

REPORTER

January 27, 2006 | WWW.REPORTERMAG.COM



RIT Gospel Ensemble
25th Anniversary Concert



**KURT
CARR**

and the Kurt Carr Singers
Opening Performance by RIT Gospel Ensemble

**February 11th, 2006
8:00 PM, Clark Gym**

RIT Students with ID \$5
Faculty/Staff/Other Students \$10
Public \$15

Available at the Student Alumni Union, Candy Counter
or call 475 - 5210
ON SALE January 9th, 2006

Interpreting Services provided upon request
To request services please visit <http://cbgs.rit.edu>

**Pick-Up
Delivery
Dine-In**

Order Online
campusfood.com



Your Only Full Menu Pizzeria

PIZZA

8" SM 12" MED 16" LG
19" THIN 18"x 24" SHEET

CALZONES

JUMBO WINGS

BBQ-SWEET&SOUR
OUR OWN MILD OR HOT

SUBS

HOT-COLD-BAKED
FRESH BAKED BREAD

WRAPS

CHICKEN CEASER
BUFFALO CHICKEN
CAJUN CHICKEN

SALADS

FRESH ROMAINE
GRILLED CHICKEN
ANIPASTO-TUNA TOPPED

PASTA DINNERS

LASAGNA-SPAGHETTI-SHELLS

PARM DINNERS

CHICKEN-VEAL-EGGPLANT

BURGERS

GRILLED TO ORDER

CHICKEN

NUGGETS-FINGERS
SANDWICHES-DINNERS

SIDES

STEAK FRIES

ONION RINGS

ZUCCHINNI

MUSHROOMS

MOZZ. STICKS

PIZZA FINGERS

POTATO SKINS

VEGGIE DISH

JALAPENO POPPERS

Pick-up or Delivery

Medium 1 Topping Pizza
With choice of
10 Wings or Salad

\$12.55 +tax

1 Coupon per order
Expires 3-31-06

Pick-up Only

LARGE PIZZA
W/MOZZARELLA

\$5.55 +tax

Mondays Only
No Other Coupons
Expires 3-31-06

Pick-up or Delivery

Large 1 Topping Pizza

10 Wings **\$15.55** +tax

20 Wings **\$19.55** +tax

Expires 3-31-06

Pick-up Only

5 pc Jumbo Wings
Choice of Sauce

\$5.55 +tax

Wednesdays Only
No Other Coupons
Expires 3-31-06

Pick-up or Delivery

PIZZA PARTY

Sheet Pizza 32 Slices
1 Topping
w/30 Wings

\$29.95 +tax

1 Coupon per order
Expires 3-31-06

Pick-up Only

STUFFED SHELLS
w/GARLIC BREAD

\$5.55 +tax

Tuesdays Only
No Other Coupons
Expires 3-31-06

Pick-up or Delivery

FREE 2 Liter
with any Regular
priced order of

\$15.00 +tax

1 Coupon per order
Expires 3-31-06

Pick-up Only

STEAK SUB
LOADED + 20 oz. SODA
(small sub)

\$5.55 +tax

Tuesdays Only
No Other Coupons
Expires 3-31-06

527-0200

1735 Scottsville Road
Across the River
Salvatores.com

527-0200

NOW ACCEPTING



accepted here



accepted here

At

ENCORE SALON

Located in South Town Plaza
Walk in or appointment
OPEN 7 DAYS CALL 427-2540

SHAMPOO /HAIRCUT \$12.00
SHAMPOO/HAIRCUT/STYLE 17.00

EXCLUDES AREA RENTERS

Rent a House!

4 and 5 bedroom houses in Ballantyne
Subdivision only 1/2 mile from campus.
1781 Scottsville Road, 35 Morrison Ave and
several others in same area.

Offstreet parking, nice yards, lawncare included,
all appliances, nice houses in quiet residential
area.

\$1600 for 4 bedrooms \$1750 for 5 bedrooms.

Available 9/1/06

INTERESTED?

Call Jim or Beth Hills at 315-214-4397
or
Mark or Joann Hills at 585-436-9447
email at jhill5@twcny.rr.com

REPORTER

EDITOR IN CHIEF

Erhardt Graeff

ART DIRECTOR

Jonathan Rivera

SENIOR EDITORS

Mike Eppolito, J. S. Ost

PHOTO EDITOR

Tom Starkweather

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Adam Peck

AD MANAGER

Alisha Gianakakis

BUSINESS MANAGER

Gregory Smith

NEWS/VIEWS EDITOR

Casey Dehlinger

LEISURE EDITOR

Benjamin Foster

FEATURES EDITOR

Monica Donovan

SPORTS EDITOR

Frances Cabrera

ONLINE EDITOR

Patrick Kelley

WRITERS

Brenna Cammeron, Monica Donovan,
Jenn Farrin, Brian Garrison, Richard Hain,
Kari Hazzard, Elliot Jenner,
Nathan Liebold, José Plaza,
Govind Ramabadran, Carl Westgren

STAFF DESIGNERS

Tricia Chin, Josh Gomby,
Adam Rossiter

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHERS

Jacob Hannah, Young Jang,
Ralph Smith, David Wright

CONTRIBUTING ILLUSTRATORS

Dan Bolinski, Brittney Lee

ADVISOR

Rudy Pugliese

PRINTING

Printing Applications Lab

DISTRIBUTION

Mike Eppolito, Peter Frandina

CONTACT INFO

MAIN: 585.475.2212

reporter@rit.edu

ADVERTISING: 585.475.2213

reporterads@mail.rit.edu

EDITORIAL

Where I Live, and What I Live For

I have not lived on campus since I was forced to do time in the dormitories my freshmen year. Originally, my transition to an off-campus apartment had nothing to do with some need for personal freedom. In fact, I was more than willing to continue sending rent to the bursar. But it was not to be; as I look to renew my lease with Clayton Arms Apartments a third time.

February 2003: I turned in my housing application. My prospective roommate and I mirrored our applications to ensure that we would room together. Our first choice was RIT Inn. That's right—the Inn. Then, Apartment Housing (UC, Perkins, Riverknoll, Colony), and... well, there were three options and three preference columns, so we check-marked "Residence Halls" despite there being no interest—let alone preference—for that option. All we wanted was a cozy, converted hotel room.

March 2003: the results of the state-of-the-art computerized lottery system spat out a housing assignment letter to my NRH Post Office box. I unfolded the paper to find something wrong. At least the name of my roommate was correct. But our assignment was Sol Heumann Hall. Umm. Wait... what the hell? Walking about that day I heard a choruses of, "Sweet, we got a Perkins apartment;" "We got into UC;" "Oh man, we got the RIT Inn." We got, we got, we got... I got shafted.

Seeing the black text of another dormitory name flooded my brain with all of the annoying memories I was at that time still accumulating on the seventh floor of Nathaniel Rochester Hall: walking 40 feet every morning to the bathroom with bleary eyes and a bucket of bottles, having a line of food debit that didn't extend past Lomb Memorial Drive or a microwave oven, the claustrophobia of knowing my roommate could spit on me from any location in our room, and the near sleepless nights spent battling my single-room neighbor's need to shake my bed with happy hardcore music and Unreal Tournament bullets as blasted through daisy-chained speakers.

And so, my future roommate and I set our sights off-campus. We investigated the locations and amenities of apartment complexes in close proximity to RIT. Clayton Arms Apartments seemed to have the best price for a two-bedroom. (Check out the stats of other off-campus options on page 16.) We visited the second-floor opening and signed the lease within a week. The move was modest; but with a signature from our parents, we were liberated from our souring sardine existence.

Summer 2003: beds, plates and utensils, internet access, lights, ...plastic ficus trees. Apartments require... stuff. Fortunately, with my 8+ years of constructing screw-together bookcases for my mother, our new off-campus digs were readied without too much hassle. Groceries were bought. Cars filled with gas. It felt good.

Winter 2003 or How I Learned the Perks of RIT Housing: 8 a.m. classes came coupled with an eighth of an inch of ice on car windows. I used to be able to roll out of bed and make it to a class in five minutes, regardless of the weather. I soon found my body was familiarizing itself with all the car seat traveling too—gone were my steely thighs conditioned by the seven flights of dormitory stairs I used to take in avoidance of the often out of order elevator. Sitting in my room several car-infested streets from the easygoing tunnels, I found myself wanting to wander about and run into random friends at 2 a.m. And I couldn't even walk over to the Student Life Center and vent frustration pounding racquetballs, or drown myself under the matchless RIT water pressure provided by those signature phallic showerheads.

And yet, I am still live at Clayton Arms. I miss dorm-life sometimes. But things as simple as streetlights on my way "home" from RIT are priceless. Now this is probably the most obvious end to my fable, but freshmen: think hard about how you want to live next year. You will quickly learn the difference between comfort and convenience. I know that, despite RIT Housing Operations, I am comfortable.



Erhardt Graeff

Editor in Chief

HOUSING ISSUE



Eugene Colby Hall a.k.a. Building 33 a.k.a. just another dormitory at RIT. David Wright/REPORTER Magazine

NEWS

06 The Housing Lottery

It's kind of like a video slot machine run by ITS, only everyone wins *something*.

07 Greek Housing Costs

They can't recite the alphabet before the match burns down, but non-Greek tenants can help prop up costly dwellings.

09 Crime Watch

Find your friends.

09 RIT Forecast

The who, what, and where.

LEISURE

10 ACS Fashion Show

Oh the ribaldry. Props to Alex Chang for dressing as Trisha Takanawa.

12 RIT Cribs

Green: the color of their painted walls, and of the money they have been fined because of that fact.

13 RIT Anti-Cribs

This place is definitely knee-deep in character.

15 At Your Leisure

People, Stuff, and Things.

FEATURES

16 Guide to Off-Campus Apts.

What you need to know to solve the (how i will live) - (how much I will pay) equation.

20 Renting versus Owning

We got the skinny on one entrepreneurial housing option from RIT student and landlord Joe Pawelski.

23 Word on the Street

What is your most memorable roommate experience?

SPORTS

24 Sports Desk

Basketball, Hockey, Indoor Track, Swimming and Diving, Wrestling.

26 Fencing Tournament

RIT flaunts their foils in this sophisticated battle royale.

29 When Teammates = Roommates

What happens when people stop being sportsmanlike and start getting real?

VIEWS

30 RIT Rings

A thank you for calling.

31 Housing Philosophy


Jenn Farren divulges her concerns about Housing Operations.

Cover photograph by David Wright

Reporter Magazine is published weekly during the academic year by a staff comprised of students at Rochester Institute of Technology. Business, Editorial, and Design facilities are located in Room A-426, in the lower level of the Student Alumni Union. Our voice/TTY line is 585.475.2212. The Advertising Department can be reached at 585.475.2213. The opinions expressed in Reporter do not necessarily reflect those of the Institute. This issue was designed with the assistance of internet radio. There was a ~5 minute Reporter office rave... we even flashed the lights a bit. Letters to the Editor may also be sent to reporter@rit.edu. Reporter is not responsible for materials presented in advertising areas. No letters will be printed unless signed. All letters received become the property of Reporter. Reporter takes pride in its membership in the Associated Collegiate Press and American Civil Liberties Union. Copyright © 2005 Reporter Magazine. All rights reserved. No portion of this Magazine may be reproduced without prior written permission.

Housing: The Lottery

by Carl Westgren | photograph by David Wright



Carla DiLella, associate director of housing operations at RIT, oversees the new housing selection process in which students register online for housing and a computer system designed by ITS randomly ranks them with a number.

Shirley Jackson's "The Lottery" is a tale about a town that gathers one afternoon in order to partake in a traditional lottery drawing. There are hundreds of white pieces of paper in a black box, and after each family picks a piece of paper, the citizens wait anxiously to find out who picked out the marked ticket. When Mrs. Hutchinson, however, finds out that her family has picked the marked ticket, she becomes hysterical. That's because whoever "wins" the lottery gets publicly stoned to death.

"We had a process people used to call 'the lottery,' which implies winners and losers," explained Carla DiLella, associate director of housing operations. "Everyone who asks for housing in our system is given housing."

What students refer to as 'the lottery' was the old housing selection technique. Students registered on paper and were then given a specific number. That number ranked individuals and dictated at what time they were allowed to sign up. On the day of registration, students had to physically show up and select their desired housing plan. In 2003, Housing Operations switched to an online version of registration, which eliminated the need to be physically present to sign up. It also eliminated the so-called lottery. In the new system, students are randomly ranked via a computer system designed by ITS. Instead of being handed a slip of paper with #1 written on it, students are now completely oblivious as to their housing status. That is, until March 24. The names are not randomized until the day assignments are made.

"We need a way of ranking people to get them through," notes DiLella.

In Shirley Jackson's short story, the characters stopped participating in some of the old traditions, but they still used the original black box to hold the pieces of paper. With housing selection due soon, freshmen are given presentations about registration and those already living in apartments are being offered renewal forms. Basically, Housing splits

the process into two phases: the Renewal Phase and Non-Renewals Phase II. Technically, if you are not already living in the apartments, RIT Inn, or University Commons suites, then Phase II is where you start.

All the information that one needs in order to register is found online. In fact, housing is in the process of limiting the number of brochures they hand out, attempting to focus mainly on their website. Freshmen are encouraged to do "homework" on each apartment and residence hall before they try to register. **Also, much like the Boy Scouts, housing stresses the 'buddy system.'** If a student knows someone, or wants housing with someone in particular, Housing suggests registering at the same time with the same choices in order to get what they're after. As long as each person meets eligibility standards, they are allowed to register. Registration must occur within the January 30 to February 12 deadline, or housing won't be assigned. Students who do register during this time frame are guaranteed housing, though it might not be the top choice. Sometimes a student is placed in temporary housing until an opening occurs.

Freshmen get first dibs on housing. Second year students follow, and then come third, fourth, and so on. In "The Lottery," husbands or the oldest male members picked the piece of paper for the whole family.

In response to the FYE presentations on housing, first-year New Media Design student Kyle McHenry said, "Well it seems a good and fair process and all. I don't know about the mad rush for the apartments as a freshman though. If I stay in the dorms for the next year or two then my chance for an apartment is about zero unless I know someone already with one...which sucks if I don't get one after all the time here. But for picking next year it seems good. It's randomized so there's no mad rush to get to be first on the list like in course selection (and we know how fun that is)." •

Life Up on the Hill

by Monica Donovan | photograph by Jacob Hannah



RIT students feel the beat at the Triangle fraternity house during a dance party to raise money for the house last month.

Ever notice those majestic manors on the west side of campus overlooking the RIT community? The six Greek chapter houses, just over four years old and practically still glistening with wet paint? Don't get jealous too quickly. For the Greek community, getting there and staying there has been more of a challenge than most people know.

In the fall quarter of 2001, the row of sparkling new chapter houses was opened for occupancy. The rent was a staggering \$1,429 per quarter, not including utilities. Unlike other apartments, residing in a chapter house required a meal plan, which added at the very least another \$400. Rooms were also shared. Finally, the houses had to be 100% occupied all four quarters of the year. On one side of the street, this meant 16 beds. On the other side of the street, 20 beds per house had to be occupied yearlong.

"After the first year, Housing knew, Greek affairs knew, and students knew that was not a reasonable expectation," said Mary Niedermaier, senior associate director of Housing Operations. She referred especially to the year-round strict occupancy requirements. **"Even though Greek organizations said prior to that, 'this will work, this will work,' we could all see that it wasn't working."** While some of RIT's Greek chapters have as many as 60 members, most average 30 to 40. Since freshmen, regardless of Greek status, are required to live in the dorms, and some chapter members can't afford the high costs, a serious problem began to arise.


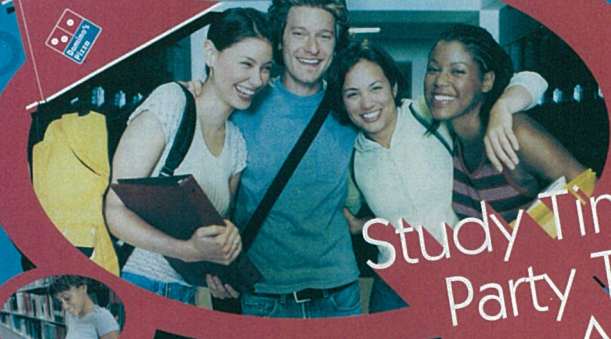
Jen Richter, Treasurer of Greek Council, who has been at RIT since the chapter houses first opened, reflected back on the beginning. "This situation we were faced with was, we don't have enough sisters," she said. "It's a struggle." At the same time, though, she remarked on the bounty of perks that come with sharing a house with so many other people. "You live with your closest friends," she said. "You have a bad

day...you have 20 people standing here at your side if you want to sit and cry. It's a great resource."

After about three years of planning and task forces and heavy collaboration between Greek Council and Housing Operations, the two groups came to an agreement. Starting in the fall of 2004, houses would have to remain at only 95% occupancy throughout three quarters of the year. In addition, utilities would be included in the existing rent price. Housing Operations, Niedermaier said, was able to "restructure the debt" to make costs more reasonable for the chapter houses.

Just when the Greek community thought they had one problem solved, another popped up. After a year or two of being in the houses, Housing Operations informed the residents that the basements, which three of the six houses have, weren't up to fire code and had to be locked up. They could be used, Housing said, only if the residents paid \$20,000 to bring them up to code. "I understand both sides of the issue here," said Richter. On the other hand, she noted, "It's really unfortunate that they didn't think of it and now we're shelling out to pay for it." They are, she said, trying to find money because "we don't really have a choice."

Did the occupancy adjustment solve the vacancy issue? Not entirely. Some houses still struggle with meeting occupancy needs, and often have to house "independents," or non-Greeks, to fill them. "We're getting better at it," said Richter. Niedermaier made note of the working relationship between Housing and the Greek community, "Because of our relationship with the Greeks we are able to talk to them and say 'What can we do?' I think it's a good support network for them." •

**Study Time
Party Time
...Anytime**



Call Us!

STUDENT SAVINGS!

359-3330

Dorm Parties? Call Domino's Office

427-8468

Delivery Charge May Apply

Fri and Sat

11am-2am

Sun thru Thursday

11am - 1am

prices do not include tax



Domino's® Breadsticks
With Marinara sauce.
\$1.99



Domino's® Cinna Stix®
Includes sweet vanilla icing.
\$2.99



Domino's® Cheesy Bread
With Marinara sauce.
\$2.99



Domino's® Buffalo Wings
Hot or BBQ.
\$5.99



Domino's Pizza Buffalo Chicken Kickers®
Includes Hot sauce & dressing.
\$5.99

Wild Weekend!

One Medium Cheese Pizza

\$3.99
Plus Tax

Friday-Sunday
After 8 p.m.

Coupon Expires 9/6/06

Campus Wings Combo

One 1-Topping Pizza & 10
Buffalo Wings OR Domino's
Pizza Buffalo Chicken Kickers®

\$10.99 **\$13.99**
Plus Tax Plus Tax
Medium Large

Deep Dish Extra. Coupon Expires 1/31/06

Campus Double Deal

Two Cheese & 1-Topping
Pizzas

\$12.99 **\$13.99**
Plus Tax Plus Tax
2 Mediums 2 Large
\$16.99
Plus Tax
2 X-Larges

Deep Dish Extra. Coupon Expires 1/31/06

Late Night Special

Large Cheese
Plus 1-Topping Pizza

\$6.99
Plus Tax

Monday-Sunday
After 8 p.m.

Deep Dish Extra. Coupon Expires 1/31/06

Starving Student Special

One 1-Topping Pizza &
Your Choice of Breadsticks,
Cheesy Bread OR Cinna Stix®

\$7.99 **\$9.99**
Plus Tax Plus Tax
Medium Large

Deep Dish Extra. Coupon Expires 1/31/06

Hey GUYS!

Don't Take Chances With Your Hair!!

Mike's College Barber Shop

Great Haircuts only \$11

Southtown Plaza

Tuesday-Friday 9-6

Saturday 9-4

424-4122

No Appointments Necessary

Ask about our special RIT Student Discount Card



ENDOMETRIOSIS



Endometriosis can be debilitating. The pain can be severe.

And it's *real*. We know that here at the University of Rochester Medical Center, Department of OB/GYN. It's why we are conducting a clinical trial to identify medical treatments to help women relieve and manage their pain.

To be eligible for the study you must be 18 or older, have had surgery for endometriosis within the last 3 years, have health insurance, and be available for 7 office visits over next 14 months.

Study participants will receive FDA-approved medicine for pain, free parking, and \$250.

For more information, please call (585) 273-5734
or email: Maureen_nealon@urmc.rochester.edu

WRITE for REPORTER

Friday 5PM
SAU A426

UNIVERSITY OF
ROCHESTER
MEDICAL CENTER

CrimeWatch

compiled by Govind Ramabadrn

January 12

James E. Booth Building – Petit Larceny

The reporting person stated that he was working in room 3330. He left the area for about a half hour. When he returned, he found an unknown person had stolen a T-square, compass, and some art supplies. Investigation closed pending new information or leads.

January 13

Colony Manor – Unlawful Dealing with a Child

Reporting person stated smelling a suspicious odor while walking by Colony Manor. A party was located and was found with underage drinking and a smell of marijuana. One non-member was banned from campus. Case referred to Student Conduct.

Racquet Club – Theft of Auto Parts, Auto Stripping

The RIT Men's Crew coach reported that a NY license plate and five tires and rims were removed from the "shell" trailer while it was parked at the maintenance building at Racquet Club between October 30 and January 13. Investigation closed pending new information.

Information Center – Harassment

A Parking Services student and Information Center attendant reported that a commuter student made an obscene gesture and yelled an obscene remark towards them at the Information Center and E-Lot. The student was located. Case referred to Student Conduct.

January 15

Sol Heumann Hall – Petit Larceny

The on-duty RA was checking the 8th floor of Sol Heumann Hall and observed the fire extinguisher and hallway fire door missing from the south side. Investigation closed pending new information.

January 16

Harassment

A student received an annoying instant message. The message was sent by an unknown person. The investigation continues.

Mark Ellingson Hall – Unlawful Possession of Marijuana

An RA contacted Campus Safety when he smelled marijuana coming from a dorm room. It was determined that four students had smoked marijuana in the room. A search was conducted and 1.7 grams of marijuana were discovered. Case referred to Student Conduct.

January 17

Thomas Gosnell College of Science – Harassment

A professor interrupted another professor's class ten minutes before the class was scheduled to end. He demanded that she stop socializing with her students during a question/answer period in the class and began to remove her books and papers from the podium. While attempting to take some of her papers from the angry professor, she was pushed out of the way. Several students witnessed the incident and one of them called Campus Safety. The female professor reported that this has happened in the past and she has reported it to her supervisor as well as his. The Dean's Office and Human Resources were notified. The investigation continues.

RITForecast

compiled by Casey Dehlinger

Friday
27
JAN

SEAL Electronic Waste Recycling:

10 a.m.–3 p.m. SAU Lobby and Engineering Building Lobby.

MS Excel Data Management:

Noon–1 p.m. RIT Library VIA Lab. The five day epic concludes.

Window of the Soul:

7:30 p.m.–9:30 p.m. 1510 Lab Theatre. An original play comprised of a series of vignettes about the deaf community.

Carlos Mencia:

8 p.m.–10 p.m. Gordon Fieldhouse. CAB presents the Comedy Central host. Students: \$12. Faculty/Staff: \$20. Other: \$25.

Saturday
28
JAN

Information Security Talent Search:

8 a.m.–8 p.m. GCCIS Rm. 2650. Digital defense and hacking competition. Sponsored by the SPARSA. \$40 team of 4; \$10 individual.

Laser Tag sponsored by CAB:

6 p.m.–Midnight. Gordon Fieldhouse. \$3 per round or \$5 for all night.

Window of the Soul:

7:30 p.m.–9:30 p.m. 1510 Lab Theatre. See description on Jan 27.

BellaCappella:

8 p.m.–10:30 p.m. Webb Auditorium. A cappella concert sponsored by Encore. \$2 presale, \$3 at the door.

Square Dancing:

8:30 p.m.–11 p.m. Clark Gym. Square dance sponsored by the Intervarsity Christian Fellowship. WWJDance? \$3.

Sunday
29
JAN

Chinese New Year:

Noon–4 p.m. Fireside Lounge. Celebrate the beginning of the year 4703, a.k.a. the year of the dog (fire dog, to be specific.) \$1.

Cold Wars:

1 p.m.–5 p.m. Soccer field behind field house. Snowball Tournament put up by Lambda Alpha Upsilon. Rain date: Feb. 11. \$6 per team of six.

Window of the Soul:

2 p.m.–4 p.m. 1510 Lab Theatre. See description on Jan 27.

Monday
30
JAN

Night of Nubian Creativity:

8:30 p.m.–10 p.m. Fireside Lounge. Poetry, art, and music. Open mic. Brought to you by the Black Awareness Coordinating Committee.

Tuesday
31
JAN

Tiger Idol Auditions:

4 p.m.–6 p.m. SAU Cafeteria. Pre-register at the Student Government office by January 27. Sing! Microphones available.

Italian Program Open House:

7 p.m.–9 p.m. Interfaith Center Skalny Room. For those interested in the Italian program or Italian Club.

Wednesday
1
FEB

Tiger Idol Auditions:

4 p.m.–8 p.m. SAU Cafeteria. Pre-register at the Student Government office by January 27. Sing! Plus, special guest judge from **Reporter!**

OASIS Movie Night:

8 p.m.–Midnight. Building 70 Room 1400. Indian movie shown by the Organization of the Alliance of Students from the Indian Subcontinent.

Thursday
2
FEB

Tiger Idol Auditions:

4 p.m.–6 p.m. SAU Cafeteria. Pre-register at the Student Government office by January 27. Sing! Nothing to lose except your dignity, right?

The Exception and the Rule: A Brecht Show

7:30 p.m.–11 p.m. Ingle Auditorium. Presented by the RIT Players.

The Shawshank Redemption:

10 p.m.–1 a.m. Part of CAB's Thursday Night Cinema Series.



Ties, Belts, Homoeroticism and Chopsticks

by Kari Hazzard | photography by Ralph Smith

Spotlight on podium. Lights up on stage. A TV reporter humps allegedly innocent passersby. Two girls dance to a song and pose suggestively. If this sounds familiar to you, then you were either at last weeks' Asian Culture Society (ACS) fashion show or watch commercials for The L Word religiously.

The current ACS was established in 2001 with the aim to raise public awareness in the RIT community about the various Asian cultures that exist, as well as encourage Asian students and students of Asian descent to utilize and respect their history and culture. ACS meets every Friday at 1 p.m. in the Clark meeting rooms of the SAU. The fashion show was started five years ago as an annual fundraiser for the club in order to fund its other activities and also as a way of showcasing Asian culture through fashion, song, dance, and skits.

This year's fashion show consisted of four fashion segments showcasing: first semi-formal clothing, next traditional Asian clothing, after that casual clothing and finally the Goodwill collection. In terms of semi-formal clothing, the style was mostly dresses for girls, slacks and shirts for boys. The traditional Asian section, however, was by far the best, showcasing everything from a traditional Chinese dress made of pure Japanese silk to a Samurai uniform (complete with hakama, albeit without any weapons) to a kimono that the model had herself made.

The casual section was best described by host David Kuo who eloquently explained that, "We charged you to come see clothing that you could see by opening your closet." What was being showcased wasn't very interesting in itself, but Kuo's reactions to what was on stage drove the segment. By far the most interesting, however, was the Goodwill segment. The idea was to take students to the Goodwill on Jefferson and dress them, head to toe, with only \$15 each. They were successful, and all of the six models that participated in the segment were fully clothed in second-hand clothing, and at that, quite well, all for less than \$15.

The fashion show isn't just about fashion though, it's a variety show, with skits, singing, dancing, in addition to the modeling.

The hosts, Kuo and Robert Yee, were perfect foils. In Abbott and Costello fashion, the two went at each other, playing off each other and off the audience, with Kuo usually being the dominant of the two. Kuo unquestionably stole the show while they were on stage, mixing his slick wit with a fast pace and speeding speaking style.



After the first fashion segment the hosts joined William Xu and sang *Don't Change* in the style of Musiq. The content of the song, nor the vocals from the trio, were particularly memorable but then again that was not the intent. If they were a highly talented group, would they be at RIT performing in a fashion show? This sentiment is echoed in their collective name: Zero Talent. Two girls, Fang-Ling Huang and Liana Joa, later performed *Reflection* in the style of Christina Aguilera, memorable not necessarily for vocal performance but for their trading verses back and forth in Chinese and English.

Throughout the show, there was a skit supposedly of when Kuo was new to America and went by the name Wang So Long. The skit followed his experiences with his new American friends and his quest to find a girlfriend. It was funny, but at parts it dragged on pointlessly and felt as if it was stretched out. Another problem was that due to technical difficulties and some poor planning on the ACS's part, when they used spotlights at various points in the show the ASL interpreter did not have light on her. This proves to be quite a serious problem when between a third and half of the audience was deaf or hard of hearing.

If you didn't attend this year's fashion show, you missed out. It was fun, humorous, and a good way to spend a Friday night. Whether you did or not, the ACS invites you to tune in next year for another show. The fashion show is an ACS tradition. It's now also one of mine. •

(above) Mark Ramos and Meg Allas (left to right) at the ACS Fashion Show in Webb auditorium on Friday, January 20th.

(top left) Phillip Lopez and David Kuo (left to right) performing at the Asian Culture Society Fifth Annual Fashion show held in Webb Auditorium on Friday, January 20th.

(far left) Meg Allas on top of Mark Ramos at the ACS Fashion Show in Webb auditorium on Friday, January 20th.

This tale of an RIT crib is just a little bit different. It isn't about the usual awe-worthy trinkets: the billboard sized plasma TV, the mountain of autographed pictures of Scott Baio or the washer/dryer turned hot tub. This is actually just about a single thing done to augment an apartment, and the repercussions that followed. It's about a can of green paint that disrupted the ecosystem of a UC apartment inhabited by four girls, and thusly disrupted the whole ecosystem of RIT...according to housing.

"We painted before classes in the Fall...it was a good bonding experience for the roommates," said Shannon. Before the Greenhouse (as it's known to its fans) was born in that fateful moment when paint met wall, the apartment looked...well, normal. "It was too white, very boring," said Corrin. "It was...stark," added her roommate Jen. So the girls, being as designy as Industrial and Graphic Design majors tend to be, decided to spice the place up. They went out, bought some paint, and indeed, they did add a bit of flavor to two of the walls. The story doesn't quite end there though.

The apartment inspectors came by as they usually do at that time of year. Like swallows returning to Capistrano, or America's love for "the virtual pet," they came and went, but this time they left the apartment something to remember them by. A kindly notice, informing the girls of the green walls that surrounded them and that some sort of consequence might follow. Soon the quartet received a request for a meeting as well as more notices, this time charging them with vandalism, and eventually, charging their accounts with \$275 to be split four ways. On top of this lovely sundae of bureaucracy came the cherry of probation.

Like any clever, red-blooded RIT student would do, the girls put their heads together and thought of ways to solve the dilemma, and/or get out of it. They even asked if they could make up for it by painting the wall back to its original pristine, pasty condition...but no dice. "Even if we painted it the RIT white, it'd still be vandalism," said Corrin, "[since it's] the changing of RIT property." "Since they sell 'RIT white' paint at the bookstore, we figured they were selling it for a reason," laughed Shannon.



"I've heard that you can officially request to repaint a wall, but nowhere is that stated," said Meredith. Possible apartment changes may indeed not be stated clearly, as a search of RIT's website didn't yield any results about painting and walls. However, if you sit down with your trusty copy of RIT's Housing's "Terms and Conditions of Housing and Meal and Debit Plans," and turn to page 19, you can find it spelled out very much like the Ten Commandments. Thou shalt find commandment 2: "You shall not paint or wallpaper the apartment/room/suite or any fixtures." However, despite this, odds are campus housing holds plenty of violations that inspectors wouldn't be too happy to find. It also seems likely that many of the apartment dwellers will probably remain in the dark until the next inspections.

"It's kind of ironic, we wanted to be in RIT cribs last year," said Corrin, though it was probably under different circumstances. The four plan on living in their UC apartment until they graduate next year and luckily they are at least allowed to keep it painted as is until they move out—and have to pay up. •

Location

University Commons

Tennants

Corrin Acome (third-year Graphic Design)

Shannon Buono (third-year Industrial Design)

Meredith McClain (third-year Industrial Design)

Jen Seiser (third-year Graphic Design)





"Hey Rob," calls the friend who showed up just before me,
 "where are your spoons?"
 "Gimme a sec, I'll wash one."

Not everything in their kitchen was that dirty, namely, the sponges piled on the rim of the sink. The sink itself however, was filthy, filled with dirty dishes. The kitchen does seem to be the main place of comfort for these residents with the table converted into a workstation for painting Warhammer figurines. A cylinder of salt stands in the middle of the table, as if in a protest, this is a kitchen table damn you! Bryan takes to the kitchen in a more conventional way, using it as an outlet to cook up tasty and delicious things. Everyone there reminisces about his "cookie with everything," that shocked taste buds with macadamia nuts, Brazil nuts, dates, chocolate chips, etc.

At a first glance, if you do it quick enough, it looks like a fairly normal apartment. All the clutter (a sleeping bag, magazines, socks, books, junk mail, bottles) is under, spilling out from around, or behind the major points of the living room, like the TV on its wooden board and cinderblocks, or the couch with its plaid of various red-ish browns and brownish whites. Along the pathway through the room, things like flecks of paper and small rocks which are scattered on the carpet might be mistaken as part of the carpet's design if your eyes are a little out of focus. It makes me think of the apartment of some friends of mine, but at least the closet doors to this apartment are closed so that at least some of the mess is contained. Either way, it's clear that cleaning is not a high priority.

Sidewalk chalk art on the walls is light enough that you hardly notice it at first. It is worth a look though. A disembodied Snoopy head is drawn above the pinkish recliner. On the opposite wall to the right of the television is pig labeled "party pig" on the side while thinking, "EEP!" To the left of the television is the "party cougar," thinking, "MMMM PIGGY!"

Shambles instead of Shackles: The Anti-Crib

by Brian Garrison | photograph by Young Jang

The TV sits on a thick wooden board on top of four cinder blocks. For some reason it makes me think of Stonehenge. A VCR sits quietly on top of the television set, covering next to a pile of paperbacks. Leaning on the side of the TV for support is a Play Station 2, and leaning against one of the cinder blocks is a DVD player with the back facing out and the bottom facing up. To the right of the television are some over-used shelves crammed with more Warhammer figurines, the board games Clue and Scrabble, some dice (not only the six-sided variety), and a bunch of other stuff.

Upstairs is livable. Bryan's room has a small potted orchid, sitting on top of a humidifier, sitting on top of some sort of snack-food packaging, sitting on top of the torn out page of a book. Robert and Benjamin's room has at least one nice clean suit hanging in the closet that I saw, above the mound of other clothes. If I found a public restroom that is toward the higher end of the cleanliness curve, I might choose to use it over theirs, but theirs didn't particularly look like it was breaking any sanitary codes.

As messy as it is, it is the apartment where people in their group of friends tend to congregate. Of course, this probably helps to add to the mess anyway. It may not be the lifestyle and environment for you, and Riverknoll's general shabbiness does nothing to perk up the atmosphere, but they get along with their method. The way Bryan thinks about the apartment, "It's like a child—it's ugly at first, but it takes some training and time to get it like this." •

Location Riverknoll

Tenants

Bryan Correa (fifth-year Environmental Science)

Robert Dial (fourth-year Electrical Engineering Technology)

Benjamin Britt (fourth-year Business)

RIT

Civic Engagement Celebration

Sponsored by the Community Service Center



February 7th 2006

5:00 - 7:00pm

Clark A + B in the SAU

Join us as we recognize those who have dedicated their time to be involved on campus and in Rochester at large. Four major awards will be given for outstanding community involvement in:

Greek Affairs, Club Life, Student Life, Faculty Life

Featuring distinguished guest speaker, Gladys Santiago, Vice President of the Rochester City Council. Food and drinks will be provided to all guests. Hope to see you there!

Paid Advertisement

Center
for Campus **life**
Building Student Participation in RIT.

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

STREAM OF FACTS

JANUARY 27

On January 27, 1967, more than 60 nations signed the Outer Space Treaty banning **nuclear** weapons in space.

Israel is one of three sovereign nation-states not to sign or ratify the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of **Nuclear** Weapons (NPT), the other two being **India** and Pakistan.

India is the second most populous country in the world. By 2030, India is expected to surpass **China** with the world's largest population, estimated at 1.6 billion.

Chinese porcelain is made using **China** stone, China clay, or a combination of the two materials. Both minerals derive from the weathering and decomposition of **granitic** rocks.

Granitic rocks are crucial to the sport of curling since nearly all **curling** stones are made from this type of rock.

Curling is generally believed to have been invented in 16th century Scotland, although two paintings by **Pieter Brueghel the Elder** depict Dutch peasants curling.

Pieter Brueghel the Elder is often credited as being the first western painter to paint landscapes for their own sake, rather than as part of a backdrop to a religious **allegory**.

An **allegory** (from **Greek**, allos, "other", and, agoreuein, "to speak in public") is a figurative mode of representation conveying a meaning other than and in addition to the literal.

The **Greek** God **Apollo** is considered to have dominion over plague, beauty, light, healing, colonists, medicine, archery, poetry, prophecy, dance, reason, intellectualism, Shamans, and is the patron defender of herds and flocks.

January 27, 1967, Astronauts Gus Grissom, Edward White and Roger Chaffee were killed in a fire during a test of the **Apollo 1** spacecraft at the Kennedy Space Center.

QUOTE

"The most important work you and I will ever do will be within the wall of our own homes."
– Harold B. Lee

Limerick

by Brian Garrison
The caffeine is making me shake,
But that means that I'm still awake.
It's already six.
This paper needs fixed.
So why am I taking a break?

REPORTER RECOMMENDS

Keeping your apartment clean. The sink works better if it's not full of dishes. The couch is for sitting on, not piling stuff on. Vacuuming helps fight cockroaches. Only dead things belong in the refrigerator. Hair can be deposited in trashcans. Trash can be taken out to the dumpster. Bottles belong in bags or boxes. Sometimes they can even get recycled. You get nickels for them! Follow these simple rules and your home, whether it's in UC or a Riverknoll, won't look like an animal's personal den.

RANDOM REVIEW

Fantastik all purpose cleaner. No apartment should be without at least one bottle of this stuff. It's all-purpose, it cleans floors, cabinets, counter tops, stove ranges, ovens in a pinch, and walls too. Pretty much everything you might be interested in cleaning Fantastik can clean. It also comes in a bunch of fun clean scents. I recommend the Orange, although for sheer power the heavy duty is a good idea. It's really pretty powerful stuff, so most common kitchen stains come off easily. Just spray, wait 10 to 15 seconds, and then wipe dry. Obviously it can be found in the cleaning supplies section of most grocery stores.

NUMBERS

a o a e o r t x c s n m
i y y t i s r e v i n u
s p s n a l i b p r a e
u r e k a b v k e n m c
y i u r r v e i t r u y
b n e e k a r i e b e r
l o o l a i k d r c h b
o s e l l i n g s o n m
c b o n o a o s o m l n
o i e n x c l g n m n
o g n e u e l o l o i o
n g l e a s o n s n o p
r a c q u e t y s s e b

riverknoll, university, commons, perkins, colony, racquet, gibson, gleason, baker, ellingson, peterson, colby, alexander, heumann

JUMBLE HOUSING

cniomniomud
guanobwl
someddeath
retocpj
dobaroxbrcad (2 words)
simonna
hesonpasture (2 words)
manratpet
lesact
xledpu

condominium, bungalow, homestead, project, cardboard box, mansion, parents house, apartment, castle, duplex

Leaving the Nest: Find the Perfect Complex

by Brenna Cammeron | photography by David Wright

"Yeah, this place sucks! The blinds: broken. The closets: broken. The carpet's coming up at the corners. And if I leave my clothes on the floor at night, there are these little bugs that eat holes in my clothes by the next day. There's so much mold in the bathtub that once, I scrubbed it for like an hour, and it still wouldn't go away!"

Dave (name changed) pauses for breath, and I decide to give him the opportunity to say something positive about Westbrooke. "Well, what makes you stay here, then?"

He shrugs. "Umm...uhh, well...it's better than Riverknoll?"

Leaving the Nest

There's no doubt that renting an off-campus apartment is a scary proposition. Hit-or-miss at best and downright traumatic at worst, some of the stories out there are enough to make anyone wonder what sane student would give up the relative safety of RIT housing to venture into the unpredictable world of off-campus apartments.

The answer is this: when done right, off-campus apartments are more spacious, more affordable, and offer more amenities than RIT apartments ever thought of having. As *Reporter* learned in our search for the so-called "perfect" college apartment, it's all a matter of being willing to do the research—and legwork—to find the place that's right for you.

Fortunately, apartment complexes near campus are about as numerous as chain restaurants on Jefferson Road. And like the food served at those ubiquitous chains, the housing provided around here might not be especially original or unique, but at least it serves the ultimate purpose of keeping you warm and dry. With enough luck, you just might find a place that you actually enjoy living in.

Stinky-Thin Walls

My first stop is **Rustic Village**, a sprawling complex that claims to be "the perfect location, the perfect property." Location-wise, it couldn't be much better: Rustic Village is situated smack-dab between East and West Henrietta Roads. With normal traffic, it's about an eight-minute drive to RIT. But Rustic Village's real perk is how close it is to the city: the complex is maybe ten minutes from the heart of Rochester's theater and restaurant district.



Rustic Village.

But what about the property itself? Rustic Village looks pretty posh from the outside: colorful banners tout the complex as being voted

"The Best Apartment Complex in Rochester" from 2002-2005 by the Rochester Choice Awards, while the "Welcome Center" (read: rental information office) looks like it was plucked from the ninth hole of a cushy country club.

Rustic Village's amenities seem to be a cross between the aforementioned country club and an active senior community: the facility has a pool, a fitness center, tennis courts, sports equipment rental, a library, and even an "entertainment center" where seasonal events such as Easter egg hunts, summer barbecues, and pumpkin painting are offered. And at these prices, there had better be extra perks all over the place: although the facility is about 35 years old, these are some of the more expensive apartments I visited, with one-bedroom apartments starting at around \$720 a month and going up from there.

Sure, Rustic Village looks pretty ideal from an outsider's point of view, but what do students who live there actually have to say about it? Eric Fabricant, a Computer Science student in the graduate program, recently moved into a two-bedroom Rustic Village apartment. Unfortunately, his experience there has fallen somewhat short of "home sweet home." According to Fabricant, "there's only one washer and dryer per building, and you need two keys to get into your apartment, one for the building and one for your room...that gets annoying."

Fabricant's main gripe, however, seems to have less to do with amenities and more to do with thin walls at Rustic Village: he says, "You can smell other people's cooking...my neighbors are mostly MCC students and foreigners, and foreigners have foreign foods, and foreign foods have foreign smells. **The smells permeate my area, when my area should contain my smells, not their smells.** I'm very sensitive to smells, that's all. I've got two nostrils and they both smell, okay?"

Colony the Second

My next visit is to **Westbrooke Commons**, a favorite of RIT students because of its close proximity to RIT, as well as its reputation for being relatively lenient when it comes to letting students do their own thing. Tucked far behind a quiet residential area made up of Henrietta's typical suburban sprawl, Westbrooke feels both safe and relatively isolated from the hustle and bustle of Bailey Road.

Comprised of 340 apartments and town homes, Westbrooke was initially built in 1968, although any passerby can easily tell that some of the apartments are more modern than others. Accordingly, what you get is often luck-of-the-draw. Dan Kelly, a 4th year Mechanical Engineering major, says that Westbrooke is like a "fake Colony." After being inside some of these units, it's easy to see why: the layout of many Westbrooke apartments is eerily identical to RIT's own Colony Manor apartments.

And how does Westbrooke stack up to the competition? Once again, the reviews are mixed. Kelly says that living there is “okay...I mean, it’s nice that I have a room to myself.” However, Kelly hopes to move back to RIT housing next year, citing his desire to “not have to clean off my car every morning.” Another RIT student, Lauren Bedugnis, has had a significantly more negative experience. “Maintenance is a nightmare,” Bedugnis says. “Things break all the time and are simply patched up. The neighbors are loud. Say it with me, [Westbrooke] is *g-h-e-t-t-o!*” When asked what she would say to a student thinking about moving into Westbrooke, Bedugnis says, “Don’t expect too much from it...and you’ll be happy.”



Westbrooke Commons.

Stretching the Budget

From Westbrooke Commons, I trek out to **Riverton Knolls**. Not to be confused with the oft-maligned Riverknoll, Riverton Knolls is about a ten-minute drive straight down East River Road. As I drive into the complex, the first thing I’m struck by is how *new* these apartments look., Riverton Knolls also feels more “grown up” than Rustic Village or Westbrooke. Maybe it’s the daycare center featured prominently in one of the complexes, or perhaps it’s the family-oriented residential area that the apartments are set in. In any case, even from outside appearances, Riverton Knolls seems nicer than the other apartments I’ve been to so far.



Riverton Knolls.

I stop by Riverton Knoll’s rental office, and am immediately struck by the friendliness of the staff working there. Where representatives from Rustic Village and Westbrooke were curt at best—I can only assume that they’re not keen on more college students moving into their complexes—the people here display an almost unnatural enthusiasm. The representative I speak to even goes as far as to draw a smiley face on the pricing sheet next to asterisked rent specials.

Despite the Barney-like happiness here, it seems that students have actually caught the Knollmania. Don Berdeen, a third-year Advertising Photo major, says he “loves living here...it really kicks my dorm’s ass. I get my own room with a walk-in closet, my own bathroom, my own kitchen...for less than what it would cost me to share a room in the dorms...and have none of those things.” Berdeen again notes the welcoming attitude of the staff as a reason for living in Riverton Knolls: “Some of the apartments that I visited treated me like (just another) college student...where at Riverton Knolls, they were very friendly. They genuinely wanted us to live there...since most of the managers that work there also live in the apartments, we weren’t just dealing with our managers. We were dealing with our soon-to-be neighbors.”

Riverton Knolls might be close to the perfect housing complex, but there are two problems: pricing and parties. Riverton Knolls is the most expensive apartment complex on my list, with one-bedroom apartments starting at \$740 and prices soaring to \$1258 for a three-bedroom townhouse. In addition, Riverton Knolls is primarily focused on young professionals and families, so loud parties and late hours are tolerated even less than in the average apartment.

The Long Commute

Winton Village is the next complex on my list. Situated on the corner of Jefferson and Winton Roads, the apartments are technically close to campus, but congested traffic on Jefferson often makes for a slow commute. The apartments are middle-of-the-road in terms of affordability, but the layout here seems a little more spacious than in either Rustic Village or Westbrooke. The apartments seem pretty well maintained, and the staff is friendly and helpful.



Winton Village.

Matt Putzbach, a second-year Finance major, has lived in Winton Village since the beginning of the academic year. According to Putzbach, living in Winton Village is "nice...I have two other roommates and we each have our own rooms, and the rooms are actually pretty big. We can actually cook our own food, unlike in the dorms...and **the price was a decent one once we split it three ways.**"

Putzbach's only complaint about Winton Village is the parking: "I've always been able to get a spot, just not necessarily a good one."

Marry a Millionaire Today

My last stop in search of the perfect apartment is **Clearview Farms**. Located a whopping 6.6 miles from campus—a significant drive down Scottsville Road and into the country—Clearview Farms is the most distant apartment complex I'm looking at, but also the most affordable. Apartments here start at \$565 for a one-bedroom apartment, and go up to \$875 for a three-bedroom townhouse.

I'm not going to lie: walking into the housing office at Clearview Farms is just plain weird. The management has converted an apartment into an office, so that the rental office doubles as a model townhouse. This sounds fine in theory, but the simple task of dropping by to ask for information about Clearview suddenly made me feel as if I had just stopped by a stranger's home without warning and then invited myself in.



Clearview Farms.

Sure enough, as soon as I sit down, a man who could be my grandfather moseys in and sits down with me at the rental desk.

"Well hey, you're a pretty girl...do you have a husband?" he asks me.

I shake my head no.

"Well, how would you like to marry a nice millionaire?"

I reply that it would be nice, someday.

"How about today? It's a once in a lifetime opportunity!" He opens his arms to me.

I bolt for the door.

Once safely back on campus, I decide to give Clearview another chance by talking to some students about the complex. Derik Bibb, a fourth-year Animation student, has lived in Clearview for three years. Bibb, a native of Vermont, says the rural location of Clearview makes him feel "at home." When asked about maintenance issues at Clearview, Bibb says, "Our heat went out two years ago in the coldest night of

the winter. They have 24-hour emergency service, but I didn't bother calling. I just put on my hunting woolens and went back to bed."

Spoken like a true Vermonter.

So, in the final analysis, is there an ideal off-campus apartment complex? The answer has to be a resounding "no." Regardless of where you decide to live, chances are that you'll have to sacrifice something—whether it be affordability, closeness to campus, or student-friendly amenities. But with enough research, you might end up a lot happier in an off-campus apartment than with RIT housing options. As Bibb puts it, "RIT Housing screwed us over three years ago...in the end, things definitely worked out better this way." •

Stats of Off-Campus Options

Rustic Village

Distance to RIT: 4.2 mi.

Studio Apartment: not available

1 bedroom: \$720-\$740

2 bedroom: \$785-\$885

3 bedroom: not available

Contact: (585) 424-4380

Westbrooke Commons

Distance to RIT: 4.3 mi.

Studio apartment: \$560-\$570

1 bedroom: \$590-\$645

2 bedroom: \$735-\$755

3 bedroom: \$915

Contact: (585) 334-9280

Riverton Knolls

Distance to RIT: 4.8 mi.

Studio Apartment: \$638-\$657

1 bedroom: \$740-975

2 bedroom: \$875-\$1038

3 bedroom: \$1085-\$1258

Contact: (585) 359-2060

Winton Village

Distance to RIT: 5.1 mi.

Studio Apartment: not available

1 bedroom: \$630-\$645

2 bedroom: \$645-\$760

3 bedroom: \$930-\$945

Contact: (585) 427-8490

Clearview Farms

Distance to RIT: 6.6 mi.

Studio apartment: not available

1 bedroom: \$565-\$615

2 bedroom: \$625-\$785

3 bedroom: \$875

Contact: (585) 889-1860



Rent or Own?

A Guide to Escaping Brick City

by Joe Grasso | illustration by Dan Bolinski

Midsummer, about that point sweaty ennui cuddles up, suffocating and unrelenting, so close that you begin dreaming of yellowing leaves and the quarter mile, a memory surfaces. Maybe it was the time you passed out and your entire floor took turns autographing you with a sharpie; or perhaps meticulously picking Ramen noodles out of the shower has taken its toll. You realize that even though you have two years left to complete your degree, there is no way on this ozone-depleted earth that you can live in the dorms again. For those who have decided to move off campus, private rentals can provide some of the best and the sketchiest living conditions known to that most curious animal, the college student.

So you realize you cannot live on campus any longer, but how does this desire manifest into an MTV Cribs-worthy pad? The world

of private rentals is a swirl of nightmarish tales, all the best parties, decadently unique interior designs, and wearing triple layers of clothing because your heat is set so low that penguins have appeared suddenly in your bathtub.

The largest distinctions, for the private renter, are often those of autonomy and responsibility. Private renters must become conscious of their money flow, pay bills to various companies, budget for food and activities, and remember that the garbage pick-up comes only on Tuesdays, at about 9 a.m.

Joe Pawelski, a senior majoring in Mechanical Engineering and a landlord, echoed this sense of pride and autonomy. "It's great to finally live in a place that I can finally consider home," he says. Given Pawelski's rather

So you realize you cannot live on campus any longer, but how does this desire manifest into an MTV Cribs-worthy pad?

unique position as a student landlord, *Reporter* decided to wine and dine him, and maybe pry out some landlord secrets for all of those renters out there.

Reporter Magazine: Joe, what made you decide to consider getting off campus and moving into house here in Rochester?

Joe Pawelski: Well, I was living in University Commons, actually the dorms for two years first, and U.C. was definitely an improvement, but I just felt like I never left school. I was always on campus; I think it's important to separate school from your home."

RM: That realization seems miles away from deciding to buy a house. How did that come about?

JP: A good friend of mine, Riker, and I found this house for sale, and he wanted to purchase it. We ended up splitting the cost of the house, I used money earned on my last co-op to get my half of the cash. With the housing market in the area the way it is, a good co-op can easily give you the cash for a down payment on a decent rental property.

RM: So would you recommend buying over renting to a student considering the move off campus?

JP: Totally. If you do it right, the rent you receive negates the mortgage, and can even cover some the cost of utilities. And that's with a good price for the tenant too, totally commensurate with the market, and cheaper than RIT housing. Think of it—your house is like a savings account, in a way, and when you finally sell, depending on how long you hold the property, you can not only have erased your own living expenses while in college; you may well leave with thirty or forty thousand dollars.

RM: Well, that's assuming there are no major problems and repairs with the house, and that the housing market itself increases.

JP: If you think about it, RIT is growing, we can all see the new buildings going up, and they are going to need more housing. This neighborhood is fairly equidistant to RIT and the University of Rochester. More and more college students are moving here and renovating these houses. That can only increase the property value. Obviously I am responsible for general upkeep and repairs, and I have to pay all the bills. But paying bills just requires the discipline to sit down for fifteen minutes once a month. So far I have been lucky, and no major repairs have been needed. I am also lucky that I can do a majority of projects that come up: rewiring, installing light fixtures, doors, stuff like that. If you can't do those things, it does increase the cost of owning property.

Reporter also spoke with Amanda Keane, an English major from Nazareth College who is a resident at the house.

RM: Amanda, you're a tenant of Joe's. I assume you've rented from other people as well. Is there any difference in having a fellow student as a landlord?

Amanda Keane: Sure. If any issues were to arise (whether they actually do or not), you feel that there is more say, more chance for negotiation. It's not some random stranger that you only see once a month for rent, it's not so intimidating. Plus if you sleep with them, you can get discounts on your rent.

JP: I don't give you a discount on the rent.

RM: Thank you for all the advice, guys.

JP: Just don't make us look bad.

A little knowledge can be a dangerous thing. Probably not as dangerous as forgetting you have a pocket full of hydrogen and playing tackle football, but, nevertheless, a few words of caution. Before diving in to rent or own, there are some basic things to consider: How long do you want to stay, or be committed to keeping up a property? The average lease is for one year, but they can vary greatly and some have penalties for early termination. If you are buying, be sure you can afford the house, and any possible large-scale maintenance that may arise. Are utilities or amenities—like working kitchen appliances—included? How draconian is the policy for late payments? Look for restrictions on pets, guests, or redecorating before you sign on the dotted line. For both landlord and tenant, a lease is either your best friend or worst enemy, and it pays to read and craft it carefully, or even have a lawyer go over it, depending on the complexity of the document and clauses you may wish to include. At the end of the day, be sure that anything agreed to by you and your landlord, or you and your tenants, is in writing—for the benefit of all parties involved.

Remember to keep your wits about you and don't settle; after all, it is going to be your 'home away from home' for quite a while. And, one summer day in the future, if there are Ramen noodles in your shower, or dangling precariously from your ceiling fan, it's because you darn well wanted them there. • 🐾

Stick this!

The Campaign for RIT is nearing its successful end. This campaign has added much to the RIT campus and academic programs — benefits that we are enjoying right now!

Thursday, February 9, has been declared Campaign Day across campus. At the following locations, from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., you can join in supporting our university.

- Crossroads
- Sandella's in the atrium of the Golisano College Building
- Java Wally's
- Campus Connections Bookstore in SAU
- The Davis Room in the SAU Cafeteria
- RITz Sports Zone (11 a.m. – 3 p.m.)
- The Commons in the Shumway Building
- Gracie's in Grace Watson Hall
- Hale-Andrews Student Life Center

If you make a gift — for any amount — on Campaign Day, you'll get a free Tiger Paw magnet. The magnet is 4"x 4", and a great dorm or apartment decoration that shows your Tiger pride.

For more information on The Campaign for RIT, visit campaign.rit.edu.

Use your Tiger Bucks to make a gift — on February 9th only!



WORD on the Street

compiled and photographed by Ralph Smith

Q: What is your most memorable roommate experience?



"When I moved out without telling him."

Mathew Belvedere
Second Year – Photo



"I threw a chair at him."

Danny Choy
First Year – Undeclared Business



"Kicking my roommate out at 4 in the morning. I had some business to handle."

Kelsey Gabriel
First Year – Industrial Design



"I partied so hard my roommate left mid-quarter."

Evan Harris
Third Year – Civil Engineering Technology



"I was photographing nudes in my room and my roommate walked in."

Megan Landrieux
Second Year – Photo



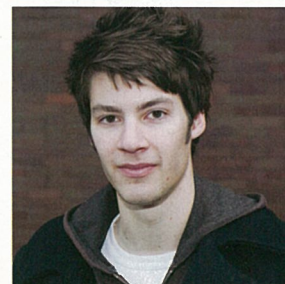
"When my roommate locked me out of the room and he was sitting in the room with his headphones on when I finally got in."

Brian Babcock
Third Year – Bioinformatics



"My roommate was a Billy Joel Freak. It was sort of terrible."

Rachel McLaughlin
Fourth Year – Visual Media



"I only had a roommate for three months. The best experience was when he moved out."

Mike Ricciardi
Third Year – Graphic Media



"Coming back from work and finding my roommate and two floor mates playing keep away with a certain personal item."

Jessica Sorrel
Third Year – Physics and Computational Mathematics



"When I walked in and there was a big black porn playing on his computer. He said he was cleaning his porn off his computer."

Stewart Wadsworth
Second Year – Mechanical Engineering



"I came home and two of my roommates were standing on cinder blocks, only in their boxers, and swatting at each other with oven mittens."

James Demetri
Third Year – Film and Video



"My roommate and I collect computers. This one time we took up the entire elevator with seven computer towers and three monitors. Like eight people called us insane."

Jeremy Lacomis
First Year – Electrical Engineering



Gretchen Anderson, a third year industrial design student, dives during RIT's swimming and diving meet against SUNY Geneseo on Saturday, January 21.
 Ralph Smith/REPORTER Magazine

SPORTSdesk

by José Plaza

Men's Swimming and Diving

January 14: Utica College was defeated by the RIT Tigersharks. In the competition, Erik Zeltbacher and Quinn Donahoe also had preliminary qualifications for the NCAA Championships.

Event Winners

50-Yard Freestyle: Erik Zeltbacher (21.18)
100-Yard Freestyle: Erik Zeltbacher (47.10)
400-Yard Freestyle Relay: Zeltbacher/Baoudin/Duffy/Xie (3:19.47)
200-Yard Butterfly: Phil Baudoin (2:13.61)
1000-Yard Freestyle: Phil Baudoin (11:13.08)
400-Yard Individual Medley: Matthew Jenkins
200-Yard Backstroke: Matthew Jenkins
200-Yard Butterfly: Adam Luptak
500-Yard Freestyle: Eric Stevens

Women's Swimming and Diving

January 14: The Lady Tigers won their dual meet against Utica College 142-95. During the match, Lady Tigershark Sarah Keesler also broke a 22-year-old school swimming record in the 400 Individual Medley by finishing in a new record time of 4:55.07.

Event Winners

400-Yard Individual Medley: Sarah Keesler (4:55.07)
200-Yard Freestyle: Kristin Curtze (5:33.22)
100-Yard Freestyle: Kristin Curtze (2:06.06)
200-Yard Breaststroke: Sarah Keesler (2:35.69)
50-Yard Freestyle: Teresa Burr (26.26)
200-Yard Backstroke: Teresa Burr (2:21.39)
1000-Yard Freestyle: Stephanie Owczarczak (11:58.24)
1-Meter Dive: Gretchen Anderson (2:05.30)
400-Yard Individual Medley: Burr/Keesler/Curtze/Whigham (4:24.83)

January 17: Williams Smith was defeated by the Lady Tigersharks, 139-103 while they were visiting RIT.

Event Winners

400-Yard Medley Relay: RIT 'B' (2:06.46)
200-Yard Freestyle: Teresa Burr (2:04.32)
50-Yard Freestyle: Kristin Curtze (25.58)
200-Yard Individual Medley: Sarah Keesler (2:17.53)
100-Yard Butterfly: Kristin Curtze (1:03.51)
100-Yard Freestyle: Stefanie Owczarczak (57.96)
100-Yard Backstroke: Teresa Burr (1:04.15)
500-Yard Freestyle: Kristin Curtze (5:34.88)
100-Yard Breaststroke: Sarah Keesler (1:11.97)
200-Yard Freestyle Relay: RIT 'A' (1:46.32)

Men's Hockey

January 14: Steve Farrer and Jesse Newman scored one goal each against #4 SUNY Oswego. The Lakers however, scored four goals of their own and won the game by a score of 4-2.

January 17: SUNY Fredonia traveled to the Ritter Ice Arena to play the Tigers. Four different Tigers tallied 5 goals for RIT, including two goals from Darren Doherty, to put them past the visiting team 5-3.

Record through 1/19/06: 6-15-2

Women's Hockey

January 14: RIT continued their fine play this season by handing "techy" rival MIT a loss in the ice arena by a final score of 9-1. Eight different Lady Tigers scored against the opponent, including two goals from Isabelle Richard.

Record through 1/21/06: 11-3-0

Men's Basketball

January 14: RIT and Nazareth College played for seventh place in the J.P Morgan Chase Scholarship Tournament. RIT played a good all-around game, with Fran Snyder, Kris Kowalczyk, Rob Hampton and Mark Carson all scoring in double figures for the Tigers. The team effort resulted in a 91-86 win in double overtime for the Tigers.

January 17: The Tigers broke the 100 point mark, and then some against D'Youville College in their home game at Clark Gym. Five RIT players contributed 10 or more points for the Tigers, with Bob Bevilacqua and Fran Snyder leading the way with 14 apiece. The final score was 116-65.

Record through 1/19/06: 7-6

Women's Basketball

January 14: Just like the men's team, the Lady Tigers won the seventh place game in the J.P Morgan Chase Scholarship Tournament. Their 59-44 win over Nazareth College also helped them snap a long losing streak. Ramata Diallo, who had 15 points and grabbed 8 boards, made the 2nd All-Tournament Team.

Record through 1/19/06: 3-9

Men's Track

January 14: RIT traveled over to the University of Rochester to compete in the U of R Snowflake Invitational. During the event, RIT had five of its team members post first place wins in their respective events.

Event Winners:

200 - Meter Dash: Querstein Smith (25.04)
1-Mile Run: Nate Lowe (4:34.68)
3000-Meter Run: Andrew Varble (9:27.58)
Pole Vault: Michael Herb (4.5 meters)
55-Meter Hurdles: Antonio Torrance (08.37)

Women's Track

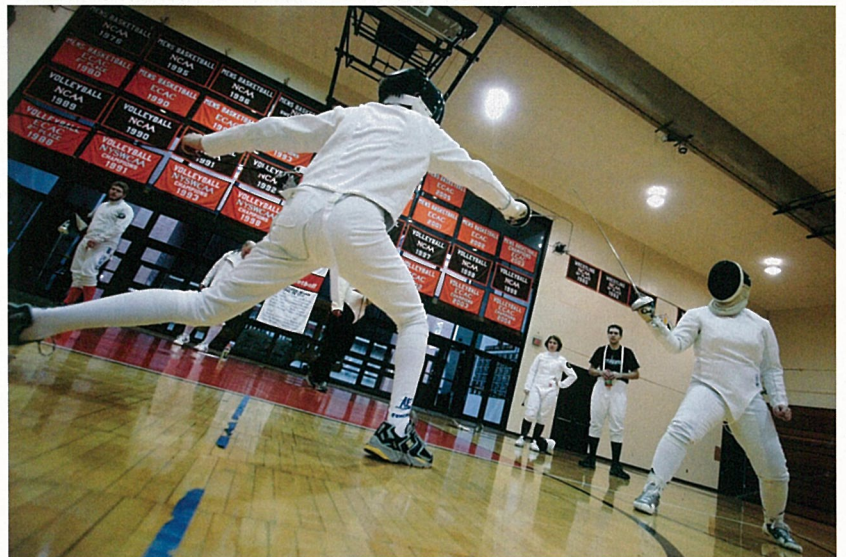
January 14: The Lady Tigers also made their presence felt at the cross town U of R Snowflake Invitational. Six different RIT members won events in their respective categories, including Lakeisha Perez and Allison Griggs.

Event Winners

55-Meter Dash: Lakeisha Perez (7.50)
55-Meter Hurdles: Lakeisha Perez (8.91)
200-Meter Dash: Jessica McCarthy (29.21)
1000-Meter Run: Danielle Simmons (3:07.22)
1-Mile Run: Trisha Sliker (5:29.85)
3000-Meter Run: Sara Pancoast (11:27.14)
Shot Put: Allison Griggs (11.60 meters)
Weight Throw: Allison Griggs (14.43 meters)

Men's Wrestling

January 14: In a continuation of the Bud Whitehill Dual Tournament, RIT competed against Wisconsin-Lutheran. While Julian Nicholas and Zach Greenberg went undefeated for all four games of the tournament, it wasn't enough as RIT ended up losing to Wisconsin-Lutheran putting them at 0-4 for the tournament.



(top) Fencing is believed to have originated in 1200 B.C. in a temple near Luxor, Egypt.

(middle) Writer, Elliot Jenner, (left) steps forward to attack his opponent in a fencing match.

(bottom) Eric Osisek, U of R student, takes a sword to the chest from Daven Patel, RIT fifth year computer science in the Clark Gym, Saturday January 21, 2005.

slicing The Red Tape

RIT'S FIRST ANNUAL FENCING TOURNAMENT

by Elliot Jenner | photography by David Wright

The ring of steel on steel filled the Clark Gym, as the RIT Fencing Club hosted its first annual "Red Tape Open" Fencing Tournament on Saturday, January 21. The tournament saw saber, epee, and foil put on strong showings, from the first exchange of saber blows to the final touches of the epee competition.

The Tournament

Tournaments "give our fencers the opportunity to fence close to home," said Dr. Carl Lutzer, the club's staff advisor and saber coach. "These young men and women have come in not knowing much about fencing, except that they enjoyed it, and have really developed tremendously. It's good to see a lot of the different fencers get to use the things they've been learning about, and getting better and better at, and finally put them into practice and see it all come together."

For the Fencing Club and those participating in the tourney, this chance to practice was the real prize. And as a result, the winning fencers received a dazzling roll of red duct tape as their prize, hence the name "Red Tape Open." This red tape symbolized all the bureaucratic paper work the members of the club had to pass through in order to get their event off the ground.

The Fencing

For those unfamiliar with fencing, it is actually three distinct disciplines. Foil is the most commonly known, utilizing the flexible blade many picture when they think of fencing. Points are scored with the point of the weapon, and are earned by hitting the opponent's torso. Points in Epee are also scored only with the tip, but the valid target for the large hilted weapon is the entire body. Saber, by contrast, allows scoring with the entire blade and the target is anywhere above the belt.

The tournament was made up of six competitions running concurrently with each blade having both United States Fencing Association (USFA) sanctioned and non-sanctioned brackets. The USFA is the governing body of fencing in America, and awards national ratings based on performance. Competitors included University of Rochester, Buffalo State, and Nazareth.

The Results

RIT did very well, claiming first in two of the three USFA events. In the USFA saber competition, was Ryan Larcom, a fourth-year mechanical engineer and armorer. He narrowly claimed triumph, and a roll of red tape, over second place saberist from the University of Rochester. RIT ruled in Epee, with epee coach Sean Horan, fifth-year computer Engineering Technology major, taking first, Daven Patel of RIT taking second, and Noah Leaf taking third. In the unsanctioned saber, composed of mostly RIT students, Tom Vo, claimed first, followed by Ben Danziger in second and Kyle Foster in third. Fred Tache dominated the unsanctioned foil round with Daven Patel and John Larson tying for third. In the unsanctioned epee round, Chris Main took fourth place.

"I think they all did really well. They all performed to the best of their ability, and they had fun, which is really very important in performing," said Horan. Ken Gilbert, club president and foil captain, said, "They had a very strong showing. We did very well, and everybody really saw what they did well and what they need to work on."

On an even larger scale than personal achievements, the tournament was able to accomplish a higher goal. The tournament turned out "really well...we got a lot of people, a lot more than expected, and we made a lot of money for the club, but more importantly we raised awareness of our club," said Gilbert.

And all for a roll of red duct tape. •

ATTENTION SENIORS!

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

ALPHA SIGMA LAMBDA HONORARY SOCIETY

YOU ARE ELIGIBLE IF:

- You are a full-time, matriculated, senior in a four or five year program graduating by the end of Fall Quarter 2006
- You have a minimum 3.4 cumulative GPA (05-1 cum)
- You have been an active member for one full year in two Institute activities, organizations, or committees and demonstrated leadership.
 - The quality of leadership shall be determined by holding a high elected or appointed office for the total term of that particular office (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Committee Chairperson, Director, or Captain (Co-Captain), in a club or activity.
 - Both paid and voluntary activities will be considered.
 - Citizenship and service to the Institute community will also be considered in the selection process.

Additional information is available on the application.

Deadline for applications is Friday, February 24, 2006

Applications are available from:

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

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



Protect yourself and everyone else

Win up to \$150 in Tiger Bucks!

RIT Information Security Office
Winter 2005-06 Poster Contest

"Information Security is Your Responsibility"

Details at <http://security.rit.edu/>

ATTENTION New York drivers:

Thanks to the New York State Point and Insurance Reduction Program, you can save on your New York vehicle insurance premiums and reduce your violation points by taking a National Safety Council Defensive Driving Course.

In just 6 hours you can:

- **Reduce your collision and liability insurance premiums by up to 10% for three years.**
- **Receive up to a four (4) point reduction on your NY driving record** (may be taken every 18 months for point reductions).
- **Sharpen your driving skills.**

For more information, or to locate a class near you, call **800.962.3434** and ask for **extension x123**.





A group of RIT Lacrosse players play foosball at "Lacrosse House" in Perkins apartment on Friday afternoon, January 20, 2006.

The Athlete Roomie: pros and cons

by Richard Hain | photograph by Young Jang

What could be better than getting your friend to wake you up at 5:30? Or having someone to take your aggressions out on? These and many other reasons account for the student athletes that decide to house with the people they play and practice with.

The pros

"We practically live together already," Colin Jesien fourth year packaging science major and lacrosse player said. Six members of the men's lacrosse team occupy half of a Perkins building on campus. Prior bonding is the first pro. "One of the advantages is being able to train together...it's a lot easier to train in the off-season since we knew when we were free as well," said wrestler Micah Vore who lives with his teammates in an off campus apartment. That is the second pro of this important housing decision. Rooming with an athlete, from the same sport specifically, increases accountability for training and other essential parts of the season and the off-season. "A lot of people if they have a problem keep it inside, but if we have a problem we can let it out," Jesien said.

A big factor which contributes to the success of these housing situations is the way problem resolution is handled. The living situations also afford the athletes more opportunities to release their pent up frustrations both on and off the field, with physicality being a more accepted way of dealing with things within the sports world.

The cons

Physicality however, is not necessarily an option, due to its propensity towards being slightly illegal (if off the field). It is that very issue which seems to be one of the biggest cons to rooming with an athlete. Sometimes hostility due to conflict builds up so much that the roommates are unable to easily overcome the root problem. "A disadvantage is that if we get frustrated in practice, we have to suck it up and deal with it since we can't get away from each other. Sometimes we are around each other too much and just need some space," Vore said. Another con, which does not readily come to mind, is the dividing of the team. Obviously not everyone on the team can room together; selecting specific players can lead to the creation of sects within the team structure. "We can't live all together, so what we do is sort of create a gang," Jesien said.

There is in fact a third con for all those testosterone-driven male athletes. Athletes have a smidge more testosterone pumping through their bodies, which can create somewhat of a violent atmosphere. "We all might be higher in testosterone and aggression, which results in more fistfights," lacrosse player Mike Tressider said.

Housing selection is a huge decision coming up that we all have to make and make wisely. If you are thinking about rooming with a fellow athlete, take heed of what has been written here. If you can handle the disadvantages that come with the advantages, living with an athlete seems to create very tight friendships and loyalty towards fellow players that can't be achieved through regular housing. •



RITRINGS

585.475.5633

compiled by Casey Dehlinger

All calls subject to editing and truncation. Not all calls will be run. Reporter reserves the right to publish all calls in any format (potentially online podcasts, when the technology happens).

Thursday 1:47 p.m.

Hey, I was wondering if somebody could tell the Ritz that they put too much bacon in their German potato soup.

Thursday 9:09 p.m.

IP Relay: I'm the dude that got busted on April 8, 2005. Yes, the window was open, and we had a fan on, so f--- you if you think we're that dumb. I blame the fire alarm.

Friday 12:30 a.m.

Howdy, *Reporter* comment line. This is your favorite ever film student. I'm here to say that I think the weather these days is gorgeous and I hope all you people in *Reporter* land are enjoying it as well. But, in addition, I'd like to demand you to take off all your clothes immediately. Have a pleasant early morning. Ciao!

Friday 11:15 a.m.

Beep? What the f--- is that? Why am I asked to leave a message after the beep? Why can't you say leave a message after the tone? Is it not a f---ing tone anymore? By the way, there's this guy sitting behind me wearing a freakin' beige shirt, who wears beige after Labor Day? That is a total faux pas. And by the way, your magazine sucks...

Friday 1:45 p.m.

Hey, *Reporter*, I just noticed something; you censor -u-k but you don't censor -h-t; so what else do you censor? C-n-, -it-h, mo-h--fu--e-. Okay, just wanted to know, bye.

Friday 1:47 p.m.

-s-h-le, The 'n' word. [racial slurs]. Anyway, you should do an article on censorship.

Friday 9:41 p.m.

Okay, first, the Chrysler Pacifica just had a commercial and all these pregnant women just walked out of a car. I have to say that's wrong. I don't know, something about it bothers me. But that leads me into the fact that my friend Rico needs to get laid. He really does. One day he's just going to walk up to me and hump my leg like a Golden Retriever. Then I'm afraid he's going to peel off his skin and turn into a giant single-headed sperm. That or he's going to explode and all this semen is going to go all over the place.

Friday 10:25 p.m.

Hey, you guys definitely need to have like a personals section. Like guys can meet girls. Girls can meet girls, and guys can meet guys. That would really kick ass.

Rico, is that you?

Friday 11:30 p.m.

Cheese is soooo delicious. I could kill a man for cheese. I might even impregnate my own mother for cheese. I think I could punch a puppy in the face for cheese. The limits I would go to for cheese are absolutely ridiculous!

Friday 11:39 p.m.

I just cut off human contact and bought a pink pearl vibrator. [giggling] And that's all I'm f---- using instead of human contact. [giggling] all those f----- guys... [giggling.]

Saturday 1:01 a.m.

Hey, this is Chewbacca? So what? [terrible imitation of Chewbacca.]

Saturday 6:45 p.m.

Hi, this is Ronald McDonald putting a disclaimer out. Don't eat McDonald's cheeseburgers for about a month. That's all.

Sunday 12:40 a.m.

Hey, RIT Rings, I just jumped into the pond out front of the school. It was so freaking cold!...my nuts are so far up in my body I'm going to be like an eleven year old all over again because they're going to drop. It is so cold. Here, here, listen to her [female, screaming:] I can't feel my toes!

Sunday 11:42 p.m.

RIT? Stop calling me! Stop calling me! RIT, I broke up with you! You're too clingy! You're just too clingy. I'm with Geneseo now. You're just too clingy, so stop calling me. Bye.

Deaf and Hard of Hearing community: get in on the action. Get sober relay operators to drunk dial us. For a more complete listing of the calls, check out our website at www.reportermag.com and click "weekly."



by Jenn Farrin | illustration by Brittney Lee

Once upon a time, in the land of RIT, a great and powerful man sat at his desk. He philosophized about his power and responsibility and then put pen to paper. What emerged was a sacred document, unlike anything students had ever seen before. The man believed so deeply in these ideas that he posted the document on the internet.* The document spoke about an important place called Housing Operations and stated "It's all about our students" and "this philosophy is embedded in all we do at RIT."

Some students were touched by this concern. Others really wanted to believe this, but were skeptical that it was a trick. Other students reacted with anger and rejected the philosophy as nonsense.

"It's [Kind of, but Not Really] All About our Students"

The philosophy is admirable, and there are several wonderful people in the land of Housing Operations who genuinely believe it. But fantasy worlds are always more fun than reality, and believing in something does not make it true. The major concern here is the policies do not always reflect this cherished philosophy.

Let's explore some examples. **You live in an apartment. Your roommate leaves the apartment for co-op and your rent increases. Your roommate did the leaving, but you are doing the paying.** Or, you return from co-op. If you move in during fall quarter, you get almost a week to move in. Between quarters, you get one day. One day to get yourself to RIT, pick up your keys, move in all your stuff, go grocery shopping, and be ready for class the next morning.


In case you haven't noticed, there is a housing shortage at RIT. Thankfully, College Town will save the day by providing more on-campus apartments. The apartments in College Town will also be rented to non-students. The housing shortage has also created a spectacular invention called the "built triple." This is when three students (instead of the usual two) are crammed into a room together. Another great idea was to take away all the lounges and turn them into dorm rooms. If Housing Operations did that with our best interests at heart, socializing with your floormates must be a bad thing.

I had the chance to bring these concerns to Housing Operations. After they tried to butter me up with hot chocolate and passionately defend this philosophy, the truth came out. The policies also have to make sense for RIT. And there it was.

When a student goes on co-op, RIT has to get that money from somewhere. Between quarters, RIT needs a week to clean a vacant room. If they had it ready for a Saturday, instead of Sunday, they might have to pay people overtime! **If they rent the apartments to non-students, they can make more money. If they cram more people into one room, they can accept more students.** That means they can collect more tuition. And since the lounge is just a wasted space that students use to socialize, study, and get a break from their roommates, they can pack students in there too!

I'm not saying that everything does need to be all about the students. RIT has to consider what makes sense for them to survive. But, if the policies have to make sense for RIT, then they cannot possibly be *all* about the students! Students are smart enough to figure things out. They don't like being lied to. It makes them angry. How about a new philosophy, Housing Operations? "It's all about our students if we like the sound of it, and if it makes sense for RIT." That would more accurately reflect reality. •

*Writer's note: This document was recently removed from the internet. Howard Ward, the Vice President of Housing Operations, would like to assure students that it was removed to standardize the department's web page, and not because the philosophy has been discarded.



Consider a **minor** in the dynamic world of **PRINTING.**

Perfect for:

ENGINEERING MAJORS

Equipment manufacturers such as Kodak, Xerox, and Heidelberg are looking for engineers with knowledge of the materials and processes of printing as they design the next generation of production presses and desktop print devices.

MARKETING MAJORS INTERESTED IN ADVERTISING

Over half of all printed materials are used to support the promotional objectives of a firm. Work with clients as they plan and implement these campaigns.

INFORMATION SCIENCE MAJORS

Printing firms such as Standard Register, RR Donnelley, and ColorCentric use computer-aided manufacturing for print production. They rely on information technology majors to manage this workflow.

GRAPHIC DESIGNERS

In a recent survey by the Graphic Design USA magazine (July 2005), over 90% of graphic designers report that they design for print. Be sure you have this in your portfolio.

PACKAGING MAJORS

Package printing is HOT!! Understand the important production requirements through this minor.

Printing Minor

For more details, see the School of
Print Media web site at:

<http://www.rit.edu/printmedia>