

# reporter

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12.11.98



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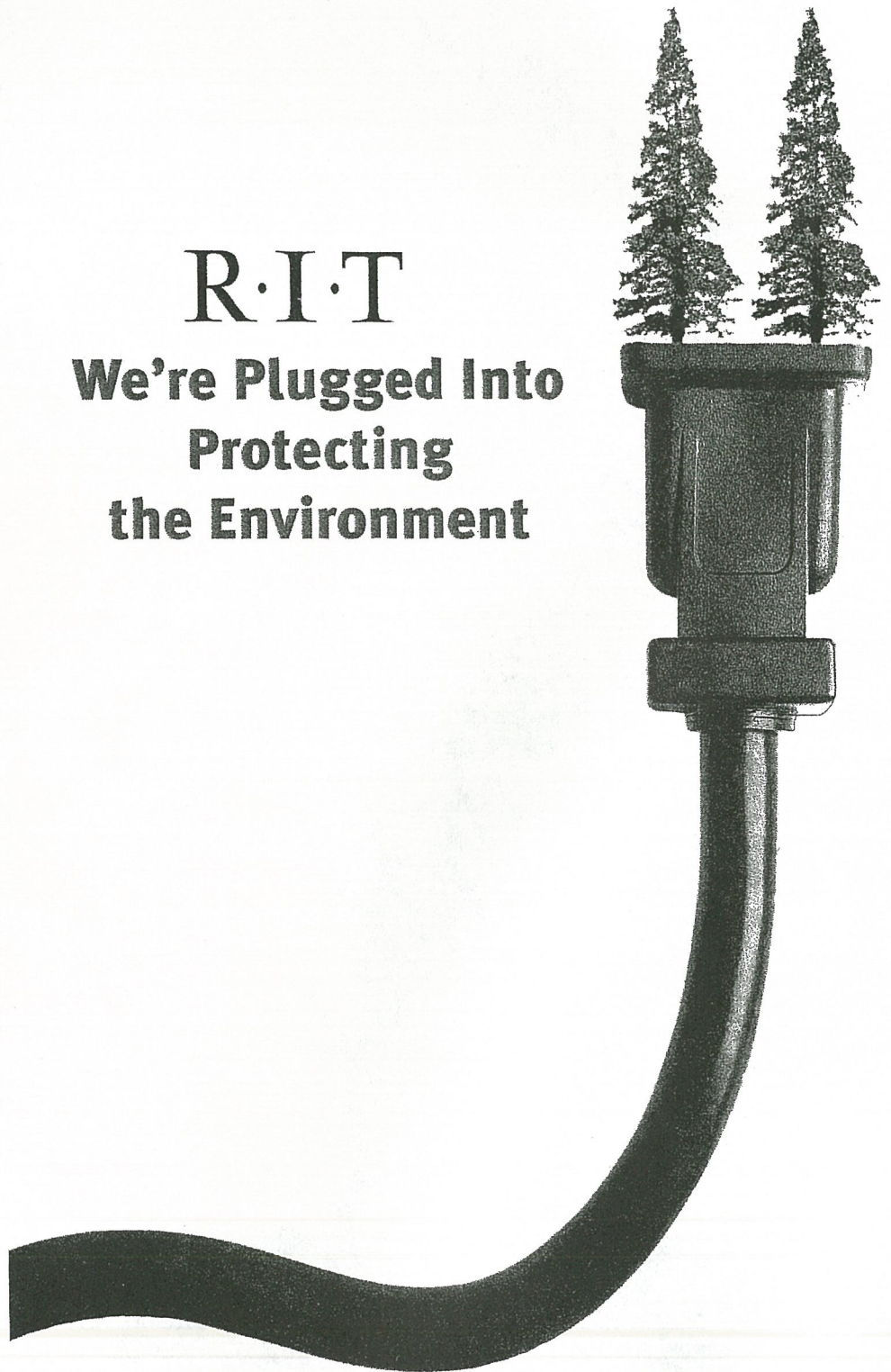
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# R·I·T

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# editorial

## Winds of Change

This week I discuss an interesting trend and a fear. One I had promised myself I would not write about, but I find myself being pushed into incredulity and feel the need to respond. Both, quite frankly, scare me.

For those of you with your heads in the sand, Exxon and Mobil are exploring the possibility of a merger. That alone is not really a big deal; what does concern me, however, is the numbers and what they might imply. Apparently the oil industry has laid off 500,000 people in the last 10 years. OK, so what is the big deal?

Well, the earning power of people with a HS education or less is declining in our country faster than people realize. Decent paying, low technology jobs are becoming marginalized, while service sector jobs like malls and fast food are increasing. In the very near future, the lower middle class and working class of America are going to feel a crunch as they can no longer buy the things they need, yet alone desire.

These corporations that downsize jobs to increase their bottom line need people to purchase goods and services. Eventually these companies will find that there are fewer and fewer customers. By keeping people employed they spend money, buy goods, go out to eat and generally keep the economy rolling. If they do not have a job or are trying to raise a family on minimum

wage, their alternatives slowly decrease as our economy becomes more technical and fluid.

Secondly, I finally and publicly admit that I do not understand the Republican leadership in Congress. Before anyone sharpens his pencil, hear me out. I don't really care for Bill Clinton, nor do I condone what he has done. Unfortunately, in the grand scheme of things, activities like his have been happening in American politics since the first president.

What bothers me is the dogged pursuit of the Republican leaders to get something to "hang" on Bill Clinton. The same party that brought you the "Teflon" president and Iran/Contra now brings us the Starr report. The inconsistencies of their actions are what confuse me. In order to catch the president in perjury they are willing to allow Kenneth Starr to break several laws, then turn around and use those same laws to prosecute Bill Clinton.

If the Republicans stoop to breaking the law to remove, censure or impeach Bill Clinton, I fear for the future of our country. If a precedent is established that forces you to talk to prosecutors without your lawyer present, strips away your legal protection, adds counts to your indictment or expands investigations without proper authority, then what protection is left?

What boggles my mind is that the Republican leaders, the self labeled "defenders of the Constitution," are willing to throw 200+ years of jurisprudence out the window to bring Clinton down. The same people who staunchly and righteously point fingers are tearing down the very framework that protects us all from illegal wiretaps and evidence that is gained improperly. I wonder and fear what the implications of this fiasco will be. The philosophy of it being better to set nine guilty people free rather than wrongly imprison one innocent person may be on its deathbed.

Michael Fagans  
Editor in Chief

*Correction:*  
In "Diversity = Justice" from our November 11th issue, REPORTER mistakenly omitted the name of Baber AME church. Baber AME church hosted the Good Neighbor event with help from Temple Sinai. The event was staged to help recruit volunteers and potential jurors for the Jury Diversification Project.

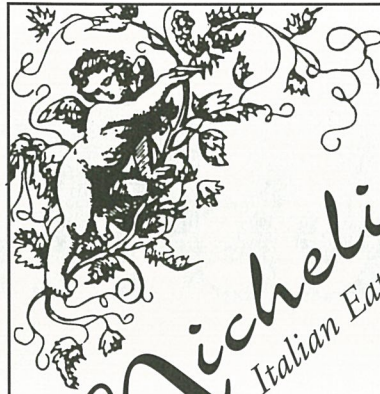


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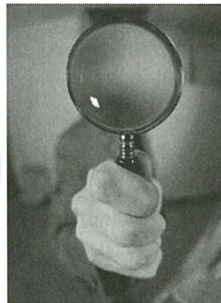
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## RIT Prof Authors Chapter in Book on Capitol's Artist

College of Liberal Arts Professor Pellegrino Nazzaro has for a great number of years researched the life and work of Constantino Brumidi, often referred to as the "Michelangelo of the Capitol." Now, the professor's work will be presented in a chapter of a new book published by the U.S. Government.

Nazzaro began his research on Brumidi in 1974, to prepare for a series

of seminars at RIT focusing on the artist. These seminars eventually connected Nazzaro with the retired Architect of the Capitol, George White. White initiated and oversaw the creation of the book.

On November 17, Nazzaro, White, several other contributors of the book and Curator of the Capitol, Barbra Wolanin all joined in the Library of Congress to discuss the book.

The book is available through the Government Printing Office, the Senate Gift Shop, and the United States Capitol Historical Society, which can be reached at 1-800-887-9318.

*by Reporter Staff*

## MADD Awards RIT Alcohol Policy

The Tri-County Chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving expressed formally their support in favor of RIT's new alcohol policy by presenting Institute President Albert Simone with a plaque at one of their annual receptions on November 19. This award, never before given to an institute of higher education, designated RIT the Top DWI Educator for Monroe County in 1998. The chapter cited student support and perseverance against criticism as their reasons for presenting the award.

Frank Musolino, president of the Tri-County Chapter of MADD, which serves the counties of Livingston, Monroe, and Ontario, informed Simone of the decision in late October. In his letter, Musolino praised the establishment of alcohol-free residence halls and Simone for facing "harsh criticism." He invited Simone to accept the award at the annual Tie One On for Safety Kickoff at the Marriott Thruway Hotel in Rochester.

Simone expressed said he was flattered that MADD had chosen to "hold us up as an example of what universities can do." He was happiest about the award being given based largely on input from students who vocally supported the new policy.

The new alcohol policy was approved by the Institute in February earlier this year. The changes created a "dry campus" at RIT, prohibiting alcohol in the residence halls and Greek housing on campus, and restricting the possession of alcohol in RIT apartments.

The new policy has been successful, says Simone, for two reasons. He feels that with the new policy the administration has communicated very clearly the expectations of the students. He adds as his second reason that RIT has seen significantly fewer cases of alcohol related incidents in the time that the policy has been in effect. He is optimistic, yet recognizes, "The problem is still there, but hopefully on this campus it's

been ameliorated."

Simone feels that the policy may still be controversial, but is becoming a more integrated part of life at RIT. He states, "I did take a lot of flak. [But] I feel every bit as committed to it now as I was [at the beginning]." The MADD award is indicative of the positive support of the community-at-large, he believes. As for student acceptance, he adds, "I think students now have come to realize that this is the policy and it's not going to change... From that perspective, there's no sense in getting too upset about it."

The administration is in the process of assessing the new policy, and will continue to observe its outcomes as time passes.

*by Chris Grocki*

# Respected RIT Photo Professor Named to Award Committee

RIT is well known for its excellent photography program, as evidenced by the highly respected faculty. Associate professor Michael Peres is one such example. Peres, a 1982 graduate of RIT's School of Photographic Arts and Sciences, has been teaching at the Institute for the past twelve years. Currently, Peres is chair of the Biomedical Photographic Communications department. The program is unique, being the only one in the country to offer a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biomedical Photography.

Peres was recently named one of three members who will serve on a committee that will review candidates for the

Lennart Nilsson Award. The award is in honor of the renowned scientific photographer who gained notoriety for his recent Life magazine essay "The Drama of Life Before Birth." The essay included the first picture ever taken of a human being in utero.

Professor Peres will work with Nilsson and Staffan Larson of the Swedish Association for Medical and Technical Photography. Together, they will bestow the annual award to someone who is following in the footsteps of Nilsson, and shows potential in the field of medicine, biology, technology, and photography. "It's exciting to share the work that

Lennart Nilsson has done in a different way," says Peres. He went on to say that, "Surely there are people who are doing unique work who simply haven't been recognized because they are in obscure places. It's my role to go out there and find those people." Nilsson will be honored and presented with the first Lennart Nilsson Award at a ceremony in Stockholm on October 29. Many sponsors have already stepped forward with support to ensure the duration of the award.

*by Otto Vondrak*

## World News

The FDA is reviewing a new "super-aspirin" class of pain relievers this week. Regular aspirin works by suppressing two enzymes: Cox-1, which protects the stomach lining, and Cox-2, which triggers pain and inflammation when a person is hurt. The new drugs only inhibit Cox-2, and not Cox-1, so the negative effects of aspirin on the stomach lining are eliminated. (CNN)

A recently released report carried out by Tom Wigley of the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) suggests that the recent rise in global temperature is mainly due to human action. 115 years of climactic data were analyzed alongside two computer models, which purposely neglected the rise in greenhouse gasses. The difference between the fluctuations of the two models and the actual data lead Wigley to conclude that there was "a discernible human influence on climate." (BBC)

NASA will release four new space probes over the next four months, in an ongoing effort to collect data which may make the origins of life on Earth clearer. The Mars Climate Orbiter will provide detailed atmospheric and surface information, which will be used by the next satellite: the Mars Polar Lander. The Polar Lander will land, take pictures and search for underground water. Along with the Polar Lander, two basketball-sized "balls," or aeroshells, will fall to the surface and bore 2 meters underground, again, in search for subter-

ranean water. The final probe, dubbed Stardust, will rendezvous with a comet, where it will collect interstellar dust, and return to Earth. Stardust is slated for a February launch. (CNN)

Rebecca Bigler, a visiting psychology professor at UW-Madison, has released a study that suggests that prejudice is not a learned behavior. In a controlled study, where children were given preferential treatment based on the color of their shirts, she discovered that the children soon attached favorable biases towards those who wore the same color shirts, and negative biases to those who wore other colors. (UniSci)

Cuba has officially declared that Christmas is to be a holiday. The Communist Party used the entire front page of the Cuba's only daily newspaper, the Granma, to re-establish the holiday, which was abolished in 1969. (AP)

Chinese police have detained one of the country's most outspoken dissidents, Xu Wenli. Mr. Xu has previously spent 12 years in prison for his pro-democracy statements. Mr. Xu is currently the head of the Beijing branch of the China Democratic Party. Currently, China is cracking down on efforts to install a multi-party political system. (BBC)

*by Pete Lukow*

# DEVIL

## A Tale of Two Psychos

*Psycho* was originally released in 1960 to an audience that had not yet seen the intensity and violence that Alfred Hitchcock could create. Anthony Perkins stars as Norman Bates, a young man who holds a terrible secret inside his shattered psyche, a secret so horrible it drives him to murder.

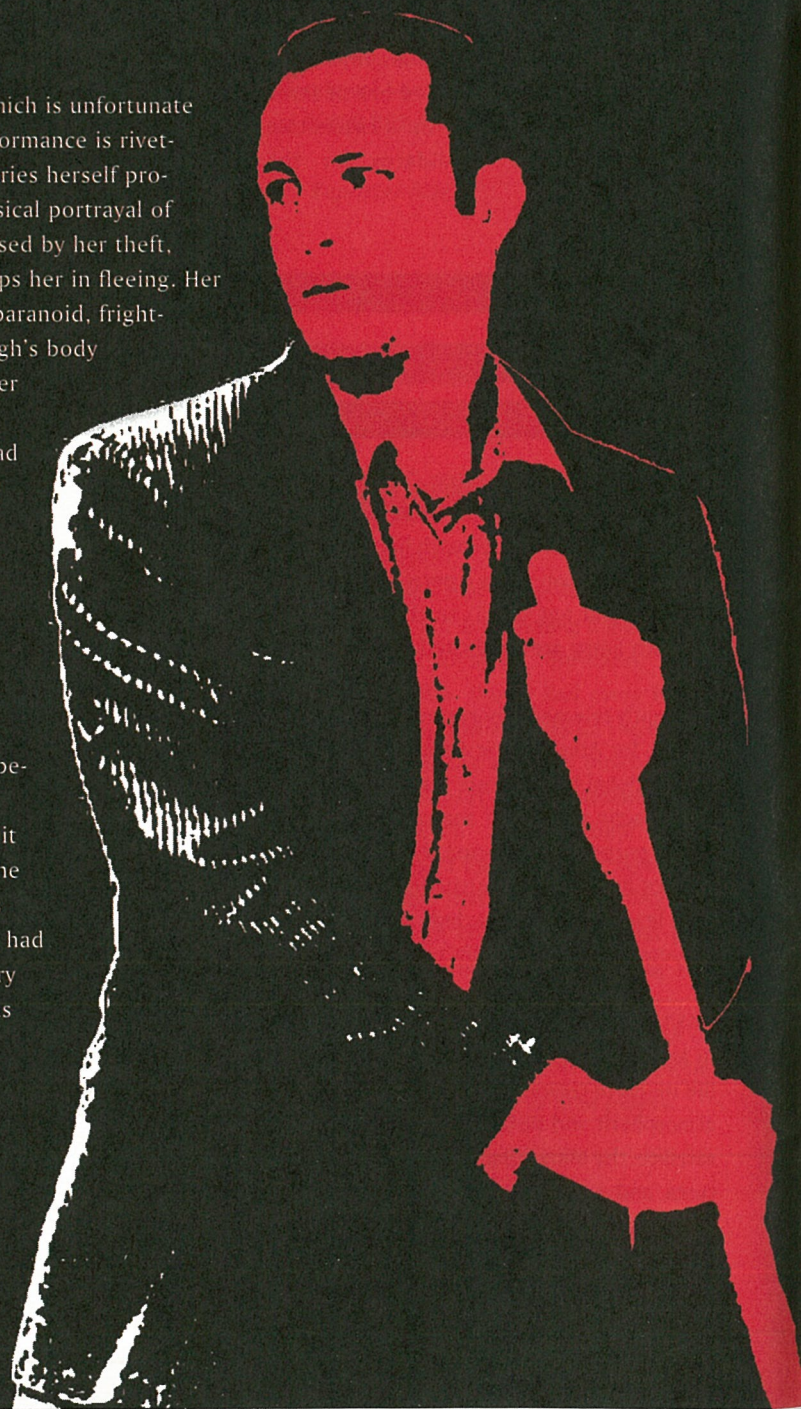
Marion Crane (Janet Leigh) embezzles \$40,000 from her boss in order to start a new life. During her attempted drive from Phoenix to Los Angeles in order to meet her boyfriend, she stops at the Bates Motel for a night. Inside, she meets Norman, who to all appearances, seems a bright yet intensely shy young man, whose only apparent companion is his invalid mother. His voice is smooth and comforting, especially to a tired traveler.

Perkins delivers the performance of a lifetime in this film - a role that has stood the test of time and defined the thriller genre for all that have come since. He is loose and comfortable playing a lanky, immature hotel manager who seems a little too secretive. His Bates is a convincing, terrifying character with an uncomfortable anger that simmers below the man's emotional surface. His movements, the way he speaks, his nervous laugh, even the way his eyes move back and forth are all testaments to both Hitchcock's coaxing and Perkins' natural ability.

Marion Crane dies about halfway

through this film, which is unfortunate because Leigh's performance is riveting. The way she carries herself provides a dead-on physical portrayal of the nervousness caused by her theft, and the fear that grips her in fleeing. Her character is jittery, paranoid, frightened, and tense. Leigh's body movements - from her twitching fingers to her wrinkled forehead and perpetual frown - are perfect reactions to her crime.

Of course, this film would not be what it is without the great Alfred Hitchcock directing. He was the main impetus behind this film from step one - and it shows. Aside from the novel the movie was based on, Hitchcock had a part in almost every aspect of this film, as he took a less-than-stellar written work





# leisure

and turned it into "the movie" that would break the ground for the entire horror/thriller movie industry we know and love today. The innovative camera angles, particularly in the legendary shower murder scene, will probably never be equaled; focusing on Marion's hand as she grabs for the shower curtain to steady herself as she falls, slowly pulling out from her unseeing eye as her dead face lies on the floor, and of course the shot of the thick, viscous blood flowing down the drain. These visions can only be called spectacular as Hitchcock captures the spirit of this movie's title perfectly.

*Psycho* is the perfect combination of directing, acting, camera work, and atmosphere - even the inanimate house seems menacing. The black-and-white film creates a perpetually dark sky creating a fantastically gripping atmosphere. This film is all about focusing the audience's attention.

I can safely recommend this movie to anyone. If you rent *Psycho*, you will not be disappointed, whether you like horror flicks, comedies, or nature films; even if you don't like thrillers, try this movie simply for the experience.

by William Huber

Water flows steadily from a shower-head. Blood slowly empties to the drain. A nude woman lies in pool of blood, her cold eyes staring off into death. Filmgoers originally resented these images in 1960.

Today, director Gus Van Sant (*Good Will Hunting*) attempts something never before tried in film history. He has crafted a sequel of sorts: a shot for shot recreation of the original film. Van Sant has updated the film by modernizing the plot, adding color, and most obviously, recasting the actors that would fill the classic roles of Norman Bates and Marion Crane.

My initial reaction upon learning that they were beginning the massive undertaking of recreating number 18 on the AFA's top 100 American films of all time was that they were going to ruin the movie. No one working in the film industry today has the talent and focus of Hitch. He was a true genius and is widely considered the greatest film director of all time, with *Psycho* as his masterpiece. Why would a filmmaker want to remake such a piece?

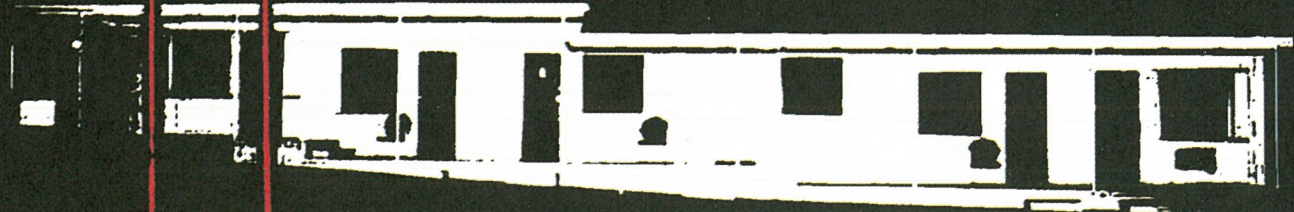
Enough about the old film - Van Sant's *Psycho* features Vince Vaughn as ultimate mama's boy Norman Bates and Anne Heche as Marion Crane. Julianne Moore



plays Marion's sister Lili, Viggo Mortensen is Marion's cash-strapped boyfriend Sam Loomis, and William H. Macy stars as private detective Milton Arbogast.



# Motel



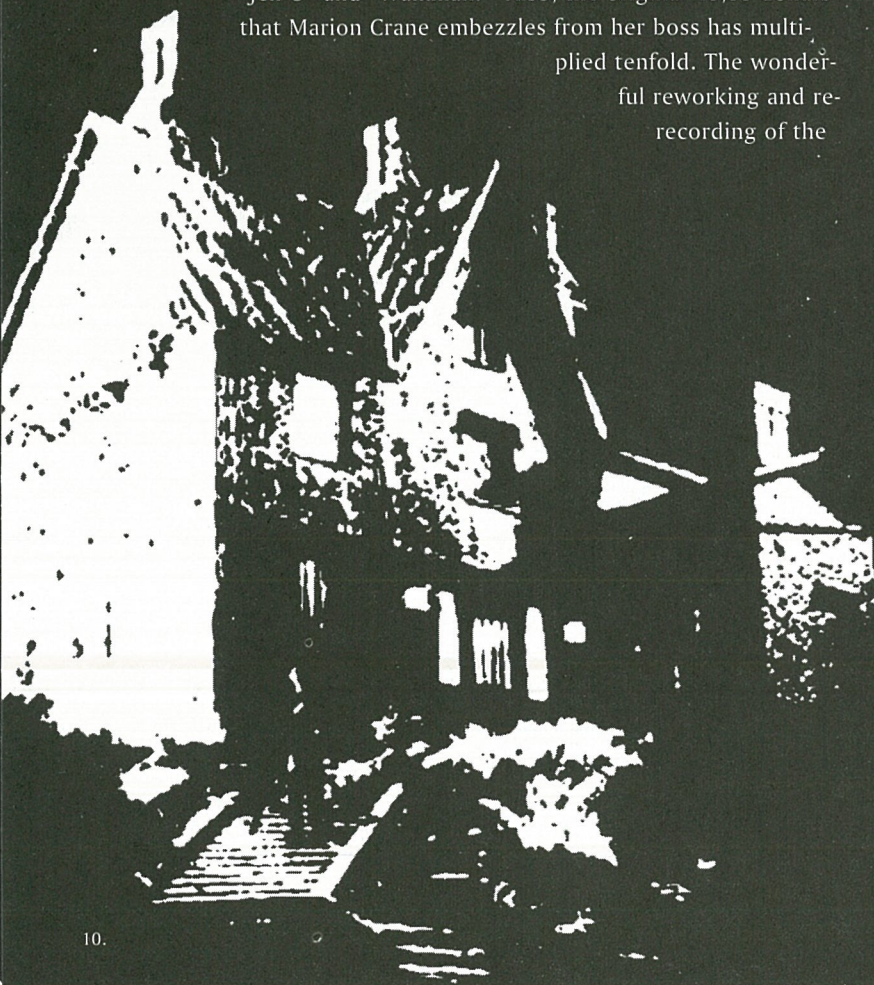


As a whole, this *Psycho* lacks enough of a new spin to make it original, or even necessary. The added scenes and shots are ineffective; especially jump cuts to random stock footage during the murder scenes. The addition of Norman masturbating while spying on the showering Marion is completely uncalled for. The original scene was much more effective without it. Unfortunately, the acting was, in most parts, far inferior to the original. Vaughn's interpretation of Bates was much more sinister and more disturbed than Anthony Perkins' version. Anne Heche's Marion Crane seemed cold and without emotion in comparison to Janet Leigh's performance. I really didn't feel bad for Heche's Crane the way I did for Leigh's when she is killed. William H. Macy is serviceable as Arbogast, the inquisitive private investigator, although I was expecting more from the veteran character actor. The only improvements as far as performances go were the surpassingly good acting of Viggo Mortensen as Crane's boyfriend Sam Loomis, and Julianne Moore's scene-stealing performance as Lili, Marion's strong sister bent on finding her missing sibling. The plot and dialogue were almost identical to the original, albeit a few 90's updates, including the use of "Jell-O" and "Walkman." Also, the original 40,00 dollars that Marion Crane embezzles from her boss has multiplied tenfold. The wonderful reworking and re-recording of the

original film score is worthy of great praise; Danny Elfman's beefed up version of Bernard Herrmann's recognizable score was great, especially in full digital surround sound.

These are hardly justifications for a remake of a classic and timeless film. What I suggest to anyone thinking of going to see this *Psycho* is to spend three bucks renting the original film, rather than shelling out eight of your hard-earned clams on a far inferior production. As to all the Hitch fans out there, are you as outraged as I?

*by Jon Costantini*



# Letters to the Editor

In response to your editorial on December 5th, regarding the movie *Under Siege*:

I have not yet seen the movie. I don't know if I will, because I don't have the time, not because I don't want to. Here is how I see it: taking a look at all the terrorist attacks in the past, one can see that many of them are based around the Arab or Muslim culture, whether the act was done in an Arab country, or in another country by Arabs/Muslims. Now don't get me wrong, I'm not prejudiced against either Arabs or Muslims - my uncle is one - but it is a simple fact that many terrorist acts are from this group. True, there is the whole thing in Ireland, but that is small beans compared to what the Muslims have done. The Muslims have even gone as far as to declare a "holy war" against the United States and continues to plan terrorist attacks against this country. In other words, I do not think that the Arabs or Muslims are making a very good point. The movies simply portray what we see in the world around us.

Jacob DeGraw

What is wrong with this country? What is this world coming to? I am outraged. I recently checked my VAX account upon my return from fall co-op. What did I find? Twenty-three new messages, 20 of which were from Microsoft. Since when did my personal account become a bulletin board for solicitations? Doesn't Microsoft have enough avenues or revenue? Why is my time being wasted at an institute for higher education by reading junk mail? If Microsoft can get my name, who else can? Should I be expecting advertisements from Publisher's Clearinghouse? Or how about pre-approved credit card applications. Or did RIT specifically sell me out to kiss Bill Gates \*ss? If the latter is the case, maybe I should jump on the bandwagon too. Do you suppose Microsoft would pay my tuition if I walked around campus with a Windows 98 sticker on my forehead? Shame on you RIT for letting this happen, and shame on Bill Gates for wanting a couple billion dollars more!

Luther Meyer  
5th year EMEM

## website of the week

<http://www.jenlovehewitt.simplenet.com/>

"And in their first ever feature role, introducing, Jennifer Love Hewitt's Breasts."

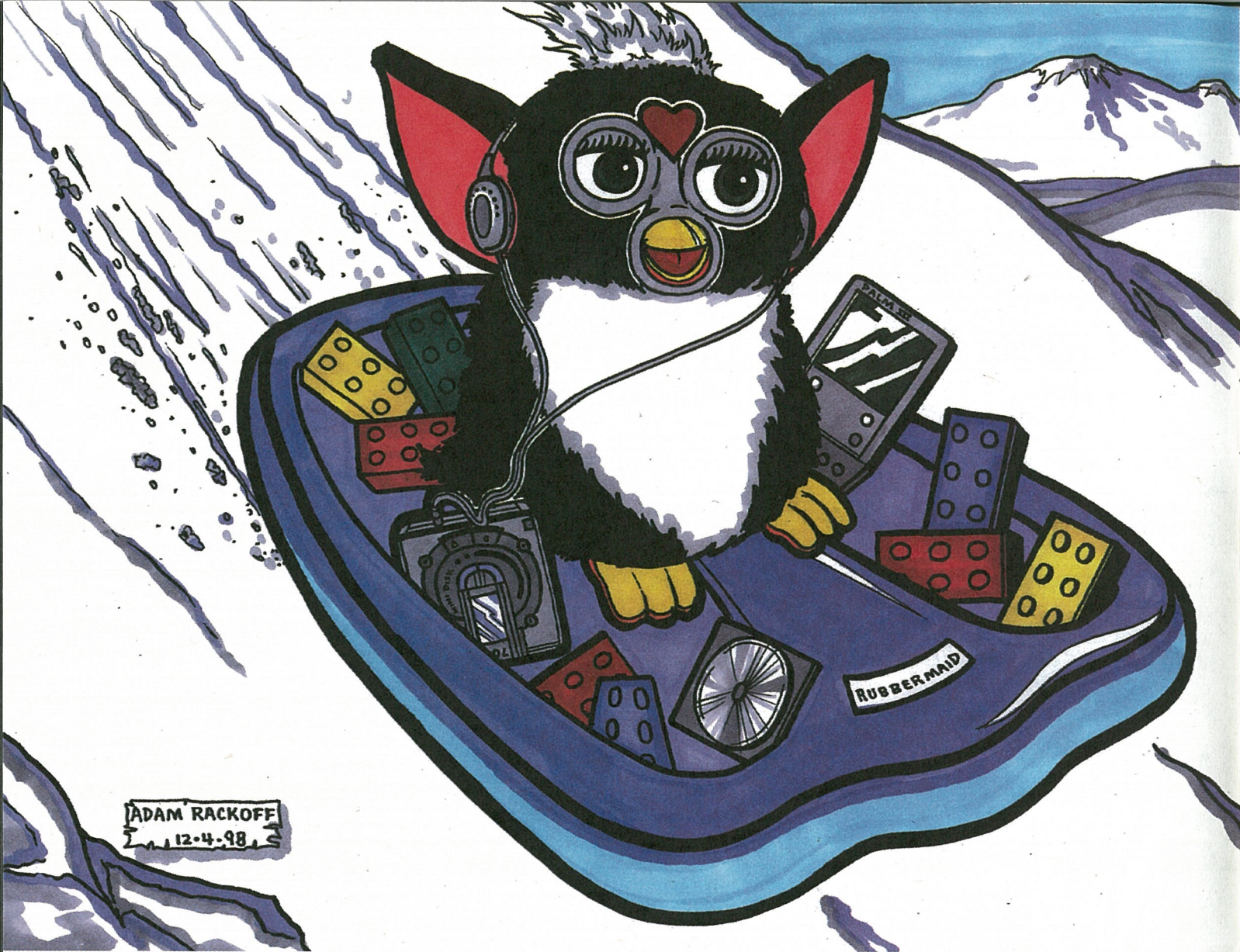
Now, before you jump down my proverbial throat screaming, "Pervert!" hear me out on this one. This particular Website of the Week was selected simply because I find it quite amusing, and equally accurate. If any of you happened to catch *I Still Know What You Did Last Summer* (a truly pitiful film) over the past few weeks, I'm sure you'll agree. You must have noticed a certain "perspective" taken from various angles in all Jennifer Love Hewitt scenes. The focus of nearly every shot was conve-

niently, or perhaps blatantly, aimed directly at Miss Hewitt's "pectoral" region.

Plainly titled "Jennifer Love Hewitt's Breasts," this is the first site I've ever found devoted entirely to a specific body part of one individual - quite unique. Several movie clips can be found with sarcastic comments about the aforementioned camera perspective. In any case, the point made here is quite clear: The makers of one, *I Know What You Did Last Summer*, and later, *I Still Know* (it could have been more appropriately entitled, *I Still Know What You Did Two Summers Ago*, but who's count-

ing?), seemed to feel that rather than practicing good movie-making, they would simply shoot screaming women with large, bouncing, and barely-covered breasts. The *I Know* makers have reduced the quiet and cute Hewitt from *Party of Five* to little more than a pinup girl for the bedroom walls of high school males. Whether you visit it or not, this site, though it may have other intentions, was selected as a commentary on the lack of quality, and even less thought, in much of Hollywood's recent entertainment offerings.

by Nick Spittal



New products appear in the market every day. Creative minds are constantly at work to bring you the latest and greatest in today's ever-evolving technology. Here, we bring you a few of the most interesting new inventions and products, just in time for your Christmas list.

Think you may be too old to ask for Legos? Think again! This year, Lego, in a partnership with MIT, has recently introduced their newest line of the building blocks: Lego Mindstorms Robotics Invention System. These Legos allow you to build and control your own robot using a microchip that is programmed from your computer. The "toy" includes gears, wheels and many other popular, time-tested pieces. The manufacturers cite the language used for programming as being "simple, yet powerful." You can put into your

robot programming features such as: reorienting themselves as they bump into things, searching for light sources, and following ground lines. For an impressive webpage experience as well as more information check out [www.legomindstorms.com](http://www.legomindstorms.com). This "toy" is already bringing children, young and old, hours of unique entertainment.

Although minidisks have been around for a couple of years, most of us are still a little behind, at least according to sales. There are numerous advantages to minidisks. They have the capacity of recording up to 74 minutes, are only two and a half inches in diameter, and encased in plastic, making them are very durable and scratch resistant. They also can be recorded on over a million times without any change in the quality of sound. This year Sharp revo-

lutionized the portable minidisk player with their MD-MS702 player. The MD-MS702 has the same recording quality as its full-sized counter parts and can be used to record anything from lectures to concerts. With its illuminated remote control and a rechargeable lithium battery, your portable recording studio is available to you anywhere you go. At the price of \$400, however, it may be a while before this trend catches on.

Need a gift for your computer? Look no further than the newest software from Symantec — the Norton CrashGuard

Deluxe. Unlike older versions of Norton Antivirus and other similar programs, this software functions on its own: it updates, scans for viruses, detects them, resolves the problem and has three times the crash protection as the competition. Also, this program, unlike the others, will not interrupt your screen with messages or warnings.

Although it may not appeal to adults, the latest toy out there for little brothers and sisters is the Furby. Tiger Electronics has developed the hottest thing since Tickle-Me-Elmo. According to reviews, Tiger may have gone a little overboard. The Washington Post called the Furby a product of "the marriage of Chucky and an Ewok." This toy is a pretty scary Gremlin-type creature. So, what is its hidden talent? It can talk — its language is Furbish — but the exciting part, supposedly, is that you can teach it English (like we don't have a hard enough time speaking it ourselves). They also wiggle their ears, blink their eyes, and move their mouths, all pretty standard. They run at \$30 and never shut up, so take your chances with this one, if you can find one.

The "best pocket organizer of the year" honor (given by the product's manufacturer) has been awarded to 3Com's Palm Pilot III. The new features and sleek looks are bound to bring this device up there with the other great organizers of today. The Windows-based organizer has improved on its past successes with the Palm Pilots I and II by containing larger, easier-to-read font sizes and seamless synchronization to your computer. At \$370, this organizer requires a generous Santa Claus to boost sales.

Snow will be here eventually. In readiness, Rubbermaid has anticipated a solution to the age-old problem of broken plastic sleds. They have introduced a line of Rubbermaid sleds ranging from smaller models to toboggans. By keeping them affordable (\$20-\$40) Rubbermaid's colorful and durable sleds allow the user to experience both enjoyment and roughness. Their most popular design is steerable and bounces back if crashed into a tree, a problem for some of us in the past.

by Jenn Tipton



## CrazyHorse Mongoose by Galactic

It is a very rare occurrence in the music industry when a record fails to get at least one person's attention. Galactic only impressed the big guys at Capricorn, because these guys don't present anything special, or for that matter, anything interesting.

This disc is the ultimate in the growing stack of CDs that are only good for coasters. Galactic presents itself as an acid jazz/blues/funk band. Usually this type of music involves some sort of intrinsic emotion or at least an attempt to fake it.

*CrazyHorse Mongoose* is about as flat and dull as the atmosphere music played in a New Orleans dentist office.

There are 12 tracks on *CHM* and every one feels as if the musicians are just bored with themselves. When they try to get into a groove, their effort falls so supremely stale it becomes embarrassing to listen to. It's not that the music is bad - in fact, some of the tunes are pretty inventive - but it's just that every piece, part and portion of the disc feels lifeless.

Around this part of past reviews, I usually pick out some outstanding

tracks to take a look at and pick apart for their good parts or for their bad parts. Unfortunately, the music on this CD is so grossly underplayed that there's not even a track that's interesting enough to write about. The entire album smudges into a forty-minute blur of ultimately painless but horribly numb drivel.

Actually, there is one track that's worth mentioning, but barely. The last song, "Quiet Please," is over ten minutes long. For those of us who have to listen to the whole CD for reasons of getting paid, this is the worst. It's like, "Okay, I made it this far, but come on." It's doubtful that the casual listener would even make it this far, but if they did, congratulations are in order for making it through this pinnacle of mediocrity.

Do I recommend this album? No. Maybe it's the band itself making bad decisions, or maybe the music itself is really boring. Either way, this album is just not worth the listener's time.

by William Huber

# Opinion

## Social Responsibility

I'm hanging out in an RIT apartment with the Luscious Freshmen (who are now Luscious Seniors). I was just hanging out, waiting for the effects of a previous party to wear off a bit. Nursing a beer, I was seated on the couch with the Luscious ones, and their roommates and friends. By 3:00 in the morning, I was the only male present, and the conversation had turned to "girl talk," so I really wasn't listening or paying attention to what was going on around me...

... Until someone said, "Yeah, I went to get an AIDS test, just to be safe." I perked up. AIDS test? Her other friends there were agreeing with her and had said they had done the same. Then the conversation shifted to the use of condoms. One of the girls piped up and said that she has almost never used condoms. The other girls jumped down her throat for her irresponsibility. They started to fling statistics at her like a dissertation from an high-school STD pamphlet. The girl

didn't seem totally convinced, but it was clear that her friends were making an impression on her.

After a while, I felt like I had stumbled into a CBS After-School Special, except that this one wasn't clumsily constructed. The girls spoke with all seriousness and a sense of looking out for one another. All the girls there were friends, and concerned about their health, as well as others. The conversations that they were having were frank and honest. The statistics that were listed were true and accurate. I was shocked and embarrassed- not because of the material, mind you...

... I was shocked that the girls could speak so frankly with one another, armed with facts and figures. I was embarrassed only because I know guys don't think the same way. "Locker-room conversations" that you would overhear do not center around STD's and safe sex. Mesmerized, I got up to serve my hostess another beer at her flowery request.

I was also pleased that I had heard some people from my generation standing up and taking responsibility- especially on a heavy topic like AIDS, and other sexually-transmitted diseases. For awhile, I had given up on my generation taking responsibility for anything. Branded as aimless and listless, our generation gets a lot of heat for "floating through life." Even at

RIT, where apathy pervades nearly every aspect of life, people were taking a stand.

"When you go in for a test, they give you a serial number," one girl was explaining, "You come back ten days later, and then you find out." Sitting in the waiting room and the horrible suspense of "finding out" is one of the most emotionally-draining experiences you can imagine. When it was suggested that the girl with the aversion to condoms get tested, she squirmed. Again, her friends tried to impress upon her why it was so important. "Did you know that [statistically] every one in four people have herpes?" If a statement like that from one of your best friends doesn't hit home, what will?

There was no giggling or calling up boys at odd hours of the night. There were no Ouijia boards. No guessing games. Just mature, casual conversation on a topic that makes most parents cringe. How fortunate to have friends with enough sense to protect themselves and their friends. If someone ever tells you that young people don't ever think about the future, spit in their eye and tell them that we are the future.

I bring the beer and open it for my Luscious hostess.

by Otto Vondrak  
(with thanks to Burda)

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# A Jagged Line Crossed?



PRESCRIPTION:  
PRIVACY?



The 1998-99 *Student Rights and Responsibilities* handbook states, "The RIT Student Bill of Rights guarantees to all students: retention of their rights as citizens of the community at large," as well as "protection of their rights to privacy." Question: is it possible that the definition of "privacy" differs for faculty and staff here at RIT and the students who attend?

Allow me to introduce you to ... well, we shall call him Jack. As happens to many students, Jack was experiencing a cold-like illness during finals week of fall quarter. To alleviate the symptoms he was experiencing, Jack took doses of several over-the-counter medicines at varying times during the day. These medicines were readily available in the Corner Store. Unfortunately, the combination and dosage levels of these legal medicinal aids had an adverse effect on Jack, and he had to go to the emergency room at Strong Memorial Hospital.

When he arrived, he discovered he had forgotten to bring, other than his RIT ID, any identification. Before treating patients, the hospital generally tries to obtain information for billing and treatment purposes, as well as parental/guardian consent when required. In this obtaining, it is easy to have gray matters in the area of patient confidentiality and legality. One non-emergency room staff person tried to explain, "The medical emergency room has the right to call RIT or anybody necessary to acquire any information needed to treat a patient."

Hospital procedure, as related to this writer by an actual emergency room desk attendant, in reality requires ER staff to gain parental consent for the treatment of anyone 18 years of age or younger; as this student is 18 years old, Strong Memorial would, according to the desk nurse, seek parental consent in his case. When Strong called RIT (we are assuming to "seek"



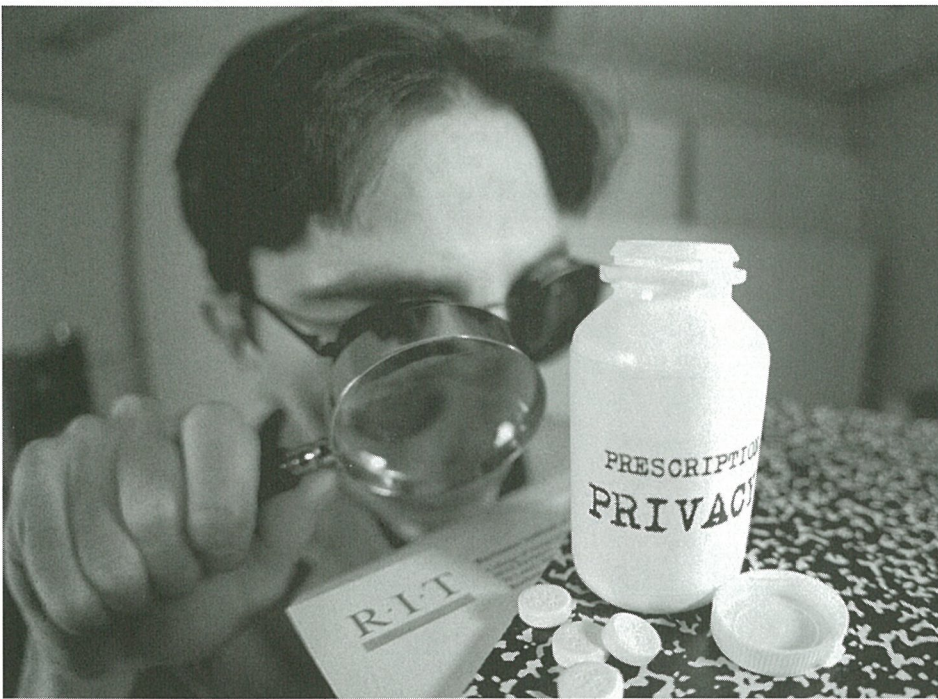
means to contact Jack's parents), RIT was made aware of Jack's presence in the hospital. It should be noted, however, that according to Jack, his parents were not informed of his hospital visit until he himself told them after his return to the residence halls.

At some point in the night or early morning after his admittance, staff at the hospital asked Jack if anyone else had taken any of the products that landed him in the emergency room. He told them that his friend, "Joe" may have also ingested some of the medicine. Through means unbeknownst to us, RIT Campus Safety was made aware of this possibility and arrived at Joe's door with Residence Life at 5:30 AM. An officer asked, "Can we come in? We'd like to talk to you about your friend

'Jack.'"

The Campus Safety and ResLife representatives inquired about Jack's previous nights' activities and if Joe had taken some of the same over-the-counter products that put Jack in the hospital. Joe denied having done so and said he knew nothing about Jack's activities. He appeared fine, so the CS and Reslife reps, satisfied, let him go back to sleep.

When Jack was released from the hospital, he and Joe went to Peterson's office to obtain room keys, as Jack did not know where his originals were. When Jack approached the office secretary, who appeared to him to be a student of approximately his own age, she asked something to the effect of, "Hey, are you



the guy who overdosed on [medicine] last night?”

Jack, appalled at this apparent breach of his privacy and still delirious from his unfortunate experiences the night before, could do little more than stand there embarrassed. Before long he and Joe were facing Peterson again. Peterson questioned Jack regarding the incident, and in his delirious, “soupy,” quite depleted state, Jack did his best to answer her questions, even though his reality check had bounced hours before. As a result of the students’ conversations with Peterson, a letter from Judicial Affairs was sent to Jack, citing his violation of RIT conduct code concerning

item number one, “Endangering Behavior,” and item number eight, “Violation of RIT policies.”

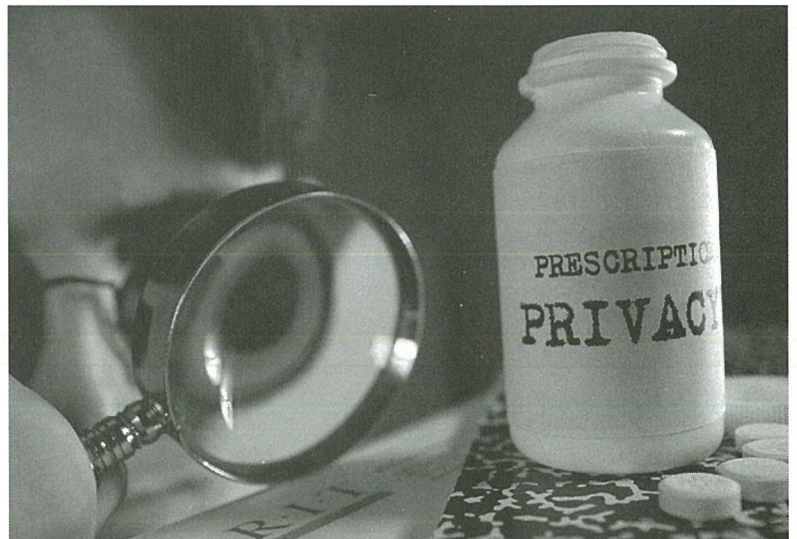
For those of you who have may have not had the time to read your entire 1998-99 *Student Rights and Responsibilities* handbook, here are the definitions of these alleged violations:

“Endangering Behavior: conduct that threatens or endangers the health and/or safety of a person(s).”

“Violation of RIT Policies: violation of published RIT policies, rules, and regulations including, but not limited to, the RIT Student Bill of Rights, the RIT policy Prohibiting Discrimination and

Harassment, the RIT Alcohol and Drug Policy, the RIT Parking and Traffic Regulations, the RIT Policy on Academic Dishonesty, RIT Smoking Policy, the RIT Residence Halls and Apartments Terms of Occupancy, and other published Institute policies, rules and regulations including those related to entry into and/or use of Institute rooms, buildings, and facilities.”

As Dawn Soufleris of Judicial Affairs is not free to discuss the alleged incident, it is difficult to determine what might happen. It is conceivable, however, that under the above policies Judicial Affairs would be required to charge a student with Endangering Behavior if they were merely



to maintain an excessively high-fat diet while eating at Gracie's; after all, as we all know, too much fat endangers the health of a person, does it not?

It could be argued several transgressions of civil and legal rights as well as doctor-patient confidentiality have occurred here. According to the Strong Memorial emergency room staff, the only reason the hospital would have contacted RIT would have been to reach Jack's parents for consent in administering health care to the young man. However, Jack's parents were never notified about the incident by either Strong or RIT.

Two major concerns have to be addressed, the first being: how is it that RIT is taking a judicial action against a student whose actions were, first, perfectly legal, and, second, unknown to RIT until an outside institution, perhaps illegally, informed them of this individual's actions? Soufleris, of Judicial Affairs, responded with, "Anything that comes to RIT's attention that is of concern to us whether it is on campus or off campus can be dealt with. We have a duty to care about the people within our campus." Peterson, of Residence Life, also had this to say on the issue, "If Campus Safety was called, got notified about the incident, then Residence Life was called, and notified, you can bet [that Campus Safety and ResLife will get involved]." Does RIT's declaring the ability to censure students and faculty over legal actions that they take, whether those actions were on or off campus, sit well with the reader?

The second issue engenders sympathy for Jack regarding the statement by the secretary from Peterson's office. What right of hers was it to know potential details of his medical situation? This concern was dismissed by Peterson with, "The area secretary is part of the Residence Life team ... they're an official of RIT." Is a secretary truly, legally, an



“official of RIT?” Can this secretary be held responsible for the dispensation of and/or the results of the use of such private data?

In reading the 1998-99 Student Rights and Responsibilities handbook, it quickly becomes clear that none of RIT's published policies govern the use of legal, over-the-counter products, especially those found in the Corner Store. Certainly none of these policies let the reader know that RIT has the legal and moral power to make use of any information, no matter the means of gain, in a judicial. Is our university in the right

here? Or have Strong Memorial Hospital and the Rochester Institute of Technology blatantly violated the rights of a U.S. citizen? Nowhere in the Constitution does it specify that an 18 year old college student is guaranteed any fewer rights than the rest of the population of the country, no matter what our Judicial Affairs department may believe.

*by Andrew Badera  
photos by Alexandra Daley*

# Beyond NORMAL: RIT students regroup to speak out



*"Rochester Cannabis Coalition President Shea Gunther faced disciplinary action in light of a Campus Safety report alleging battery and disorderly conduct. Last month, the RCC was denied official RIT recognition by Institute President Al Simone. The rally attracted many curious students and professors who paused to hear what the RCC had to say. While many of the people who came up to the mic spoke about 'social change' and 'raising awareness,' still others suggested that RIT was suppressing free thought and free will on campus. Whatever the case, this issue is not dead, and will likely come up again in the fall."*

*— excerpt from "Students Speak Out," Reporter, May 8, 1998.*

At the end of last year, a group of students calling themselves the Rochester Cannabis Coalition (RCC) made headlines when their leader, Shea Gunther, was detained by Campus Safety officials for allegedly disrupting an RIT function. Their dispute with President Albert Simone over official RIT recognition for club status found the RCC mounting a paper campaign consisting of posters calling for fairness. A protest late in the year drew the attention of the local media and passerbys on the Quarter Mile.

Then, almost as quickly as they appeared, the RCC seemed to have faded from the

scene. Flyers appeared advertising "the end of the RCC." Soon, a letter circulated among former members of the RCC. "This Friday, October 9th, 1998, the RCC will cease to exist... The RCC is ending because there are more issues surrounding the drug policy debate— more than just marijuana... We need to continue because the War on Drugs is tearing apart our society and trampling on our liberties." So rose the Students for Sensible Drug Policy (SSDP) from the ashes of the RCC to continue the cause Shea Gunther pioneered. Their advisor is John T. Sanders, a professor in the Philosophy Department.

The officers of the SSDP were asked if they knew what had become of Shea Gunther, the erstwhile leader of the still-born RCC. President of the SSDP, Chris Maj (pronounced MAY), a second-year Computer Engineer from Springville, New York they explained that Gunther had been suspended by the Institute for one year, "but we stay in regular contact." Vice-President, Davis Terrell, a second-year computer science major from Londonderry, Vermont, added that, "We are all friends with him [Shea], so we keep in pretty close contact with him." Gunther is currently a member of the SSDP.

When asked why RIT needed a group like this on campus, Terrell responded that, "We're a group concerned with drug policy, and the issues stemming from that. There is currently no discussion of drug policy in the United States. For now, whatever the media says, and whatever the Government says is the only way." He continued stating that, "We're different [from the RCC] in the fact that our focus is on drug policy in general, not just cannabis issues. We also realized that a lot of the [activities] we did last year could have been different."

Maj explained that the SSDP is currently seeking official club status from Student Government. The SSDP has also brought several speakers to the campus, including a

candidate for governor, and a Green Party candidate for Attorney General.

Maybe you have seen their dance club-style mini-leaflets around the Student Union raising various questions on standing drug policy at RIT and abroad. A common one seen by many, carries the dual headline, "But I hate drugs," and the reply, "We hate apathy." The SSDP is using the ever present issue of apathetic RIT students to demonstrate that they are making "real changes" by motivating the students to protest. The leaflet continues to discuss a recent policy signed into law by President Clinton concerning the denial of financial aid to those who have been convicted of a drug offense. The author of the leaflet continues by making a connection that because RIT may potentially lose students, and in turn the Federal funds, that programs will be cut, and tuition will be increased. What process did they use to make this connection?

"If you are convicted of violent crimes like rape or murder," Maj explained, "you are still eligible for financial aid from the government." By denying aid to those convicted of drug offenses, individual schools and state agencies could use the policy as a precedent to deny further aid. Maj went on to further emphasize that, while, "you don't lose aid if you are convicted of a DWI offense, you can for non-violent crimes like most drug offenses. This is just another extension of the [so-called] War on Drugs, which is really turning into a War on Education."

So how could RIT students be affected by this new policy?

"Since RIT would need more revenue [from the students who would not be able to attend due to lack of aid], of [the Institute's] options would be to raise revenue by cutting programs and raising tuition." Are we to assume that most of the people attending RIT are convicted drug users or have committed drug-related



offenses? "That assumes that no one at RIT has ever experimented with drugs," Maj countered. Clearly this argument demonstrates a need for more consideration by the SSDP members.

Also present was club secretary Mitchell Lawrence, a first-year Mechanical Engineering Technology, from Greene, New York. He had his own reasons for joining the club. "I feel that my personal rights are being violated," he explained, "I find that I'm pulled over a lot by the police... and they automatically assume that you are doing something wrong..."

Maj offered that, "it is an issue of privacy."

Lawrence continued, "[The police] have a right to search your car based on [reasonable] suspicion!" Lawrence was upset at the prospect of searches that might turn up contraband that, in the club's opinion, "isn't hurting anybody," as is part of a citizen's private life.

Davis Terrell, the Vice-President spoke about his reasons for joining the club: "I got involved last year with the RCC for many of the same reasons— I was concerned about issues of personal privacy, and personal rights." He went on to comment about how non-violent drug offenses can put you in the same class as violent crimes. "Either way, we're all lumped together as criminals." Terrell went on to comment about how, "non-violent [drug offenses] really don't hurt anybody." He echoed the sentiments on rehab as a better solution than punishment. "For every \$1 spent on rehab in California, it costs \$7 to punish someone, to put them through the judicial process!"

The SSDP feels that the War on Drugs is a major expense for our government to bear. "Statistics show that the current methods are not working." The members were in agreement that rehab is the answer, as opposed to punishing incarceration. "Statistics from the state of California prove it is cheaper to rehabilitate than it is to put someone in jail." They quoted a 1994 article off the Internet (<http://www.ndsn.org/>) that showed figures from the California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs show that it costs more to process offenders through the judicial system. Police, prosecutors, and prisons all must be paid for through taxpayer dollars. According to the article, rehabilitation services are less costly, and provide longer lasting effects. "As far as we are concerned," said Maj, "there is not one designated 'hero' program that will fix everything."

As we go to press, the SSDP is in the process of dealing with Student Government on several levels. On December 7, the SSDP are up for possible official recognition by SG's Club Review Board. More immediately, they are meeting with Student Government to try to get them to adopt a resolution authored by the SSDP concerning the Student Higher Education Act. "We don't like the idea that anyone can be denied financial aid for conviction of drug offenses." The resolution would in essence revoke what the new Higher Education Act would by trying to enforce. The SSDP is currently working with students and schools across the nation to try to get them to adopt a similar resolution. Do schools have the power to over-

turn what is essentially a law? "We're hoping that if enough schools adopt the resolution, it will generate enough enthusiasm to bring to legislative attention, in Congress," explained Maj.

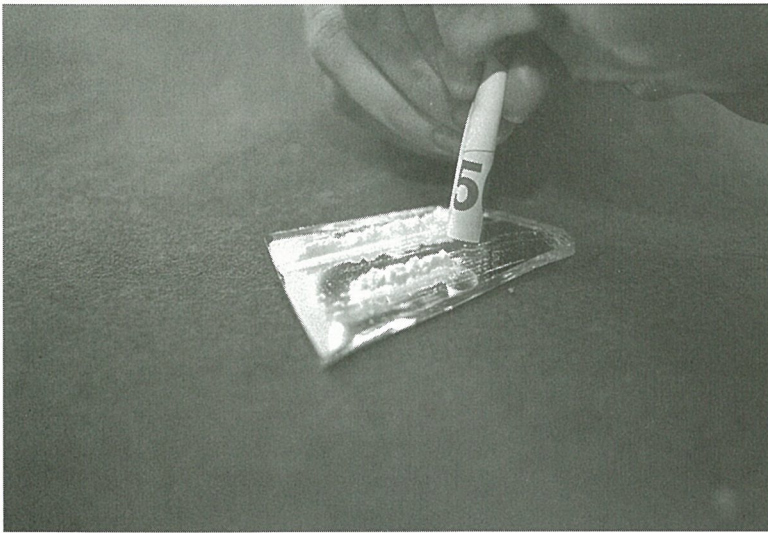
"Hopefully," added Terrell, "the media attention will generate a dialogue on the subject." He went on to say that most college students are not even aware of the Student Higher Education Act, and how it could possibly affect them. "We think we are doing something similar to the American Civil Liberties Union— we are fighting for people's civil liberties and rights."

Maj summed up the general feeling as this: "If a person is capable of doing the [required college] work, then their private lives should be nobody's business."

Lawrence agreed and said, "Education is the way you fight everything! People learn how to 'defend' themselves with a good education."

"The main goal of the SSDP is education," Maj concluded.

The SSDP has plans for the coming year. "First, we are committed to working for a change in the Higher Education Act, via the Student Government resolution, as this is a major issue of concern for college students, and its importance will only grow in the coming months." Maj went on to outline further goals: "We are looking forward to a



statewide drug policy conference to be held at RIT. We are inviting representatives from law enforcement, the federal judges, college professors, students, concerned citizens, organized labor, corporate interests and others who would like to have an open discussion of this issue. The forum will be very educational and will highlight the different perspectives on drug policy." Also in the same vein is the potential for a national conference. "We are also working with Students for Sensible Drug Policy groups from other colleges." In summary, "We believe that student activism is alive and well!"

The issue of "sensible drug policy" is one that cannot be avoided. True, it is an area that few seem willing to discuss. Does that mean that the status quo is happy with the way things are? Or has the government been telling us only what we want to hear?

Do our national policies seem arcane, and detrimental to our society? Or are we looking out for our citizen's best interests? In a letter to the RCC last year, Al Simone said of his decision to deny recognition, "Activities which endanger the health and safety of our student body and which are highly likely to cause situations which could inhibit the academic process of students must not be supported or facilitated by RIT."

In time, it will become clear whether or not the new, reborn SSDP will be allowed to have a valid voice on this campus, or if they will have to retreat to the underground. For certain, ignoring this issue will not make it go away.

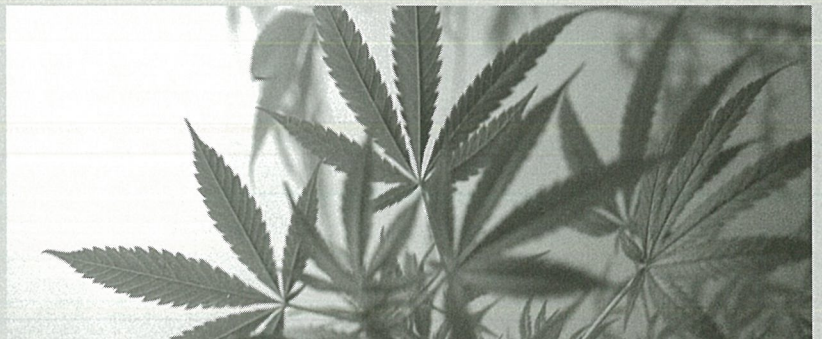
*by Otto Vondrak*

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Students for Sensible Drug Policy  
<http://www.rit.edu/~cmm5533/ssdp>

"California Study Finds Drug Treatment Saves Tax Dollars"  
<http://www.ndsn.org/SEPOCT94/TREATMENT.htm>

The Drug Library On-Line  
<http://www.druglibrary.org/>



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## BLOW OUT! RIT routs Holy Cross 19-0 in Women's Hockey

It was complete domination from start to finish. The women's hockey team highlighted the Thanksgiving break by thrashing Holy Cross 19-0 at home on November 28.

The high-powered Tiger attack relentlessly battered their opponents from the start. The team scored ten goals in the first period, six in the second, and three goals in the final period; to finish off Holycross. Although the score may seem the most lopsided aspect of the game, the shots on goal differential was even more remarkable. RIT out-shot Holy Cross 62-5, an unbelievable 57 shot difference. The Holy Cross goal tenders were bombarded with 37 shots in the first period alone.

Leading the way for the Tigers was sophomore forward Wendy Wright who contributed two goals and five assists (the team high), for a total of seven points. Team captains Maria Lewis and Rochelle

Bogart had five points each. Lewis, who scored three goals, was the only Tiger to have a hat trick. In addition to her five points, Rochelle Bogart also won all 18 of her face-offs. Sophomore forwards Margaret Dumiak and Katie Obyc both scored two goals and had three assists, totaling five points each. Junior goal tender Melissa Norris received both the win and the shut out, by saving all four of the shots that she faced. Heather Lovejoy also saw action in the net, facing one shot, and promptly saved it. All fifteen players on the roster had at least a goal or an assist.

The victory placed the RIT Women's Hockey Team in first place in the Western Division. The team will play their next six games at home, with an important game against Middlebury on December 6.

*by Jon-Claude Caton*

## UPCOMING EVENTS...

**12/11,12/12** – Men's Basketball: The RIT men's basketball team will be holding its annual home tournament. Support the Tigers as they host teams from Penn St. Behrend, York, and Hilbert. The team is looking to improve their record, and establish themselves as a divisional threat. Friday night's tip-off is at 8:00 when the men take on Hilbert.

**12/13** – Women's Basketball: Support our women's basketball as Amie Banis, Jill Luczak, and company host Cazenovia. Tip-off is at 1:00.



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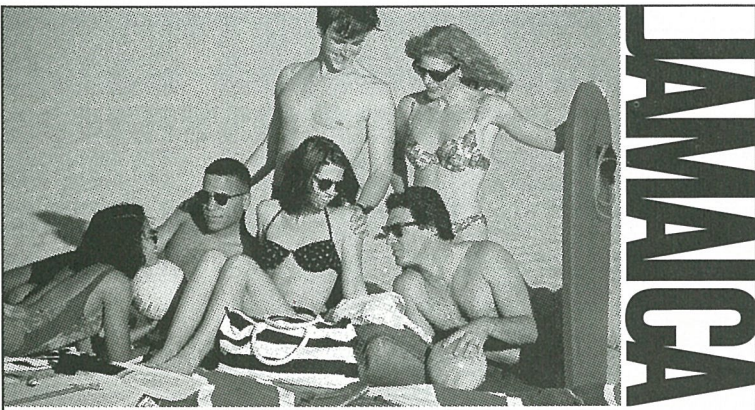
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# THE EXPLOITS OF AIMLESS BOY

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a friend named  
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He beat me up alot.



# Men's Basketball Team Wins in Thrilling Comeback

The RIT men's basketball team kicked off the season with a bang. With 15 minutes remaining in the game, the Tigers found themselves down 47-32 against the visiting Hobart Statesmen. The team shook off the 15 point deficit, and put together a tremendous 18-2 run over the next 8 minutes, which put RIT ahead 50-49. The comeback was led by the efforts of center Mike Musich, who scored 8 points during the run. Musich was the game's leading scorer and rebounder with 13 rebounds and a career high of 31 points.

Hobart came back to even the score 57-57, but Tigers' guard Sam Weech put RIT ahead for the duration with a tipped shot that made the score 59-57. Instrumental in the Tigers' staying ahead was freshman Brandon Redmond, who scored five of the team's last 8 points, including 4 free throws in the final 32 seconds of the game. The 4 points cemented the Tiger's 63-58 victory. Redmond finished his first collegiate basketball game with 12 points and five rebounds. Other Tigers that contributed to the win were senior guard CJ Wurster (13 points), Sam Weech (7 assists), and forward Joe Haydon (9 rebounds).

*by Jon-Claude Caton*

*photos by Andrew Gombert*



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