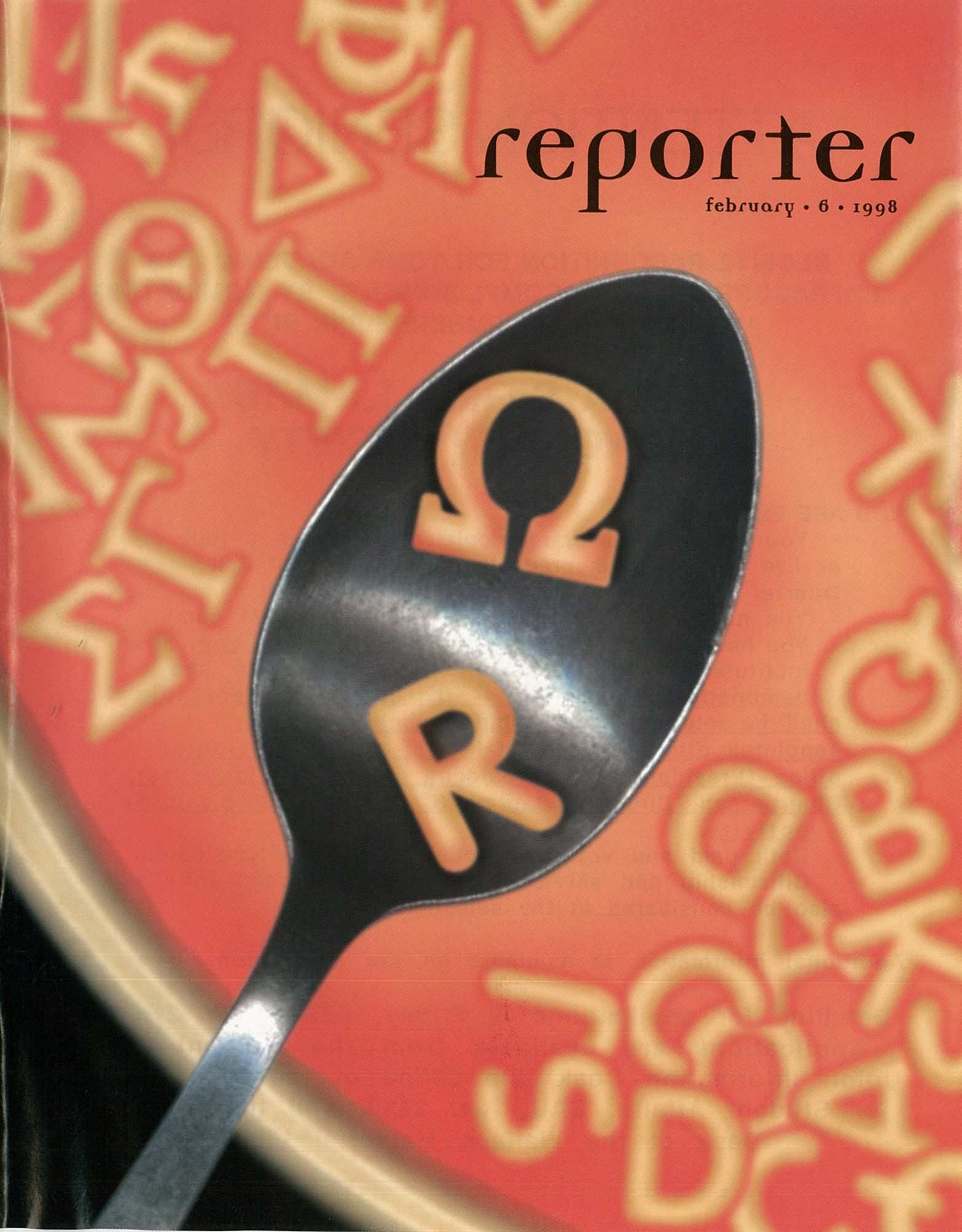


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february • 6 • 1998



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Being

Greek is like stumbling out the back steps into life

I pledged a women's fraternity the first quarter of my freshman year because I was looking for female companionship in the seemingly predominately male school. Now, don't get me wrong, I enjoy being around people of the opposite sex, but women require a need for "female bonding," or some type of friendly relationship with another woman (generally speaking). Being a freshman, far from home, many people look to find close friends right away in order to avoid eating dinner alone at Grace Watson or going to class by themselves. People choose ways to meet other people, like joining a sports team, club or hanging out with floor members; I did all of the following my freshman year, but something was still missing and my fraternity filled that gap for me.

What I would like to point out to the readers is that despite stereotypical opinions and views of being Greek, there are many positives to being in a Greek organization. I have been able to learn many valuable lessons, including time management skills, communication and conflict management skills. I have been given opportunities to begin a program of GAMMA (Greeks Advocating the Mature Management of Alcohol), attend conferences in Indianapolis and Orlando (all expenses paid) and coordinate two successful Greek Week programs. Being a part of Greek Life along with the REPORTER has enabled me to meet some of RIT's prestigious administration, faculty and staff, as well as speakers, such as George Bush.

Many people tend to stereotype Greeks as being fake, which is the biggest con that I have heard. But, being Greek has allowed me to deduce the following valuable lesson: being Greek doesn't mean being fake. Being fake happens everywhere you go: school, work, clubs, and believe it or not, even at *Reporter Magazine*.

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cover
designed by Jeremy Perkins

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NEWS

Racial Healing

On January 16, 1998 a wonderful presentation took place on our campus to celebrate the life of Martin Luther King, Jr. The event, marked by an uplifting performance of the RIT Gospel Ensemble and lecture duo Graham and Hart, brought together the community of RIT in a way that King would've enjoyed seeing. All races joined together hoping to change things in the future.

In president Al Simone's opening speech he said, "We are here today to celebrate how far we've come and how far we have to go."

The speakers, sponsored by RIT's Commission for Promoting Pluralism, presented their views on race issues and gave their own personal reflections on a variety of topics. Their dialog was interactive as Lawrence Otis Graham, a member of the Carter administration, a contributing editor for *US News and World Report*, a lawyer, and a teacher; and Besty Hart, a member of the Reagan administration, a columnist, and a television commentator, answered questions.

Their biggest issue was passive bias, which is discrimination networking and the attitudes of whites towards minorities. Both felt that this was currently the worst trend in racism because of the fact that the people may not even realize that they are being racist.

Everyone—race, creed, and gender aside—can come together to celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebrate his strength and initiative and do something to promote a positive change in our society. He faced an obstacle larger than we can imagine, yet he was brave and is now an inspiration to us all. This year try to celebrate his legacy everyday and help to make a difference in our world.

by Jenn Tipton

Workshop for BUSINESS

On Monday, March 9 there will be a mass customization workshop in the Center for Integrated Manufacturing Studies on the RIT campus. B. Joseph Pine, founder of Strategic Horizons LLP in Cleveland, will conduct the workshop, which runs from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Pine is also the author of *Mass Customization: The New Frontier in Business Competition* and will be using its contents to help the participants develop "strategic initiatives and build the appropriate organizational structures and capabilities to enable mass customization" in their respective companies.

This "mass customization" is what Pine says brings companies the ability to reach the buyers by enabling the company the freedom to manufacture what the buyer wants at a lower price. All of this strategy and more will be found at the conference, which is primarily for established businesses only as the price for admission is set at \$450.

by Jenn Tipton

A Different View of History

On Thursday, January 15, John Mohawk spoke as part of the Gannet lecture series. The message he brought in his speech, "Exiled in the Land of the Free," was critical, heartfelt, and relatively simple: don't take for granted what you have--you could very easily lose it.

Mohawk, a professor in the American Studies Department of SUNY Buffalo and an internationally known scholar and author, is also a member of the Iroquois tribe. Being a professor of history, he began his speech with an overview of roughly 15,000 years of social development. From the earliest recorded presence of human civilization to more recent times, he traced the development of democracy as we know it today.

It was in this tracing of history that Mohawk presented ideas that many Americans may not be aware of. He says that the main drive of most European societies was that of conquest and organized armed aggression.

Then Mohawk brings us to the "New World," introducing the tribes of the North East as a much more peaceful people, having no standing armies or true warrior classes and running tribes in a completely participatory way. This, Mohawk proclaims, is a much clearer model of what the United States should be like, especially today with technology in place to allow for full participation from all citizens.

He warns that "It is not a given that we have a society where we have inalienable rights. It is an accident." Furthermore, he encourages participation in the decision making process by all who are able in order to ensure these rights stay in place.

A video of this lecture is available in ETC for viewing. All that is required is a valid RIT ID and just under two hours of time.

by Chris Conroy

Think you know BULL when you see it?

One of the four blurbs in *World News* is phony. If you can tell which one it is, then you're a stinkin' genius.

This week's answer is located on page 30.

World News

* A new inexpensive diet drink is causing a commotion on the health market. Lipid-X is its name, and its claims are pretty impressive--a person supposedly can lose up to five pounds a week. The recommended diet plan calls for three drinks of the product per day, coupled with a sensible amount of food. Scientists are cautious about this "miracle" drink because it contains large amounts of the chemical triglycoflourine, which has been proven to cause digestive difficulties.

* Weeks after the incident, police are at a loss for suspects involved in the shooting of a Brown University senior in December. David McManus had been walking back to his apartment at 1:00am when a car pulled up beside him. The driver muttered something about disrespect, and when the student leaned over to hear what was being said, a bullet was fired into his neck. Fortunately the wound was not fatal. McManus says he did not recognize the shooter at all. Providence police, however, believe that the attack was intentional, McManus being confused with someone else.

* An amazing feat in surgery has recently been accomplished. The scalp of a 32 year-old woman was reattached after it was ripped off during an industrial accident. The woman had been cleaning a dye press at Fort James Corp. in Perrysburg, Ohio when her scalp was torn off from her eyebrows to the base of her neck. She remained conscious throughout the experience, and her scalp and attached hair were placed in an ice bath while she was transferred to the hospital. Doctors used blood vessels from the woman's scalp and one leg to perform the 10-hour operation.

* High-tech ostrich farming is becoming popular in Egypt. The activity is accomplished by first importing ostrich eggs from Namibia at \$125 each. The eggs are then placed in a climate-controlled rotating incubator until they hatch. Next, the babies are inserted with a microchip to track their genealogy and growth. When the ostriches are full-grown, they become a delicacy at finer Egyptian restaurants. The skin is used for leather, the feathers make good furniture dusters, and the feet are used for table legs.

by Jeremy Perkins

SHE'S BACK!

Tomb Raider II

For as long as there has been a Tomb Raider, game fans have been itching for a sequel. Lara Croft, the sexy first lady of gaming, has finally returned in Tomb Raider II. Eidos released the game just in time for the Christmas holiday and I was lucky enough to get a copy from a certain large jelly-bellied northerner wearing a red velvet suit.

Well, even if you don't believe in Santa, you can probably believe that this is one awesome game! What is even more impressive, is that Tomb Raider II far surpasses its predecessor, a game that earned 1996 Game of the Year honors in nearly every single gaming publication. In TR2, Lara is equipped with several new weapons (harpoon gun), as well as moves, and quite an incredible new wardrobe (try to control yourselves boys). There is much more variety in the 16 new mammoth levels, each of which takes quite a while to master.

Core Design has put incredible detail into every scene as well as "dynamic lighting" and sound, giving the game a very realistic feel. Everything is smoother and Lara even has a ponytail that swings when she moves. Available on two platforms, the Playstation offers 640 x 480 resolution while on the PC there is 3Dfx support, nearly doubling the resolution. The PC version also offers a multiplayer option for those gamers on a network.

In this game, Lara is in search of the Dagger of Xian. The Dagger, hidden deep in China's Great Wall, gives the possessor the "power of the dragon." Two other parties join Lara in search for the artifact. In TR2, she battles mostly humans, but still battles many of the animal foes common to the original.

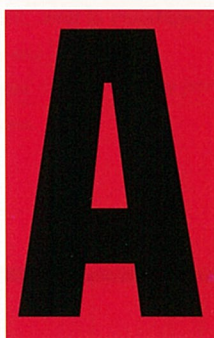
Game control is the only setback for the game. In order for Lara to perform all of her many moves, there are several buttons and combinations that must be mastered, especially if you have never played the original. Fortunately, there is a training mission designed specifically to master all of Lara's moves before you start. I strongly recommend that every gamer out there check out TR2. Not only is it challenging, as well as vividly realistic, it's Lara Croft!

by Nick Spittal

LEISURE

RED

INVADES RIT



Armed with hard-core lyrics and thunderous beats, Reggie Nobles AKA Redman arrived from hip-hop's underground to deliver a shot of adrenaline to the R.I.T. community. Like a bullet, excitement shot through the packed Clark Gym, as the crowd eagerly awaited to see one of rap's most charismatic superstars. Redman didn't disappoint anyone, as he gave an action-packed performance complete with crowd surfing and stage diving.

Anticipation ran high as the house lights dimmed on the crowd, and just as a hush set in, a loud voice came over the speakers. "Do not try and apprehend him!" Then a sonic boom set the crowd into an uproar as Redman appeared screaming the famous line, "Let's get ready to rumble!" As he performed his smash hit "Time for Some Action," Redman ran around the stage dousing the audience with water, and working them into a frenzy.

Peering out through dark shades, a skull cap, and tank top, Redman possesses an imposing figure on the stage. He stands 6'2, and his muscular frame holds numerous tattoos, displaying such scenes as a skull smoking a blunt.

Redman came from Newark, New Jersey where he sowed his roots in hip-hop. His career took off once he was discovered by the super duo EPMD, AKA Eric Sermon and Parrish Smith. He took hip hop by storm with his debut album titled *What Thee Album*. This album quickly went gold, as did his two followup albums *Dare Iz A Darkside* and *Muddy Waters*. He also headed up other projects with such stars as WuTang disciple Method Man, and LL Cool J. Redman also produced projects for The Luniz and Human Wreck. His charismatic style and edgy lyrics are what keeps him a favorite of rap's underground listeners, and listeners at the pop level.

MAN



Rochester reigning hip-hop DJ Chris G, from the "Chris G Show" and "Straight from the Underground," has his own take on the talented Redman. "He's a universal performer. He can be played on MTV and still keep his underground fans. Kids from the suburbs can enjoy his music as much as kids from the inner city." The most impressive thing about Redman is his business sense. "Redman knows where he stands as an artist and business man. He knows he's not making millions of dollars, and he's not trying to fool his audience into thinking so." Offstage Redman is a very articulate, funny guy. He can feel as comfortable at Def Jam (his record label) negotiating contracts as he feels hanging out with his boys in Jersey. But his true talent is performing.

As the crowd screamed for more, Redman jumped over the safety gate into the audience. Carrying a wireless microphone Redman made his way through the crowded gym, ripping out lyrics into the mic. His fans mobbed him, and those that didn't know him before were instantly becoming fans of his charisma and style. As Redman was swallowed by the crowd, he seemed at ease because of his love for his fans and his love to perform.

The College Activities Board deserves a huge thank you, especially Dorothy Brown and her wonderful staff. They are responsible for bringing Redman to campus, and the show was incredible. We all look forward to what they'll have for us in the future.

photograph and article by Evan Yucci

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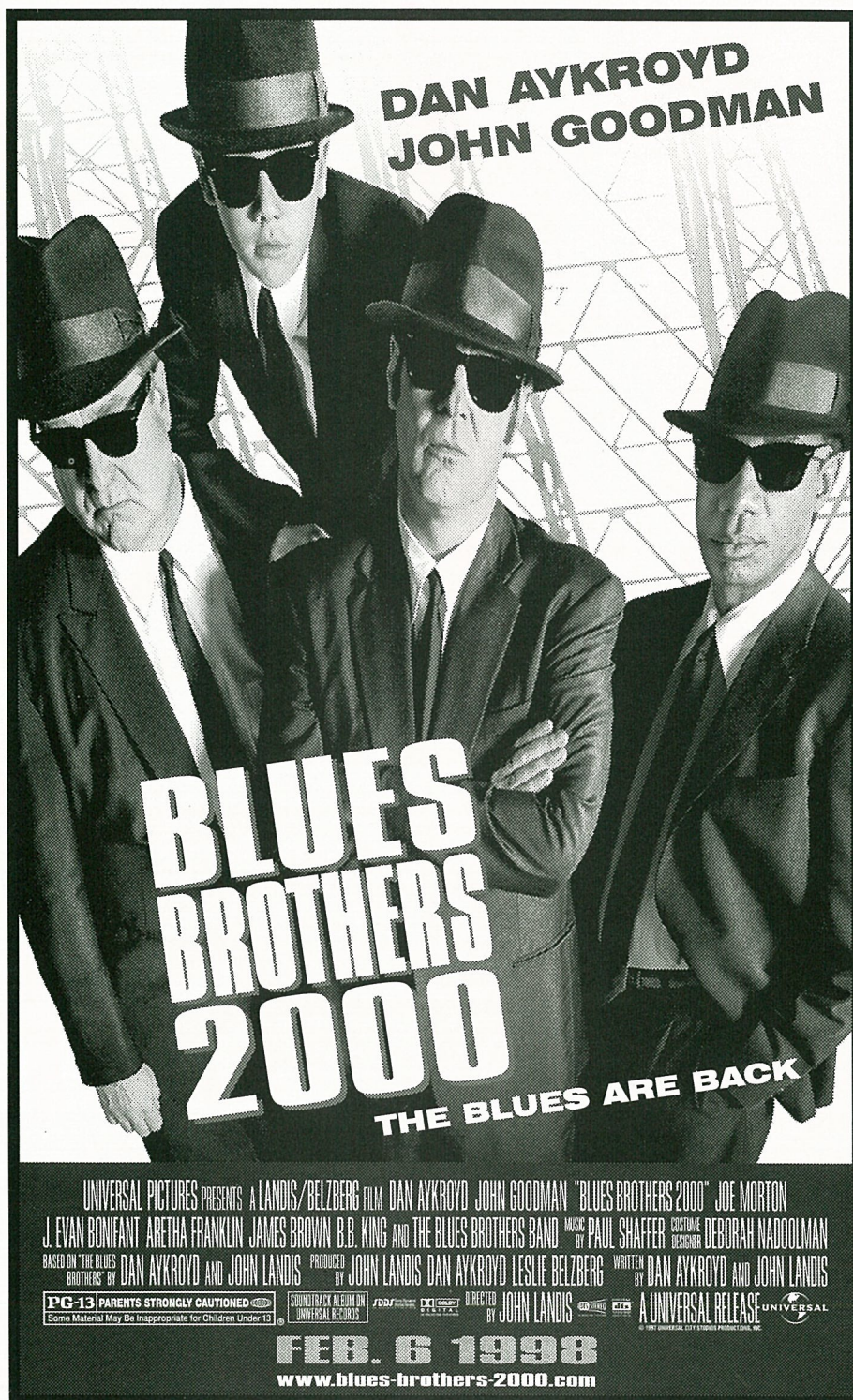
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Smart Students, Safe School



“You’re writing an article about what?”

This was the common response when I told people on campus about my latest assignment. In comparison to other schools, are students at RIT safe? Are there outbreaks of violence that students and staff are not aware of? Should we be extra cautious when walking home or out to our cars at night?

I spoke with Dawn Soufleris, Judicial Affairs: “When you talk about ‘violence,’ you are talking about a very broad spectrum of activity. Are you talking about fist fights or roommate conflicts?” When asked if there had been any noticeable increase in violent activity on campus, Soufleris said, “It’s not about specific incidents now as much as it is that there are more students coming to RIT with ‘excess baggage,’ and then those personal problems come out and cause conflict.”

Soufleris, originally from West Islip, New York (on Long Island), came to RIT in 1991 and worked for Resident Life until she came to the Office of Judicial Affairs three years ago.

“Most of the incidents that I deal with are those of student conflict,” she explained. Student conflict can be anything from roommate problems to computer harassment to actual physical fights. Most of these situations arise from students seeking revenge or retaliation on another student. “Students are getting into these conflicts, and they are not choosing to solve them in an intelligent, responsible way. We always encourage individuals or groups to be pro-active and use the Mediation Services that we have set up for just that purpose.”

In response to the question of the increase in violent attacks, Soufleris says that there has been “no real increase in attacks, fights, or rape on this campus.” People often assume that because the city of Rochester is increasingly violent the same must be true for the area universities. “[RIT] is not a violent campus.”

Students may remember a rash of car thefts and break-ins last year. “These criminal acts were perpetrated by people outside the RIT community, not by students.” Theft is a constant problem in the Residence Halls. “We are always dealing with student reports of

By Otto Vondrak
Photograph by Evan Vucci

theft from their rooms. There are peaks and valleys
as far as the number of thefts, but it is always a
constant problem." Why so many thefts? "There have
been very few reports of locks being jimmied open
and doors being broken down. Most of the time, the
theft is a result of students leaving their doors
unlocked. Students are very trusting of the people
they live with. However, many students don't realize
that people can still come on campus from outside
RIT. "The solution? Don't leave your door open if
you leave your room unattended! This can't be
stressed enough."

**"no real increase in
attacks,
fights,
or rape on this campus."**

The recent drastic changes in the official policy on alcohol use on campus has had an effect on all of us. Many people had concerns that restrictions on alcohol consumption may lead to increased violence and aggression, especially in the Residence Halls. "The policy was only handed down a few weeks ago," Soufleris explained, "so it's not really possible to tell what effect it has had on the campus." She continued, "Although, we are noticing more minor infractions are being reported by Campus Safety."

Generally speaking, RIT's Henrietta campus is sheltered. "We're 'insulated' from a lot of the crime that comes from the city of Rochester. You compare us to the University of Rochester, and you will see the difference is like night and day in terms of violent crime. On this campus, however, I see that people are growing to be less tolerant of one another. This is also another source of potential situations."

With the recent run of college-age women becoming victims of sexual attacks, one can't help but be concerned about how RIT students may be affected. "Occurrences of [reported] rape are very low. We have more reports of sexual misconduct. We consider sexual misconduct to be any unwanted or inappropriate touching right up to the act of rape." Cases of sexual misconduct are also low, the most being 15 cases reported last year. "The number of cases varies from year to year. Ninety-nine percent of the time, it's a he-said-she-said situation. There are many alcohol related cases that we deal with. Overall, we are very lucky that there are few 'stranger rapes' that occur each year."

There are preventative measures one can take to avoid destructive conflict with your peers. "We try to encourage use of the Mediation Services—it's helpful for groups as well as individuals. Many conflicts can be brought to your Resident Life staff or Area Coordinator. Also, Campus Safety officers are trained in conflict resolution. Oftentimes, they can be very helpful in defusing a possible situation."

Students should not be tricked into a false sense of security, however. People continue to be victimized by other students. Taking simple precautions can help you avoid becoming another victim. "For instance, do not walk alone late at night. Ask for an escort. Don't get so intoxicated or high that you do not have control over a situation. Always lock your doors. And finally, please find intelligent ways to resolve your conflicts." People should not walk in fear of this campus, but students are responsible for their own personal safety. "The campus is always vulnerable. Our open atmosphere is what makes this place work. It's also what makes us such an easy target."

While we are fortunate that it appears violence is not out of control at RIT, we must remember that it is everyone's duty to act in a responsible manner in every situation. Don't become a victim; don't incite situations. Let's all work together to increase tolerance and keep RIT a healthy community of learning. **A**

WHO TO CALL

Mediation Services, Dorothy Brown x6171
NON-EMERGENCY Campus Safety x2853
EMERGENCY Campus Safety x3333
Judicial Affairs Office x5662
Residence Life Central Office x2572

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Outside In & Inside Out

photo by Nicole Flores



by Chris Conroy

In a world where we are constantly bombarded with stereotypes and counter-stereotypes, in truth just propaganda from both sides, it becomes quite easy for truth to get lost in the fray. Such is the case with the image of the Greek campus brotherhood organization, better known as the fraternity.

On campuses across the country, there is an age-old rivalry between the Greek system and independent students. Rumors, stereotypes, misunderstandings, and outright lies get told again and again from one side or another, eventually begetting a creature that is best described as the bastard child of fact and fiction. It is this image, not wholly fact nor entirely fiction, that both sides of this age-old debate must deal with as the academic year progresses.

RIT is in a unique spot when it comes to this situation. With the setup of the campus, the Greek houses are literally right next door to the independent student housing. This compounds the problem with feelings of direct competition for resources. In the past, there have been accusations of the Greeks being favored over the independents, even though the Greeks make up a minority of the residence hall population. There have also been accusations about independents letting extreme anti-Greek feelings get the best of them and, as a result, causing a bit of trouble on the Greek front.

With all of the controversy flying about, many people are just becoming ambivalent when it comes to the issue. For one group, however, it becomes a matter of great importance—those are the young men who find themselves on a thin line between independent life and Greek life. For years, this group has come out with stories that will shock and surprise or empower and enlighten the public.

The following are the stories of pledges. Names of people have been changed, names of the fraternities will remain unknown to assure anonymity. The following stories are based on predominately white male fraternities. The events presented are the stories of people who have lived the life of a pledge, learning to walk the walk and talk the talk of fraternity life.

“The next night’s event was a scavenger hunt. Looking at the items on the list, Ken drew the line at a bag of fresh feces and a bag of fresh puke.”

First is the story Ken, your average male college student: young, outgoing, and ready to take on the world. The only thing that made Ken different from the majority of his class was that he was placed in a fraternity house when he first came to RIT. He didn’t find life there that bad—sure it got loud sometimes, but that happens everywhere.

A few weeks went by, and he was invited by the brothers to a more formal party, the first of a handful of rush events. Time passed, and Ken, intrigued by the sense of brotherhood and trust the members of the fraternity had among each other, decided to pledge. Proud of the history and reputation of the fraternity, Ken eagerly jumped into the process.

For the first week he had to wear his suit everywhere he went and formally greet all the brothers of the fraternity. “Good morning, Mr. Smith, sir.” “Good evening, Mr. Jones, sir.” He greeted them all dutifully, although it did get a bit tedious at times. His pledge pin became his most worn possession, always on and visible unless he was shirtless or sleeping. Memorization of fraternity and general Greek history, interviews and memorization of biographical data from other brothers and pledges took up large amounts of time. None of this was very extreme in his mind.

Then things began to change. Projects needed to be done, and parties had to be attended. Errands were ordered of Ken and his pledge class; they provided the most menial of services to the brothers of the fraternity, with no compensation when they sacrificed time to do so and they suffered punishment in the form of demerits when they did not perform as asked. Mandatory meetings were called at odd hours—eleven or twelve at night—and lasted for hours. Ken and his class were required to show up in their best suits and then were made to stand for hours at full attention, military style. Every night he was required to be in the library for four hours. It was called a study session, but most of the pledges used it to catch up on sleep.

Just when he thought he had gotten through the worst part, the class was ordered to run around the campus, searching for a pledge brother. Ken watched as Stan, one of the others in his pledge class, was singled out by one of the brothers as being mentally separated from the class. Charlie, who had fallen behind during the hour long run, was also pulled out, charged with being physically separated from the group. As the run continued, the class found clues about Stan’s location.

When the pledges finally found both Stan and Charlie, Ken winced as he watched them stumble toward the rest of the pledges, bleary eyed and flushed from too much alcohol in a short period of time.

The next night’s event was a scavenger hunt. Looking at the items on the list, Ken drew the line at a bag of fresh feces and a bag of fresh puke. If this kind of immature, abusive behavior was what fraternity life was all about, he wanted nothing to do with it.

Bob, an independent on a regular floor, never met Ken. He did meet some people from another fraternity on campus, though. For a few months, he hung out with them. Invited as a friend to a handful of events, he was pleasantly surprised when they offered him a bid. Tentatively accepting, he thanked them.

As a new pledge, he sat through a long meeting, where the first thing the brothers in charge told him was that he was not a pledge, but a new member. From there, they went into great detail about the dos and don'ts of Greek life. Bob was handed his guidebook and told what sections of it he had to know by heart, including the history of the fraternity, locally and nationally. He was signed onto the fraternity's insurance policy (for a fee) and told that since he was under twenty-one he could not drink at fraternity events and that if anyone tried to make him drink he should report that person at once to the other brothers.

Listening as the brothers talked to other new members, he began to learn their names and more about them. In order to make his membership permanent, he would have to know the backgrounds of all the important people in the fraternity, which meant all the brothers, new members, and alumni in the area as well as the national board of directors.

Schoolwork could not suffer if he wanted to be a brother in the fraternity. It was required that all new members retain at least a 2.5 GPA while being indoctrinated into the organization. In order to facilitate this, Bob's big brother,

"It was required that all new members retain at least a 2.5 GPA while being indoctrinated into the organization."

Jack, would help him as much as possible with any classes he was in. Bob liked Jack and therefore chose him as his big brother.

Keeping up on academics was a little tricky at first—there was a lot to do to get into the fraternity. The new member class had to organize a fund-raiser to help them pay for the rest of the projects "the class" had to do. They organized socials and designed their own tee-shirts. In order to begin giving to the fraternity, they organized a scholarship activity where a guest speaker was brought in to talk about communication.

As time went on, Bob got the hang of things. The social events his class set up, like a scavenger hunt and karaoke night, went over great with the rest of the brothers. Even the "kidnapping" of the executive board went well, with the trail leading the rest of the brothers to their favorite greasy spoon.

The most shocking experience Bob had while being educated in the ways of the fraternity was seeing one of the other guys in his class, Rick, get turned down for brotherhood. When Bob asked Jack about it, he found out that Rick hadn't been living up to the gentlemanly and educated image that the fraternity felt was most important in its members.

Bob was happy that he had taken the chance he had been given. It turned out that Greek life was for him after all.

One truth that goes beyond all stories is that Greek life is not for everyone. A second truth is not all Greek life is the same.

There are some fraternities that still—once all the administrative eyes are turned away—live down to the worst stereotypes created. Many of the horror stories that are told about Greek life come from experiences with groups such as these. More and more often, though, you can find fraternities that work hard to disown members who do not live up to the houses standards. It is a fact that some fraternities are actively working to abolish hazing in all forms from Greek organizations. If an organization is found hazing members, no matter how sugar coated it may be, there are other fraternities out there who will refuse to associate with that group as a Greek organization.

If you decide that Greek life is for you, look closely at the fraternity you decide to join. Ask around about its reputation. Ask independents. Ask other fraternities and sororities. Do your research and then make your choice. And don't forget that no matter what, you can always leave.

If Greek life is not your cup of tea, then be glad to be an independent, but realize that your way of life isn't for everyone either. All groups offer some benefits to their members, whether it be national affiliation or just a group of people you can count on, prestige or a pleasant place to live. It is possible to find your own spot and live it to its fullest. **A**



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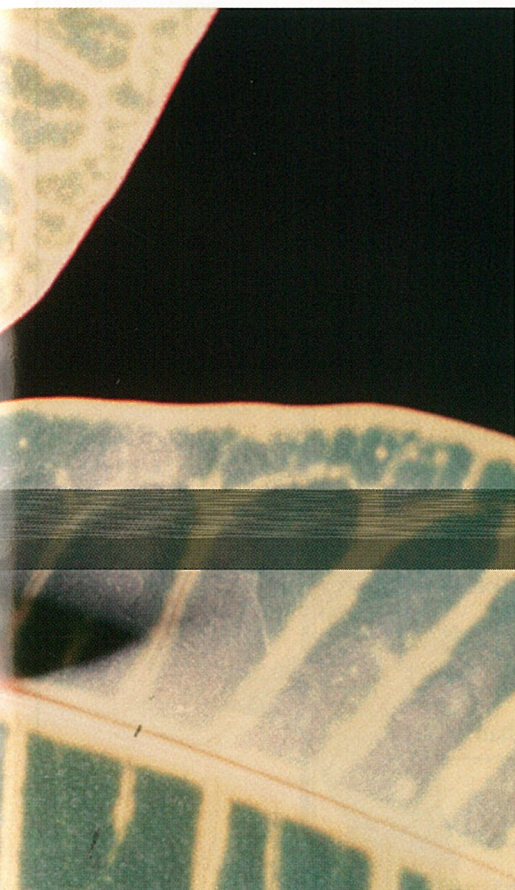


Naturally Medicated

They're in your cough syrup. They're in your tea. They're in your shampoo. But what are they? And why?

Many plants have been used for medicinal purposes for centuries. Books on medicinal herbs, otherwise known as herbals, date back to about 1700 BC, when ancient Egyptian papyri list prescriptions for such drugs as hemp (for eye problems)

A guide to herbal medicine



and poppy (for crying children.) The ancient Greeks studied the Egyptian contributions, especially Hippocrates and Discorides.

Discorides' first widely published herbal, *De Materia Medica*, in 60 AD, remained the standard for over 1500 years. The book was dethroned by the still popular Culpeper's Herbal, written by Nicholas Culpeper in Britain in 1649.

How does this relate to us in the 1990's? Today, people are turning back to natural medicine in droves as mainstream medicine becomes more costly and, at times, less effective. As with the "medicine shows" of old, however, con artists and hucksters still abound with fraudulent claims of the power of some herbs.

The FDA does not regulate herbs as medicine. Herbs are regulated instead as dietary supplements. Thus, herbal supplement companies can sell you whatever they like and the buyer is the one who bears the burden of figuring out if the product is

really what they are looking for. For example, take ginseng, an herb that appears in everything from teas to chewing gum to hot sauce. It is heralded as an herb that increases energy, especially that of a sexual nature. However, there are a few different kinds of ginseng, and only Korean and Chinese ginseng have any kind of track record for these results. The American variety of ginseng is only used for fever and cough medicine.

Another hazard of herbal medicine lies in its users. People think that, because the medicine they are taking is natural, there are no side effects or worries. Like any drug, herbs can have some serious repercussions. Chamomile, used to relieve menstrual cramps, is a sedative. So is valerian, which is commonly used for muscle cramps. Herbal ecstasy, a blend of legal herbs taken at raves for a good buzz, has resulted in several hospitalizations from allergic reactions and overtaxing the nervous system.

While these herbals once served as fairly reliable resources, they were based mostly on folk medicine. These traditional uses for herbs were created by everyday people and passed along from generation to generation. Medicine men, shamans, and wise old women were regarded as herbal specialists and were regarded as reliable as most modern people would consider their local pharmacist or doctor.

As HMO's and managed care flourishes, some people fear that their best interests are being taken out of the hands of their doctors. Others are feeling disenfranchised when modern medicine does not cure all of their ills. Cancer and AIDS patients especially have turned to herbal supplements and "old family recipes" that could ease their pains. Even some doctors have begun prescribing or recommending herbal supplements to their mainstream prescriptions.

Of course, most mainstream medicine has its roots (no pun intended) in herbalism. Aspirin was first derived from white willow bark. Valium was developed from a root called valerian. Opium and its derivative codeine have been used as painkillers for years. Even marijuana is sparking debate as treatment for glaucoma and loss of appetite from chemotherapy and AIDS-related wasting illness.

Judicious use of herbal treatment is slowly, but surely, working its way back into medical acceptance. Some of the doctors and registered nurses at Student Health Center, for example, recommend herbal teas or tinctures for ailments such as menstrual cramping, influenza, and insomnia.

When herbs are used by people who take the time to investigate the products they wish to use, they can indeed be valuable supplements to medical treatment. Several good contemporary herbals are available at local bookstores, including updated editions of Culpeper's Herbal. These herbals give the appropriate uses for specific herbs, the correct dosage, and the recommended means of treatment. This information is vital, as some herbs are recommended for topical use only, and others are dangerous or lethal in high doses. The herbals frequently list possible hazards for people with other medical conditions, like allergies, pregnancy, or heart conditions.

To make your herbal treatment successful, read labels cautiously. Make sure the correct part of the herb is being used in the formula (consult your herbal to be sure). Also, when looking at products containing several herbs, make sure that all the herbs are safe for you to take. Some may have side effects that conflict with the side effects of others, or there may be one herb that provokes an allergic reaction when taken with other herbs.

As herbal medicine flourishes, information and education is more accessible. Bookstores and local natural food centers offer seminars and classes on natural medicine from time to time. Often, informational pamphlets are available where you buy herbal remedies. Health food stores, drug stores, and specialty herb shops are abundant in the Rochester area, and often the employees are knowledgeable and willing to help.

So sit back, enjoy that cup of tea, and crack open a good herbal. During the long winter months, we can all use a little healthy, natural assistance.

by Liz Croteau

photograph by Nicole Flores

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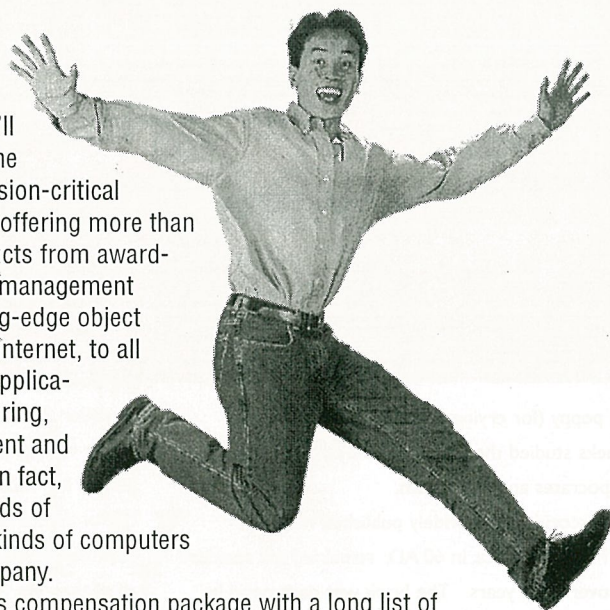
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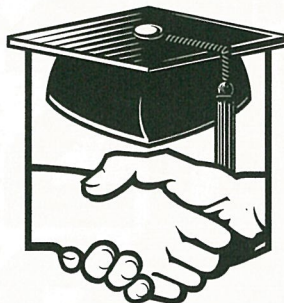
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PICNIC IS NO PICNIC



Robert Earl Keen sounds like a country version of Bob Dylan — plain and simple. His sing-songy lyrics play up the stereotype of bad country music. Biting at the heels of previous country “legends,” Keen is anything but remarkable. Even though his song-writing ability washed up just short of the beach, there were a couple of good things about this album.

His talents on the guitar were a definite strong point and most of the instrumental sections of the songs were enjoyable. Despite the fact that most of the songs sounded very similar, you could tell he was at least attempting to convey some kind of deep message, not unlike most of today’s popular music. It was very unclear, though, just what this message was supposed to be.

Keen needs to attend a song-writers convention. When the album contains lyrics like: “Everybody knows you been downtown . . . fightin’ with your brother, fightin’ with your wife,” one simply must question the grammar and intellect of the performer. In some strange way, one could come to the conclusion that the performer lacks a little originality and has listened to way too many Conway Twitty and Willy Nelson albums.

The CD is recorded by Arista Records and is produced by John Keane.

by Jenn Tipton

“Frustration No. 10” by Novocaine NP9

This is my first contact with Novocaine NP9, as I had never heard of them before. The CD came without any information, just a track listing, so I had an opportunity to listen to a new band without any prior conceptions or information on their past, and form an unbiased opinion.

If Blink 182 or Orbit had a bad (talent-wise) side, it would be Novocaine NP9. Their new album *Frustration No. 10* is aptly named, as all the songs on the album sound so much alike it is frustrating to pick out the different tunes. The eight short songs on this album are below-average ditties that would fail to impress anyone.

Overall, the music, band, and album are entirely (and perhaps mercifully) forgettable. The songs sound so much alike that even after listening to the CD four or five times, I still could not remember the tune for a single song. The 25 minutes seems to be blurred together into one long, whining scream fest.

The guitar playing is below average, and at best the tunes of the songs are less than spectacular.

The eight songs on the album are fast-paced, frantic, three-minute rip-roarers to nowhere. The most annoying aspect of the music is the lead singer, who screams throughout the album’s less-than-impressive 25 minutes. One song, however, was not ruined (immediately) by the singer’s whining scream:

“Sneaky Servo (?)” It’s the softest and most mellow song out of the eight, and it doesn’t appear to be pounding down the same dead-end road as the other seven songs.

The best thing that can be said about this disc is the fact that it’s less than a half-hour long, and in fact seems to last much less than that. I even attempted to listen to the album on shuffle to get some variety, but alas, none was to be found. My advice for you on this particular album is stay away. Stay FAR away.

by Bill Huber

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Two Tigers Receive Honors

Matt Hamill and Amie Banis earned Student Athlete of the Week Honors for the week of January 19. Hamill continued his incredible career on the mats and Banis was nominated following a good week, as well as a very consistent season, in leading the women's basketball team.

For the second year in a row, Hamill earned Outstanding Wrestler honors at the New York State Tournament as he won the 190-pound weight class over the 10th ranked Division I wrestler. Coach Ron Grow commended Hamill's performance. "Matt had another great tournament. There's no question he was the best wrestler there. He is a couple notches above the rest of the competition." The victory helped Hamill maintain his number one ranking in Division III as well as earning the Tigers a 6th place finish among the 20 teams.

Though the Women's basketball team has had little to smile about this season (0-13 record through January 26), that is no fault of Amie Banis. Banis scored 10, 13 and 14 points in three games during the week adding 9, 10 and 11 rebounds as well. Over the course of the season, she has led the team with 10.8 points and 7.7 rebounds per game. Coach Laura Hungerford called Banis the team's "most consistent player rebounding and offensively. We are looking for her to continue with that success and even step up more on her inside play."

released by the Sports Information Office

edited by Nick Spittal

Swimming and Diving Rock Hard

The past two weeks have been rough on the RIT men's and women's swimming and diving teams. The tough times started Friday, January 16th with both teams falling to powerful SUNY-Geneseo. Both teams were clearly overmatched with the men falling 147-92, and the women completing the evening with a 134-75 shellacking. The men managed just three event victories: two by freshman sensation Chris McKee in the 50 and 100 freestyle, and one by Dave Rines in the 200 individual medley. The women were led by Maureen Halligan's victory in the 200 freestyle and Dawn Apia's diving first place.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

Ties It Up in Overtime

The women of RIT's hockey team faced two tough games on the weekend of January 17-18. The game on Saturday was against the undefeated Panthers of Middlebury. It was the Tigers' first game in over a month since coming back from the break.

The Tigers jumped to an early lead when Rachelle Bogart and Sandy Payne assisted Rebecca Grandy on her fifth goal of the season at 2:35 of the first period. The Tigers defense quickly toughened up, keeping the Panthers scoreless, even on the power play. The Tigers' goalie, Malissa Norris, helped the defense by making some incredible saves. The Panthers, however, tied the game up with 11 minutes remaining in the period on a goal by Middlebury's Michelle Labelle, stretching her point total to 16. The game remained scoreless through the second half of the first period as goalies on either side of the ice came up with more and more remarkable saves.

The Panthers added two more goals in the second period and one more in the third, as they beat the Tigers by a final score of 5-1.

After Saturday's loss, the RIT Tigers looked for a win against the Catamounts of Vermont University on Sunday. Vermont, however, scored first, on a goal by Torrey Denis in 4:18 during the first period. The Tigers tied the game up halfway through that period when Sandy Payne and Rachelle Bogart connected

with Rebecca Grandy for a beautiful goal. This was Grandy's sixth goal of the season.

The Catamounts added one more goal at 12:18 as Vermont's Anna Towne assisted Aimee LaBarre shoot into the net.

At 12:13 of the second period, Sandy Payne and captain Kristine Pierce assisted Katie Obyc to tie the game up at 2-2. This was the only score of the second period.

Vermont jumped ahead again as Torrey Denis scored her second goal of the night on the power play. Sandy Payne tied the game up once again when she scored with a little under five minutes remaining in the game. But only two minutes later Allie Knowels scored for the Catamounts, giving them the lead once again. In a desperate effort to tie the game up, RIT Coach Filighera pulled the goalie with a minute remaining in the period. At 19:06, it was captain Kristine Pierce, who finally scored with a beautiful shot from the point to tie the game up.

The final score was 4-4 as both teams did not score in the sudden death overtime. What a game!

by Nicholas Cummings

The men came up behind again the following Friday night in a sorry 163-79 loss to Ithaca College. They were never in the meet as the Bombers trounced them in every swimming event but the 200 butterfly, won by McKee in an impressive time of 2:04.66. Senior diver Scott Nobles dove well, capturing both the 1 and 3-meter events.

Saturday, both the men's and women's teams competed at the University of Rochester Sprint Invitational. The men were led to a fourth place team finish behind Geneseo, Ithaca, and Rochester. McKee again had strong individual swims with a fifth

place, a third, two seconds, and a victory in the 50 butterfly. Junior Scot Fernandez was surprising with a solid second place finish in the 50 backstroke. Diver Scott Nobles finished fifth in his event. The 200 medley relay team of Fernandez, Rines, McKee, and senior Jack Vidulich placed third. The women placed fifth in a meet, defeating Saint Lawrence University. Ithaca College destroyed the field, outscoring its closest opponent 1074.5-362.5. Diver Dawn Api had a terrific meet, winning her event with a score of 313.5.

by Dave Rines

Tigers Place Second in Chase Tournament

A Tough Weekend for Hockey

The RIT men's hockey team faced a tough weekend, playing the Purple Eagles of Niagara University in back to back games on Friday and Saturday January 16 and 17. The Tigers tied the Eagles at 5-5 Friday night in Niagara and were looking for a win at home on Saturday. The Purple Eagles will be advancing to Division I next year and brought a real challenge to the RIT Tigers. Niagara has yet to be defeated by a Division III team this year and is ranked first in the nation. Ritter Ice Rink was packed to nearly full capacity as the teams took to the ice Saturday night.

Both teams played a hard-fought opening period, exchanging rough hits and many scoring opportunities. The fast-paced game remained scoreless, until late in the first period, when Niagara's Mike Isherwood assisted Anthony Coracchia on a goal with just over five minutes remaining.

The Purple Eagles added two more unanswered goals in the second period, one by Jay Kasperek at 5:05, and one by P.J. Perry who scored unassisted on a steal at 7:32. The Tigers finally came on the board about midway through the period, scoring on a power play goal by Jerry Galway. The Tigers fought hard to add another goal before the end of the period, but both teams remained scoreless in the last ten minutes of the second period.

The Tigers closed the gap on Niagara early in the third period, when Pat Staerker assisted Jerry Galway on his second power play goal of the night at 2:56. The Tigers continued to fight hard to get that vital tying goal, as Niagara's goalie, Greg Gardner posted some incredible saves. However, the Tigers could come no closer, when at 8:13 the Purple Eagles added an insurance goal by Mike Isherwood.

The Purple Eagles remain undefeated in Division III and will likely host the ECAC West playoffs on the weekend of March 6.

by Nicholas Cummings

In a field of eight teams, the RIT men's basketball squad went all the way to the championship game of the Chase Scholarship Tournament before succumbing to the nation's second ranked team, St. John Fisher. The Chase Scholarship Tournament is the oldest, as well as largest, Division III tournament in the country. In the past four years, RIT has won the tournament twice and in the 32 years it has been held they've won it five additional times.

Over 1,000 fans looked on at the championship game held at the University of Rochester. The Tigers' effort left them twenty points short of the 98 put up by St. John Fisher. To get to the championship, RIT defeated host University of Rochester before upsetting number two seed Nazareth College in the semi-finals.

Senior guard Paul Blake and junior center Mike Musich led the Tigers, scoring 18.7 and 14.7 points per game, earning them first-team all-tournament selections. Coach Bob McVean commented: "Even though we didn't win the championship game, it was a great tournament for our players. Both Paul and Mike played exceptionally well all tournament. They were both very consistent and played hard the entire time." The team next plays home against Nazareth on Saturday, February 7 and February 10 against Alfred.

by Nick Spittal
photo by Evan Vucci



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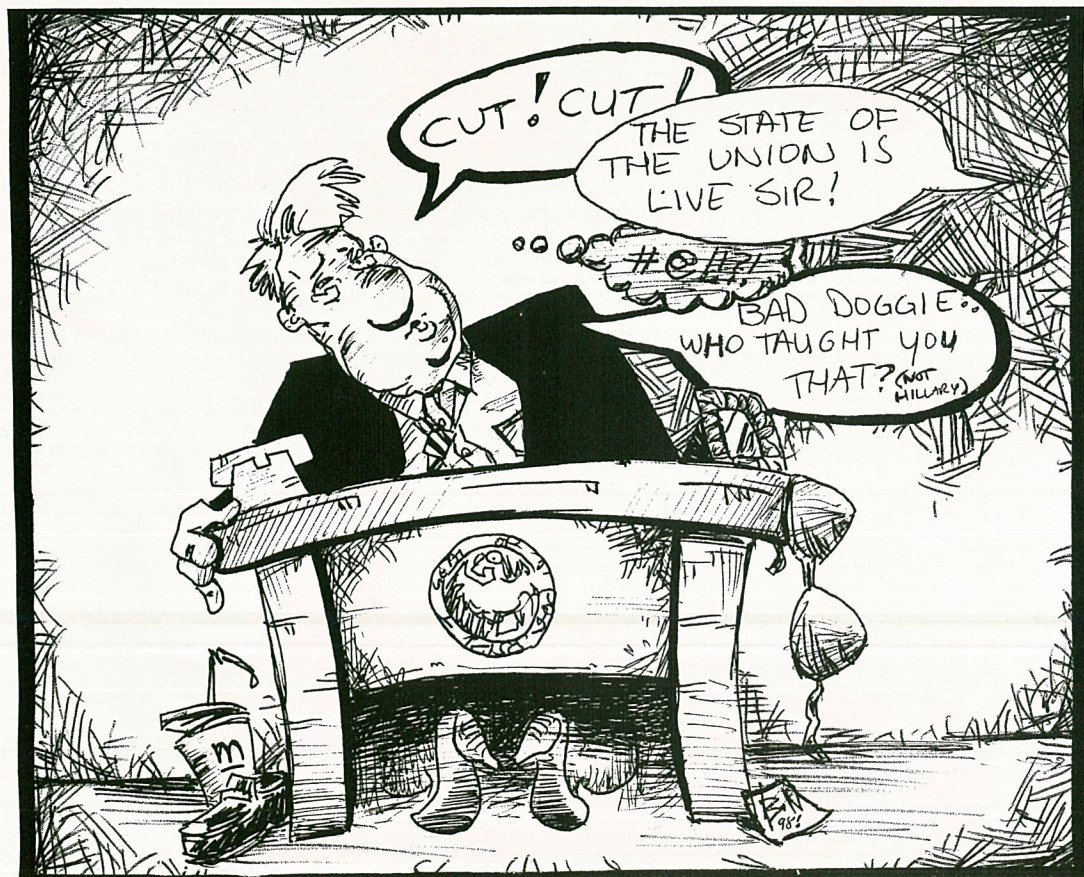
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Cat's Pajama by Ben Northern



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Lis, stop bugging me -Love will come to you

Kelley, I am glad things are cool - Amy

Charlie Brown, keep your head high. Employers are going to be banging on your door once you are approved. Love, Amy Brown

Hey design team, you guys got out early this week! Way to go!

Answer to BULL news on page 7, the new diet drink

February 6 - February 13, 1998

CalendaRIT

Friday, February 6

Talisman Movie: *Conspiracy Theory* 7 & 9:35pm; in Ingle Aud. RIT students/faculty/staff: \$2, Gen Public: \$3, children under 12: \$1.

Panara Theatre Presentation: The Panara Theatre presents *Good Person of Setzuan*, co-directed by Peter Ferran and Bonnie Meath-Lang. 8pm in the Panara Theatre. Tickets available at the NTID box office, RIT Students: \$5, all others: \$7. Contact Jim Orr at 475-6251 for more information. Also playing at 8pm Saturday, February 7th.

Saturday, February 7

Late Night in the Ritz: Dance the night away in the Ritz from 10pm till 2am with nationally renowned DJ Craig G., hosted by WITR's Chris G. or listen in on 89.7 FM for a live simulcast. RIT Students: \$3, Fac/staff: \$5, Gen. Public: \$7. For more information contact CAB at 475-2509

Mi Tierra: Dance sponsored by Lambda Alpha Upsilon Fraternity from 10pm-2am in the Fireside Lounge. Admission \$5, college ID required, for more information call 464-8814.

Sunday, February 8

Panara Theatre Presentation: *Good Person of Setzuan*, 2:30pm in the Panara Theatre. See above for more details.

Tuesday, February 10

Love Day: RIT welcomes 5th graders from area schools to our campus for an afternoon of fun and education. 1-4pm in Fireside lounge. For more information contact Jean Griffin 475-7685.

ASL Lecture Series: Karen Christie, PhD and Dorothy M. Wilkins, MS. present "*Opening Eyes: ASL Literature and Literary Studies*". 12-1pm in Panara Theatre. For more information call 475-6275 v/tty.

Thursday, February 12

Commons Entertainment: John Kovalesski, *Caricature Artist* from 5:30-7:30pm in the Commons. FREE

Hangin' Out at the Coffeehouse: Join us in the College Grind for an evening of great music with Linda Rutherford & Celtic Fire. 8-11pm FREE

Friday, February 13

RIT Players: The RIT Players present "*Monologues, Dialogues, Epilogues, and Lincoln Logs - A Collection of One Act Plays*"; in the Fireside Lounge, 7pm. FREE

Talisman Movie: *The Peacemaker* 7 & 9:15pm; in Ingle Aud. RIT students/faculty/staff: \$2, Gen Public: \$3, children under 12: \$1. Also showing Saturday, Feb. 14th; closed captioned 7pm Saturday only.

Ongoing Events

Senior Announcement: Seniors graduating through the end of winter quarter (97-2) can pick up a special Senior Night surprise gift in the Center for Campus Life. Quantities are limited.; first come first serve!! Call 475-7058 for more information.

Bevier Gallery: Faculty exhibition from the *School of Photographic Arts and Sciences* open through February 25th.

Student Cookbook: The Center for Campus Ministry is looking for simple recipes for dorm style cooking with limited ingredients, simple utensils and easy directions for a cookbook to benefit Habitat for Humanity. For more information and submissions, please contact June Campbell at 475-2982.

RIT Signatures: The RIT Annual Literary Magazine *Signatures* is accepting submissions from students for this year's publication. Entries may be sent to SIGNATUR@rit.edu or Bldg. 06, Rm. 2311. Please call 475-2475 for more information.

Upcoming Events

- 2/14 Vegas Night
- 2/16 Auditions for "Sailor's Daughter"
- 2/19 John Akers at the College Grind
- 2/24 Midnight Breakfast

To publicize your event to the entire campus, send the name, date, location, time, contact person, phone number, and any other pertinent information to CalendaRIT, Center for Campus Life, SAU, Room 2130, by 4:30 p.m. fourteen working days before the issue in which you would like it published. CalendaRIT may edit descriptions due to space limitations. Events subject to change.

R.I.T

Student Government

Improvement Committees
need your input!

- Safety
- Diversity/Unity
- Communications
- Expansion

Go to the SG office for more info or call X2204.



Elections are coming!
You can run for a
Student Government position!