

REPORTER

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REPORTER

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ONLINE EDITOR

Sean Hannan

WRITERS

Andrew Brooks, Monica Donovan,
Erhardt Graeff, Sean Hannan,
Lisa Hawver, Austin McChord, José Plaza,
Govind Ramabadrán, John-Michael Stern

STAFF DESIGNERS

Jessica Campbell, Lauren Dellaquila,
Adam Rossiter

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHERS

Jodi Goldenberg, Thomas Starkweather,
Eric Sucar, Kim Weiselberg

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

David Wright

STAFF ILLUSTRATOR

William Robinson

ADVISOR

Rudy Pugilese

PRINTING

Printing Applications Lab

DISTRIBUTION

Justin Harsch, Joseph Guzman

CONTACT INFO

MAIN: 585.475.2212

reporter@rit.edu

ADVERTISING: 585.475.2213

reporterads@mail.rit.edu

EDITORIAL

An End of the Year Invitation

Here we are with barely anything left but finals and, for some, commencement. Typically, it is a time for both reflection and looking ahead. You think back to what you did this year. What you liked and what you didn't like. And, most importantly, what you wish you had done. After that, you have a choice: you can look ahead to whatever newness comes along or you can change what you disliked about your previous life and living.

I want to extend the invitation for the latter. Though it may seem silly for me—the editor of *Reporter*—to give you an invitation to change your life, I can at least explain to you what I mean.

Last Thursday, I attended the last Gannett Lecture of the year. It was a talk and demonstration on ethnomusicology and the preservation of the music of Bali through traditional-esque orchestras here in America learning to play the instruments and music. The orchestra, in this case a "Gamelan Angklung," is hosted by the Eastman School of Music. They invite anyone to join. After watching them play, listening to the complicated syncopation and runs, I was entranced. It threw me back to high school, where I spent four years in a drum line. I played runs on bass drum and whirled sticks on quintuple tenors. I have missed that. After the lecture, I approached the group and tried some instruments. I found out their practice schedule for next year. And I resolved to join them—to bring music back into my life.

This is one example of what I mean about reflecting on your life and changing it for the better for next year. In this week's magazine, we have a leisure feature on Spring Fest. This event every year is the culmination of hard work by Student Government (SG), the College Activities Board (CAB), and other similar groups on campus. These are groups you may or may not be a part of. They also may or may not put together things you think they should. You should do something about that.

For one person, though he is graduating, the way for him is to write an opinion on CAB, which can be found at the end of this magazine. Again, I want to invite you to get involved in some way to change things you want to see changed. Show up to SG Senate meetings next year. Petition CAB for what you want to see them do. They represent you on campus. They use your money. Take a role in that.

If you are graduating, I am certainly not going to make any suggestion that you stay involved with RIT once you leave (that's Alumni Relations' job). However, I think what you need to do is whatever you missed doing during your handful of years studying at RIT. All those things you were too busy to do until summer that truly make you happy—make them happen regularly. Personally, I want to: exercise more, watch more movies, read more books, and go out and meet people from outside the college bubble. Whatever it is that you gave up during your university years, reclaim it now that you are moving on.

RIT is a killer and a motivator. But if you forget that you can be motivated, that you can make a difference in your life—anybody's life really—than it's just going to kill you. Congratulations all. If I get the chance, I'll tell you "congratulations" again.



Erhardt Graeff
Editor in Chief



Members of Phi Sigma Pi warm their hands over a grill at the barbeque on Saturday, April 30 following the third annual Karen's Walk. The walk, which raised over \$3,000 for Karen Decker Cardiomyopathy Fund, was created by Decker after her friend passed away from postpartum cardiomyopathy. David Wright/REPORTER Magazine

■ NEWS

- 06 New myCourses Site**
Desire2Learn, please don't suck.
- 07 Bionic Ear Technology**
Controversial cochlear implants get *new* plastic which makes more sense for *old* people.
- 08 Commencement This Year**
Come on everybody convocate!
- 09 Crime Watch**
Weekly look at what your friends and neighbors have been up to.
- 10 RIT Forecast**
List of the upcoming events.

■ LEISURE

- 10 Spring Festival**
Let's talk about love...and carnivals, parades, watermelon, psychics, and LUDACRIS.
- 14 At Your Leisure**
People, Stuff, and Things.

■ FEATURES

- 16 Muslims at RIT**
Perceptions and reflections on Islam from practitioners and non-practitioners on campus.
- 19 Word on the Street**
What would you put in an RIT time capsule?
- 20 Christianity and Islam Class**
Professors Vincent Golphin and Mohammad Shafiq promote cultural understanding.

■ SPORTS

- 24 Sports Desk**
Baseball, Crew, Lacrosse, Softball, Tennis, Track.
- 26 Political Dodgeball**
RIT College Republicans versus College Democrats.

■ OPINION

- 30 College Activities Board**
Commentator Sean Hannan discusses why he feels they are as useless as nipples on men.

Cover photograph by Thomas Starkweather

Dear José and Sports Editor,

As you already know, the RIT women's lacrosse team was very disappointed with the way the *Reporter* portrayed our team in the April 22 issue.

Before you write such remarks, you should learn the history behind the hoops our team has jumped through over the past few years before you disrespect our team. We admit our record does not show much if you look at the numbers alone, but as journalists, you have a responsibility to be unbiased and professional at all times. As journalists, you have an obligation to also research what you are writing about. To that end, here is a brief history lesson on our team:

Coach Manley has been here since January of 2004 and is now the second longest coach we have had. Before her arrival, we had three different coaches in two years. The coaching turnover hurt our team to the extent that no one was around long enough to recruit and help our team progress to where it should be. When Coach Manley arrived, here we had 10 players... on the field you need 12. Our season was almost cancelled due to the shortage of players but we refused to allow that to happen. We started to recruit people on campus who had never played the game before. We ended last season with 24 players, the largest team in the women's lacrosse history.

This year, we have the numbers but still have a very young team. Some veteran players returned. We had some new recruits and others, yet again, new to the game. If you saw our team in the fall, you would never have thought we would be putting up the scores we have been. Those who have followed and supported our team have seen the huge strides we have made, especially this year. For example, Ithaca College goes to the NCAA almost every year, is ranked 2nd in our conference. We gave them a scare with a score of 10-6. In fact, we scored the first 2 goals of the game! Also, it is important to realize that our women's team does not play "easy" teams. We certainly could be playing teams that are "easy" wins but instead we play in one of the most difficult conferences in Division III. We also do not play "easy" non-conference games but, instead, compete against teams that play at a national level. Even though we have lost, we still hold our heads up high and work our hardest to play and represent RIT proudly.

It's funny that our fans, other RIT coaches and athletes,

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

administrators, other schools and even referees have seen the huge strides we have made; yet, our very own school magazine found a way to sarcastically portray our team. There is no need for an apology, but yet a simple request... before you publish such remarks about any team or any individual, research the history behind them. We are not asking you to make everything sound positive but to write responsibly. Again, we are proud to be on the RIT women's lacrosse team no matter what our record shows.

Sincerely,

The RIT Women's Lacrosse Team

Answer:

First off, I would like to claim full responsibility for the remarks which you are referencing. The purpose of Sports Desk is to report the accomplishments and standings of all RIT intercollegiate teams in an unbiased manner, and it did not achieve that goal in the April 22 issue. While the comments were never intended to be malicious in nature, I agree with you that they were distasteful and uncalled for. As you have pointed out, statistics are not always the best way to evaluate a team's effort and performance. Unfortunately, statistics are the most practical way to assess a team given the large number of games played each week. Seeing as there is only so much room in the magazine, we can't promise to provide a behind the scenes story about every team, but in the future we will make every attempt to report on RIT sports teams without bias. Thank you very much for taking the time to voice your opinion on this issue, and we will do our best to insure comments like these do not appear in future magazines.

Mike Eppolito

Sports Editor

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

One Person's Rights End Where Another Person's Begin

Many people will agree that America is not a perfectly egalitarian society and that the life experience of the majority of our population differs from that of the stereotypical white person. This is particularly true for those whose lifestyle or appearance drastically contrasts that of your stereotypical Caucasian. This difference in life is not because these other people are inherently different from a white person, it is simply because our culture is not perfectly equal. The effects of injustice in our history echo to this day for some people, contributing to slight distinctions, or "sub cultures", that can be noted among certain people of various ethnicity. The common culture bond exists between people of one group as a result of their treatment throughout life based on appearance.

This does not mean that simply editing your appearance to look like someone else allows you share that bond. For example, perhaps someone feels that they really connect with African-Americans. Am I the only one that would think they are mentally unstable if they then apply makeup to their face in order to darken it? If this person, with their painted face, then demanded to be referred to as "African-American" because they now had a different appearance, most people would think it was a racist joke.

Believing that you feel more like a certain type of person, and then changing your appearance accordingly, does not change who you are. One simply can't "become" black, because there is a lack of the same life experience that someone would have had if they were born as a black person. If this person, makeup and all, was serious enough to demand that schools and organizations now recognize them as "a person of color" on applications or transcripts, there would be resistance somewhere along the lines.

The resistance to this person's public actions would not be infringing on anyone's rights or stopping them from expressing themselves. No one is contesting the ability of someone to foolishly paint their face and say they are now African-American. The problem arises when that person wants to be recognized in policy and law by the choice they made, affecting other people.

For us to claim we live in a free society we must accept that idea that some people will have a different opinion or belief than others. There is nothing wrong with people feeling a certain way about their gender or any other personal belief. What I find appalling is when a small number of people decide to move their beliefs into policies that affect other people under the guise of protecting their rights.

There is nothing wrong with thinking that you are female when you were born as a male, or vice versa. It is a personal decision that is left to no one but the individual. The problem that many people have with transgender targeted laws is that gender identity is based only on what someone feels, where as other classifications are measurable and observable.

All species, not just humans, have evolved to show distinction between male and female sexes for obvious biological and social reasons. While human society has since matured to welcome androgynous people, the result of history is that the hard-wired identification of "male/female" is still carried by all of us. When someone claims to identify as one gender, when they still have the traits of another, there are conflicting physical signs. This ambiguity is what causes problems when it comes to measurable real world things such as housing, sports, quotas, or anything else that uses "male" and "female" as a measurement.

Some of these problems (such as public bathrooms) are easily solved by giving anyone the choice to use facilities that are not based on gender. Such action is beneficial to all (more bathrooms) and doesn't force ideas on anyone. When it comes to public policy, regulations or procedures the situation is not as easy.

Some people claim that to make everyone equal, we must get rid of gender distinctions based on physical features. What they fail to understand is that measurable distinctions form the basis of many public policy and societal rules. If we amend our rules, culture, and policy to cater to ethereal feelings, how can we draw the line when it comes to non-gender standards? How is someone saying they identify as "older" or "younger" any different than saying they identify as "male" or "female" when they are not physically of that gender? Such claims, if supported, would lead to many problems. For example, someone may honestly feel they are older than they are, but such a claim doesn't allow them to purchase cigarettes before they turn eighteen. Is such a person being oppressed, or do their personal views simply not apply to policy that must affect everyone?

Let me make it very clear that people are free to feel however they want. If someone thinks they are male, female, or neither, I applaud them for being honest with themselves. Keep in mind, however, that such an opinion does not apply to other people, especially when it comes to matters of public law or policy.

Someone's identity applies only to themselves. Accordingly, someone's identity doesn't force others to see them as that person might want to be seen. Just as wearing makeup doesn't make someone a different race, wearing a bra doesn't make someone become a female. Such a transformation does not simply jump from someone's perception into reality. To think otherwise is whimsical. To push that idea on other people is absurd.

Mike Witkowski

My Home Ken Kindler

myCourses Logout

Friday April 29, 2005

Welcome

Welcome, Ken!

My Settings:

- [My Preferences](#)
- [My Profile](#)
- [My Progress](#)

Search **News**

Course Listing

- ⊕ Administration
- ⊕ Committees
- ⊕ Communities
- ⊕ Courses
 - ⊕ 20043 Spring Courses
 - ⊕ 20044 Summer Courses
 - ⊕ 20051 Fall Courses
- ⊕ Sample Courses
- ⊕ Sandbox
- ⊕ Training

Technical Help

Online Learning Technical Support

Remember, you can always get help with myCourses...

E-mail:
support@firstclass.rit.edu
Local: 585-475-5089/5896 (TTY)
Toll-free: 1-800-CALL-RIT (V/TTY)
Hours of Operation:
<http://online.rit.edu/support/>

Events

RIT

May 13, 2005
Last Daytime Class

May 14, 2005
Last Saturday Class

May 20, 2005
Last Evening Class

Personal

Jun 23, 2005
My Birthday!

[Open my](#) [Calendar](#)

MyCourses are YourCourses

by Austin McChord

Ask people on campus what they think about myCourses and you get different responses. There are complaints such as, "I hate that you just can't click back," and, "I don't like how it is laid out." There is also praise for the amount of information they are able to get. "I like looking at my grades online," said Caitlin Kempfski. Overall, students and faculty agree myCourses could be vastly improved upon. RIT has been listening, so starting this fall myCourses is taking on a new look.

The current system, which was put in just three years ago, is a package called Prometheus. Unfortunately, just a few months after installing the whole system, Prometheus was purchased by its largest competitor, Blackboard, and discontinued. This year, after growing complaints, RIT began a series of committee meetings, student satisfaction surveys, and sales pitches to find a new and better myCourses.

"We started with ten different companies making offers to replace myCourses... Then we narrowed it down to four... then to two; it was between Blackboard and Desire2learn," Ken Kindler explained, "In the end we chose Desire2learn." Kindler, who is responsible for providing support and training for the new system, gave me a demo of the new system.

The primary goal of the new system is to deliver all the features that the first system promised. The new version is much faster and saves the user from the awkward layout and endless new items featured in myCourses. The new layout feels more like a portal with a clean blue and black color scheme.

From a student's perspective, most of the features remain the same. Some improvements are that course materials are no longer spread out between projects, lectures, and files; they are now found in a single location. There is an improved class list with "facebook-reminiscent" profiles that students and professors can setup. Another new feature is a calendar for each class where professors can post dates for quizzes and assignments. The system then

creates a calendar showing the important dates for all the classes you are taking that quarter.

The section where teachers manage each class is where most of the improvement is found. Using Desire2Learn, professors will be able to copy data from previous quarters, saving them time and energy. Using the old myCourses, they were forced to reenter everything. Other features include a new grade book module that is capable of doing most of the related math on its own. Courses and materials can also be organized more easily by creating groups and drop boxes so students can submit work online in the form of a file upload. Faculty seems to be looking forward to the new system. "I think it's going to be a lot better," said Dr. F. Harvey Pough, who used the system extensively in his Introduction to Biology classes.

There are also plans to expand the system so that it can be used beyond the classroom. Clubs and faculty groups have expressed interest in being able to setup pages so that members of clubs and groups can interact online. RIT Online Learning has been working with SG to help make this a reality.

"We are hoping students will use 'peer' pressure to get staff to use the system," Kindler explained. Ultimately the success of myCourses depends on how much it is used. Some students complain that teachers don't use it enough. "I think all teachers should at least use the grade section," said environmental science major Ed Müller. Currently only 29% of faculty actively use myCourses. •

To Hear or Not to Hear

Smart Plastic *Could* Reverse Hearing Loss

by **Monica Donovan**

Scientists in Melbourne are working on a new bionic ear that can aid in the regrowth of nerve cells and reverse hearing loss. The bionic ear, better known as a cochlear implant, would be coated in a smart plastic called polypyrrole which, unlike most plastics, conducts electricity. It also acts as a host structure for neurotrophins, molecules that stimulate nerve regrowth. When zapped with an electric current, the polymer releases the molecules and revives cells that have degenerated or died due to hearing loss.

So How Does This Thing Work, Anyway?

A cochlear implant has both internal and external components. The internal part is inserted under the patient's skin behind the ear in an operation, and includes an antenna that receives radio-frequency signals from the external device, as well as circuits that send electrical pulses into the ear. The internal device extends as far as the cochlea in the inner ear. The other parts of the implant are worn externally; a coil is held against the skin by a magnet and the person wears a sound-receiving microphone, similar in shape to a hearing-aid, behind the ear.

In an article by Judy Skatssoon for ABC News, Professor Gordon Wallace of the University of Wollongong, a collaborator in the bionic ear project, says that the cell regrowth spurred by smart plastic, "will create a better connection between the brain and the device, improving hearing when there's a noisy background."

Cochlear implants are not for everyone. A candidate must be deaf or almost completely deaf, and not helped by hearing aids. The candidate must be motivated as well, because there is a long learning period after the implant is inserted and it can take years to get maximum results. There are dangers as well; some physicians recommend avoiding full-contact sports to avoid trauma to the implant, and implant patients cannot receive MRI scans because they contain metal. "I wouldn't feel comfortable wearing implants because it's not safe," said Joseph Chavis, a first year Art and Computer Design student, "If you are playing sports you can damage your ear and hurt yourself and sometimes even die."

Here at Home

Zack Pham, a first year Computer Engineering student, doesn't think that the new technology will make too much of a difference in the Deaf community. "Deaf people tend to have a strong culture. They don't want to hear," he said. Pham also reflected on the differences between learning to hear for the first time versus regaining hearing. "I think it helps people hear better," he said, "but I wouldn't like to put it on deaf people who can't hear. They never had a hearing experience, so it's not worth it. If you grew up hearing it will give you some benefits." The deaf community seems largely dismissive of the bionic ear, which is regarded as a great advance in scientific circles.

One profoundly deaf young woman told her cochlear implant story on About.com. Her parents got an implant for her when she was three years old, and forced her to use speech and attend hearing therapy despite her wishes to use sign language. At sixteen years old she finally rebelled and removed it. "I love hearing silence," she said. "The best choices for you are the ones you feel most comfortable with." Today, she only uses sign language. Children as young as one or one and a half years old are becoming candidates for the implant surgery. "I think it's just up to the person whether to get implants," said Nathan Debartolo, who is a second year Graphic Media major. "They should make the decision."

The fact that implants are only available for the profoundly deaf, ironically, works against the implants as well, because the severely deaf tend to be the ones most immersed in deaf culture. Likelier candidates include those who lose their hearing later in life and are seeking to regain what they've lost. There are currently 50,000 to 60,000 people with cochlear implants.

What's Left

Scientists at the Australian Centre for Medical Bionics and Hearing Science, part of Melbourne's Bionic Ear Institute, are currently developing the structure of the plastic so that growth factors such as time frame and the amount of molecules released are carefully controlled. They have already proven that the neurotrophin NT3 can be built into the polymer and released when stimulated. Polymer is currently being considered for spinal cord repair as well, and has other applications in batteries, artificial muscles, and the generation of solar energy. •

What You Need to Know About **Graduating:**



by Andrew Brooks

Whether you're graduating this year in your fourth, fifth, or seventeenth year at RIT, the end of spring quarter is approaching quickly. Soon will come the time when all hard work pays off: Commencement. On Friday, May 20 and Saturday, May 21, ceremonies and receptions are occurring all over campus to celebrate and formalize the completion of students' studies. As feelings of pride and satisfaction pass over students and their families, anxiety also fills the minds of administrators, campus service workers, and volunteers who rush to deal with preparations during the last week of school. This is not to say that their planning is last minute.

A Commencement Planning Committee has been formed to deal with such issues. Chaired by Susan Provenzano, the committee spans many parts of RIT, including representatives from Tech Crew, Campus Safety, Facilities Management, Food Services and more. This group works around the year to make sure the pivotal event runs smoothly.

One change to this year's commencement will be the switch to a university-wide convocation. In the past, students (without caps or gowns) have sat with their parents. This year the students will sit in groups with their respective college graduates while wearing traditional caps and gowns. "We're not trying to make it more formal or less fun," said Susan Provenzano. The change is not only based on this year's location change from U-Lot to the Student Life Center, but also on student feedback. Former graduates have stated that they wanted the ceremonies to be more focused on the students. As Susan Provenzano stated, "The changes are really positive and give the students a feel of ownership of the ceremony instead of being a spectator." The hope is that the students, because they are a group, will feed off each other's excitement. This idea will mirror this year's freshman convocation, where color-coded college shirts marked students who gathered in the Gordon Field House

The convocation is only the starting point of the events for graduation at RIT. It is just a formal mark of the beginning of the ceremonies at 4 p.m. on Friday. This is where many of the speakers like Hawaiian Senator Inouye will talk. While president of State University system of Hawaii, President Simone knew Senator Inouye, who was also responsible in part for funding the CIMS building and various programs. Convocation is also where student representatives from the colleges are presented with degrees symbolizing those that are to be received by the students of their entire college. The student representative from COS, Stephanie Schubert, will also be speaking. After the convocation concludes, ceremonies break up by college to award the students individually. Individual departments also hold receptions to honor their graduating students.

Throughout those two days it is estimated that somewhere between 20,000 and 30,000 people will pass through RIT's campus. From golf carts to adequate amounts of food to choreographing parking, RIT staff will have their hands full. Volunteers are also helping by aiding visitors at information booths and assisting those with special needs. Many months of planning will hopefully make a great graduation that students and families will find memorable for all the right reasons. •

For more information visit the commencement website at www.rit.edu/commencement or email Susan Provenzano at stp1031@rit.edu.

CrimeWatch

compiled by Casey Dehlinger

April 20

Disorderly Conduct – RIT Inn and Conference Center

A student confronted her boyfriend at the RIT Inn and an argument occurred. The case was referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Auto Stripping – K Lot

A student reported that two tow hooks were removed from his 2004 Dodge Ram pickup sometime between 10 p.m. on April 16 and 3:30 p.m. on April 18. The investigation is closed pending new information.

April 21

Criminal Mischief – Ellingson Hall

Derogatory remarks regarding a Fraternity were written on a wall. The investigation is closed pending new leads.

Computer Trespass – Gannett Building

A person reported possible computer tampering. The investigation continues.

April 23

Motor Vehicle– Colony Manor

A student reported seeing a blue Audi crash into a pole near her apartment. A Campus Safety Officer located the vehicle and the driver, who appeared to be intoxicated. The Monroe County Sheriff's Department responded and issued a ticket to the student for leaving the scene of an accident.

April 24

Unlawful Possession of Marijuana – Peterson Hall

It was reported that the smell of marijuana was coming from a dorm room. The residents of the room confessed to smoking marijuana and Campus Safety confiscated marijuana and pipes after searching the room of the incident as well as three other related rooms. The investigation continues.

April 25

Grand Larceny – Gleason Building

An overhead ceiling-mounted NEC projector was stolen from room 2139 of Building 9. The theft occurred sometime between 5 p.m. on April 22 and 2:30 p.m. on April 25. Special attention will be placed on all other projectors in academic buildings. The investigation is closed pending new leads.

Petit Larceny – Ellingson Hall

A student stated that his SideKick T-Mobile pager was stolen off his desk during class on April 25. The only student sitting next to him in that class was contacted and admitted to stealing the pager. The pager was then returned.

April 26

Grand Larceny – Booth Building

Between 8:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. on April 25 an unknown person removed a piece of artwork valued at \$1400 from Bevier Gallery. The investigation continues.

Harassment – Grace Watson Hall

A student reported that his ex-girlfriend had been harassing him via e-mail. The victim will report any further harassment. The investigation continues.

April 27

Suspicious Odor – Building 32

A caller reported an odor of marijuana coming from a room in Building 32. The investigation continues.

RITForecast

compiled by Casey Dehlinger

Friday	<p>Pediatric AIDS Fundraiser: noon – 8 p.m. Infinity Loop. Sponsored by Sigma Alpha Mu.</p> <p>SAE Mini-Baja East: 8 a.m.– 5 p.m. Palmyra MX.</p> <p>ITSO Spring Picnic: 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Between Building 70 and J Lot.</p> <p>28th Annual Juggle-In: 5 p.m. – 11 p.m. Clark Gym.</p> <p>A Midsummer Night's Dream: 7:30 p.m. – 10 p.m. Panara Theatre. \$5 Students, \$7 Others.</p> <p>Michelle Project Benefit Performance: 8 p.m. – 10 p.m. Ingle Auditorium. Eight Beat Measure, Brick City Singers, Encore, Martial Arts, Dance team, and Ballroom dancing perform.</p> <p>Friday Night in the Ritz: The Exit: 10 p.m. – midnight. The Ritzskeller.</p>
6 MAY	
Saturday	<p>28th Annual Juggle-In: 8 a.m. – 11 p.m. Clark Gym. Show at Ingle Auditorium from 8 p.m. – 11 p.m.</p> <p>SAE Mini Baja East: 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Palmyra MX.</p> <p>A Midsummer Night's Dream: Two showings; 2– 4:30 p.m. and 7:30–10 p.m. Panara Theatre. \$5 Students, \$7 others.</p> <p>RIT World Music Ensemble: 3 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Ingle Auditorium.</p> <p>Def Poetry: 7–10 p.m. SAU Cafeteria.</p>
7 MAY	
Sunday	<p>28th Annual Juggle-In: 10 a.m.–3 p.m. Auxiliary Gym.</p> <p>International House Volleyball Tournament: noon – 5 p.m. Field behind NRH.</p> <p>A Midsummer Night's Dream: 2 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Panara Theatre. \$5 Students, \$7 Others.</p> <p>RIT Choral Ensembles: 3:30–5:15 p.m. Ingle Auditorium.</p> <p>NTID Star Search and NSC Banquet: 6–11 p.m. SAU Cafeteria.</p>
8 MAY	
Monday	<p>Race Day: 6–11 p.m. SAU Cafeteria. Remote control car racing concludes for the year</p>
9 MAY	
Tuesday	<p>French Conversation Hour: 6:30–8 p.m. Java Wally's. Talk French. Drink coffee. Look for hidden dinosaurs in the artwork.</p> <p>ACT Testing: 7–11 p.m. Carlson Auditorium. Automotive Service Excellence Exam.</p>
10 MAY	
Wednesday	<p>Get a Head Start on Studying for Final Exams: Absolutely nothing is happening today, so do yourself a favor and hit the books early; unless, of course, it's sunny. Then go outside. Outside is nice.</p>
11 MAY	
Thursday	<p>Israel Independence Day Celebrations: 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Kodak Quad. BBQ and Cotton Candy.</p> <p>Spanish Conversation Hour: 6:30–8 p.m. Java Wally's. Speak Spanish. Get a caffeine fix.</p> <p>Thursday Night Cinema Series: Rushmore: 10 p.m. – 11:30 p.m. Fireside Lounge.</p>
12 MAY	



MDRC
Robotics

Power Parade!

by Erhardt Graeff

It was a weird, Technicolor blur against the gray Rochester skies—the brainchild of SG’s Government Community Relations. “Anne-Marie [Naumann] and I fought hard for this in the fall,” said incoming SG president James Macchiano.

And so, by 4:15 p.m. on Saturday, April 30, a smiling throng of parade participants entered a final approach toward the Sentinel, the SAU, and Administration Circle to the tune of “The Final Countdown” by that crazy 80s band Europe—music broadcast through speakers pulled behind a dinosaur-adorned tractor sponsored by RIT Tech Crew.

The short procession included other RIT groups such as English Language Center students marching with flags from their home nations, Deaf Hillel walkers, RIT Off-road Racing’s Mini-Baja, WITR, the Multi-disciplinary Robotics Club, and a handful of Greeks—Alpha Sigma Alpha throwing candy, Triangle showcasing a rolling house-mobile-thing, and Sigma Sigma Sigma and Kappa Sigma in pickup trucks and pirate costumes.

The Henrietta Fire Department, with engine lights ablaze, filled out the requirements of a proper parade, while similar strobes burst from Campus Safety and RIT Ambulance SUVs. Also in tow, and in rare form, was President Simone—outfitted in a leather jacket and orange dew rag—leading a pack of motorcyclists (one built by RIT Engineering students) and bicyclists atop his own official RIT low-rider pedaler.

Academic Provost Stan McKenzie was the parade’s marshal, standing alongside outgoing SG president Sheila Sarratore. He read names and histories of the participants as they passed and finished off the spectacle with the proclamation, “That’s our parade—the shortest/fastest RIT parade in history!”

Erick Littleford, past SG president and current Assistant Director for Alumni Relations, commented after the motorcycle smoke cleared, “We like to call this a ‘Power Parade’...we get in, we get out. You know—’cause at RIT we are on the quarter system [he makes a compacting gesture with his hands].” •



Above: Two groups participated in the Watermelon Toss in the Club Field next to K Lot on Saturday, April 30. (From left to right) Doug Carr, Andy Mykyta, Sean Ashman, and Tim Brackbill pump air pressure into their launcher. Thomas Starkweather/REPORTER Magazine

Left: the Multi-disciplinary Robotics Club remote-controlled two rolling robots in the 175th Anniversary Parade on Saturday, April 30. Thomas Starkweather/REPORTER Magazine



diviNATION

“In my crystal ball, I see a tired, overworked student.”

by Lisa Hawver

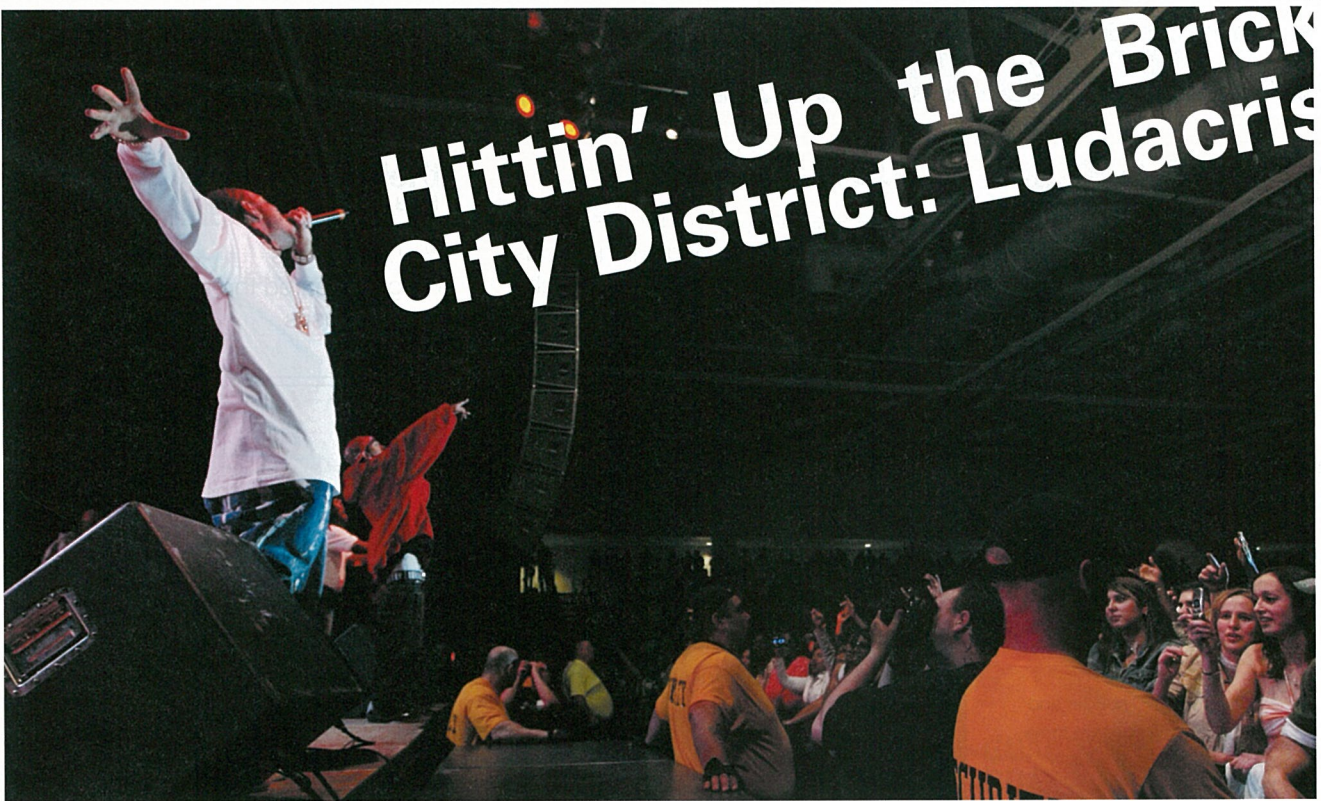
Spring Fsest was predicted to be a success, and the free psychic readings on Saturday afternoon in the SAU lived up to that prediction. In fact, the event was such a success that students were turned away at the door due to the extensive waiting list. Long lines of students waited patiently for their futures to unravel at the hands of Kathy, Susan, Doreen and Rose.

Each psychic had her own means for producing the answers we all seek about relationships, careers, and health. Doreen specialized in the use of tarot cards to present the future. Just like a regular deck of cards, tarot cards have four suits: coins that answer questions about financial issues, cups that answer emotional questions, wands that deal with spiritual questions, and swords

that reveal challenges. Doreen sought positive energy for her readings through a carefully selected assortment of gemstones.

Kathy and Susan are involved in many aspects of psychic readings, specializing in dream interpretation, numerology, astrology, and animal communication. Kathy demonstrated her skill in numerology by giving readings of students with just the students' birthdays and first names.

While it is advised that psychic readings are just for fun, Doreen and other psychics strongly believe in their work and intuitive abilities. Some are quick to dismiss the validity of a psychic reading; however, those who got the chance to have a reading didn't dismiss the enjoyment. •



by Govind Ramabadran

"Make some motherfuckin' noise!" And the audience from RIT and the Rochester area did indeed make some noise, to a sold-out concert featuring Ludacris, on Saturday, April 30 at the Gordon Field House. RIT's College Activities Board (CAB) sponsored the show.

Clipse opened up by having the audience raise their hands in the air in the form of a Vulcan greeting from *Star Trek*, to which they made many references in the first two songs. With a successful opening, the crowd was more than enthusiastic about seeing Ludacris perform, chanting and shouting his name during the intermission between the two groups. While waiting for Ludacris to come on stage, CAB provided some random background hip-hop music to pass the time, while four people were detained by Campus Safety for scaling the fence that separated the crowd from the stage, which pretty much dashed their hopes of dancing on with Ludacris. Nonetheless, the crowd was pumped and were itching to see him appear on stage soon.

At exactly 9:22 p.m., Ludacris greeted the crowd and asked all the "single ladies" to make some noise, at which

point it became apparent that the ratio of males to single females in the crowd was the same as RIT's male-to-female ratio. The crowd was already excited, and Ludacris encouraged each half to flip off the other side and tell them to "fuck that shit." In one song with unusually explicit lyrics, Ludacris was amazed as the interpreter signed every word he said, subsequently asking him what the sign was for "you a bad motherfucker."

Although he joked and had fun with the crowd, he showed humility and gave DJ JC credit for his efforts to pump up the crowd. DJ JC then did his own crowd-pleasing mixing solo. Just as it appeared that the concert was winding down, Ludacris told the crowd they "wouldn't fuckin' go nowhere" and finished off with "Move, Bitch".

Aside from both acts showing up a few minutes late, and some slight security issues (one—actually caught—student smuggled weed into the concert, and two girls were detained for starting a fight), the show was obviously well received. Ludacris and RIT might not seem to make sense, but for people attending the show there was no disharmony. •

Above: Ludacris performs for a sold out crowd at the Gordon Field House on Saturday, April 30. Kim Weiselberg/REPORTER Magazine

Top Left: Workers at the Spring Festival's Carnival play the "Bowling Game" on Saturday, April 30. Rain and cold weather kept many patrons away that night. The carnival was held in D-Lot on Friday and Saturday from 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. Eric Sucar/REPORTER Magazine

Bottom Left: Keith Robertson, a fourth-year packaging science major, receives a psychic reading from Rose Mocato during Spring Fest on Saturday, April 30 in the SAU. David Wright/REPORTER Magazine

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

STREAM* OF FACTS: MAY 6

On **May 6**, The Eiffel Tower was officially opened to the public during the Universal Exposition in **Paris**.

The name of **Paris** is said to come from the Celtic Gallic word parios, meaning "**cauldron**."

A **cauldron** is a large metal-made pot for cooking and/or boiling over an open fire. It is also where witches prepare their potions, most notably in Shakespeare's *Macbeth*.

Macbeth, Act I: "An open Place. Thunder and Lightning. / FIRST WITCH: When shall we three meet again? In **thunder**, lightning, or in rain?"

Because sound and light travel at different speeds, one can estimate how far away the bolt of lightning is, with every second between a flash of lightning and a roll of **thunder** representing one **mile**.

The standard unit of distance is the **mile**, originating with the Roman mile of approximately 1479 meters. At one time in the Roman Empire, feeding Christians to the **lions** was seen as entertainment.

The Cowardly **Lion** is a character in the *Wonderful Wizard of Oz* who wishes for a heart.

The Wonderful Wizard of Oz was written by L. Frank Baum, author, actor, and shopkeeper who died on **May 6**, 1919.

QUOTE*

"You're searching, Joe, for things that don't exist; I mean beginnings. Ends and beginnings—there are no such things. There are only middles."

-Robert Frost

theHAIKU* by Brian Garrison

Hippopotomus
He got speared through the heart by
Rhinoceroses

RANDOMREVIEW*

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REPORTER* RECOMMENDS:

Go out and have a great summer break; whether your plans are for co-op or a summer job, get out in the sun and enjoy yourself. It's what summer is for.

PLAYLIST: * You'll Miss These Playlists:

Kanye West – Graduation Day
Evergreen Terrace – Sweet Nothings Gone Forever
Goldfinger – The Last Time
Slayer – Raining Blood
Elvis Presley – I'm Leavin'
Haste the Day – The Last Goodbye
Goodbye Girl Friday – Peace Out



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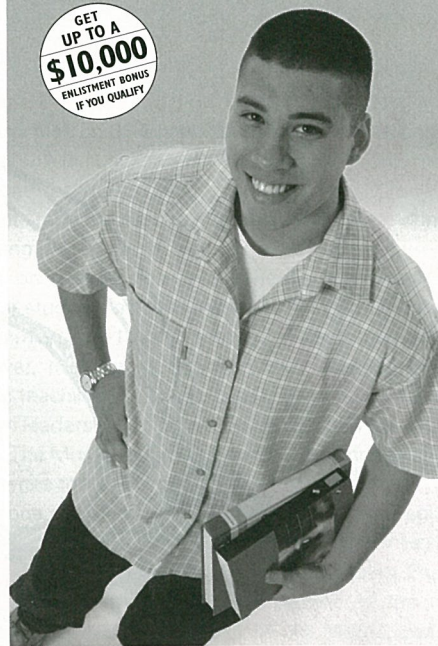
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Chapter 20



PERCEPTIONS AND REFLECTIONS

MUSLIMS AT RIT

by John-Michael Stern with Brenna Cammeron

Four years after what President Bush called “an attack on freedom itself,” anti-Islamic sentiments have yet to dissipate in America—or at RIT. In fact, as an RIT student put it, 9/11 was the seed of this religious bias.

“That was the time where people got their biased views,” said Hamza Shahid, a third-year Micro Electronic Engineering student and a practicing Sunni from Pakistan.

Ammar Naqvi, president of the Muslim Student Association, said Muslims nationwide are still “unnecessarily searched and harassed.” For instance, in December, he recalled, a bevy of Muslims, many of whom were from Rochester, were harassed at the Canadian border for attending a Muslim convention. Some were held over six hours despite being found faultless by the end.

Now, five of these Muslims have filed a lawsuit against the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, claiming their constitutional freedoms of religion and protection against unlawful searches have been violated.

Even at RIT, shades of this same bias sometimes develop, often in the shape of ignorance. “We have had past events, like Humanitarian Day, where others tried to disrupt it,” Naqvi said. “Even after they were refuted (by our speakers) with facts and stats, they continued to hold the same old views.”

More often, however, the bias is implied, and any feelings of animosity between Muslim and non-Muslim students are left unspoken. As a matter of convenience, “Nobody bothers

about religion,” said Riyaz Shaikh, a second-year graduate Manufacturing Technology student and a practicing Sunni from India, “Life is a lot easier that way.”

Yet, even the most customary activities, like greetings, reveal this de facto prejudice does exist. Shahid related, “They [non-Muslim students] can tell if you’re a Muslim and can shy away from you. Sometimes I’ll say, ‘Hi,’ and they’ll walk away.”

The underlying problem, these Muslim students said, is rooted not so much in what happened on 9/11, but in how the attacks were portrayed by the media. “A lot of students take too much from the mainstream media, which is very biased against Islam and Muslims,” Naqvi said.

Consider Daniel Pipes, who noted on April 14 in his lecture at Webb Auditorium that “Islamists are a form of governance that America and democracy are required to defeat.”

Shahid explained, “You could see some of the people did not know much about Islam. They should hear both sides [from both the media and practicing Muslims] and then decide.”

In particular, Shaikh feels Americans should lay blame for 9/11 only on other nations, not religions. “The media is trying to separate Muslims from their national identity. It’s not the right thing to do. Islam is a code, derived from a different context.”

Shahid also raised some concern over the lack of diversity at RIT. “RIT is not as diverse as I’m used to. It has mostly a white population and some [students] are from places where they have never met a Muslim.”

However, some students are not as adamant in claiming that there is indeed a bias against Muslims at RIT. Hesham Merdad, a grad student studying Business Administration and Finance, says that he has found no bias against Muslims at RIT. Although Merdad believes that some of this is rooted in the fact that he does not look like a traditional Muslim—he dresses in American-style garb—Merdad claims that he has found fellow students both curious and respectful when they learn about his religion.

“Nobody has been mean about it,” says Merdad. “They are all very questioning [and want] to learn about who you are.” In fact, Merdad says that he hopes that his friendships with non-Muslims will help to stop the stereotyping of Islam. “My friends trust me...they feel comfortable talking to me and asking me about it,” Merdad says.

The Bias

Curtis Marshall, a non-Muslim second-year Electrical Mechanical Engineering student, perceives there to be prejudice against Muslim students. “There’s an undertone looking at the group as a whole—one of mistrust, lack of patriotism,” Marshall says.

Part of the problem, he explains, is that comedy on TV and in the movies pokes fun at Muslims in a way that subconsciously perpetuates negative stereotypes. Comedians such as Jay Leno and Dave Letterman, as well as shows such as *the Daily Show*, poke fun at Islam on a regular basis. Although this is only done for the sake of a few laughs, it does nothing to correct misperceptions already existent in our culture about those who follow the Muslim faith. As Marshall explains, “With comedy shows or movies you see, you find yourself laughing at times. But if you think about it, it’s the reality that’s been created.”

Leon Lim, a non-Muslim fifth year Interior Design student, feels prejudice against Muslim students does reveal itself on campus at times. At the Student Government Super Bowl Party in February, for instance, Lim saw two female Muslim students near the entrance, debating whether to take part in the event. Wearing headscarves, their religious identities were clearly unmasked, and they stood out from all who were there.

“Unfortunately, as they entered, they were not welcomed by hosts as much as non-Muslims were,” Lim says. “The hosts were a bit standoffish, and the two left soon after.”

Lim, whose homeland is the Islamic nation of Malaysia, suggests the two breeds of Muslim students—the non-practicing and the practicing—need to be differentiated. Non-practicing Muslims use the phrase *biti Musliman u crce*, or “a Muslim in heart,” to describe their connection to their cultural identity as Muslims. While Lim perceives non-practicing Muslim students to be the same as non-Muslim students and undeserving of any labels, he says practicing Muslim students “tend to be very strong, stubborn and cliquish, because of shared values... They don’t want to lose their religion or the message from Allah.”

9/11 and Bias Beyond

The atrocities on 9/11 have spurred misperceptions of Muslim students. Marshall, though he says he would never judge someone based on their religion, admits having second thoughts about Muslim students after 9/11. “Immediately following 9/11, it [did] make you think,” he says.

Lim, on the other hand, says he didn’t feel nervous around Muslim students after the attacks. “They’re in an educational environment and I know some of them personally,” he says. However, the attacks did make him question the values of Islamic teaching. “I felt the teachings of Islam were incorrect. Muslim leaders are to blame for having intimidated that America is evil. The Muslim people have rallied behind their messages—sometimes to the extreme.”

The one point that Marshall and Lim say they agree on: The biases against Muslim students and Muslims worldwide are continuing and have yet to show signs of ebbing. Experts agree with this somewhat gloomy perception of the relationship between the two cultures. As Dr. Ali Mazrui, pointed out in his March 24 lecture titled “Has a Clash of Civilizations Begun? Islam and the West,” “Most Americans and Muslims both in the United States and worldwide are regrettably in the process of being pulled apart.”

A Thirst for Enlightenment

Non-Muslim students may not be well informed about Muslim students, but they do seem curious to learn more about them. Last year in Sociology class, for example, Shahid gave a 10-minute presentation on Islam which soon turned into about an hour’s labor. The class asked him questions for so long afterward that “the teacher had to ask the students to stop asking questions,” Shahid recalled.

Other students, like Justin Roblee, a non-Muslim third-year Packaging Science student, learn about Muslims by living in the residence halls. By being an RA, Roblee has had the chance to interact regularly with two Muslim students on his floor. “I was just interested in meeting Muslims, especially after 9/11. I was critical of the President’s spin, TV ... I just wanted to see their side,” Roblee says. “A lot of people don’t understand their culture.” But, he adds, “I’m sure Muslims don’t understand our ways.”

Julie Mason, a non-Muslim third-year New Media Design student, thinks that Muslim students have become more aware that they are being looked down upon.

“It’s more of being subconsciously aware of being slightly prejudiced because of reverse prejudicium [that is, since they would be more likely to fear other people being prejudiced against themselves because of 9/11].”

Although several years have passed since the horrific events that sparked the “war on terror,” it is now abundantly clear that there is another, possibly even more damaging, war taking place here in the United States. This ongoing conflict between Muslim thought and American prejudice is bound to harm both sides. Although steps have been taken to reduce biased thought against Muslims, and real progress *is* being made, there is no doubt that we still have a long way to go. •

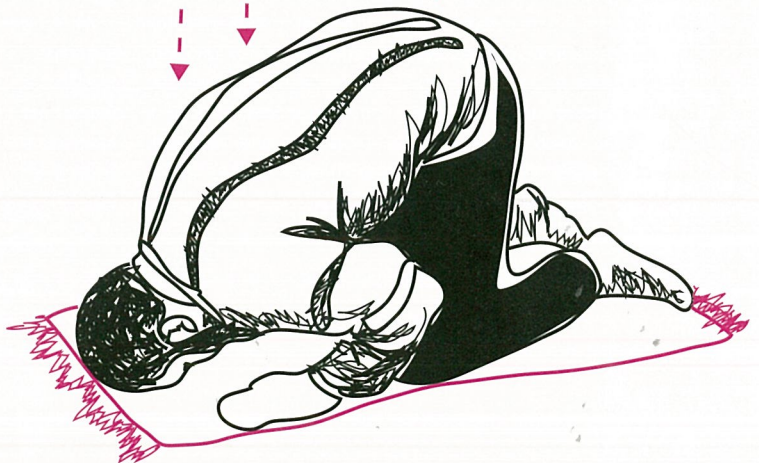
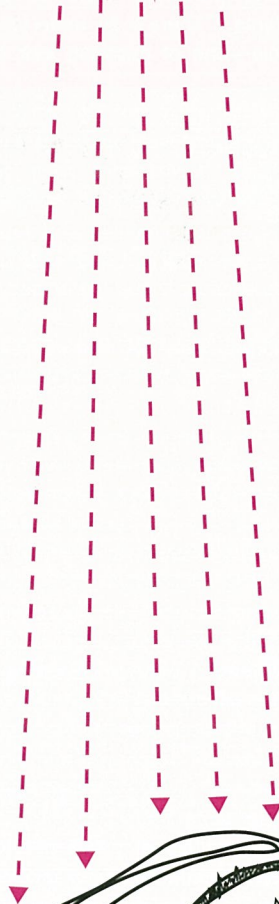
Culture Clash: What We Can Do

Much has been said about the so-called “clash of civilizations” currently taking place between the Western world and Islamic ideology, especially between the Muslim faith and American people. Many scholars claim that this conflict started as long as 500 years ago, and that our current situation is actually the result of this long history between the two cultures. Others dismiss this notion and instead focus on radical Islam as the cause of the tension between Americans and Muslims.

The point, counterpoint lectures of Dr. Ali Mazrui and Daniel Pipes have thrown this contrast into high relief with their equally eloquent and persuasive arguments about the nature of the conflict between the two cultures. Mazrui’s lecture, “Has a Clash of Civilizations Begun?: Islam and the West” argued that there have been four stages in the relationship between Islam and the Western World. According to Mazrui, director of the Global Studies Institute at Binghamton University, the relationship between the two started with Islam and the Western World sharing similar values but being distant from each other both intellectually and physically; now, Mazrui claims that the two cultures have increasingly different values but are becoming closer with the influence of globalization and our world’s growing interconnectedness. Mazrui highlighted issues such as gay marriage that reflect our nation’s social liberalism but are in sharp contrast to the beliefs of traditional Islam. As Mazrui stated in his March 24 lecture, “The values between Islam and the West continue to diverge...they [Islam] have a much more traditionalist system of thought”

Daniel Pipes’ highly controversial lecture, “Militant Islam and the War on Terror,” took a different track with regard to the so-called “culture clash.” In his lecture, Pipes focused on the “reasonably significant but not distinct” 10% to 15% minority of Muslims that Pipes calls “Islamists,” or those that follow radical Islam. Pipes mostly disregarded the idea of a long history of interaction between the two cultures, stating, “The enemy is not Islam, which is a personal faith. The enemy is a variant of Islam, a political ideology.”

Although these two points of view may appear diametrically opposed from each other, this is not necessarily the case. While Mazrui and Pipes approach the same issue from different backgrounds, the two points that they make are not mutually exclusive. Rather, the two can be used together to form a more informed and balanced view of this “clash of civilizations.” Radical Islam may be a threat, but it may also be the result of 500 years of complex and often strained relationships between the cultures. This sort of critical thinking can lead to a better understanding of the real nature of the ongoing conflict. •



WORDS on the Street

compiled and photographed by Jodi Goldberg

Q: What would you put in an RIT time capsule?



"Beer Bottles and SoCo."
Ashley Vickers
 Graphic Design
 Second Year



"We would put all of RIT in a time capsule and bury it six feet under."
Drew Brais & John Kitchura
 Mechanical & Electrical
 Engineering
 Fifth Year



"The Sentinel, so we don't have to look at it anymore!"
Jon Hutton
 Electrical Engineering
 Fifth Year



"My genetic engineering lab notebook, because my entire spring quarter revolves around it."
Kim Nguyen
 Biotechnology
 Third Year



"A statue of Al Simone made of cheese."
Kyle Norton
 Advertising Photo
 Third Year



"Mad Gigahertz, yo, so the future can process the flow."
Lou Herczeg
 Applied Networking &
 System Administration
 Fifth Year



"A Brick."
Peter Alexander
 Industrial Design
 Second Year



"A lot of really dorky guys."
Rachel Schwarz
 Biotechnology
 Second Year



"A Bunch of my professors, or maybe just my Physics [professor]. He is quite a character."
Rosa Mitsumasu
 Industrial Engineering
 Second Year



"A map and some photos of campus to do a comparison."
Steve Broskey
 Imaging Science
 Fourth Year



"All of my negatives, I have too many already."
Tom Schirmacher
 Photo
 First Year



"My youth, so that I can come back and get it in 60 years."
Tori Waldruff
 Advertising Photo
 Fourth Year

Bridging the Gap

Two Professors bring together Christianity and Islam



Vincent Golphin teaches the Christianity component of the Islam and Christianity class offered this quarter. Kim Weiselberg/REPORTER Magazine

by Brenna Cammeron

Someone once said, “Whatever you do, keep politics and religion off the dinner table.” It’s easy to see why: the two topics are so inflammatory that few people ever wish to discuss them, especially in polite company. So when Professor Vincent Golphin had the idea to do a special topics class on the study of Christianity and Islam, there were (of course) a lot of challenges to deal with.

In The Beginning

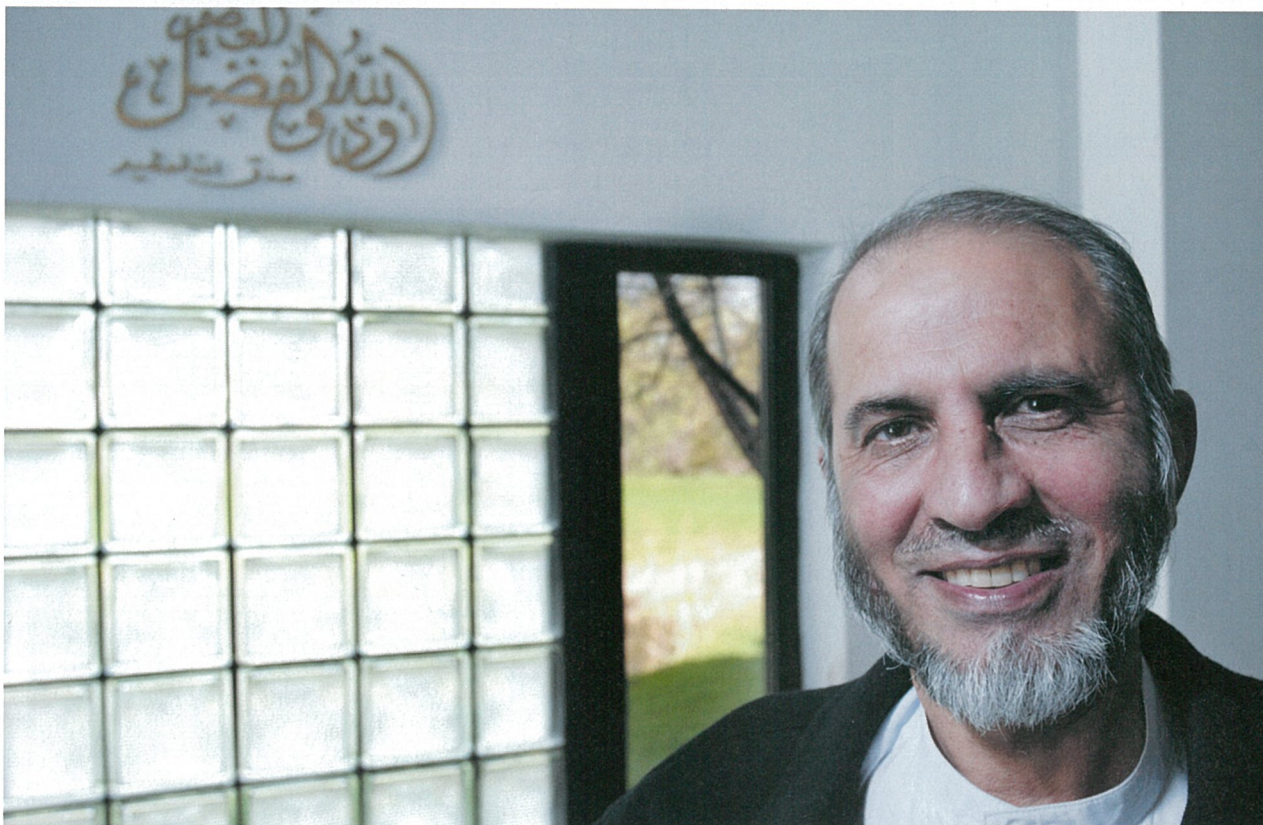
It seemed natural that Golphin, who has been schooled extensively in Biblical study, teach the Christian half of the course. However, there was then the issue of finding a professor qualified enough to teach the Islamic half. This turned out not to be a problem for Golphin; he had been long-time acquaintances with Professor Muhammad Shafiq of Nazareth College. Aside from teaching Arabic at Nazareth, Shafiq is also the executive director of the Islamic Center of Rochester. The two had met years beforehand while working together at St. John Fisher College, but had never taught a class together. However, both professors looked forward to the challenges and rewards of bringing the two religions together in one class. As Golphin puts it, “This was a chance for us not only to become better acquainted but also to develop a unique kind of curriculum.” Shafiq, who was not available for comment at the time of printing, has kept his status as a professor at Nazareth and is teaching at RIT on an adjunct basis.

The next challenge came in the form of deciding how exactly to create a course that dealt with so many controversial topics. The horrors of 9/11 and the subsequent “War on Terror” have certainly polarized our nation. How, then, does one take a topic as sensitive as this one and prevent it from becoming a political and religious free-for-all?

An Atmosphere of Understanding

Early on, both Golphin and Shafiq decided that the best way to approach a class on the study of Christianity and Islam would be to present the class as a literary course—that is, students would focus on the thematic elements found in the Qur’an and the Bible, rather than on the religions themselves. The logic behind this was simple: “We already understood that [the students] would see a lot of commonalities between the two religions...the focus was to allow students to make up their own minds about what they learned,” says Golphin. In addition, Golphin says that people often fail to realize that these holy texts are the products of hundreds of years of revision. “Even though people accept them as inspired writings and revere them as pathways to God, these works are first and foremost literary.”

The decision to make the class a literary one rather than a religious one was also rooted in the idea that the Bible and the Qur’an speak for themselves when it comes to correcting misperceptions. As Golphin says, “I had already heard so much...misinformation, both about the essence of Christianity and the essence of Islam, that I felt that a course that examined



Dr. Mohammad Shafiq teaches the Islamic component of this quarter's Islam and Christianity class. Kim Weiselberg/REPORTER Magazine

the holy texts and studied the elements of faith in both traditions would leave to an ultimately greater understanding of the Abrahamic (Islamic, Christian, and Judaic) tradition."

Both Golphin and Shafiq agreed from the beginning that it was incredibly important that the class not take an evangelical edge—that is, that neither professor become preachy or defensive when explaining a religion's belief system. Rather, the professors have focused on the importance of using critical thinking skills for students to analyze each religion and then make their own decisions about each. For this reason, the class is based almost completely on discussion. Lecturing is kept to a minimum; instead, students are asked to carefully analyze and criticize the thematic elements found in the Bible and the Qur'an.

Dealing with Controversy

The topics that Golphin and Shafiq have concentrated on in this course seem, on first glance, relatively innocuous. Topics such as "Man as Individual," "Man in Society," and "Prophecy and Revelation" may seem far removed from the war and prejudice in today's society. However, more often than not, class discussion moves away from the holy texts and towards an in-depth conversation of current events. Although students learn much about both Christian and Islamic principles of thought and schools of belief, just as much of the class is concentrated on questions dealing with today's situation in the Middle East. The moral implications of our current war, as well as our nation's perceptions of Muslims, are two topics that are discussed on a regular basis.

According to Golphin, part of what makes the class work is the diversity in political and religious belief found in the class. Students come from a wide range of backgrounds; both conservative and liberal viewpoints are expressed on a regular basis. "We ended up with a pretty good class...in terms of breadth of students," Golphin says, "The students are extremely motivated and committed to the course...that's evident in their willingness to discuss. I've seen classes where we run overtime in discussion, and I think that's great."

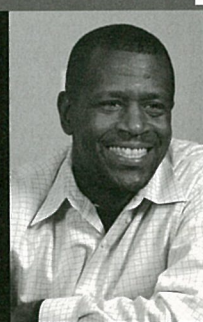
Looking Towards the Future

Although there are, at present, no concrete plans to offer this class again, there is the possibility that it could be scheduled again for the 2006-2007 academic year. However, this possibility will doubtless be altered by next fall's changes in curriculum requirements for Liberal Arts courses. With the larger class size that will inevitably come with these requirements, the class may lose its intimate feel and intense discussion.

Regardless of the future of "Special Topics: Christianity and Islam," Golphin feels that this class has been a learning experience on many levels for the students. The class has been an opportunity for students to discuss current events in the context of looking at the primary sources from which the religions of Islam and Christianity have sprung from. The professors hope that this will lead to a better understanding of the similarities between the two religions. As Golphin puts it, "These are not books that floated out of the sky. They are books that were crafted by creative people who were simply trying to make a point." •



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Houses for rent September 1, 2005. We have several 5 bedroom houses with leases expiring August of 2005. Located in Ballantyne subdivision, which is less than 1/2 mile from RIT. \$1650 to \$1700 per month or \$330 to \$340 per person. Houses are unfurnished but do have appliances and washer and dryer hookup. Contact Mark or Joann Hills at 585-436-9447 or 585-704-2823, Jim and Beth Hills at 315-214-4397 or 315-430-4266.



Forward Chuck Marion (left) of RIT scores a goal against Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) in the first half of a scrimmage on April 30 at RIT. Thomas Starkweather/REPORTER Magazine

SPORTSdesk

by José Plaza

Baseball

April 22: RIT vs. St. John Fisher

The Tigers split their double header match against St. John Fisher. The first game was very close and ended in a RIT victory by a score of 4-3. Fisher came back in the second game and won 20-4.

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

April 29: RIT vs. Cortland

The Tigers were only able to produce a single run and ended up losing to Cortland 1-10.

Score by Inning (RIT-Cortland)

First: 0-2, Second: 0-2, Third: 0-2, Fourth: 1-3, Fifth: 1-7, Sixth: 1-7, Seventh: 1-8, Eighth: 1-8, Ninth: 1-10

Final Score: L 1-10

Record through April 30: 12-10 Overall, 4-3 Empire 8

Men's Crew

April 23: Atlantic Collegiate League Sprints

The Men's Crew squads competed in the Atlantic Collegiate League Sprints in PA. There, RIT's First and Second Varsity Eight (5:58.3, 6:28.5), as well as Novice Varsity 8 (6:29.8), placed second in their races. RIT finished fourth in the trophy standings with 17 points.

Women's Crew

April 23: Atlantic Collegiate League Sprints

Women's Crew competed in the Atlantic Collegiate League Sprints in PA, where their Varsity Eight squad time of 7:16.6 earned them sixth in the sprints competition.

Men's Lacrosse

April 23: RIT vs. Hartwick

Men's Lacrosse wrapped up the Empire 8 season with a match against Hartwick College. RIT lost the match 12-8, but nevertheless clinched the third seed in the Empire 8 Tournament.

Final Score: L 8-12

RIT Goals: David Thering (3), Andrew Ruocco (3), Zach Bednarz (1), Brandon Wilkin (1)

April 29: RIT vs. Hartwick (Tournament game)

RIT competed in the Empire 8 Tournament semifinals and suffered a very close and disappointing loss to Hartwick College, 9-8.

Final Score: L 9-8

RIT Goals: David Thering (2), Zach Bednarz (2), Colin Jesien (2), Brandon Wilkin (1) Joe Argese (1)

Season Record: 7-7 Overall, 5-2 Empire 8

Women's Lacrosse

April 23: RIT vs. Ithaca

The Lady Tigers lost their last home game of the season versus Ithaca College by a score of 10-6.

Final Score: L 6-10

RIT Goals: Pinckney Templeton (4), Kaley Ostanek (1), Amanda Shortslef (1)

April 27: RIT vs. Cazenovia College

The Lady Tigers came out firing against Cazenovia College and put up twenty goals, grabbing the 20-10 victory.

Final Score: W 20-10

RIT Goals: Pinckney Templeton (4), Lisette Silver (4), Amanda Crozier (3), Jen Rynda (2), Becky Jaiven (2), Kaley Ostanek (2), Lindsay Fueuer (1), Emily Ianello (1), Heidi Allen (1)

Record through April 29: 1-11 Overall, 0-5 Empire 8

Softball

April 26: RIT vs. Elmira

The Tigers and Elmira College split their match. The first game went to Elmira, 2-1, while RIT rebounded in the second to capture a 4-1 win.

Game 1: Score by Inning (RIT-Elmira)

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

Final Score: L 1-2

Game 2: Score by Inning (RIT-Elmira)

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

Final Score: W 4-1

April 29: RIT vs. Hartwick

The Tigers not only swept Hartwick 6-1 and 3-1 in the double header; they also secured home field advantage for the Empire 8 Championship Tournament.

Game 1: Score by Inning (RIT-Hartwick)

First: 0-0, Second: 0-0, Third: 5-0, Fourth: 6-0, Fifth: 6-0, Sixth: 6-1, Seventh: 6-1

Final Score: W 6-1

Game 2: Score by Inning (RIT-Hartwick)

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

Final Score: W 3-1

Record through April 29: 19-15 Overall, 10-2 Empire 8

Men's Tennis

April 23: Empire 8 Championships

RIT competed in the first two rounds of the Empire 8 Championships and won 14 out of the 16 matches they participated in. They started off the day by sweeping both the singles and doubles against Utica. They went on to sweep the doubles and win four out of the six singles matches against Alfred. As a result of the two wins, RIT advanced to the Championship game.

RIT vs Utica

Doubles Winners: David Chachu/Rod Razavi (8-2), Darren Stanley/Jason Swails (8-1), Frank Solome/Jon New (8-0)
Singles Winners: David Chachu (6-2, 6-1), Darren Stanley (6-3, 6-0), Frank Solome (6-0, 6-1), Zak Blazic (6-0, 6-0), Jon New (6-0, 6-1), Rod Razavi (6-0, 6-1)

Final Score: W 7-0

RIT vs Alfred

Doubles Winners: David Chachu/Rod Razavi (8-4), Darren Stanley/Jason Swails (8-4), Jon New/Frank Solome (8-1)
Singles Winners: David Chachu (6-1, 6-0), Frank Solome (6-0, 6-0), Jon New (6-2, 6-1), Rod Razavi (6-0, 6-2)

Final Score: W 5-2

April 24: Empire 8 Championship game: RIT vs. Ithaca

RIT Men's Tennis won the Empire 8 Championship game against Ithaca College, putting an exclamation point on a great 2005 season. The Tigers won 4-3, making them the Empire 8 Champions for the first time since 2001.

Doubles Winners: David Chachu/Rod Razavi (8-6)

Singles Winners: David Chachu (6-2, 6-3), Frank Solome (6-4, 6-0), Zak Blazic (6-4, 6-1), Rod Razavi (7-5, 6-3)

Final Score: W 4-3

Men's Track

April 16: Raider Challenge

RIT Men's Track competed in the Raider Challenge hosted by Roberts Wesleyan College. There, the track team placed third out of fifteen teams in the competition, with a total team score of 87.5 points. Chad Byler won the 10,000 meters with a time of 33:20.21, and Stephen Burns won the javelin throw with a toss of 54.94 meters.

continued...

SPORTSdesk continued...

April 23: Hamilton Invitational

The Hamilton Invitational set the stage for some great performances from the men's track team. Stephen Burns won the javelin throw by a wide margin (6.5 meters), with a toss of 53.51 meters. Jimmy Sorel won the 400-meter hurdles in 00:56.74. Matt Bango, Nate Lowe, Craig Knight, and Brendan Fitzgerald also fared well in their performances.

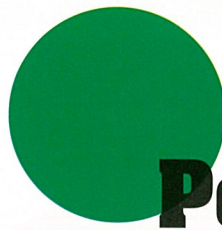
Women's Track

April 16: Raider Challenge

With a team score of 55 points at the Raider Challenge hosted by Roberts Wesleyan College, the Lady Tigers grabbed seventh out of 13 teams. Danielle Simmons was her usual self, this time breaking a school record with a winning time in the 400-meter of 58.94, and Trisha Sliker broke the old school record in the 5000-meter with a third place finish of 18:19.34. LaKeisha Perez also had a great run for RIT, winning the 100-meter hurdles in a time of 15.92.

April 23: Hamilton Invitation

Women's track and field made their presence felt at the Hamilton Invitational, winning three of the events. LaKeisha Perez led RIT with victories in both the 100 meter high hurdles (00:15.92) and the 100 yard dash (00:13.06). Trisha Sliker, with a time of 11:49.76, won the 3000 meter steeplechase.



Peg a Politician College Democrats vs. Dodge



College Democrat Kevin Tierney (left) and Chairman of the RIT College Republicans vs. College Republicans Dodgeball Battle. Four elephants and four donkeys. Friday, April 29. Eric Sucar/REPORTER Magazine

College Republicans ball



ns Jason Marini (right) chase after one of the balls during the College Demo-
played four games of dodgeball from 6-7 p.m. in the Student Life Center on

by José Plaza

College Republicans versus College Democrats: just another friendly game of dodgeball? Not quite. “See, the thing is, most liberal Democrats are anti-war. I’m surprised they even wanted to do a dodgeball game. There’s so much *violence* involved,” said Jason Marini, third year Computer Engineer and Chairman of the RIT College Republicans, “We suspect that they’ll play all defense, no offense.” The Democrats’ representative, first year Computer Science major Kevin Tierney, got straight to the point, “Republicans are getting their asses handed to them on a silver platter with Bush’s face on it.” Whatever the outcome was to be, the pre-game trash talk from both sides had set the stage for a great way to solve a political duel.

Unfortunately, not many people showed up for the event. Keep in mind that politicians have very busy schedules, thus keeping them away from very important battles such as this one. Only four representatives showed up from each side, which they both agreed was enough to proceed with the match. The rules were simple: intramural dodgeball rules, and a best-of-five game plan. It’s good to see that the politicians could agree on one thing. With the rules decided, the competition began.

In game one, both sides played very conservatively, as they tried to feel each other out and determine what everyone was capable of. Marini said before the game began, “I’ve seen their throwing skills, and they’re not looking too stellar.” Boy, was he wrong. Led by Tierney and first year Software Engineer Rob Jones, the Democrats landed hits that crushed the Republicans one by one, until no one was left standing.

Game two called for some revenge on the Republican’s behalf, but they got none. Both teams had loosened up by that time, and for this game, it was just a matter of who would outplay who. Once again, the Democrats just played smarter dodgeball, and ended up taking a 2-0 advantage.

Game three was do-or-die for the Republicans. They looked desperately for motivation, calling upon the Florida gods and praying for a miracle. Meanwhile, the Democrats patiently waited for the third (and final, in their minds) game to begin. The Democrats used clever “strategy” in this game, and with consistent throwing accuracy swept the Republicans 3-0. Chuck Norris’ services weren’t even needed for a tiebreak decision, since the Democrats won unanimously.

Marini and Tierney, along with the rest of the members, shook hands and smiled as they passed each other after the match. Both teams agreed that the match was a hard-played one, and that on this occasion, the better team won. In Marini’s own words, it just wasn’t the Republicans’ day, and to their dismay, they ended up “going down faster than an Iraqi insurgent.” Well, the good thing is that Republicans won’t have to wait four more years; they’ll have their shot at the Democrats next year. •

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As Useless as Nipples on Men

by Sean Hannan

Let's get one thing straight: I'm not a fan of the College Activities Board (CAB). It's nothing personal against the kids that work there. In fact, I know from classes and other interactions that they work hard and produce good work—which is my measure of awesomeness in these here academic confines. My issue with CAB lies in how CAB exists as an organization.

Sure, the CAB staff consists almost entirely of students who plan and promote events on campus, but there is no way for the rest of the student body to hold CAB's feet to the fire.

CAB, like *Reporter*, is a Major Student Organization (MSO). Unlike *Reporter*, however, CAB seems to have forgotten the 'Student' part of MSO. Sure, the CAB staff consists almost entirely of students who plan and promote events on campus, but there is no way for the rest of the student body to hold CAB's feet to the fire. This results in the majority of CAB feedback being left in the "What would you like to see the next Student Government do?" box in the recent SG election. Here at *Reporter*, our Friday meetings are open to anyone. You don't like how we covered an event or an issue? Bring it up during our (sometimes overly) lengthy critique of the magazine. We are very open to feedback as we constantly strive to better ourselves. I would at least like to see the same amount of openness from CAB. A form on their website and a once-a-year survey just isn't going to cut it.

A model example of how constant student interaction makes for better campus events is Cornell's Fanclub Collective. Their website (<http://www.rso.cornell.edu/fanclub/>) has a forum section where anyone (not just the student body) can suggest a band to bring to campus. Members of the Fanclub then contact booking agents and make the arrangements, and poof! There's a show. It does not really take that much effort to set up a concert.

At this point in my RIT career, I've attended more and had more fun at Fanclub events than I have CAB events. I do not mind the four-hour round-trip drive to Ithaca; I know that I'm going to see a show that I am going to enjoy rather than just settling for what CAB feeds me.

Unfortunately, an organization like Fanclub could never exist at RIT. As Fanclub is officially a club at Cornell, they get a meager budget with which to put on shows. From an administrative point of view, it just does not make sense for the institute to give money to yet another club that does more or less what CAB is chartered to do.

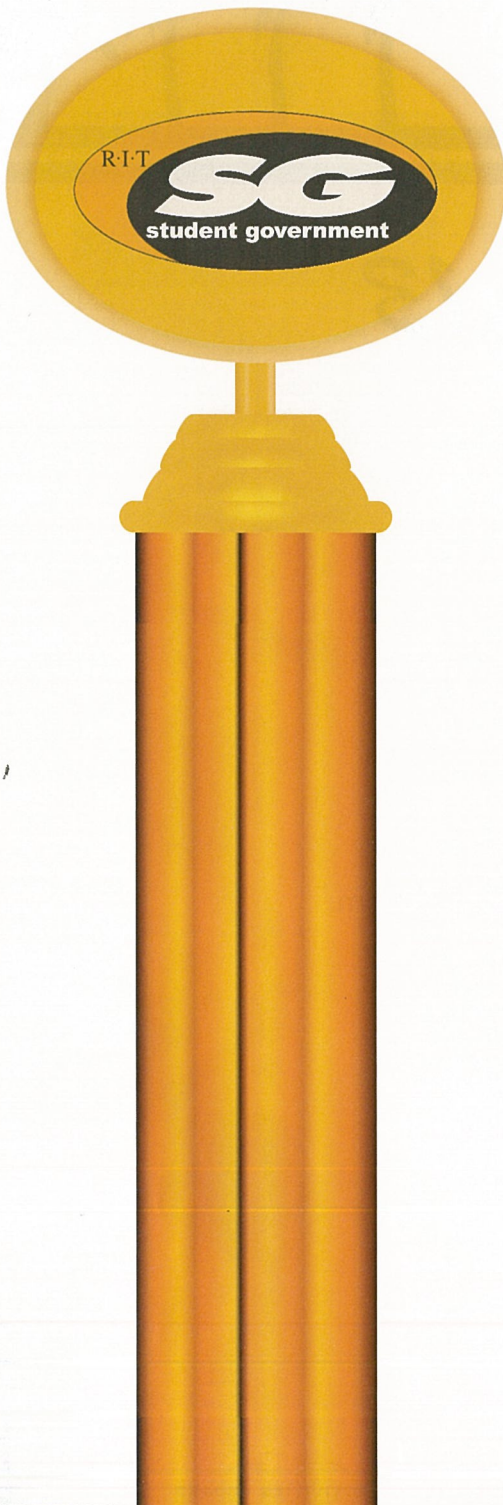
Of course, a student-run concert club would never be able to throw a show on the scale of Ludacris. Nor do they want to. Those thousands of dollars could have put on a well-attended sold-out concert every week this quarter.

Just as a true friend will stop you from buying a hideous shirt, we should at least have the opportunity to say to CAB, "That's not really your color."

Now, I titled this opinion (and yes, indeed a facebook group) very carefully. The truth of the matter is that CAB is not a completely useless, lame-duck organization. They work hard and they bring lots of varied events to campus—not just concerts. So, they serve a function. However, there is a large room for improvement. The only way to constantly strive to improve is through listening to the rest of the campus. Just as a true friend will stop you from buying a hideous shirt, we should at least have the opportunity to say to CAB, "That's not really your color. Here, try this on." If that were to happen, maybe then CAB will be as useful as nipples on women.

Student Government 2004-2005

Look At What We've Accomplished . . .



Student Activities Day

In coordination with Orientation, SG held a kickoff to the school year showcasing clubs, organizations and a Greek carnival.

Distinguished Horton Speaker series - Robert Redford

It was the largest Horton speaker to date, bringing in over 4,000 alumni, students, and parents.

Tiger Claw Debate

The RIT College Republicans, College Democrats, and the RIT Social Action Group held a debate on the national presidential election.

Renovation of Erdle Commons in KGCOE

The COE Senator helped refurbish the Erdle Commons.

Faculty of the Quarter

The COS Senator recognized the Faculty member of the quarter.

BBQ's

SG held its annual BBQs in the fall and spring quarters.

Shuttle Days

SG jumped on the shuttles for breakfast, telling people to Trust the Bus.

Breakfast Stops for Finals in all colleges

Every quarter Krispy Kreme doughnuts and juice was provided in colleges to help the students through those rough mornings.

Homecoming: "Our Blood Runs Orange"

The final winter homecoming included the following events: Superbowl Extravaganza, Tiger Idol, X-press Yourself Art contest, Flag Football, and a Pep Rally.

CAST Newsletter - "This week in CAST"

A monthly e-mail newsletter was created by the CAST Senator to inform students of events and information with the college.

Gender Policy Proposal

Student Government presented the addition of "gender identity, or gender expression" into the discrimination and harassment piece of the policy and procedure manual. The policy became official during the April meeting of the Institute Council.

Spring Festival Parade

Student Government is reinstating the tradition of a parade featuring clubs and other outstanding student organizations for the 175th Anniversary.

SENIOR NIGHT

Luau



Friday May 13

What: RIT Senior Night Luau

When: Friday May 13, 2005

Time: 5:30pm- midnight

Where: SAU Building & Grounds

Dinner: Pig roast dinner outside the SAU from 5:30pm-7:00pm

Prizes: Raffles include vacation packages, electronics & gift certificates

Tickets: Sign up in the SAU Lobby from 10am-4pm or in the College Activities Board Office located in SAU basement, room A402. Bring a valid ID.

This event is open to senior members of the 2005 graduating class of winter, spring, summer or fall.

Questions? Please call 475-2509
or email cabgrad@rit.edu

This event is Free to you and one guest


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