Bednarz (2), Brandon Wilkin (2), Colin Jesien (1), Jacob Cannan (1), Joe Argese (1), David Thering (1).

Record through April 22: 7-5 Overall, 5-1 Empire 8

Women's Lacrosse

April 16 The Lady Tigers started off the game in the lead, but were unable to hold on, eventually losing to St. John Fisher by five goals.

Final Score: L 10-15

RIT Goals: Lisette Silver (3), Pinckney Templeton (3), Amanda Crozier (2), Becky Jaiven (1), Kaley Ostanek (1)

April 18 The women's lacrosse team suffered a close loss against SUNY Fredonia, despite a strong offensive show which produced 14 goals for the Lady Tigers.

Final Score: L 14-17

RIT Goals: Not Available

Record through April 22: 0-10 Overall, 0-4 Empire 8



RIT Women's Softball pitcher Allie Sitton had 8 strikeouts in game one against the Ithaca College Bombers. The Tigers went on to win the game 3-0 and the second game 12-0. Kim Weiselberg/REPORTER Magazine

Softball

April 16 The RIT Home crowd witnessed visitor Union College sweep the Lady Tigers and break their winning streak.

Game 1

Score by Inning (RIT-Union)
First: 0-0, Second: 0-0, Third: 0-0, Fourth: 0-0, Fifth: 0-0,
Sixth: 0-0, Seventh: 0-1

Final Score: L 0-1

Game 2

Score by Inning (RIT-Union)
First: 0-0, Second: 0-0, Third: 0-0, Fourth: 0-2, Fifth: 1-3,
Sixth: 2-3, Seventh: 2-3

Final Score: L 2-3

April 17 The Lady Tigers got back on the winning track, sweeping Skidmore College in two five-inning games.

Game 1

Score by Inning (RIT-Skidmore)
First: 4-0, Second: 6-0, Third: 7-0, Fourth: 7-0, Fifth: 8-0

Final Score: W 8-0

Game 2

Score by Inning (RIT-Skidmore)
First: 3-1, Second: 3-1, Third: 5-1, Fourth: 7-1, Fifth: 9-1

Final Score: W 9-1

April 19 RIT Lady Tigers shut out Ithaca in the first game of a double header. Then, Ithaca returned the favor in the second.

Game 1

Score by Inning (RIT-Ithaca)
First: 2-0, Second: 3-0, Third: 3-0, Fourth: 3-0, Fifth: 3-0,
Sixth: 3-0, Seventh: 3-0

Final Score: W 3-0

Game 2

Score by Inning (RIT-Ithaca)
First: 0-4, Second: 0-5, Third: 0-8, Fourth: 0-12, Fifth: 0-12

Final Score: L 0-12

April 21 The Lady Tigers treated us to a great first game that went into 12 innings, but ended with a 3-2 loss. In the second game, U of R finished the sweep with a 4-2 win.

Game 1

Score by Inning (RIT-U of R)
First: 0-0, Second: 0-0, Third: 0-0, Fourth: 0-0, Fifth: 0-0,
Sixth: 0-0, Seventh: 0-0, Eighth: 0-0, Ninth: 0-0, Tenth: 0-0,
Eleventh: 1-1, Twelfth: 2-3

Final Score: L 2-3

Game 2

Score by Inning (RIT-U of R)
First: 0-0, Second: 0-1, Third: 0-0, Fourth: 0-0, Fifth: 2-4,
Sixth: 2-4, Seventh: 2-4

Final Score: L 2-4

Record through April 22: 16-14 Overall, 7-1 Empire 8

Men's Tennis

April 17 New team, same results: the Tigers continued their winning ways, this time defeating the Alfred College Saxons 6-1.

Doubles Winners David Chachu/Rod Razavi (8-0), Frank Solome/Jon New (8-1)

Singles Winners David Chachu (6-1, 6-0), Frank Solome (6-0, 6-0), Zak Blazic (6-4, 6-1), Jon New (6-3, 4-6, 10-4), Rod Razavi (6-0, 6-3)

April 19 RIT traveled to Geneva to play Hobart in their last regular season match and suffered their second loss of the season. RIT will be ranked number one going into the Empire 8 Championships.

Doubles Winners Jason Swails/Adam DePuit (8-1)

Singles Winners Frank Solome (6-0, 6-2), Zak Blazic (6-7 (7-1), 6-3, 6-1), Jon New (7-6 (7-3), 2-6, 6-0)

Spring Regular Season Record: 8-2 Overall, 5-0 Empire 8

»»RIT Roller Hockey

Minus Stu and His Zamboni

by Frances Cabrera

An orange and black tiger head with an annihilated hockey stick between his teeth graces the RIT roller hockey team's website as its logo. The roller hockey team members may say they like to play for fun, but when they do play, their presence is as fierce as a tiger's and has earned them a spot among the nation's best roller hockey teams.

"Most people think that we are just hitting a ball around...that is a misconception people have. We are not playing street hockey. We have a real rink, a real team, and real equipment, and it's a lot more competitive," said Tony Kukla, vice president of the team. Less than ten years old, the roller hockey team has consistently ranked among the nation's best. "When we first started, we used to always dominate the competition. But as the programs developed, the competition has gotten better," said Kukla. This increasing pressure hasn't lessened the team's game, though. "In every other year of existence, the team has made it [to nationals] except last year, despite finishing in the top 25 in the country," said John Nowak, president of the team.

As a result, this was the year to make up for last year's loss, and as Nowak stated, "keep the winning tradition alive." Earning second place at the Eastern Collegiate Roller Hockey Association (ECRHA) regional championship tournament with a 4-1-0 record on March 6, was definitely a step in that direction, taking them to Fort Collins, Colorado for the ECRHA Nationals. "I was ecstatic," said goalie Brett Campbell. "[Making it to nationals] was what we had been working towards since the end of September when the season started." With a few changes in the organization of practices, and a new coach, David Krem, the team was able to leave last year's disappointments in the dust. "Last year, we were very separated," said Kukla. "The A team would do its thing, and the B team would do its thing. This time we merged them all together. It's a lot more fun and builds better camaraderie."

This camaraderie gave the team an advantage. "We really came together at the end of the season," said Nowak. "We always had the skill to win, but the heart and dedication really put us into the regional championship game." The team carried this unity and heart to nationals. "The team played great as a team...our team chemistry helped us win a few games against some better skilled teams," said Campbell. The team ended up beating the University of Michigan during the first round of the tournament and losing to Texas Arlington in the second round in overtime. "It was a rough loss," Kukla said. "We had been winning all game, and in the last five minutes they caught up to us." Nevertheless, Kukla said that the team still considers the season a success, ranking number thirteen in the nation.

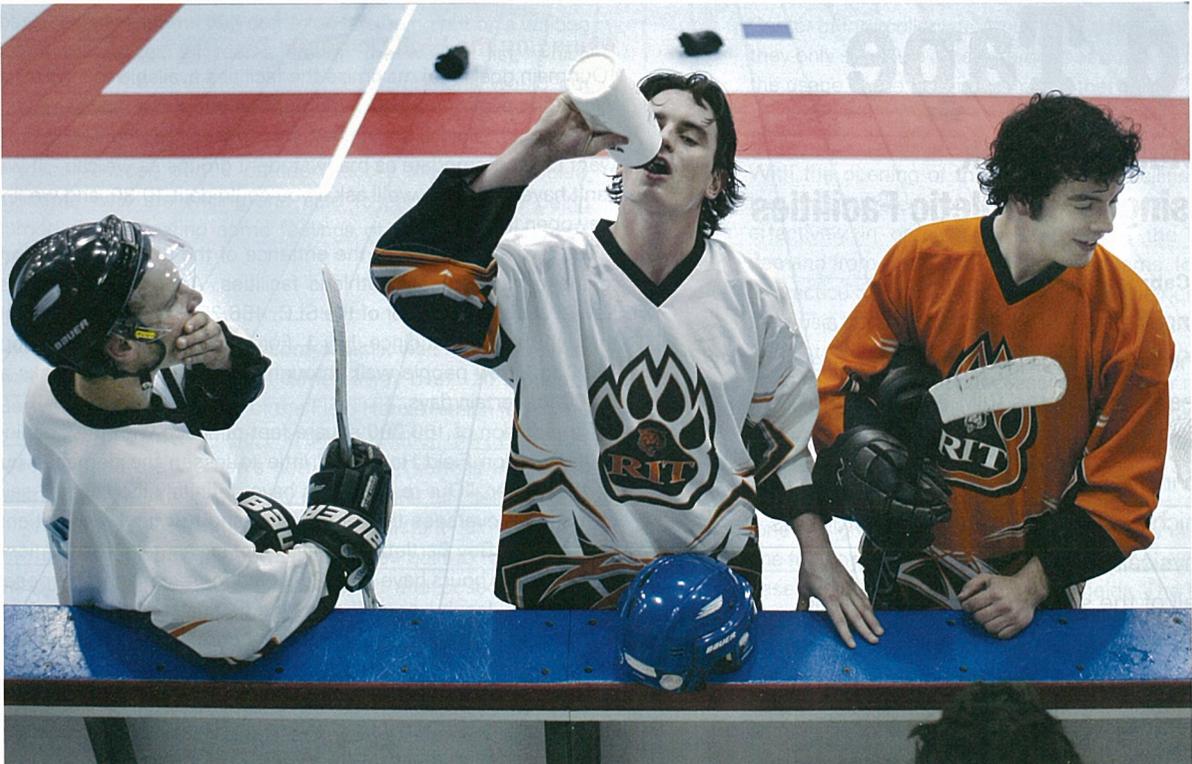
While the obvious difference between ice hockey and roller hockey is found in their names, they have various, more subtle differences which allow for a different type of game. "There are no offsides or icing, which provide for more excitement and scoring chances," said Campbell. The teams are also one player short of an ice hockey team. Despite the fast pace of roller hockey games, brute force isn't the only way to score. "[Roller hockey] involves more skill and finesse than ice hockey," said John Bailes, forward on the team. "...Ice hockey is all physical nowadays. In roller hockey you rely more on puck handling and passing than on checking," Checking, in fact, is not allowed.

Now, with national standing once again, the team is spurred to grow. For example, Kukla said that the team is putting down a roller hockey rink on the MCC campus so that they can practice there, versus their current location in the auxiliary gym. However, the biggest concern is size. "I hope that the popularity of the team grows, and we can get some more people trying out for the team," said Campbell. Nevertheless, when looking ahead, the team members are mostly looking at their competition. Very simply put, the feeling for next year is as Paul Marzello, winger on the team, said: "I'd like to beat Texas-Arlington." It seems Southwest powerhouse Texas-Arlington should watch out or it will be their annihilated hockey stick in the tiger's mouth. •

For more information consult the team website at www.ritrollerhockey.com, or e-mail them at info@ritrollerhockey.com.



John Richardson (left) and Mark McCreary (middle) battle for the puck, while goalie Mike Maeder anticipates the shot during Alumni game to celebrate the end of the season on Saturday. Jacob Hannah/REPORTER Magazine



(From L to R) Mario Jalbert, Tim Dion, and John Nowak take a break between periods of the RIT Roller Hockey Alumni game. Jacob Hannah/REPORTER Magazine



Stu Sieg mimics the Great Bambino during a Thursday night intramural softball practice at the turf field. Kim Weiselberg/REPORTER Magazine

Red Tape

Holds Students Back From Using The Athletic Facilities

by Frances Cabrera with Mike Eppolito

After pouring nearly 27 million dollars into a turf field and state-of-the-art field house, are students really reaping the full benefits of the new facilities? The new additions were billed as a means to increase participation in athletics and fitness, which has the potential benefit students not only physically, but socially. With that in mind, not all of the students ready and willing to participate in athletics are being afforded that opportunity. Intramural teams are being turned away, students are being denied the use of facilities, and the SLC and Field House are being closed more and more in order to accommodate special events.

Managing the High Demand

"[Our main goal is to] maximize the facilities available to students... We've got a lot of options...and we'll go out of our way to see if we can help," said Greg Moss, Senior Associate Director. "We want to accommodate as many student groups as we can...If we can't have it at 9:30, we'll ask if you could do it 10:30, and we'll stay open late for you."

The turnstile counter at the entrance of the SLC is a testament to the constant use of athletic facilities. According to Jennifer Lewis, assistant director of the SLC, 466,257 people have walked through the counter since July 1. For an average weekday, about 1,500 to 2,000 people walk through the entrance, with peaks at 5,000 for certain days.

The addition of 160,000 square feet of space with the opening of the Gordon Field House did little to lessen the demands put on the center. "Our reservations have definitely increased," said Lewis, who oversees the tennis court and turf field reservations. According to Bev Bartlett, staff assistant in charge of reservations, about 12,000 hours have been reserved for recreational purposes by students, faculty, or staff since the first day of fall classes.

This does not include special event hours such as conferences and concerts or open swim and weight room hours, and does not take into account the number of rejected requests. "Unplanned," time, or open rec, accounted for about 7,900 hours. In order to organize and facilitate all of the events, all the departments in the Center of Intercollegiate Athletics and Recreation come together every Wednesday at 10 a.m., according to Moss, to look over the requested reservations and to coordinate efforts.

Student Life Center and Field House Closing

Since the opening of the Field House, both the SLC and Field House have been closing a lot more frequently in order to accommodate special events ranging from concerts and comedians to job fairs and open houses. Judging from the sellout crowds for the concerts and comedians, most students really don't seem to mind these closings because they benefit a large portion of the student body and enhance social life on campus. The closings that allow only a small portion of the campus to participate, however, need to be looked at more closely in order to determine whether they are really benefiting the campus as a whole.

One such event was the Student Employee Appreciation Banquet, which rendered the SLC and Field House inaccessible to anyone but Recreation and Athletic student employees. The facility was closed at 6 p.m. on a Saturday night, with 100 of the roughly 250 student employees signing up for the event. The necessity of such a wide-scale shut down for such a small number of students should have been weighed against the much larger number of students inconvenienced.

Intramurals as a Whole

Part of the college experience is joining an intramural team where the score never truly matters and one can show off skills that would otherwise go unnoticed. According to Lex Sleeman, assistant director of intramurals and club sports, around 200 intramural teams are formed each quarter, with 202 teams this spring. "[Our goal] is to provide an atmosphere of recreational sports that is competitive, but it is not the end of the world if the team doesn't win," said Sleeman. "...Intramurals are played to have fun. It becomes more of a social activity."

RIT can always use more social activities, yet the current policy is such that teams sign up on a first come, first served basis, with the teams that come too late being put on a waiting list. This quarter, 24 teams are on the waiting list, which equates to 186 students. Including substitutions would put the number over 200. The rundown of teams turned away are as follows: 12 softball, 6 dodge ball, 3 basketball, 1 volleyball, 1 indoor soccer, and 1 outdoor soccer. Across the board, students who are willing and able to participate are being turned away, creating some feelings of resentment towards the system.

Softball Intramurals

The most disconcerting and controversial wait list this quarter was for softball, a sport that turned away over 120 students. Between the construction of the Field House, which led to the demolition of a softball field, and the installation of a permanent fence around the women's softball field, softball intramural teams have been forced to play solely on the turf field.

According to JoAnn Acquarulo, assistant director, the permanent fence on the softball field was built to replace the portable fence, which was falling apart and posed a safety hazard to players. The new fence restricts the playing field to 200 feet in accordance with NCAA standards, which creates a problem because a fence at 275 feet or more is required in order to accommodate intramurals. "When they put [the permanent fence] in, they guaranteed us that because we didn't have that field anymore, that we would be able to use the turf field all the time," said Michael Manket, one of the students on the waiting list. "They really touted it to us like [the turf field] was going to be for intramurals."

The lack of alternatives for the softball intramural teams has instead resulted in the large number of teams being turned away. Manket voiced his frustration saying that, "Even though we have never missed a game, two seasons a year, for four and a half years, never missed one game, they wouldn't make an exception and let us in..." Marc Balaban, a second year Mechanical Engineering major, is captain of a team that was undefeated last season, but was turned away this year. Balaban doesn't "think it should be first come, first served. We played last year and were undefeated. I think we deserve a spot in the rotation of teams, whether we turn our slip in at noon or at 9 a.m."

Outside Groups

While the SLC and associated courts and fields are under pressure by their high demand amongst students, Field House Director of Operations Luke Mekker's goal is to "increase the activity" in the Field House by bringing in the demand from outside groups and schools along with internal groups. Mekker plans on "getting more information about the Field House out there." A student employee is currently working on a brochure for the Field House to "let [the public] know that the Field House is open and what they can do with it."

After hearing about the high demand placed on athletic facilities by students, it doesn't seem to make sense that outside groups should be given some of the already limited facility time. The events sponsored by outside groups that have taken place on the turf field include two MCC lacrosse games and two high school lacrosse scrimmages, all taking place on either a Friday or Saturday. While the Center of Intercollegiate Athletics and Recreation says that they only schedule outside groups at times of low demand, the usage of the turf field shows otherwise.

Don't Forget The Old Facilities

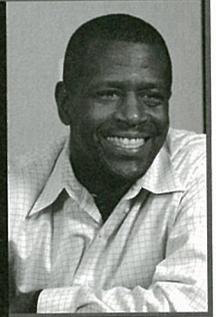
With the opening of the new athletic facilities, it seems that the both the new and old facilities are not being used effectively in order to counterbalance the increase in demand from students. The lacrosse teams, for one, used to practice on the fields designated for their use, but now they use the turf field, taking time away from the other students that want to use the facility. The usage of the turf field has become an unnecessary request for many teams that could play elsewhere, which would allow more time for groups like softball intramural teams, which have no choice but to use the field.

Aside from the turf field, there are three practice fields (one designated for soccer, one for men's lacrosse, and one for women's lacrosse), a varsity field, a softball field, a baseball field, and three recreation fields. The facilities are there to be used, but their misappropriations have led to frustration among the student body, which is experiencing the adverse effects on athletic participation firsthand. •



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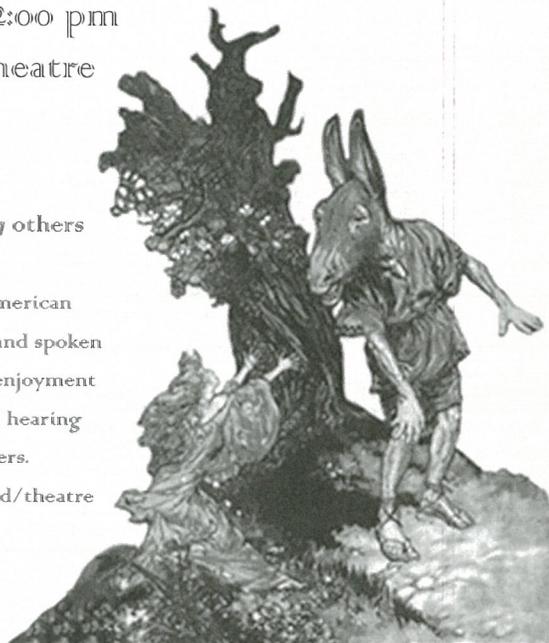
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Survey Results



During the past two years, Student Affairs departments and Student Government have conducted a variety of student surveys. Listed below is some of the information that we received and responses implemented to better serve you.

Advertising

Issue: Students indicated that they prefer to obtain information about events electronically.

Action:

- C Students now receive a weekly email with a listing of events.
- C Students can access a list of upcoming events from a newly-created EventsatRIT AOL Instant Messenger screen name.

The Source

Issue: There was a question whether *The Source* Student Handbook was being used, or in its most effective format.

Action:

- C *The Source* will be maintained in its current format, and in a revised online format.
- C *The Source* will maintain the current calendar and almost all of its sections in their current format.
- C The online version of *The Source* will be in a format that is easier to navigate.

Late Night Programming

Issue: Students indicated that facility hours and events should start and end later.

Action:

- C The Student Alumni Union, Gordon Field House and RITchie's (a student-managed recreation lounge located in the residence halls) close later; more events are starting later and planning for Fall has begun to maintain facility hours and adjust event hours for later night activities.

For information about events still happening this quarter,
go to: events.rit.edu

