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EDITORIAL

Halloween and Thanks Giving

Scariest things from the past year: earthquakes, tsunamis, hurricanes. After going through several haunted houses this October, not once did I encounter anything remotely close to the terror of a natural disaster. The water-squirting, despoiled toilet and the pneumatically possessed elevator can't really compare. And scary as they were and are, you won't find anything resembling a Katrina costume for sale this season. However, this Halloween, you can definitely grab a pair of scissors, a sheet, and a healthy helping of thanksgiving.

I realize that the holiday featuring the gobbling bird is still a month away. But the Christians are still remembering Jesus' death even though it's not Good Friday, thus we can all remember to be thankful even though it's not Thanksgiving.

Obviously, Halloween is not a work or school holiday—not that you can really get off school for holidays here, anyway. However, Hallowe'en is as good a holiday as any at RIT. Most are ignored, except for Christmas/New Year's, but consider how appropriate it is when you factor in the orange and (in the case of athletics) black dominating our color scheme. Thus, I would strongly encourage everyone at RIT to celebrate Halloween regardless of your background. It's the only holiday left in Fall Quarter—go nuts!

Because a holiday can be whatever you make of it. Think: balloons. My hope, though, would be that holidays give some pause for reflection considering their anomalously special place on the calendar. And in light of recent catastrophes in South Asia, Southeast Asia, and the Gulf Coast, it seems natural to give thanks for what stability and comforts you enjoy in life. Such thanksgivings are truly universal—transcending: religion, race, sexuality, everything.

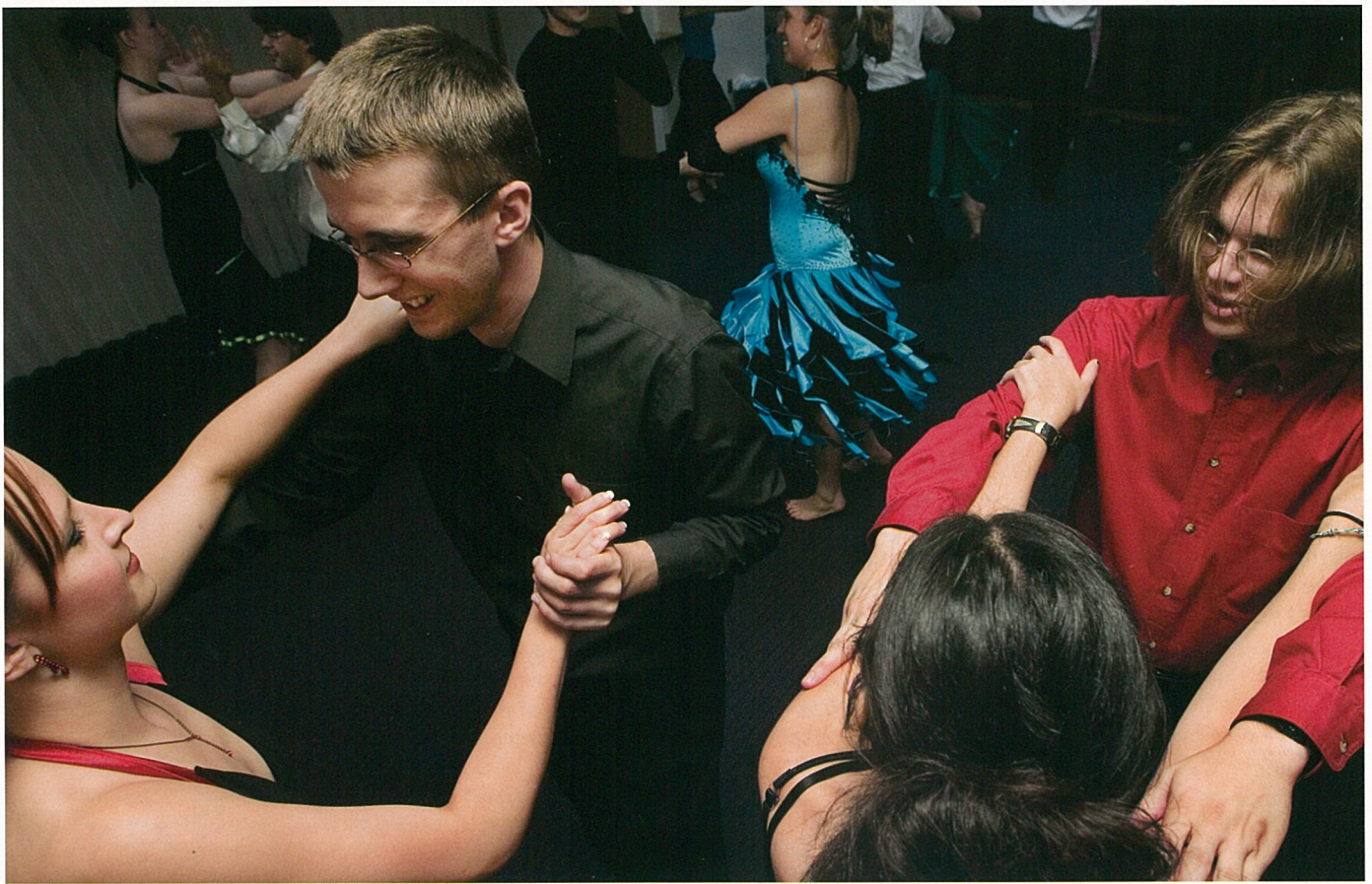
And of course, RIT is a private, secular university. We are not Wesleyan and we are, certainly, not Bob Jones University. Halloween is not and does not have to be indelibly linked to evil or taboo. I was raised in what would be considered a "Christian home." This, however, did not stop us from giving out the big candy bars every year on the township-sanctioned night for trick-or-treating. That's right—king size Hershey bars. And our religious background did not conflict with our observing the be-something-you-not secular night that is Halloween.

And I realize that not all brands of Christianity hold the same beliefs. But for us it worked—because Halloween isn't only about kids dressed up like Power Rangers and Zombies lugging overstuffed sacks of processed sugar. It's also about community spirit—the neighborhood coming together on a special occasion. We aren't sacrificing humans, tigers, or goats. We are just congregating. *It's not Thanksgiving.* But just because we exchange sweets for turkey and ghosts for pilgrims, doesn't mean we are bunch of heretical pagans out to corrupt America's youths.

If you think Halloween is detrimental to society—fine. You don't want your kids becoming literate on Harry Potter—fine. However, you have a choice to do something good with this particular holiday. It comes down to looking at the event not so much as a manifestation of evil, but as an opportunity for spreading love (religious or otherwise). Dissenting parents: costume your kids as mild-mannered mini suburbanites and send them out on Halloween with UNICEF boxes. Give thanks for what you have and help out those less fortunate. Whether you are a Wiccan, a Christian, an Atheist, or the average RIT student, you at least *have* the option of trick-or-treating this year, unlike the kids from in and around New Orleans.



Erhardt Graeff
Editor in Chief



(Couples from left to right) Whitney Tresser and Brandon Luquette practice dance steps along with Katarina Loughlin and Partick Tribble and the rest of the Ballroom Dancing Club during a dress rehearsal in the Clark B meeting room on Thursday, October 20. The Ballroom Dancing Club was rehearsing for the Cornell Dancesport Spectacular on Saturday, October 22. Tom Starkweather/REPORTER Magazine

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Cover photograph by Jacob Hannah

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A Reply to "RIT is Alive with the Sound of Music: Who Knew?"

(from the October 14, 2005 issue)

As Director of RIT's Music Program, Monica Donovan recently grabbed my attention when she opened her article with "RIT is about as musically inclined as a stack of bricks. There's no music program...."

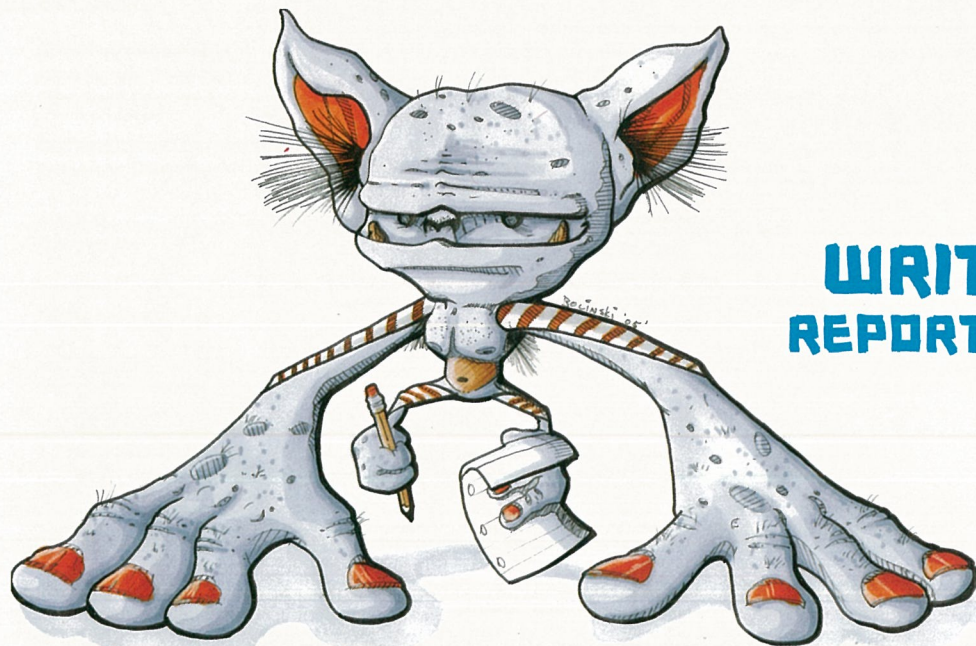
While I trust her intent was to increase the visibility of our MANY musical offerings at RIT, I must admit that her opening statement made me question the reason she didn't seek out more information about what is available on our campus.

For the record, RIT's music program is housed in and funded by the College of Liberal Arts. Over 200 students participate in RIT music ensembles EACH quarter. This includes the RIT Singers, RIT Concert Band, RIT Jazz Ensemble, RIT Orchestra, RIT World Music Ensemble, four 'A Cappella' groups, and a Gospel Ensemble. The 'A Cappella' ensembles, on which her article primarily focused, are connected with and funded by the RIT Singers, not the RIT Student Music Association. A diverse group of classroom music offerings (approximately 16-18 courses are taught each quarter by 4 full-time and 6 adjunct music faculty) fulfill Liberal Arts and General Education requirements for the 500+ students enrolled each quarter. Additionally, students may enroll in a Music Concentration and a Music Minor. Presently, there are approximately 250 students combining music with their 'technical' majors.

Finally, I question why she would ever state that "being a singer at the Rochester Institute of Technology...is the ultimate paradox." I truly believe that we have outstanding students at RIT who are not defined solely by their majors and careers. Having taught here for twenty-four years, I have known and worked with thousands of students who may be studying to be engineers or IT specialists, but these folks also make music—many of them on a daily basis. RIT is a multi-faceted university with much to offer, including a dynamic and growing music program.

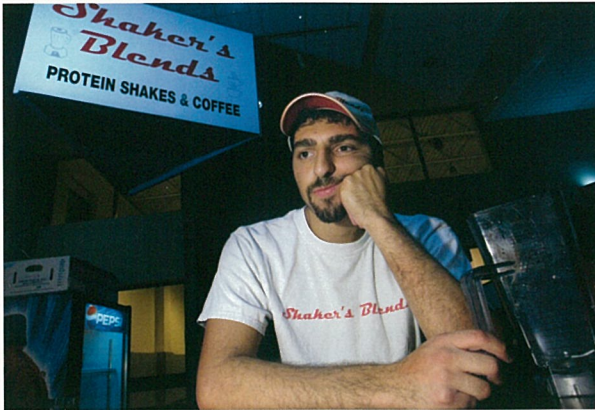
Sincerely,

Prof. Edward Schell
Music Program Director
College of Liberal Arts



**WRITE TO US.
REPORTER@RIT.EDU**

Shaker's Blends: Selling More Than Just the Shakes



One of the Shaker's Blend owners, Marc-Anthony Arena poses at his stand in Student Life Center on October 20, 2005. He said several prospective buyers are interested in purchasing their business. Young Jang/REPORTER Magazine

“When I sell the place, I’m gonna sit at home in the bathtub for a week.”

by Renee Keiser

It's a bustling Thursday night at the SLC. The fitness-lovers and health-conscious come up the stairs from the fitness center in droves. They're feeling good with that extra dose of endorphins; courtesy of that kickin' 45-minute cardio circuit, or that hour-long lifting session. After working out, when metabolism is at a spiked level, replenishing one's body with the proper fuel is key to maintaining all the hard work put into that workout.

Shaker's Blends, on the SLC's first floor, is the place to get that proper nutrition right after a hard workout. Marc-Anthony Arena, now an RIT alumnus, co-founded Shaker's Blends with Anatoly Shillman. The two started a fraternity together, TGC, and were in the same entrepreneurship class. They received third place in RIT's first annual Business Plan Competition for their original concept of Shaker's Blends. After starting with non-existent funding and no room for error, Arena and Shillman opened Shaker's Blends on August 28, 2004.

“I worked 72 hours a week to start,” says Arena, in reflection of those early days. Pointing to a small stretch of countertop along a side of the stand, he reflects, “I did all my homework right there.”

After all the long days and nights spent starting up the business, and all of the accolades and recognition that Shaker's Blends has garnered since it has been in business, Arena has decided it's time to move on. Due to a new responsibility of having to run the business by himself, he's seeking to sell Shaker's Blends to those interested in a new business venture.

“I want this place in good hands,” says Arena. “I want someone involved with the RIT community, who knows the effort it takes to run and promote the stand.”

According to Arena, there are many offers on the table for the purchase of the stand. One of those interested is an instructor for RIT [name withheld]. He says that he wants to keep Shaker's Blends going so that students can have a place to get healthy, fast food on campus. “Health is a big thing,” the instructor comments. “This place is a healthy solution to [non-nutritious] food.”

Arena hopes to see the business he and Shillman created grow into a one-stop health food shop. Right now, he has a nutritionist on staff, creating meal plans for selling food in the near future. The stand currently sells protein shakes, along with a selection of drinks such as Gatorade, water, and Lipton Tea. Overall, Arena's small business experience has given him a wealth of knowledge about the world of business. He has also found a new sense of confidence in himself, and believes that others can follow in his footsteps. Arena had hoped that some students would be interested in taking over the business so that they could learn as much as he has through this whole experience.

“[This experience] was worth every minute,” says Arena. “We had nothing to lose. My confidence and my health have improved so much. I don't need to be afraid anymore.”

After placing Shaker's Blends in good hands, and ensuring its permanence as a place for the fitness-conscious to find nutritious food, Arena has only one plan in mind. “When I sell the place, I'm gonna sit at home in the bathtub for a week.” •

CrimeWatch

compiled by Govind Ramabadrán

October 12

Crossroads - Harassment

The Crossroads manager reported that he discovered two posters taped to the doors that contained suspicious words. Further investigation with the RIT Anime Club produced two students in the club who admitted to creating the posters. Case referred to Student Conduct.

Student Alumni Union - Criminal Mischief

A name was written on chalk on the northeast wall of the SAU near the main entrance. Follow-up to continue.

Campus Safety Office - Forgery

A wallet was found to contain three licences. One of the licences is forged. A note was left for the student to come to Campus Safety regarding his wallet. The investigation continues.

October 13

Mark Ellingson Hall - Drug Use

Campus Safety observed students in the quad blowing into a large tube that had a strong odor of marijuana. The tube was confiscated and their rooms searched. A glass pipe and a silver grinder was found in the room and also confiscated. The items were turned over to the Monroe County Sheriff's Department.

October 14

Harassment

A student placed a profane and derogatory message on his AIM away message which was directed at members of the Institute Appeal Board. The investigation continues.

October 16

University Commons - Criminal Mischief

The glass in the south foyer door at a University Commons building was broken by an unknown person. The investigation continues.

Kate Gleason Hall - Burglary, Unlawful Entry

A student reported that \$40 was stolen from a glass jar which he keeps in his room. The incident occurred in between October 13 at 2 p.m. and October 16 at 11:05 p.m. while the student was out of town. The investigation continues.

October 17

Perkins Green - Criminal Mischief

A student discovered her bicycle intentionally damaged while it was parked outside her apartment. The incident occurred between October 15 at noon and October 17 at 12:45 p.m. Investigation closed pending new information.

Hale-Andrews Student Life Center - Grand Larceny

A student reported that he put his wallet in a locker at 7:45 p.m. and left the locker unsecured and unattended until 8:35 p.m. When he returned to the locker, his wallet was missing. Monroe County Sheriff's Department was notified and responded.

October 18

Unlawful Dealing With A Child

A student reported that his roommate had alcohol which he served at a party in their residence hall room. The investigation determined that the student obtained alcohol from his sister when she had visited RIT on October 8. The investigation continues.

Mark Ellingson Hall - Petit Larceny

Two students had their clothes stolen from the Ellingson Hall laundry room. The incident occurred between midnight and 1 a.m. Investigation closed pending new information.

Max Lowenthal Building - Harassment

A staff person reported receiving a harassing voicemail from an unknown male. Monroe County Sheriff's Department responded and filed a report. Follow-up to continue.

Kate Gleason Hall - Harassment

A student discovered a derogatory statement on his white board when he returned to his residence hall room. The investigation continues.

Mark Ellingson Hall - Burglary

A student discovered his wallet missing from his secured residence hall room. The incident occurred between October 17 at 4 a.m. and October 18 at 4:30 p.m. There was no sign of forced entry, and three individuals were in the room during the time of the incident. The investigation continues.

October 19

Nathaniel Rochester Hall - Weapon Possession

An officer on patrol in the residence hall quads found a plastic soda bottle in the NRH quad that had exploded. A substance inside the bottle tested positive for high acidity. Monroe County Sheriff's Department responded and filed a report. Investigation closed pending new information.

Sol Heumann Hall - Unlawful Possession of Marijuana

A person smelled what he believed to be marijuana. The resident of the room gave Campus Safety a blue glass bong pipe and a box of twenty-four nitrous oxide chargers. The drug items were turned over to the Monroe County Sheriff's Department. Case referred to Student Conduct.


Riverknoll - Grand Larceny

A Riverknoll student left his wallet unattended in his bedroom while maintenance was checking for bees. The student later noted his wallet missing. One hour later, the bank reported his credit card being used at a gas station. Student will follow up with the bank. Follow-up to continue.


RITForecast

compiled by
Casey Dehlinger

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>Friday 28 OCT</p> | <p>PapersInvited: Noon–1 p.m. Wallace Library. One of the world’s largest listings of calls for papers from professional bodies; show up to set up a subject area profile and find scholarship opportunities. Alumni Career Speakers Series: Noon–1:30 p.m. Building 70 Room 3000. “It’s not what you say, it’s HOW you say it...” lecture by Ken Frank. Pulse Happy Hour: 5 p.m.–7 p.m. Traffic Circle in front of Ellingson Hall. Social fundraising event sponsored by NTID Student Congress. Food and drink provided. The Passion of Dracula: 7:30 p.m. Panara Theatre. Performed in ASL and spoken language. Public Ramadan Dinner: 6 p.m.–8:30 p.m. SAU Cafeteria. Sponsored by the Muslim Student Association. Traditional dinner with guest speakers. \$3. Visual Lyric Film Screening: 8 p.m.–10 p.m. Carlson Auditorium. A 40-minute documentary on performance art interpreting. Directed and produced by Johnny Robinson of the School of Animation, and Jennifer Horak from the Department of Access Services. Friday Night at the Ritz: 10 p.m.–1 a.m. CAB presents the eclectic sound of No Bud for Bisson, hailing from Boston, Massachusetts. \$1.</p> |
| <p>Saturday 29 OCT</p> | <p>RIT Fest: All day. NRH 1250. 24 hour LAN party. Sponsored by the Information Technology Student Organization. \$7. Open House: 8 a.m.–4 p.m. SAU. So be prepared for lots of parents asking for directions. Kim Murray Karate Demonstration: 9 a.m.–4 p.m. Clark Gym. Hi-yah! Isn’t a karate term; it’s a way to say hello. Calamity Symphony: Noon–1 a.m. SAU Cafeteria. Soul Calibur III tournament sponsored by the Electronic Gaming Society. Greek Weekend BBQ, Fireworks, and Bonfire: 4 p.m.–12 a.m. Behind Gracie’s. Madden NFL Game Tournament: 4 p.m.–7 p.m. SAU: Clark A. Sponsored by the Emerging Black Artists organization. Halloween Concert: 5 p.m.–6:30 p.m. Ingle Auditorium. Performed by the RIT Orchestra and the Brighton Symphony. Diwali Dinner: 6:30 p.m.–12 a.m. Clark Gym. A Hindu festival with a pooja (prayer) followed by dinner. Sponsored by the Organization of the Alliance of Students from the Indian Subcontinent. Battle of the Bands: 7 p.m.–10 p.m. Fireside Lounge. Sponsored by the Student Music Association. Students, Faculty, Staff: \$3. Other: \$5. RHA Halloween Bash: 7 p.m.–10 p.m. Gleason and NRH Quad. Dance, costumes, movies, games, and a haunted house. The Passion of Dracula: 7:30 p.m. Panara Theatre. Performed in ASL and spoken language.</p> |
| <p>Sunday 30 OCT</p> | <p>Tres Vidas: 1 p.m.–4 p.m. Ingle Auditorium. Core Ensemble presents a theatrical work based on the lives of Frida Kahlo, Rufina Amaya, and Alfonsina Storni. The Passion of Dracula: 2 p.m. Panara Theatre. Performed in ASL and spoken language. Greek Weekend Air Band: 4 p.m.–7 p.m. Clark Gym. Halloween Poker Tournament: 6:30 p.m.–2 a.m. SAU Cafeteria. Up to \$1000 in prizes. Extra chips for costumed competitors. Sponsored by CAB. \$10 Pre register, \$12 at the door. Halloween Social Dance: 7:30 p.m.–10 p.m. Student Life Center. Sponsored by the Ballroom Dance Club. \$2 admission, \$3 includes a dance lesson. Rocky Horror Picture Show: 8 p.m.–11 p.m. Webb Auditorium. Screening sponsored by RIT Gay Alliance.</p> |
| <p>Monday 31 OCT</p> | <p>Halloween Tip: Boo is a pretty stupid syllable to use to try to scare people, it rolls off the tongue too slowly. Ba, however, has a sort of natural crescendo to it, providing for more effective scares. Call the Reporter voicemail and try to scare me. 585.475.5633.</p> |
| <p>Tuesday 1 NOV</p> | <p>Intergroup Dialogue: 5:30 p.m.–7 p.m. The Commons. Discuss aspects of Hearing and Deaf culture. It’s the First Day of the November: Let’s see if the design staff forgets this and calls it October in the box to the left.</p> |
| <p>Wednesday 2 NOV</p> | <p>Careers in New Media Design and Entrepreneurship: 12 p.m.–1:30 p.m. Building 70 Room 2400. Therese Hannigan speaks as part of the Alumni Career Speaker Series.</p> |
| <p>Thursday 3 NOV</p> | <p>Global Union BBQ: 10 a.m.–3 p.m. Kodak Quad. Distinguished Speaker Series: 4 p.m.–5 p.m. Building 76 Room 1125. Lin Charles talks about a new scanning laser system for treating retinal disorders. Pot and Tobacco Presentation: 7 p.m.–8:30 p.m. Ingle Auditorium. Sponsored by Greeks Advocating the Mature Management of Alcohol (GAMMA). Sachiyo Ito and Company: 7:30 p.m.–9 p.m. Webb Auditorium. Japanese classical dance with demonstration of Kabuki dance. Remember the Titans: 10 p.m. Ingle Auditorium. Part of the Thursday Night Cinema Series sponsored by CAB. Free Peanut Butter and Jelly provided after the show (as well as bread).</p> |



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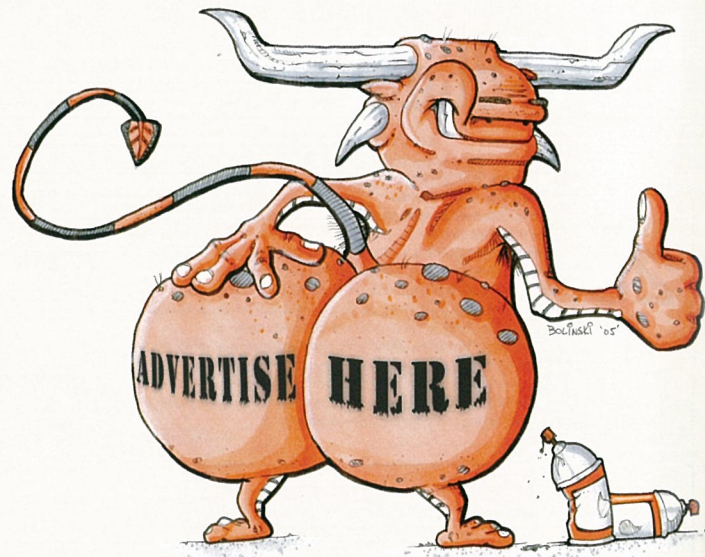
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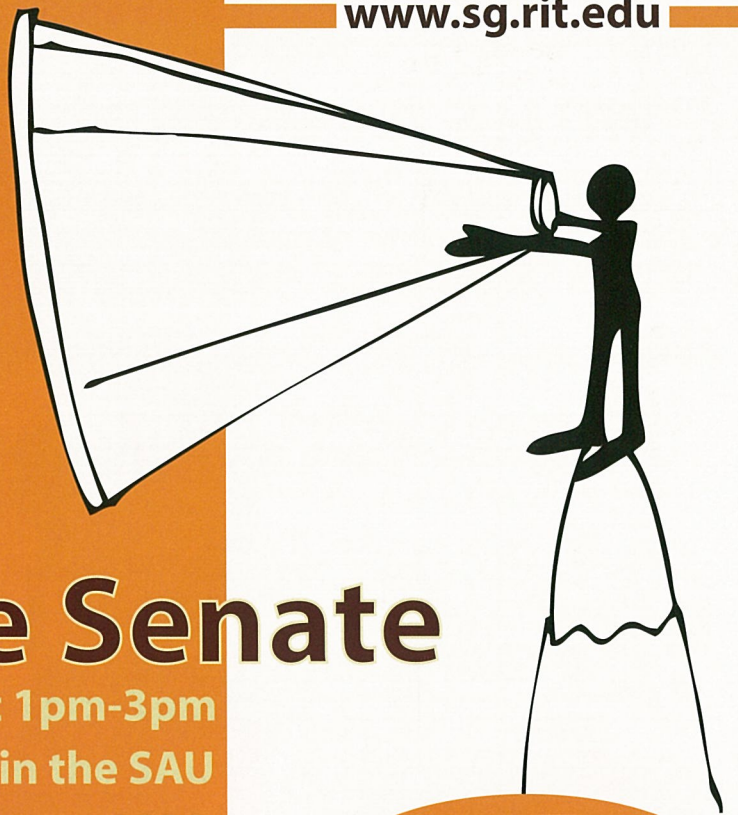
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Balls Dresses and the Link B

by Jennifer Loomis

I am a rational human being. As such, I believe that certain happenings are so mind-bogglingly improbable that they can be considered statistical impossibilities. These events inevitably take me by surprise. For example, when I hear that a Bingo night is being held on campus, I tend to raise a curious eyebrow. When I hear that said Bingo night is being co-hosted by a couple of drag queens, I tend to raise the other eyebrow in astonishment. And when I hear that the crowd at the aforementioned event is predominantly heterosexual, I can only sit back and stare in wonder, because both of my eyebrows are already spoken for.

▲ Samantha Vega and DeeDee Debois (left) perform on Wednesday, October 19 during the Drag Bingo Night put on by the Gay Lesbian Bisexual Transsexual Ally Week Committee in the SAU Cafeteria. Ralph Smith/REPORTER Magazine



etween Them

“now, where do the sexual favors play into this?”

However, the (literal and metaphorical) lack of glitter hardly spoiled the evening. As Dee Dee so eloquently put it: “[This event] gets bigger and bigger each year and the [Bingo] balls get smaller and smaller.”

The Bingo, while initially amusing, quickly lost its novelty, as attested to by the sheer number of students who stopped playing in order to eat their game markers (aka, rainbow Skittles). Michael Ayars, a second year Computer Science major, had a unique way of expressing his boredom, asking “now, where do the sexual favors play into this?” Just as the night was starting to look bleak, the air was pierced with the sounds of a steady Latin beat. The drag show was starting.

Samantha Vega, clad in a red-and-black getup, trotted scintillatingly onto stage, dancing expertly to the music. The cheering crowd instantly took to its feet. Vega, seemingly fed by the crowd’s excitement, spent most of her time jumping around the SAU Cafeteria tables, a feat made all the more impressive by her five inch high-heeled boots.

After Vega finished her song, it was Dee Dee’s turn to take the stage; her performance was no less eye-catching. Clad in neon green fishnets and a long black jacket, she was certainly a sight to behold. She too, spent most of her time off-stage, instead situating herself in the laps of a few good men as AC/DC’s classic rock tune “You Shook Me All Night Long” played in the background.

After the Queen’s both finished their sets, they brought up some students to put on a small performance. Although this amateur hour quickly degenerated into a strip-tease, the excitement of those students on stage served as a testament to the overall vibe of support that stemmed from the audience.

Following the show, the Queens opened up the floor for a question-answer period. The general sentiment that emanated from stage is that drag is about more than putting on a dress; it’s a full blown cultural and theatrical phenomenon that is deeply-rooted in the Rochester community. A few stereotypes were also dispelled, including the assumption that drag queens are sexually promiscuous (both Dee Dee and Samantha are dedicated husbands).

The Point

Fun with drag is all well and good, but what is the real point of Ally Week? Mark Mason, staff advisor to Ally Week, had this to say: “This week is about trying to bring in gay culture for fun and education.” Denise Herrera, REA for NRH and student organizer of Ally Week, added that “the hope is for this to continue...to not let it be only this week.” A continuation of tolerance towards gays on campus? That’s nothing to lift an eyebrow at, but rather a message we can all get behind. •

The Week

This awe-inducing night, known as Drag Bingo, was one of six gay culture events held on campus during last week’s Ally Week, a Res-Life sponsored series that focuses on fostering a safe environment for the GLBT community and its allies. To this end, activities such as Queer Eye for the RIT Guy and Safe Zone training were held with the aim of simultaneously entertaining students and educating them about the discrimination that gays face in today’s society.

The Drag Bingo

But, back to more pressing matters: men in dresses, of which there were two, named Samantha Vega and Dee Dee Dubois. Initially, the event seemed to be missing a certain flare, despite the cross-dressing. Anna Powell, a second year Graphic Design major, lamented at the drab surroundings, commenting that “the decorations were so much better last year.”



Second year New Media Information Technology major, Chris McMahon moves his marker during a Dungeons & Dragons game at the RWAG meeting on October 11, 2005 in the SAU cafeteria. Young Jang/REPORTER Magazine

R-WAG the dog: Rochester Wargamers Association and Guild

by Elliot Jenner

The sounds of rolling dice and shuffling cards greets you when you enter. A buzz of conversation permeates the air, punctuated by the scritch-scratch of pencil on paper and of pages being turned. This is Rochester Wargamers Association and Guild (RWAG).

RWAG is about games. It's about playing games, making friends, and having fun. Every Tuesday night from 7 to 11, RWAG takes over the SAU cafeteria and lets loose. Walk in and you'll see tables covered in books, cards, and dice. You'll also meet some of the liveliest geeks on campus.

So what exactly is RWAG? "Tabletop games, board games, card games...Any game that isn't electronic and isn't Chess or Go, RWAG is in charge of," said RWAG President Phillip Hein. "Our main games are Dungeons and Dragons, Warhammer, and Magic: The Gathering. We have people come in who like to play other games like RIFTS, D20 Modern, ...Starfleet Battles." There is always room for new players and game masters. "Basically, if you want to play a game, come to RWAG, announce that you're playing it, and someone will probably show up."

What do the RWAG members think of their club? "I, for one, am quite glad that there's a humongous group of gamers that are dedicated to the cause of having fun and adventure and stuff," said Chip Goff. This is a sentiment shared by everyone, and summed up best by the words of an anonymous member: "It's frickin great [in a Scottish accent]. Living with so many geeks has such solidarity towards one another. Vive la revolution."

RWAG hosted Rudicon XX last weekend. The 3 day gaming convention featured magic tournaments, role-play gaming (RPGing), board games, and wargames. Room 1829 in the SAU was full of dealers who brought their stock to RIT, including Baldo's Armory, Hammergirl Anime, and Enchanted Shire. Friday night, the Electronic Gaming Society held Halo 2 and Super-Smash Brothers tournaments, and Saturday and Sunday included showings courtesy of the Anime Club. The entry fee was \$20 for the whole event.

The convention was attended by only a couple hundred people, though some came from as far away as Michigan. Attendees' reactions were mixed. "It's pretty good" said William Minsinger, third year software engineering major. "Not bad," said Adam Regula, fourth year Physics major, "There's a very good atmosphere." Some attendees were a bit less forgiving. "Not enough going on for the price," said Tom McDermott, third year Information Technology major. Ben Britt, fourth year Business Management major, said simply: "I feel a little ripped off." The assessment of Eric Hepper, the Rudicon director, was that "Overall, the con[vention] has gone well. We had about the turnout we expected...people are having a lot of fun."

Even from week to week, RWAG is "A great place for gamers to meet," said Rob Dial, fourth year electrical engineering technology major. RWAG membership is \$10 for the year, and comes with a free T-Shirt and access to the club's extensive library of games. An RWAG card gets members a 15% discount at Baldo's Armory, as well as a 10% discount at Millennium Games. •

More info on the club can be found at <http://www.RWAG.org>.



Fear at Frontier [Field]

A group of people walk through the Horror Hotel, one of four haunted attractions at Fear at Frontier. Jacob Hannah/REPORTER Magazine

by Casey Dehlinger and Erhardt Graeff

A werewolf stalks a police car outside. A whimsical ghost attempts to walk through a door—but is totally denied. We look on in empathy, while it pounds its 'fists' in futile embarrassment. With baseball season over, Rochester's Frontier Field is haunted this October by an army of freaks and ghouls haunting four different scare-tastic attractions.

Escape from Cell Block D

This prison is not the sort of place you'd want to be with a hangover. Inside was a maze of mirrors, smoke, chain-link fences, and more strobe lights than a European discothèque. And as we found throughout our adventures, it's all about timing. Ours was bad. An ESPN camera crew actually gypped us in line here. Which meant that while we were trying to take on all the bloody prisoners and anarchy, we kept running into a steadycam-led ESPN parade. We did blow through the maze pretty quickly, though, despite the entangling staccato vision afforded by all those strobe lights—the openings in the fences kept shifting positions. It was kind of like trying to run up the down escalator at the mall while blinking your eyes at an incredible rate—only with demented prisoners on the loose. Minus the *press* being there, it was worth an 11 out of 13 for novel excellence.

The Crypt

The hodge-podge of alchemical zaniness and sarcastic banter of the The Crypt's expository dude started this thing off right. "He's going to kill you." Inside, the maze structure was dropped for a simpler zig-zag corridor through rooms of varying decor. Some rooms had half a dozen dummies—it was fun trying to guess which one had a pulse. Other rooms had half a dozen upright coffins—think *Let's Make a Deal*, only more doors and less prizes. And one room was covered with massive spiders—think... *lame*. The haunters knew their timing, though. Simple "Boo!" was swapped out for standing stoic and then striking with alacrity. We say a well-earned 10 out of 13 for scariness at The Crypt.

The Horror Hotel

"Who wants grapes?" ask-screamed a man in the corner holding, appropriately, a bunch of grapes. "I don't," replied a small, confused boy. "Why not?!" Man, this place was classy. Unfortunately, our timing here was off again. We had to wait at the entrance until the grinder (a.k.a. pneumatic scary stuff) got fixed. In the meantime, we chatted up the veiled widow at the entrance and got some great insight about cooking people. When finally let in, we accompanied a mother and three boys. This pairing resulted in us taller college types getting completely ignored, while the staff concentrated all their energies on the *chitlins*. At least the characters inside were of an entertainingly ridiculous design. Grape dude was just one disfigured face among demented mothers and corner lurchers shouting, "Go through the *creepy* door!" The hotel was worth a 10 out of 13 for nuttiness.

Pirates of the Genesee in 3D

The name rhymes—uh oh. A burly gent with a classic knotted beard ushered us into the winding path... of the ship? We weren't sure about the location, but at least everybody gets super-cool 3D glasses. We saw some pretty psychedelic (read: not scary) stuff jumping off the wall at us. It's tempting to try to touch all of the props pseudo-suspended in front of you; but, as knotty-beard warns: don't touch any of the legitimately three-dimensional pirates. However, we found that to touch an actual pirate would be difficult—there are only about four wandering about. And guess what? That's right, our timing was off. The group in front of us was slow. We would turn a corner just in time to see some scalawag jump out at *them*. At the very least, they could have hidden a few lads behind (or even inside) the crates that just sort of take up space along the path. But, really, this experience was more about the piratey art emblazoned on the walls in neon orange, blue, and green. You'll have trouble resisting the urge to scream, "It's like I can touch you!" For that, the Genesee pirating folk deserve a 7 out of 13 for trippiness. •

Info at www.fearatfrontier.com



Playing Dress-up Isn't Just For Kids

by Lauren Howard | illustration Brittney Lee

Well boys and girls, it's that magical time of year again; when grown men and women forget for just a moment that they are indeed adults, and take part in the ritual known as Halloween. For that one day, we have the ability to put on a costume and pretend to be someone else, just for fun. And why not participate? What's that you say? You don't have any costume ideas? Fret not; you've come to the right place.

The first and most important issue to address is how much money you're willing to shell out for a costume. If you have plenty to spare, then I would suggest visiting the Halloween store in either the Eastview or the Marketplace mall. There is a fair selection at Marketplace, but the workers seem a little less than eager to cater to the needs of a group of college students looking to try out their fine products before actually purchasing them. In other words, if you want to play with the plastic scythes while looking through a much larger selection of costumes, without being harassed by the help, you might want to find a ride to Eastview. Leaving the RIT campus, turn right on Jefferson Road and you'll go through the town of Pittsford. Route 252 becomes route 96, and Eastview mall will be on your right. It's just about 30 minutes away, and believe me, it's worth the drive.

Now, if you are more the creative type, you may wish to consider sewing a costume. JoAnn Fabrics is the best nearby place to look for fabric and patterns. To get there, turn right on Jefferson Rd, then turn right into the Southtown Plaza, and you're there. If you've never sewn before but would still like to give it a shot, the store carries Simplicity patterns, which are very easy to follow. Believe me, I've tried them and they're fun.

If you don't have the money to purchase a costume, or the skills to sew one, there is always the third option: making one from old clothes from your closet, your parents, a friend, or even a thrift store. Not only is it frugal, but its surprising what can be done with a little bit of time and

some scrap clothing items. For example: I once made a Dragonball Z costume (Android 17) out of a pair of old jeans, a white turtleneck, a black t-shirt, an orange bandana, a pair of Chuck Taylors that my mom bought for ten dollars, and neon green socks that my grandmother saved for some unexplainable reason from the 1980s.

Now that you've decided what medium to work in, it's time to pick a costume. There are three ways to accomplish this:

The first is what we anime aficionados call "cosplay." The term comes from the words "costume" and "play," and describes the action of dressing as a fictional character. Try thinking of someone from a favorite T.V. show, video game, or cartoon. Maybe Willow from Buffy the Vampire Slayer, or Magus from Chono Trigger. Or how about Scrapy Doo? Everyone likes Scrapy Doo.

Themes are also good. There are the classic occult themes that are usually associated with Halloween—witches, ghosts, vampires, etc. The "Wild West" is still an option—be a sheriff or an outlaw. Sports fans might try going as a Yankee, or perhaps a member of the Buffalo Bills. Imagine: you can be a sports god for a day. The excitement must be overwhelming.

If all else fails, look to your interests, of which I am certain there are many. Are you a sci-fi fiend? Then make an alien costume, or go as a paranormal investigator. History buffs can try period costumes, a soldier from the Revolutionary war, a teenybopper in a poodle skirt, or maybe a medieval knight. If you like animals, then be a cat. Or maybe be something that isn't a cat. The sky's the limit.

Depending on your budget and preferences, choosing a costume should be a fairly enjoyable experience. Have fun, and Happy Halloween. •

STREAM OF FACTS

OCTOBER 28

On October 28, 1943, the **Philadelphia Experiment** allegedly occurred.

The **Philadelphia Experiment** is a conspiracy theory in which electromagnetic fields were accidentally used to teleport a navel vessel. They were trying to render it **invisible**.

H. G. Wells, 'The **Invisible** Man (1897), is a story about a scientist who manages to render himself invisible but whose mind becomes **unstable** as a result.

Emotionally **Unstable** Personality Disorder is a **condition** in which people have a tendency to act unexpectedly and without consideration of the consequences. People affected by the disorder have a marked tendency to quarrelsome behavior and to conflicts with others, especially when impulsive acts are thwarted or criticized.

Hair **Conditioners** are frequently acidic, which allows for better forming of hydrogen bonds between the keratin scales, giving the hair more compact structure. **Citric acid**, or other organic acids, is the usual component maintaining acidity.

Citric acid is a weak organic acid found in citrus fruits. It is a good, natural preservative and is also used to add an acidic (sour) taste to foods and **soft drinks**.

One unverified study has shown a strong correlation between **soft drink** consumption and **cancer** of the esophagus.

Cancer was found was in **Grover Cleveland**'s mouth in 1917, it was removed in secret on a boat in the East River.

On October 28, 1886, **Grover Cleveland** dedicated the statue of Liberty.

QUOTE

"'Tis now the very witching time of night,
When churchyards yawn
and hell itself breathes out
Contagion to this world."
– William Shakespeare

Limerick

by *Brian Garrison*
The omni-impotent beast
Can't even win fights against geese.
And so for a snack
He will attack
Some poor farmers crop of peas.

JUMBLE

Things that go bump in the night

lboign
crdaaul
niilismnaevb (2 words)
nygaomeb
tseperc
holug
bimeoz
elwofrew
rvepami
oasleehshesndamr (2 words)
kawcorl

goblin, dracula, invisible man, bogeyman, specter,
ghoul, zombie, werewolf, vampire, headless
horseman, werlock

RANDOM REVIEW

Abbots Pumpkin flavored Frozen custard is a fall treat of rare quality. It may seem like its getting a little late and cold in the year for frozen desserts, but this one is worth the cold. It's a perfect creamy mixture of pumpkin cinnamon and nutmeg rolled into a smooth luxurious dollop of milky goodness. At only \$2.55 for a cone this is a treat not to miss. But hurry up, Abbots closes for the season on November 22. Abbots is easily located North on 15, near millennium games and right across from Dave the Hatter.

REPORTER RECOMMENDS

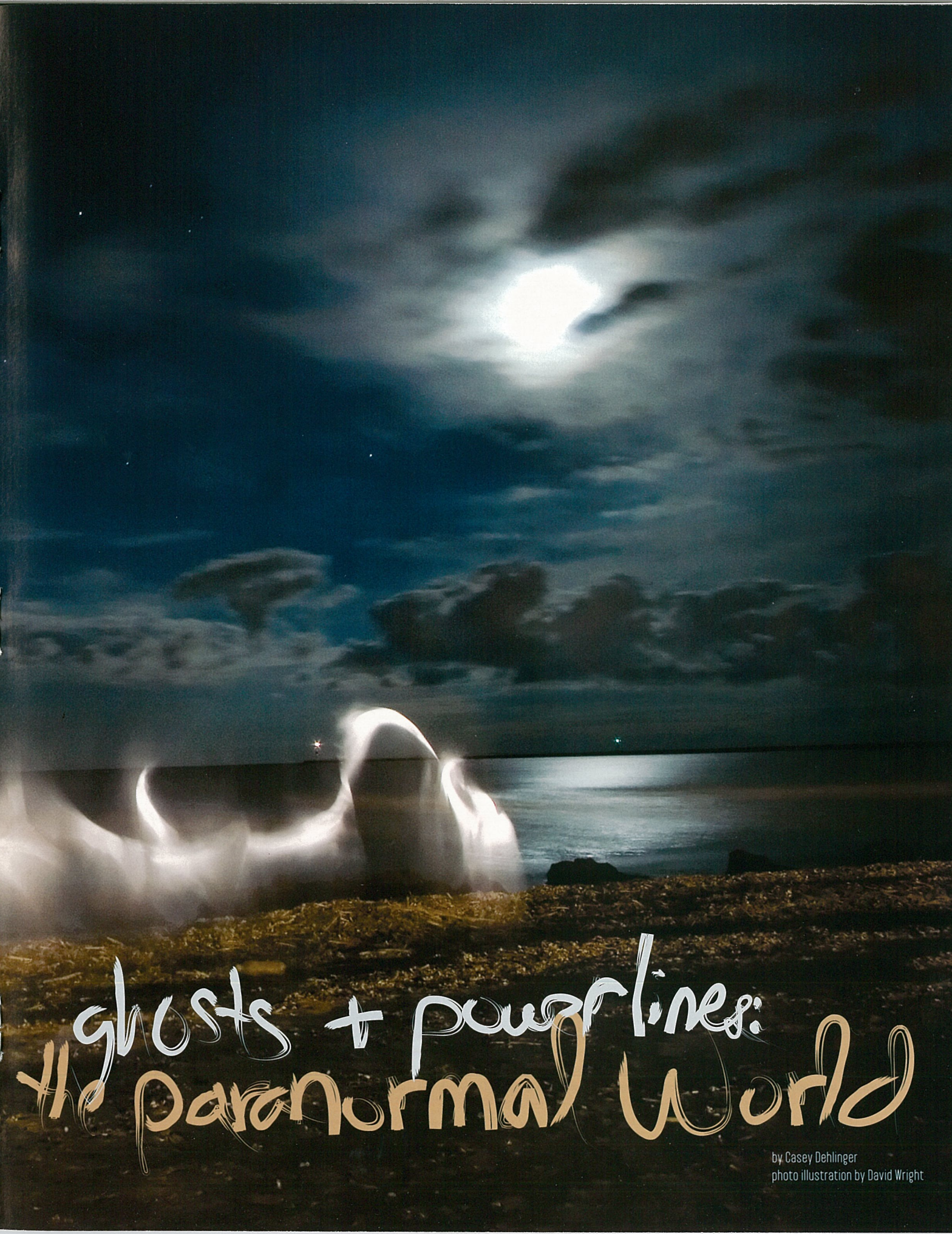
Trick or Treating. What else would I recommend this week? I mean seriously. Now this game has gotten harder what with being all grown up now. But it still can be done. A good trick or treat in the dorms can be fun even if the candy pickings are scarce. People tend to appreciate the effort and even if you wind up with more ramen than candy you will at least be keeping the spirit alive.

PLAYLIST Trick or Treat

- Bobby "Boris" Pickett** – Monster Mash
- 7 Seconds** – Skins Brains and Guts
- Alkaline Trio** – Mr. Chainsaw
- Fear** – And the Spiders Crawl
- Ghostface Killah** – Child's Play
- The Misfits** – Halloween
- Lifetime** – Ghost
- LL Cool J** – Jack the Ripper
- Smashing Pumpkins** – Only Come Out At Night
- Renee Heartfelt** – (the) Death of the Ghost
- Halloween** – Halloween
- Michael Jackson** – Thriller







ghosts + power lines:
the paranormal world

by Casey Dehlinger
photo illustration by David Wright

Long before my aspirations to become a writer/editor for *Reporter*, my first desired career path was that of a Ghostbuster. If you threw the red fins on my mother's white station wagon along with the "no ghosts" Ghostbusters' logo, you had the car. As I grew up, however, I realized that there didn't seem to be enough ghosts to make a living out of busting. You can't exactly pay the bills that way, even when you're five. But a 'lucky thirteen' years later, I started working for *Reporter*, and recently I was given a chance to try the path I never pursued.

The Hunters

This is where the RIT Paranormal, Metaphysical, and Ghost Hunting Club (PMGH) comes into play, a branch of East Coast Paranormal (ECP). In autumn, when the gateway between worlds appears to be at its thinnest, club organizer Jenni Oneske teams up with RIT alum Ralph Esposito to host a few activities in the Rochester area, most notably the ghost walks. There are currently three walks that take place in the area: Haunted Henrietta, Ghosts of Mt. Hope, and Spirits of Sea Breeze. Jenni and Ralph also host dinners at the Reunion Inn involving ghost stories and a 'séance.'

Henrietta and the Pendulum

In the parking lot between two churches from the 1800s on West Henrietta Road, I'm holding a pendulum while steadying my arm on a metal railing, trying not to shiver in the cold.

"Ask it for a yes," prompts Jenni, who is giving me a private tour of the area. She's adorned in a black cloak, the hood up. The ghost walk didn't occur this day due to poor attendance; she attributes this to a local newspaper's failure to print their ad this week.

"Can I have a yes, please?" I ask the pendulum, an inverted 'Russian onion dome'-shaped pendant dangling from a nine-inch chain. The pendulum remains motionless.

"Ask it for a no," Jenni says.

"Can I have a no, please?" I ask politely. The pendant doesn't say anything.

"Are you a non-believer?" asks Jenni.

"I...don't really know," I respond.

When she takes the pendant and asks it for a yes, it sways forward and backward. When she prompts it for a no, it sways left and right. "It can be hard to use for beginners," Jenni informs me, "it's probably taken me a good year or so to actually get it to move for me...It's a matter of working with the energy in your body and learning to channel it." According to Jenni, anything can be a pendulum. There's no sacred initiation for weighted free-dangling objects. Use your own necklace; tie a string around a ring; tie a rope around a basketball—they'll all work...sort of.

Next, she pulls out something that looks like the world's most expensive garage door opener. Flipping a switch, it turns on and three red lights illuminate at the end of it. It clicks a few times before letting out a long, constant, high-pitched squeal.

"This is a Gauss meter," she says, "It reads electromagnetic fields in a measurement of milligauss. It's one way to detect ghosts." It's shrieking pretty constantly; she explains that power lines are interfering with it.

Jenni relates many stories from the area out along Erie Station Road and West Henrietta Road. A lot of the buildings were first built in the 1800s, but several have burnt down and have been rebuilt; others have had additions put on. One of these old buildings is the Cartwright Inn, a small restaurant where tours begin at 8 p.m. every Wednesday in October. Once, when investigating at the Cartwright Inn after closing, Jenni asked one of the waitresses about strange occurrences that had happened there. She then went into one of the back rooms, where she found a man who said he was the manager. After explaining what she was doing, he commented that he wished someone had told him about this previously. She

apologized and returned to the waitress, telling her that she met the manager. The waitress, looking slightly confused, asked what the man looked like, and sure enough, Jenni's description matched that of the manager—the manager who passed away six months earlier.

Reuniting at the Reunion Inn

The sign out front reads "Reunion Inn: Food and Spirits." It's right across the street from the main gate of Sea Breeze Amusement Park. Entering the front door to the bar and grill, a dart flies by my face, bounces off a dartboard and lands at my feet. Jenni, the thrower of the dart, ushers me upstairs. "That's a poorly placed dartboard," I point out.

The first floor is a typical restaurant, but the second floor is very different after 7 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays in October and late September. Ornamental skulls and pendulums rest on the tables along with silverware and complimentary bread.

Food

Twelve guests sit at two tables. That makes me number thirteen. A family of three, two college girls from the University of Rochester, six women aged around 60 and a woman in her late 40s make up tonight's audience. Ralph Esposito, a portly man with dark hair wearing a white dress shirt, a leather vest, and jeans stands at the front of the room. He opens things up with a brief history of the Reunion Inn.

It was built in 1856 by Samuel and Lavinia Bradstreet. Currently, Lavinia is the main spirit on the premises. There are also three black spirits. The Inn used to be a stop on the Underground Railroad, and two slaves were actually caught there, taken back down South, and hanged. It's said that they've chosen to haunt Reunion Inn because it was the last place they were free. The third black ghost is a little girl of about five. She can be mischievous, moving things around and such. Those ghosts have interacted with Ralph and Jenni the most.

Ralph discusses EVP, or Electronic Voice Phenomenon. People bring up the movie *White Noise*, but Ralph mentions that he never saw it. He does say, however, that he has a recording where he entered the Inn and asked, "Are there any spirits here?" No response could be heard. He then asked, "Where are you?" Upon reviewing the recording, a female voice can be heard responding "Yes." and "Over the kitchen counter." The only people in the room during the recording were Ralph and two male bartenders.

Spirits

After dinner and a few more tales, we're taken into a back room on the second floor. This is where the divining rods are pulled out. Divining rods, also known as dowsing rods, are essentially thick sturdy wire bent at a right angle. Ralph holds two out in front of him like three-foot-long guns, gripping the metal tube handles, which allow the wires to freely pivot left and right. Ralph asks, "Can I get a yes, please?" The rods cross, making an X. "Can I get a no, please?" The rods repel gently, bowing outward. "Could you please point to the nearest ghost?" The rods turn in my direction. I'm sitting under a painting that Frank the ghost is apparently fond of. "I hope he's not sitting in your lap," says one of the older women.

Now comes the time for guests to ask questions of the spirits of the house. People start out asking if the ghosts are happy being dead. They seem to be, for the most part. Then, some people start asking about deceased relatives.

"Is my mother happy?" asks a woman in a pink sweatshirt.

Jenni, who is holding the rods, replies, "Yes...did she like a particular yellow flower?"

"Yes, she used to hold buttercups under my chin and tell me I liked butter."

Jenni is apparently a psychic and receives mental images and inklings while using the rods.

Another woman asks about her deceased pets. "Does Benji love Squeaky?"

The rods cross. "Yes," announces Jenni.

The woman then asks, "Does Squeaky love Benji?"

The rods repel. "No."

The plot thickens.

When I ask if I have any messages, Jenni gets visions of an ancient book with handwriting in it and tells me that a great-grandfather of mine wants this book to reach me. She proceeds to say that it's on my father's side of the family and involves Irish Catholicism.

"I doubt that," I tell her, "I don't think there's any Irish Catholicism in my family."

"You should talk to your father about it," she advises. So I call home. After going through the typical questioning about how my money's holding out and how the car's running, I ask my father if it's possible. After thinking about it, he replies, "Not that I know of; nothing really remains from either of your great-grandfathers on my side." He even thought about my mother's side, and it seemed highly unlikely that the ancient book exists.

When given a chance to use the divining rods myself, I put them to the test. I hand a neighboring woman my gold pen and ask her to pass it around the room so that I won't know where it is. Taking the rods, I ask, "Where is my gold pen?" they turn gently to the right, pointing at about four people.

"Hold the rods over each one's head and ask if that person has your pen," prods Ralph. Over each head, the rods stay still for me. Ralph gives it a try. After a five-minute search, he guesses that one man has it, but it is revealed that the pen was placed under a menu on the table. My experiment was foiled.



Above: A ghostly jogger has been said to appear running along the many paths and gravestones in the Mt. Hope Cemetery as night falls over Rochester.

Opening Spread: Legend has it that the Lady in White roams the sandy beaches of Durand Eastman Park searching for her daughter that was supposedly raped and murdered by unknown assailants.

Orbs at Mt. Hope

In a crowd of twenty people, a thin man in an odd Australian-style hat and black cape is hailing me down. He approaches with a digital camera. "I just snapped a shot with three orbs over your head," he gloats, showing me his camera's LCD screen. Embossed on the grey plastic next to the screen is a fancy cross. He also wears a cross around his neck. Sure enough, in the shot there are three round specks hovering over my head.

Ralph pulls out the dowsing rods, "Can I have a yes, please?"

"Yes!" exclaims the crowd.

"No, I meant the divining rods," explains Ralph.

This is the Mt. Hope Cemetery walk, and enough people have shown up that two groups had to be formed, one led by Jenni, the other by Ralph. Jenni's being the family-friendly one, I follow Ralph. Roger, the man with the Australian hat, also follows Ralph. He constantly snaps shots during the walk along the perimeter of the cemetery. The orbs he gets in the shots are allegedly spirits, although Ralph says, "It's uncertain whether one orb equals one spirit or if several orbs equal one spirit." Roger, on the Henrietta walk, actually captured an orb on video, hanging out along the corner of the church where I tried the pendulum out. It eventually rose and disappeared.

I start snapping shots, too. I even photograph some orbs, but they're easy to be skeptical of. Essentially, they look like specks of dust on the lens, or very mild lens flare. When Roger shows his pictures, he needs to zoom in to about a twentieth of the field to get people to notice the things. "Sometimes you can see different kinds of faces in the orbs themselves," comments Roger.

It turns out that one of Jenni's more harrowing tales takes place at Mt. Hope. She snuck into the cemetery one night through a hole in the fence, but was unable to find the hole to escape. Desperate to get out, she called security; they informed her that they'd arrive within the hour and that she may be arrested for trespassing. Shortly after this, she saw a man jogging in the cemetery. She asked if he knew how to get out, but he ignored her. She followed him until he stopped at a point by the fence and disappeared. The place he stopped was right where the hole was.

Sea Breeze Lives up To Its Name

"Does anyone want to try a gauss meter?" asks Jenni.

A young voice from the crowd of nearly fifty shouts, "Does that detect ghosts?"

"Well, they're good at detecting ghosts and power lines," explains Ralph.

It's a very windy night, and when we visit Shamrock Jack's, a former speakeasy and alleged brothel during Prohibition, Ralph explains that Lavinia, the ghost from the Reunion Inn, where the tour meets, likes to join them on the walk. He pulls out the dowsing rods.

"Are you here, Lavinia?" The rods cross.

"Where are you, Lavinia?" The rods turn in the direction of a tree. She's downwind.

A great deal of the action takes place at a parking lot between It's About Time and Churi's. Churi's, specializing in Thai food, 'hots,' and burgers, despite appearing to be an ice cream stand.

The parking lot, however, used to be a graveyard. The headstones were moved, and it has been claimed that the bodies were, too, but Ralph finds this unlikely. Jenni and Ralph pass out divining rods and pendulums for people to use. Then they reminisce about the ghosts of the graveyard as if talking about old high school friends.

"I thought only four were buried here from that family," says Ralph.

"Yes, but this one is the sister," explains Jenni.

A boy with a pendulum shouts to his parents, "I think I know who killed her!"

"Why did so many houses burn down?" asks a teenage boy.

"They're made of wood," replies Ralph.

Rose, a very excited teen, barbers with the dowsing rods, "Give me a yes, pleaseeease?"

She takes her gloves off to get a stronger connection with the rods, to no avail.

A girl of about five holds miniature divining rods, "So close!"

"Jenni, we have a backwards dowser here!" shouts Ralph, who accompanies a woman whose dowsing rods are pointing backwards over her shoulders.

"What should I make them point to?" asks another teen with dowsing rods.

"Me! Meeeee!" shouts Rose.

The little five year old walks up to Ralph, "Is there any ghosts in that house over there?"

A boy with rods tracks another downwind ghost with the rods.

"Well, apparently Lavinia is straight," says Sarah, a college student holding rods.

"Point to grandma!" demands a young boy of his necklace-turned-pendulum.

It becomes suddenly apparent to me who's really haunting Churi's parking lot. The cacophony ends at the front gates of Sea Breeze Amusement Park, where Jenni tells the legend of the white lady.

"The Irondequoit police get tons of calls from people who see the white lady," Jenni prefaces. Some say she lived in a castle, but the castle-like structure that most people visit is actually a picnic pavilion, not the white lady's home. Wife to an abusive husband, the white lady allegedly killed him. When her daughter, at age sixteen, brought a boyfriend home, the white lady forbade the relationship, so the daughter ran away with him. It's rumored that the boyfriend truly was a bad seed and killed the white lady's daughter, so the lady spent the rest of her life searching for her daughter. Now, long after her death, she can still be seen wandering the area, sometimes with two white dogs.

"Who wants to buy a pair of divining rods?" asks Ralph after the story.

"How much?" shouts an anonymous voice.

"Ten dollars," answers Ralph.

"Oh! I'll buy it! I'll buy it!" shouts a boy, jumping up and down with a small fist of bills raised in the air. Half the crowd leaves, the other half storms Ralph and Jenni.

A little blonde boy walks up to me with a Gauss meter. As he reaches me, it starts screeching. "I guess there must be a ghost right by me, right?" I ask.

"No, power lines," he says casually, pointing upwards.

"Smart kid," I say.

Perhaps I wouldn't have made a very good Ghostbuster, after all. •

To see evidence that Ralph has collected, including orb photos, videos, and EVPs, visit www.reparanormal.com. For information on the ghost walks, visit www.rochesterghosts.com. The going rate for most paranormal functions is \$10.

WORD on the Street

compiled and photographed by Ralph Smith

Q: What scares you?



"Chalk scares me, I start hyperventilating."

Lindsay Tendler
Advertising Photography – 3rd Year



"Cockroaches, you can't believe how loud I will scream. I can pick up a dead rat and I love bats."

Elizabeth Lamark
Visual Resource Manager – ETC



"Little things scare the shit out of me. Barnacles..."

Janna Salmin
Fine Art Photo – 2nd Year



"Spiders, anything with more than six legs, ants are ok"

Andrea Czubinski
Brain and Cognitive Science
University of Rochester



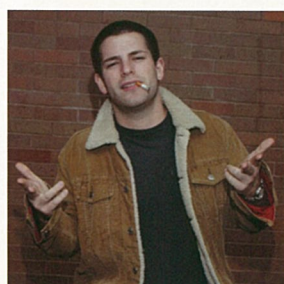
"iPod commercials, I hate them. That song, I hate it."

Arnold King
Computer Science – 2nd Year



"Not living life to the fullest."

Derek Hall
New Media Design – 2nd Year



"Commitment."

Andy Simon
Hotel Management – 4th Year



"Spiders, I am an Arachnophobic."

Sarah Blumhorst
Exploration – 2nd Year



"People who wear shorts in the winter."

Rasheed Robinson
Information Technology – 2nd Year



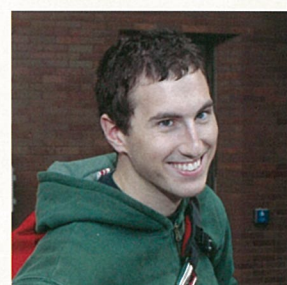
"Crosshatching scares me. It is tedious and you need patience which I don't have."

Sarah Hutchinson
Graphic Design – 1st Year



"Heights scare me."

Salanuddin Khairuddin
Bio Technology – 1st Year



"The dishes in my sink."

Sean Curran
Information Technology – 4th Year

THE MEANING BEHIND THEM

A DIFFERENT SLANT ON HALLOWEEN

by Tom Cookson | illustration Mike Norton

Grab a cat, stuff it in a cage, and hurl it into a raging bonfire. If anyone questions you, just tell them Fluffy met his demise in the name of an authentic Halloween—or Samhain, as it was celebrated by the Druids in Gaul. Halloween is derivative of Samhain, a holiday of the Celtic druids which happened to involve incinerating animals. But not just animals: food, household objects and even—so it is rumored—people all got to be sacrifices to the God that ruled over the dark half of the year. As with RIT students, the dark half of the year brought suffering and death to the ancient Celts, so they celebrated around a village bonfire in costume while tossing stuff in it to earn some good luck for the hard times to come.

Given Halloween's somewhat devilish pagan roots, its celebration of things traditionally considered dark (witches, monsters, ghosts, the devil, etc.), and its connection to the occult, it's no surprise that the holiday still manages to stir up some controversy. Read on to enjoy some thought-provoking takes on the Halloween we know and love, from a Christian perspective.

Christian Perspectives

"People who dress up as something do it to identify with something. If they dress up as a devil they are trying to identify with it," mused Stephen Sudirgo, a Ph.D. student in microsystems engineering and president of Brothers and Sisters in Christ at RIT (BASIC), while discussing the nature of Halloween. He explained that Halloween takes too many serious subjects and desensitizes society to them—subjects that people might be more wary of, had they seen them in their raw form.

"All holidays have a meaning. If you want to have fun, you can do that any day. I don't celebrate Halloween because I don't agree with the meaning behind it," he said. In his childhood, Sudirgo had never celebrated Halloween because he had not grown up in the United States or Europe. To this day, however, he refuses to celebrate the holiday on moral grounds. But that isn't the case with all Christians. Fellow BASIC member Amanda Morrison, a second-year photojournalism student, warmly stated, "I really don't have any problem with today's commercialized Halloween," citing the old *Charlie Brown* Halloween special as an example of just what it has become in our society. Unlike Sudirgo, Morrison had celebrated the holiday as a child and believes that any meaning behind it has since been diluted by our culture. Despite her assertions that it's harmless, Morrison still believes there are many people who abuse the holiday: "You can pervert anything. Having séances in a graveyard isn't what today's Halloween is about."

Emilio Gandara, a second-year information technology student, grew up in a home where Halloween wasn't celebrated at all. "But that never really bothered me. It was just the way things were," he told me. "I was in an evangelical school for most of my life, so other kids never talked about it. I never really felt jealous or anything." When asked how he felt about Halloween, he jokingly offered, "Well, I really think it's just an excuse to dress up. The anime kids love it." Gandara did, however, agree that "[some aspects of Halloween] make it more difficult to determine the difference between what is good and bad."

Entertainment or Evil?

A seven-year old collecting candy underneath a bed sheet with eyeholes cut out is one thing, but what about the darker side of Halloween celebrations? Reckless slasher flicks and other horror-themed media take Halloween to heart and embrace the worst aspects of the holiday—at least from a Christian standpoint.

"I can't deal with games like *Silent Hill*. They do what they were designed to do really well. They could creep anyone out," said Gandara. Ultimately, he felt that the games crossed the line when it came to supernatural themes. In case you haven't heard of them before, the *Silent Hill* games revolve around a town born from occult activity and most notably allow players to explore monster-ridden, hellish versions of previously explored areas.

While psychological thrillers such as *Psycho* seemed to be held in high regard by most Christians, tasteless slasher flicks were another story. They seemed to represent some of the worst aspects of Halloween. Movies that had a lot to do with the supernatural, like *The Exorcist*, were also noted to have a particularly bad reputation in the Christian community. Sudirgo explained, "The movies that bother me the most are the ones that leave a lasting impression—the ones that leave you feeling really uneasy after you step out of the movie theater."

Moral

In the end, it's up to you to determine the spirit of the Halloween you celebrate. Whether you choose to find new ways to demolish unarmed mailboxes, get plastered, or help guide your little cousin around the trick or treat routes—do it knowing Halloween is yours. Afterwards, take a moment to reflect on how you decided to celebrate it and you'll probably learn a lot about who you really are. •

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Runners sprint out at the start of the Women's 5K cross-country race at the Roberts Wesleyan Invitational. RIT finished second out of eleven teams at the meet. Jacob Hannah/REPORTER Magazine

SPORTSdesk

by José Plaza



Men's Cross Country

October 15: RIT Men's Cross Country finished atop all eleven other teams at the 2005 Roberts Wesleyan Invitational. Kevin Smith was RIT's best finisher (3rd overall) in the competition with a time of 26:18. Nate Lowe came in fourth with a time of 26:27 and Andy Varble in eighth with a time of 26:54.

Women's Cross Country

October 15: Trisha Sliker led the way for RIT to grab second place at the Roberts Wesleyan Invitational with her third consecutive first place finish of 18:46. Adrienne Gagnier placed eleventh with a time of 20:21, and Danielle Simmons finished fourteenth with a time of 20:30.

Men's Hockey

October 14: After winning their first Division I exhibition game, RIT Men's Hockey officially kicked off their season opener against Quinnipiac University. The Tigers lost the game by a score of 6-2. Brennan Sarazin made the team's first officially Division I goal, and Brad Harris made the second. Bobby Raymond and Brent Patry made the assists.

October 15: The Tigers officially posted their first Division I regular season victory against Air Force Academy, scoring 5 goals against Air Force's 2. Bobby Raymond, Simon Lambert, Brent Patry, and Darren Doherty each made goals with Lambert making two.

Record through 10/20/05: 2-1-0

Men's Soccer

October 15: RIT shut out Elmira College in Empire 8 action by a score of 2-0. The 2 goals for RIT were scored by Mike Lawson and Chuck Marion.

October 19: Lawson continued his dominance on the field in the game against St. John Fisher, where he posted the winning goal in overtime for RIT in their 1-0 win. This was Lawson's second straight game with the winning goal.

Record through 10/21/05: Overall 7-5-2, Empire 8 4-1-0

Women's Soccer

October 18: Alyssa Bennett came through in the clutch, scoring the game-winning goal for the Lady Tigers in their Empire 8 match against Alfred University, which ended 1-0.

Record through 10/21/05: Overall 4-9-1, Empire 8 2-3-1

Women's Tennis

October 15: The Lady Tigers competed at the 2005 New York State Tournament putting the final cap on their season. The team placed 14th in the competition, and 5 players on the team (Brienne Francisco, Lindsay Brady, Aimee Holmberg, Michelle Nicholson and Rachel Pikus) were given Empire 8 post-season honors in recognition of their accomplishments throughout the season.

Women's Volleyball

October 14: RIT Women's Volleyball, ranked 2nd coming into the Oswego Tournament, played well in day one of action, as they defeated St. Lawrence 3-1, and put away SUNY Plattsburgh 3-0. In the St. Lawrence game, Laurie Underhill posted 10 blocks and 13 kills, and Katie Werner added 34 assists with 6 blocks.

October 15: In day two action of the Oswego Tournament, RIT put away Hartwick College 3-0 in their first game, and in their second match, defeated host SUNY Oswego 3-1 to win the Oswego Tournament. Katie Werner was named Tournament MVP.

October 18: Senior Night at RIT was spent well, especially after the Lady Tigers posted their eighth straight win to defeat SUNY Geneseo 3-0. Christina Anabel put up 11 digs and 8 kills, while Katie Werner added 27 assist with 9 digs, and Harriman added 9 kills. Besides these three seniors, Laurie Underhill and Laura Grell were recognized for their contributions to RIT Volleyball before the game.

Record through 10/21/05: Overall 26-5, Empire 8 23-5

“GET OFF YOUR KNEES REF, YOU’RE BLOWING THE GAME!”

NEW DIVISION, THE SAME RUDE CHEERS

by Richard Hain

“Division I means an opportunity to raise school spirit, pride, and to give RIT an opportunity to start a tradition,” said Student Government President, James Macchiano. This big deal includes updated facilities, increased intensity from players and coaches, and an ecstatic fan base that is prepared to create and uphold the tradition that will be Division I hockey.

The Big Deal’s Big Changes

“Change in all things is sweet.” –Aristotle

The renovations for the first Division I hockey season are evident in all phases of play. Upgrades involving coaching, playing, and advertising show the wide array of changes the Director of Intercollegiate Athletics and Recreation, Lou Spiotti, has instituted this season.

The first and most obvious change is the scoreboard. Large and daunting, this technological wonder looming over everyone on the ice is very representative of a university that is taking their hockey program very seriously. This new scoreboard should immediately show all those who enter Ritter Ice Arena that RIT means hockey. Two other changes RIT made were to improve the coaching and planning facilities. For the coaches, the entire staff offices have been renovated to assist all the coaches and the support staff. To facilitate the planning necessary of a DI team, the team meeting room is being remodeled for better meetings and for video analysis.

Another change that deals with how RIT is perceived by outsiders has to do with the upgrading of the visitors’ and officials’ locker rooms. Both areas have been expanded and refurbished to make sure the effect of the new DI season is not only felt by RIT. RIT has also tried to increase advertising for the new season. In the arena, advertising panels have been installed in order to start building relationships between RIT and the community. This wide assortment of changes will facilitate the movement to Division I, and clearly represents RIT’s commitment to support the hockey team.

Anticipation Of Success

“An intense anticipation itself transforms possibility into reality; our desires being often but precursors of the things which we are capable of performing.” –Samuel Miles

A season with historical overtones such as this one would clearly merit some strong anticipation. This season has a different meaning to all

participating, on and off the ice. “Everywhere I go there is talk of our Division I ice hockey program,” noted Spiotti. The talk of RIT hockey has generated serious interest in the program. Coach Wayne Wilson spoke of his expectations coming into this season, “I anticipate seeing our team play a very competitive schedule in which we will meet the challenges ahead of us. We will be an exciting team to watch, and we will have to work very hard for our success.” Wilson recognizes the excitement of his players as well. “The players are very excited about the jump up to Division I. Not only the younger players, but also our upper classmen have to meet new challenges as well which brings new enthusiasm.”

The jump to DI has also generated enthusiasm amongst the students and fans with the help of Student Government (SG). SG has used the jump to DI to build on school spirit and to seize the chance to create a tradition at RIT. To start this process, Student Government along with Alumni Relations, organized a tailgating event for the first official home game of the season, against Canisius. The tailgating event, aimed at increasing excitement even further, was a combination of free food, music, and a chance at free tickets to the game. With events like this it is easy to see how fans like Ben Walfish, first year business management major, are excited for the upcoming season. “Since the NHL has just skipped over the last hockey season, it’s been quite a while since I’ve been to a hockey game, so I’m really looking forward to the experience again.” In that comes the most prominent thing RIT Division I hockey will provide, the chance to experience hockey at one of the highest levels.

Fast Forward to the Fans

“The fans are the most important part of the game. Without them, there is no game.” –Brett Hull

Feeling the force of the 2,100 person crowd, it is clear RIT has a large potential for creating a hockey tradition. The sold-out Ritter Arena jumped and soared as the RIT Tigers played furiously in their narrow 2-1 loss to Canisius. Anticipation turned to emotion as the fans of RIT hockey made themselves known. Even before the game, the fans were restless, busily searching for the right seat to witness the history that was about to unfold. An appearance by RITchie, RIT’s favorite tiger, only added to the pandemonium taking place in the arena. By the time the players were ready to be introduced, the fans were already at a frenzied pitch.



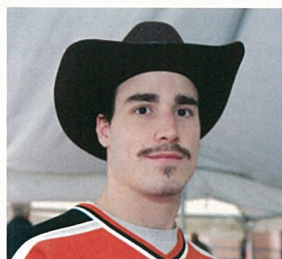
Student Government and Alumni Relations a hockey tailgate party prior to season opener at the Eastman building parking lot on October 22, 2005. Despite the rainy weather, alumni and students joined the party on Saturday afternoon before the game. Young Jang/REPORTER Magazine

Upon hearing the name of their captain, Marc Hyman, the arena shook with applause. When the game began, it was unclear whether the fans would be able to keep up their passionate support. Quickly to the rescue came the Corner Crew. Their unique and entertaining cheers and chants kept the crowd going at a rising pitch. Even with all the cheering, RIT was unable to pull out a win, leaving fans a little disappointed but still very supportive of their RIT Tigers. Fans stuck around right to the dying seconds of the game, showing their resiliency even in a losing effort.

The RIT Division I hockey experience is one for everyone, one that will quickly grow as the quality of the players, coaches, and fans is made known to the public. This season will be historic and memorable, and RIT welcomes one and all to come and be a part of it. Hockey, fans, and a fun environment give everyone at RIT something to get excited about. •

WORD AROUND THE ICE

WHAT EXCITES YOU ABOUT THIS NEW HOCKEY SEASON?



"Corner Crew."
Kevin "Cowboy" Lechner
Grad Student – 2nd year



"We're going DI and it'll be my first ever hockey game."
Ihudiya Ogburu
Biotechnology – first year



"I don't know much about hockey, so I'm interested to learn a little more."
Okechukwu Onwubu
Computer Engineering – 1st year



"What doesn't?"
Sarah Denial
Biochemistry – 3rd year



RIT Rings

compiled by Casey Dehlinger

Not all calls will be run, and all calls are subject to editing and truncation. Oh, and screaming into the phone doesn't make it easier to hear you.

[garbled noise] So we love Hollister Company. We love the clothing, even though they make you feel fat. Oh yeah! But we really love Lauren, she goes to Penn State University. She's my cousin. She was born two days before me, but I love her.

Yo, this is Adam. I f----- read the police party article by Krister. Dude, that's the f----- worst thing I've ever read. Liter-uh-er-Literary? That's the worst piece of literature ever. The f---. Let's write a whole page about f----- nothing. Ooh! I wish I got arrested! Whatever dude, that's the worst f----- shit ever. Ralph's picture is pretty hot, though. That article is the pits. Kill him now. F----- cut his head off. Whatever, it's f--- worst piece of shit ever I've read in a magazine. That'll teach him.

Yo, *Reporter* sucks. It's the worst publication in RIT's history. I can't believe they put a piece of shit like that out. It bewilders me. I can't believe it.

Good evening, my name is Franklin, the Internet God of Cool. I recently have been reading your publication. I've noticed that your Crime Watch is weak at best. I think it would be better for the interest of the student body if you made up stories about stealing and car theft, you know—grand theft auto, rape, that sort of thing. I think that sort of thing would improve the morale of the student body. The fact is that right now it seems contrived. Good night and good luck.

Yo, wazzup *Reporter*? How ya doin'? This is Ryan Roxlin. I heard you guys wanted some drunk dials, so I'm calling drunk and, uh, I'm just hangin' out chillin' out, you guys have that Ring Time or whatever it is. So I just remembered that the square root of two is the square root of two. Peace out.

This is the Lobster! I'm sick of your slanderous and un-lobsterous comments! The Lobster –The Lobster is not a flip-flopper! The Lobster has expressed his complete indifference on the issue of [*I can't print that*] The Lobster! The Lobster! The Lobst- [garbled noise.]

Yo, Krister. Barton Street was so f-----' last year. Don't blame the cops because your party sucked. You're lame and your friends are lame.

Hello, *Reporter*, I am hailing, calling from London, Ontario in Canada and I have some breaking news to tell you. There are some drunk[s] with me who think it is a great idea to shit on a toaster. It's not like something that hasn't happened before, but seriously, shitting on a toaster: how f----- drunk do you have to be to do this? I don't understand this. We walk in after being with strippers all night. We come in and see him without pants sitting on a toaster [laughs]. I just wanted to tell you this, have a good night.

Hey-hey! How you guys doin'? I just found out that you have a drunk line. My name's Andrew [last name withheld]. I'm loaded, man. I liked your magazine so much that I put like, twenty copies in my roommate's fish tank, because I figure they've gotta read too, right? Yeah! Rock on.

Hi, my name is Drew [last name withheld] and I'm looking for a girlfriend, and I was wondering if you could help me out. •

Want a date with Drew? Her voice sounds kinda cute. Ring us up at 585.475.5633.



Children of the Night: What Signs They Make



Students participate in a rehearsal of *The Passion of Dracula* Friday evening, October 22, 2005. The play is being put on by NTID Performing Arts and runs October 27–30 in the Panara Theatre. David Wright/REPORTER Magazine

by Jennifer Scheffler

Language is a way that we humans expand our minds and gain new perspectives. We can get a grasp of one of the most unique arts of language and communication right here on campus through the play, *The Passion of Dracula*.

The Passion of Dracula, like all of NTID's other plays, includes both American Sign Language (ASL) and spoken English. The RIT campus is fortunate to have the opportunity to view plays that use these communication techniques.

How can deaf people absorb all the meanings with only a sign language interpreter that is not on stage? Most deaf people agree that they often miss out on the acting and the special effects used. They can easily lose track of who is which character as well.

A part of language is storytelling. For example, a Shakespeare play may be an entertaining play to attend, but if it is only in spoken language many deaf people would disagree. It is more relaxing for them to watch plays with both sign and speaking; otherwise, information is lost. Viewing spoken-only plays can feel like reading a book when someone else forces you to turn the page before you even finish.

Jim Orr, director of *The Passion of Dracula*, says, "At NTID performing arts we strive to create a very high quality theater experience, and we are truly accessible for all audience members—you don't have to know sign language to enjoy our shows." The play consists of everything that a regular theatre show would have, only more attention is paid to visuals. For instance, costume colors and the amount of light are important because the audience needs to be able to see the language since ASL is completely visual. Images need to stand out, just like speaking actors need strong pronunciation.

One of the most unique parts of ASL plays is that they use voice actors or "voicers." Voicers are the ones who bring the spoken English into the play. Eight of the signing actors use ASL and the other eight are voice actors, the ones who speak for them.

All of the voicers know sign language except one, Pat Dobson who says, "I watch and see different emotions and I develop my own interpretation of the character and script." Being a non-signing voicer is impressive, because not knowing the language makes it more challenging, but it can be done. One signing actor who has worked with voicers in several plays, Jeff Pratt, says about the voicers, "They are talented." Another voice actor for *The Passion of Dracula* is Jeffery Phillips, who learned ASL two years ago. He has never done acting before, but he says, "A friend of mine told me 'just try' and so I tried and I love it; it's fun."

The rehearsal process included preparing signing ASL actors for blocking. Jim Orr, the director, explains that blocking needs to be done right so that the audience can see the actors and their sign language. Along with this, the voice actors need to be incorporated. Sometimes they are on the sides of the stage or in the balcony. Voice actors can also dress up and stand in a scene on stage by their signer as they voice for them.

Jeff Pratt, a signing actor says, "The voice actors work together on their lines while we, signing actors, work on our blocking." Voice actors work on reading signs, and know the timing of when they need to say their lines. Signing actors focus on being visually clear and seen on stage.

"The Passion of Dracula" takes place at the Robert F. Panara Theater October 27–29 at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, October 30 at 2 p.m.

Take advantage of seeing the art of two languages blended into one on a stage filled with creativity, exceptional talent, and chemistry. •

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