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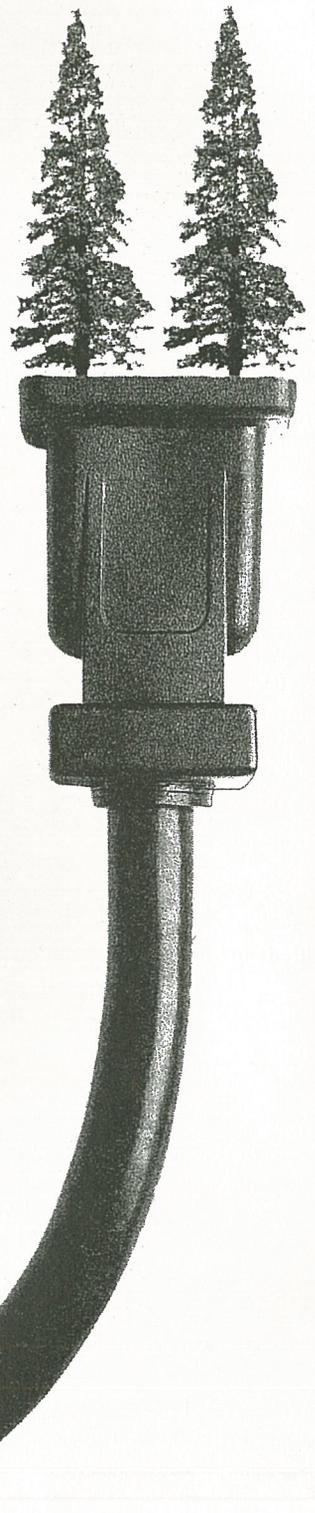
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editorial

Has anyone ever noted the degree to which people attempt to exercise control over their lives? As I observe people through my photography, I constantly find individuals who are determined, through thick and thin, to establish that they are at the helm of their life. Before anyone gets upset, I place myself firmly in the observed group. But this effort to control things often leads to more problems than I think it solves.

Before the argumentative readers sharpen their pencils, allow me to elaborate. I concede that there are certain areas in which we exercise control, i.e. picking our schools, friends, and favorite TV shows. I am speaking about the times when chaos upsets our plans and when, in my opinion, life happens.

I think people attempt to exert control because so much of life is random and unpredictable. By controlling the aspects of their lives that they can, individuals bring order to a world that is becoming increasingly global and even more fast paced. Merely driving to work or school presents opportunities to cause accidents, become angry, or look at beautiful weather and know we will be inside all day.

Control

In the past two years, two of my brothers have married. One wedding was micro-managed. The other wedding was a chaotic mass of people lurching from one event to the next, getting everything done in a disorderly manner.

Both weddings were enjoyable and, biased as I am, I consider them the two best weddings I have ever attended. My point is this: The first wedding was so orderly that people occasionally chafed at the restraints. By keeping the unexpected at bay, spontaneity was killed, or at least muted. The other wedding gave people the opportunity to participate, dealt joyfully with bad weather, and was, in my opinion, much closer to how life really is. While I can understand my one sister-in-law's goal to have the "perfect" wedding, I think she had an unrealistic perception of life.

As a photographer, I try to "roll with the punches" when the unexpected happens. I wait and look for the right moment or the perfect light on gray Rochester days. I am becoming more relaxed about trying to control my life as my work ethic permeates my life. Some of my best pictures are happy accidents or juxtapositions that I could never plan. I have to be open and prepared for them.

I would urge everyone to take whatever opportunities life presents and enjoy them to the fullest. When you accept the small degree of control you really have over life and enjoy what comes along, I think you will be happier and healthier. So, here is to following my own advice.

Michael Fagans
Editor in Chief

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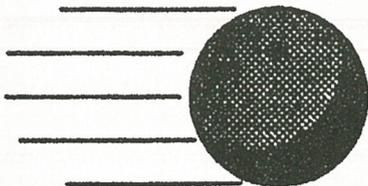
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Illustrators: Andrew Baker, Adam Rackoff,
John Golden

Department secretary: Jenn Taylor

Advisor: Rudy Pugliese

Printing applications lab preepress: Kristine Greenizen, Crystal Lane, Kevin Wake

Printing: Richard Gillespie, Brian Waltz, Shawn Kending, Eric Wiley, Chris Curran, Dave Hazelwood, Bret Hesler

Distribution: Alexandra Daley, Jeff Prystajko

REPORTER Magazine is published weekly during the academic year by a staff comprised of students at the Rochester Institute of Technology. Business, Editorial and Production facilities are located in Room A-426, in the lower level of the Student Alumni Union. Our voice/tty line is (716) 475-2212. Subscription rate is \$7.00 per quarter. The opinions expressed in REPORTER do not necessarily reflect those of the Institute. RIT does not review or

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Campus Safety Officer Honored by the Red Cross

RIT Campus Safety Officer Gary Zinsmeister was awarded a Certificate of Recognition for Extraordinary Personal Action by the American Red Cross on October 13, 1998. Zinsmeister received the award for his efforts to save the life of a visitor who had a massive heart attack on the Quarter Mile.

A 20-year veteran and current captain of the Morton Fire District, Zinsmeister began cardiopulmonary resuscitation on the visitor, assisted the Henrietta

Ambulance Crew, and continued CPR while the patient was being transported to Strong Memorial Hospital. While the team was able to resuscitate the woman, she passed away later that day at Strong. Zinsmeister regrets that they were not able to save the woman's life but was comforted by the fact that "her family got to say good-bye to her before she passed away."

Campus Safety was lauded at the Red Cross ceremony as well, receiving an award for effective delivery of Red Cross services to the community. Campus Safety Director Richard Sterling is pleased with the recognition. "Protection and preservation of life is the most important of our duties," Sterling asserts. "It was a nice surprise to be recognized for that."

All Campus Safety Officers are trained in CPR and First Aid, and many volunteer with local ambulance or fire crews. "We are blessed to have such high caliber employees," says Sterling.

Despite the community acclaim, Zinsmeister denies doing anything out of the ordinary. "I don't like being in the spotlight," he says. "It's just what I get paid to do."

by Leslie Oak

History Department to Host Discussion on Saving Private Ryan

The History Department of the College of Liberal Arts will be hosting a roundtable-type discussion on the recent Spielberg movie *Saving Private Ryan*. The discussion will be hosted by five professors from the department: Thomas Crimando, David MacGregor, Richard Newman, Gordon Shay, and Department Chair Frank Annunziata.

Saving Private Ryan has been the subject of substantial critique and analysis since its summer release. "The film has

been recognized for its powerful portrayal of the major battles of World War II," says Annunziata. "This is an invitation to everyone who would like to participate in a discussion on the movie." The roundtable, to be held on the eve of Veteran's Day, will hopefully bring a new perspective to the meaning of the holiday that honors America's fallen heroes.

The discussion will be held on Tuesday, November 10, at 7:30 p.m. in the Skalny Room of the Interfaith Center.

Contact Eresi Kannyo at x6095 for more information. The entire RIT community is encouraged to attend and share their views on issues stemming from this stirring motion picture.

by Otto Vondrak

Guest Lecturer Asks Hard Questions About Democracy

Jo Wolff, philosophy professor at University College London, presented a lecture titled, "Is Democracy any Good?" last Thursday at the Carlson Center for Imaging Science. This lecture was part of the first annual New York State Humanities Month.

Wolff opened his talk with a discussion of when and why citizens vote. The obvious answer is that we vote for what we want, but, according to Wolff, this is not the case. Instead, people vote based on either moral or self interest motivations. "Some people vote purely to cancel out the vote of their spouse," said Wolff.

Mixed motivations in voting is a problem, Wolff feels, because "we can't assume that people will vote according to

their interests, so there are no assurances that taking a vote will be a way of getting interests of the majority of the people"

Plato had an argument against democracy, Wolff explained in his lecture. Plato stated that ruling is a skill, that it requires expertise, and that skills or crafts are best carried out by experts. Democracy is rule by the general populace rather than the talented few, and therefore would be irrational in Plato's view. Wolff used the analogy of a cruise ship to explain Plato's argument, stating that it is much more logical to leave the navigation of the ship to the trained navigator, not to the passengers. "If you leave navigation to the passengers," said Wolff, "think what a drunken pleasure cruise you will have."

Wolff believes that democracy has a symbolic value, and that it is a mere token of freedom and equality. The only advantage to a democratic system is the fact that we can remove our rulers from power without bloodshed. There has never been a war fought between two strictly democratic nations. He pointed out that a representative democracy is a compromise, but the characteristics that will get you to the top are those we do not want in our rulers.

"Democracy has been opposed by many more people than anyone who has favored it," concluded Wolff. When asked what type of government he preferred, Wolff claimed he was unable to answer because democracy is the only form of government he really knew.

by Lisa Camp

World News

- In an effort to alleviate the infamously horrendous Bangkok traffic jams, Thailand premiered its first public transit system last week. The Sky-Train has been under construction for several years and, after lengthy delays, has incurred a cost of over \$1.45 billion. The line itself is about 14.6 miles long, and will eventually service over one million people per day, according to the Bangkok Mass Transit System Co. (AP)

- In Saudi Arabia last week, a man had his hand cut off for picking the pockets of worshippers at the Grand Mosque in Mecca. Saudi Arabia's strict interpretation of Islamic law requires that a thief's right hand be severed in a public place. Worse crimes, such as rape or murder, are punished by beheading. So far this year, 22 people have been publicly executed, as opposed to last year's count of 124. (AP)

- About 20 students at the University of Alabama at Huntsville watched their satellite rocket into space last Saturday. The

culmination of a nine year project, the 75 pound craft carried equipment to assist amateur radio operators in transferring data to each other. Also on board was a unique panoramic annular lens (PAL), which allows a camera to view objects in 360 degrees. (UniSci)

- A German tourist playing golf in Johannesburg, South Africa, was trampled by a rampaging elephant, which apparently escaped from Kruger National Park. At press time, the elephant had not been caught. (Reuters)

- Chung Ju-yung, the chairman of the Hyundai group, South Korea's largest conglomerate, assisted in the giving of 500 cattle to North Korea in an effort to better relations between the two nations. The gift of the cattle and the 20 cars used to carry them is valued at over \$1.5 million. The famine-stricken nation of North Korea reportedly is thankful for the gift. (CNN)

- According to a recent UN report, Iraq put the deadly nerve gas VX into war-

heads before the 1991 Gulf War. VX is a colorless liquid that, in gaseous form, blocks the transmission of nerve signals, causing a loss of muscle control, paralysis, and eventually death. Iraq has admitted to using sarin gas in its warheads, but it has repeatedly denied the use of VX. Small traces of VX, however, were found on destroyed warheads. Iraq has requested that the United States-run test also be duplicated by Swiss and French agencies. (CNN)

- Babe (the talking pig), one of Maurice Sendak's Wild Things, and a bespectacled scientist named Dexter are the newest additions to the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. The new balloons are only 50 feet tall, far below the 70-foot suggested maximum proposed by New York City. Last year, high winds coupled with a massive Cat in the Hat balloon resulted in the injury of four people, placing one woman in a coma. She is currently pursuing a \$393 million lawsuit against both Macy's and the city. (AP)

by Pete Lukow

leisure

Less Than Jake Plays Water Street

When Less Than Jake took the stage and opened up with "Last One Out of Liberty City" from their new album *Hello Rockview* the crowd went absolutely crazy. Toilet paper was launched into the audience as a cowboy-ish skeleton ran around, tossing confetti and riling concert-goers. LTJ went directly into the second song, so that they would not lose any of the energy in their fast-paced style. They were performing purely for the enjoyment of music.

Everyone inside the hall was glowing with excitement, as the sweat poured down their faces from dancing, jumping, and moshing. A collection of parents lining the back wall looked on with just as much excitement as their teenage sons and daughters.

After playing a few songs off *Losing Streak*, the band played "Johnny Quest is a Sell Out," the first song that brought them national recognition. They then played a song entitled "All My Best

Friends Are Metal Heads," in hopes of revitalizing the heavy metal scene. The plan, along with the reference to a Brady Bunch episode, back-fired because of the audience's youth. Following the slight setback, LTJ continued with a medley of "Help Save the Youth of America from Exploding," "Jen," "107," and "Rock-n-Roll Pizzeria." Instead of leaving the stage and returning for an encore, they paused for a minute before concluding with three more songs. In the midst of the encore performance, tapes, stickers, and posters were thrown

into the crowd. The concert ended on an appropriate note with "How's My Driving, Doug Hastings?"

Anyone who enjoys live music should drive any distance to see Less Than Jake. You can tell instantly how much they love performing. They have lost nothing from their original intention, which is to have fun, create good music, and play well to a crowd.

by Todd Kuiken
photo by Alexandra Daley



In Search of That 'Silver' Lining

Once upon a time, a man climbed the tall hill in Griffin Park, Hollywood (you know, the one with the big Hollywood sign). When he reached the top, he heard a voice from above say, "Take these 10 commandments and disperse them amongst your fellow television actors and actresses." As if by magic, an agent appeared out of the sky and handed the man a contract listing the commandments. The man climbed back down, stood before his colleagues, and proceeded to read them off.

"I give you the ten commandments!

1. Thou shalt make more money in one year than most people make in their lifetimes.
2. Thou shalt promote your current projects on every major late night talk show.
3. Thou shalt eat only at 'Spago.'
4. Thou shalt avoid common folk like the plague.
5. Thou shalt live in homes large enough to hold entire communities.
6. Thou shalt wear no less than half your weight in makeup.
7. Thou shalt drive cars with more horsepower than all the Kentucky Derbies combined.
8. Thou shalt strive to appear in magazines, books, television shows, posters, and miscellaneous frivolous items.
9. Thou shalt, above all else, make the move to the silver screen to let your legions of fans see you in 50-foot glory.
10. Thou shalt, above all else, make the move to the silver screen, disappointing all your fans who enjoy watching you on television."

And so, the commandments were all read, and the mass of people began their exodus...

It seems that many actors and actresses today find the world of television beneath them. Even though most of them have their roots on the boob tube, the time constraints and long hours have convinced many that film is in their future. For some, that plan has worked. Others haven't been as lucky.

A high percentage have done a great job of making it big. Robin Williams, who starred in the 1970s sitcom *Mork & Mindy*, went on to star in numerous films like *Good Morning Vietnam*, *Mrs. Doubtfire*, and *Good Will Hunting*. Tom Hanks went from *Bosom Buddies* to *Forrest Gump*, *Apollo 13*, and,

Saving Private Ryan. Will Smith? *Fresh Prince of Bel-Air* to *Independence Day* and *Men in Black*. Danny Devito graduated from *Taxi* to star in *Junior*, *Get Shorty*, and *L.A. Confidential*. Moonlighting's Bruce Willis continued in the *Die Hard* series, *Armageddon*, and, coming soon, *The Siege*. Who could forget Jim Carrey's psycho characters on *In Living Color* that led nicely to psycho characters in *Ace Ventura*, *Liar Liar*, and *The Truman Show*?

These cases set the stage for today's mad rush, but they are unique. These are all very talented actors who left their shows when they were over, or on their way out. More recently, television's high profile actors and actresses are deciding to leave in the middle of the season from some of the most popular shows on television. What's worse, most of these new film stars are significantly less qualified than their predecessors.

When *NYPD Blue* came out, it instantly went to the top of the charts, and actors David Caruso and Dennis Franz received great praise. Caruso interpreted this praise as idolship and decided to take it to the next level — in the middle of *NYPD's* run as the best drama on TV. His films *Jade* and *Kiss of Death* died at the box office and he is now out of consistent work. With Caruso's highly qualified replacement, Jimmy Smits, leaving for the silver screen this year (even though *NYPD* is still going strong), one has to question whether the same fate lies ahead for him.

The *Friends* crew is a mixed bag. Even though the show has been a consistent hit for NBC, every cast member has played his or her hand at Hollywood. Courteney Cox, with *Ace Ventura: Pet Detective*, and the *Scream* movies, and Jennifer Aniston, with *The Object of My Affection* and *She's the One*, did average at the box office. Matt LeBlanc looked lost in *Lost in Space*, and has the unfortunate *Ed* on his resume. Matthew Perry made duds *Fools Rush In* and *Almost Heroes* while Lisa Kudrow flopped in *Romy & Michelle's High School Reunion*. Lastly, David Schwimmer didn't last long with movies like *Kissing a Fool* and *The Pallbearer*.

1998 alone has seen (or is about to see) several popular actors leave their TV casts behind. Andre Braucher has already left the critically acclaimed *Homicide* (whose ratings have since dropped) to give Hollywood a try. *Chicago Hope's* heartthrob Peter Berg has

done the same. George Clooney, of *ER*, will be leaving mid season. Clooney has already appeared in several movies, including *Batman and Robin*, *Out of Sight*, and *The Peacemaker*, none of which have lived up to expectations. It appears that the entire cast of *The X-Files* may be out of regular work in the next year, judging from David Duchovny and Gillian Anderson's shifty attitudes toward their weekly cult show and the success of their summer movie. Considering his lackluster performances in *Kalifornia* and *Playing God*, Duchovny may want to reconsider.

One of the few exceptions to this recent trend is *Mad About You's* Helen Hunt who was featured in *Twister* and won an Oscar for *As Good as it Gets*. Again, however, she falls into the first category of actors who've made the switch — a great actress in a show that's on its last leg. Some of her peers are quite the contrary. Their shows are great when each actor fits well into his respective role and cast, but on their own they are a few steps behind — and it shows. They are hurting both their casts and their own careers.

For some reason, movies are "cool" and television is not. It can't be the money, because the *Friends* cast made headlines when they held out for huge contracts a few years back. If *ER* was willing to pay Anthony Edwards and Noah Wyle over 20 million dollars, they would undoubtedly do the same for Clooney. Duchovny and Anderson are likely making more money than anyone else at FOX. (How much can they pay cartoon characters?) While these television stars have huge-paying contracts, the majority of actors and actresses barely make a living. Films can give the big payoff for a big name actor, but can ruin a newcomer. Still, combine the glory of the big screen with the magazine covers, having a reporter from *E!* constantly lounging in your front yard, and the fame and recognition that comes along with starring in a film, and you have a motive for why movies are the way to go these days. Clearly, though, the procession is not for everyone. Unless you're a regular on *Saturday Night Live* (Adam Sandler, Mike Myers, Phil Hartman, Dan Aykroyd, Eddie Murphy, Janeane Garofalo, Chris Farley, Steve Martin, and more) television should not necessarily be considered a stepping stone. It may be a bad idea to leave such a good thing behind.

by Jeff Prystajko

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"I'll take 'Potpourri' for \$300 please, Alex." For all you game show fans out there, I'm sure you've at least had the notion of trying out for the *JEOPARDY!* College Tournament. Now you can do just that, without leaving the comfort of your dorm room or apartment. Plus, there's some added incentive in the form of great prizes from Sony!

The online *JEOPARDY!* College Tournament started in September, but it runs through January, so it's not too late to enter. Go to The Station today and register. Then, play up to five times a

week (top three scores are averaged) to qualify for big prizes. The top ten players per region (Eastern, Central, Western) each week will automatically advance to the semi-finals, and the 100 highest scores in each region, which do not appear on a weekly top ten list, also qualify for the next round. After semi-final play, the top three finishers will compete in the finals in either New York or Los Angeles (expenses paid!) for the Grand Prize: a "dorm room full of Sony products" (27" Trinitron TV, Sony Video Cassette Recorder, MiniDisc Home Recorder/Portable Bundle, Sony Mini Hi-Fi Component System, Playstation, IBM ThinkPad, and more). The three finalists

also get \$1,000 donated to a scholarship at their school, as well as a "VIP audition to qualify as a contestant on TV's *JEOPARDY!* College Tournament." Many other Sony prizes are awarded to those who don't make the finals.

Being in the Eastern division is not easy — we are competing against the entire Ivy League. Don't let that get you down, though, because anyone can win. (Someone from Howard Community College came in second place during the second week of play.) If you want to meet Alex, get to The Station and begin your run at the Finals today!

by Nick Spittal

High Tech Spying

There was an obscure revelation made recently — one that received little notice in the mainstream press but registered waves in the cyber-community. The Internet service carrier, WebTV, disclosed that a system-polling feature has been incorporated into its home connections to extract subscriber information from each user for advertisers. WebTV is a popular Microsoft venture that combines television with Internet service via a cable box-like apparatus, eliminating the need for a computer.

The announcement came from the company's president himself, Steve Perlman: "We have a whole department that does nothing but look at the information. If someone is watching a car ad and clicks through, we can send them to the closest car dealership website. The balance is providing advertisers with useful information while still protecting the subscribers." Are we, the American public, that gullible? That comment can

be easily interpreted as, "You people are too busy being wooed by our technology to object to our blatant spying." What this leads to is highly sophisticated virtual mailing list composition.

These are extremely different "lists" than what we've become accustomed to. Every move a user makes is "recorded," even while watching conventional television. An entire department of "professionals" watches like hawks, eager to sell user preferences to the highest bidder. It's like going into the library to browse through your deepest passions while the librarian follows you, marking down your choices. After you've gone, she goes and rings up a publishing house that specializes in mystery novels. "Hey, pssst, so and so favors steamy mysteries." A week later, you're hit with unwelcome offers to

purchase generic romance mysteries. Unfortunately, it's a budding reality.

Every now and then, especially in

this day and age, we hear a subtle morsel of information that alarms us, alerting us to the fundamental breakdown of the way our lives are protected. Much has been said of the Internet's meteoric rise into cultural consciousness and its disregard for privacy. As we confront newly fashioned issues regarding the inevitable inclusion of the Web in our daily lives, forethought is of paramount importance. We need to consider the potential chain effects of today's events, which diminish our basic rights and freedoms. Surf with caution — the hidden video camera that follows every move could create a civilization of "Truman Burbanks."

by Alex Long



Up

Up

Up

Up

Up

ON CAMPUS: Boldly Go...Up

Attention lass: Welcome to Metaphorical Drawing 101. Everyone please get out a pencil and paper and, in the middle of the paper, draw a thick, solid vertical line. Label it "wall." To the left of the line, write the words "RIT students," and on the opposite side, inscribe "NTID students." Congratulations, class! You've just succeeded in accurately depicting life at RIT.

Deny it as much as you want, but there is a definite social gap between these two groups. Fortunately, there are programs and activities available to help remedy the situation. You may have noticed flyers for "Sign Climb" all around campus, but perhaps you're still unsure about what it is.

Sign Climb is an activity that takes place on the Red Barn's indoor rock climbing course. The program was created to help RIT and NTID students integrate, learn about each other, and just

have fun. Recently revived after a short hiatus, the two-year program is now beginning to find a repeat audience.

Why do it? Well, it is one of the best ways on campus to break down the wall between deaf and hearing students. You want to learn sign language but don't have the time to attend a class? Sign Climb is the perfect solution. More importantly, you won't feel left out or out of place, no matter what type of person you are. Everybody is willing and eager to communicate and help out. Says Tom Connelly, one of the Red Barn leaders, "Sign Climb takes place in a non-threatening environment, where there's a 'challenge by choice.'"

Right now, you may be thinking, "I have fewer muscles than a single-celled amoeba; how do you expect me to hike up a 24-foot wall?" Speaking from experience, YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE IN TOP-NOTCH SHAPE TO ROCK CLIMB. Strength isn't the key; skill and practice lead to

success. If you're up to the challenge, climbing can be very rewarding.

According to Dave Krueger, another leader at the barn, Sign Climb will be operating during the winter, although the evening hours may change. Currently, the program runs Tuesdays from 5-7 p.m. The first time is free, and it costs \$10 to climb per quarter (compared to \$10 per climb at a regular gym). Equipment is available, and shoes (strongly recommended) cost an additional \$2 per trek.

Well, that concludes our class for today. I'd say it's about time to erase that wall we drew... or better yet, climb over it!

by Jeff Prystajko

photo by Ed Pfueller

Opinion

Imagine a society in which authority cannot be questioned. This is not because those in positions of authority are strict disciplinarians, or because they institute widespread campaigns of massacre or torture. It is because the constituents never think of questioning authority. "Why bother?" they ask. Indeed, why bother? The authorities are obviously in such positions because they do well, they provide for the group as a whole, and because, as members of the society, if they do us ill, they are doing themselves ill. The hypothetical society I just described is lifted liberally from Ray Bradbury's work *Fahrenheit 451*. Published in 1950, it tells the story of a future in which free thought is looked upon with grave disdain. Those who choose to practice something so utterly deviant and corrupt are quickly shunned, evicted, fired, divorced, or killed.

Free thought presents a dangerous threat to the stability of a society. When the members of a group are able and willing to think negative things about that group, they may complete the next logical step and begin efforts to change it. Free thought is social change; without it, society stagnates. It is only reasonable, sadly, that if there is profit to be gained from the current system, those who profit from it will do everything in their power to keep the system in place. They will attempt to rid the society of its ability to change. They will remove free thought. So, if we are deprived of free thought, we are deprived of our ability to change our society, and therefore we are deprived of free will.

"Great," you say. "So what?"

It's happening to us.

Many years ago, Berkeley Breathed inked a wonderful *Bloom County* comic wherein Opus the penguin, Milo, Binkley, and various others were gathered together discussing the general state of things. One character bemoaned to another with sadness that

there are no more geniuses left. One never sees a Bach, or a Van Gogh, or a Shakespeare in modern society. Another character agreed, and wondered why this is so. The last panel shows them all staring at the television, saying nothing.

The three or four corporations that produce the majority of television programming reap a combined annual revenue of over \$25 billion. A vast portion of that large sum of cash is gained from the sale of advertising space. The average American sees 60 television ads every day, adding up to 22,000 a year. When one considers the forms of advertising this statistic leaves out — billboards, magazines, newspapers, flyers, bulletins, web pages, and word of mouth — the numbers become staggering. The livelihood of these enormous corporations relies on the principle that you will not be able to form your own opinions. These businesses depend on the fact that advertising will provide opinions for you, and will invariably induce you to spend, spend, spend. Which, in turn, will encourage corporations to spend more money on advertising. It's a

A Guide to Free Thinking

vicious circle if ever there was one.

It is hard to watch TV and think at the same time. We are assaulted with information and eye candy at such a high speed that it becomes quite impossible to comprehend and digest it all. Within a typical television program, there is no breathing space; the camera switches views approximately every 5 seconds, making comprehension and reflection nearly impossible. Advertisements are minuscule by comparison, and allow us even less time for a reaction before the ad concludes and we are presented with yet another.

Advertisements do not sell products, but sell images of products appealing to the consumer's desires in such matters as love, sex, food, patriotism, and fun. Aldous Huxley said that we no longer buy tooth-

paste, but instead buy security in the fact that we are no longer repulsive to the opposite sex, not to mention our dentists. This, coupled with a near overwhelming torrent of information, numbs us. It slows our brains and hinders our ability to think for ourselves.

Faced with such a deluge of information, it is easier to acquiesce and accept what you are being told than to fight and form one's own opinions. This is where the danger lies. If we blindly accept what we are told, we are not far away from our own version of the hellish vision Bradbury foretold so long ago.

This is not a conspiracy article. The actions described above, although they may seem intentional, are unconscious. The media corporations have no conscious intent to remove free thought entirely from our culture. They, too, would suffer if our society did not progress. It seems foolish to think that the executive boards of the television networks plot and scheme about removing our access to social change. It does, however, seem likely that they plot and scheme in an effort to make more money. The unfortunate side effect is that our collective ability to think freely is effectively sacrificed.

Television is an admittedly easy target. It is not the only threat to our abilities to think for ourselves.

In that respect we are our own worst enemies, for lack of a better phrase. Free thought takes effort, and it seems that expending energy on an action that does not produce obvious and tangible results is generally frowned upon in our society. We ask, "Why bother?"

I bother because free thought is the only thing that can change the status quo. Our broken society needs free thinkers, people who are not afraid to ask "Why is this so?" and demand an answer. Those people will not, I guarantee, be found in front of a television, being assaulted by 22,000 advertisements per year.

by Pete Lukow

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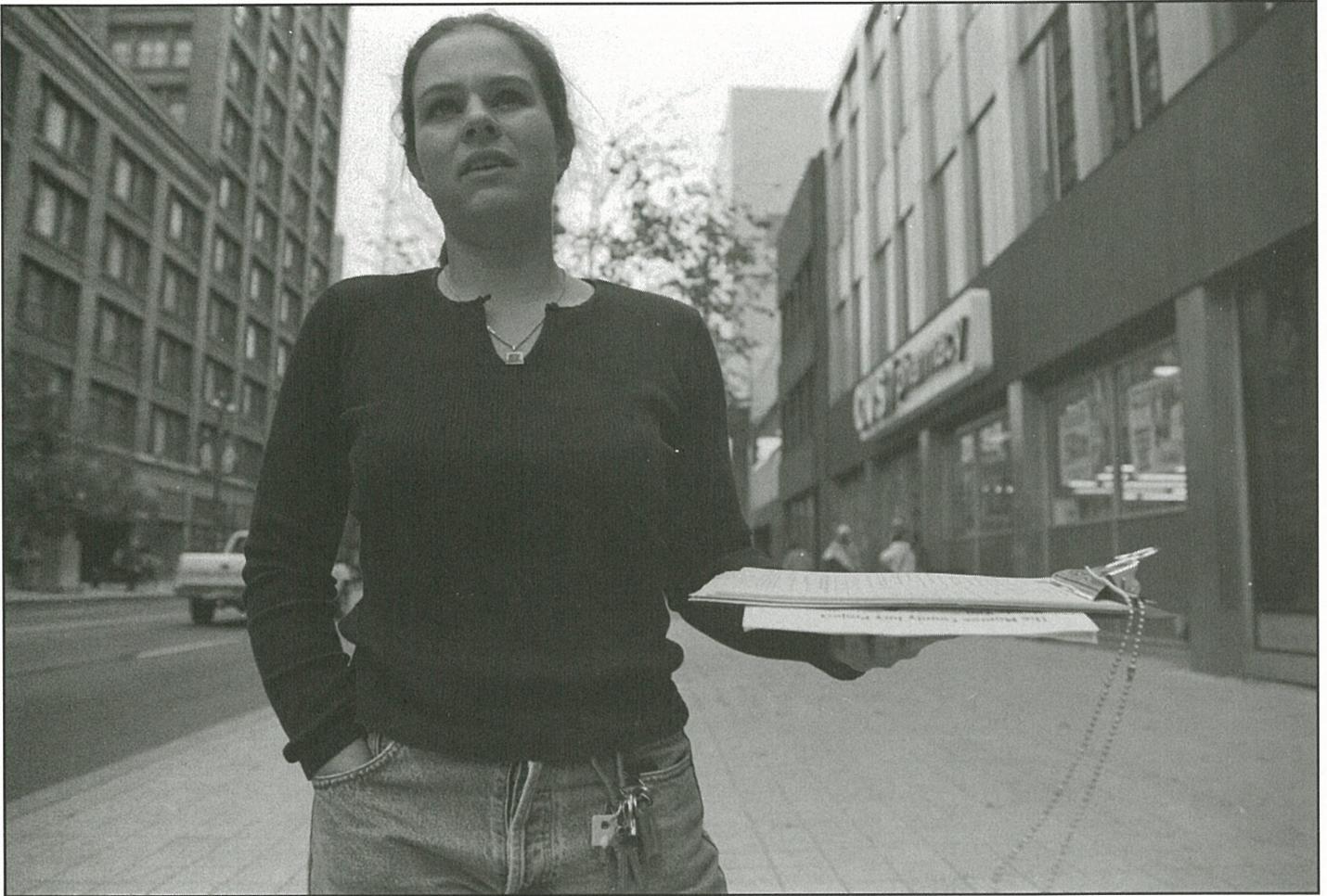
Of all sensationalist news stories, the courtroom drama has emerged as the tabloid favorite. The hoopla surrounding the O.J. Simpson and Louise Woodward trials may reflect television's revolutionary swipe at American courts, but public skepticism of juries goes back a long way. From the notorious all-white Southern juries presented memorably in Harper Lee's *To Kill A Mockingbird* to the recent film *Devil's Advocate*, in which the hero nearly loses his soul over his jury-selection talents, popular art through the decades

has raised eyebrows at the fairness of jury verdicts. Many of today's legal experts, including Rochester lawyers, believe that, while the legal system will never be perfect, ensuring the diversity of jury members is the fairest way of seeking justice for both the community and the accused.

RIT's Criminal Justice Department, at the behest of the Monroe County Bar Association, is assisting in the reshaping of juries. The Jury Diversification Project, run out of an office in the basement of the





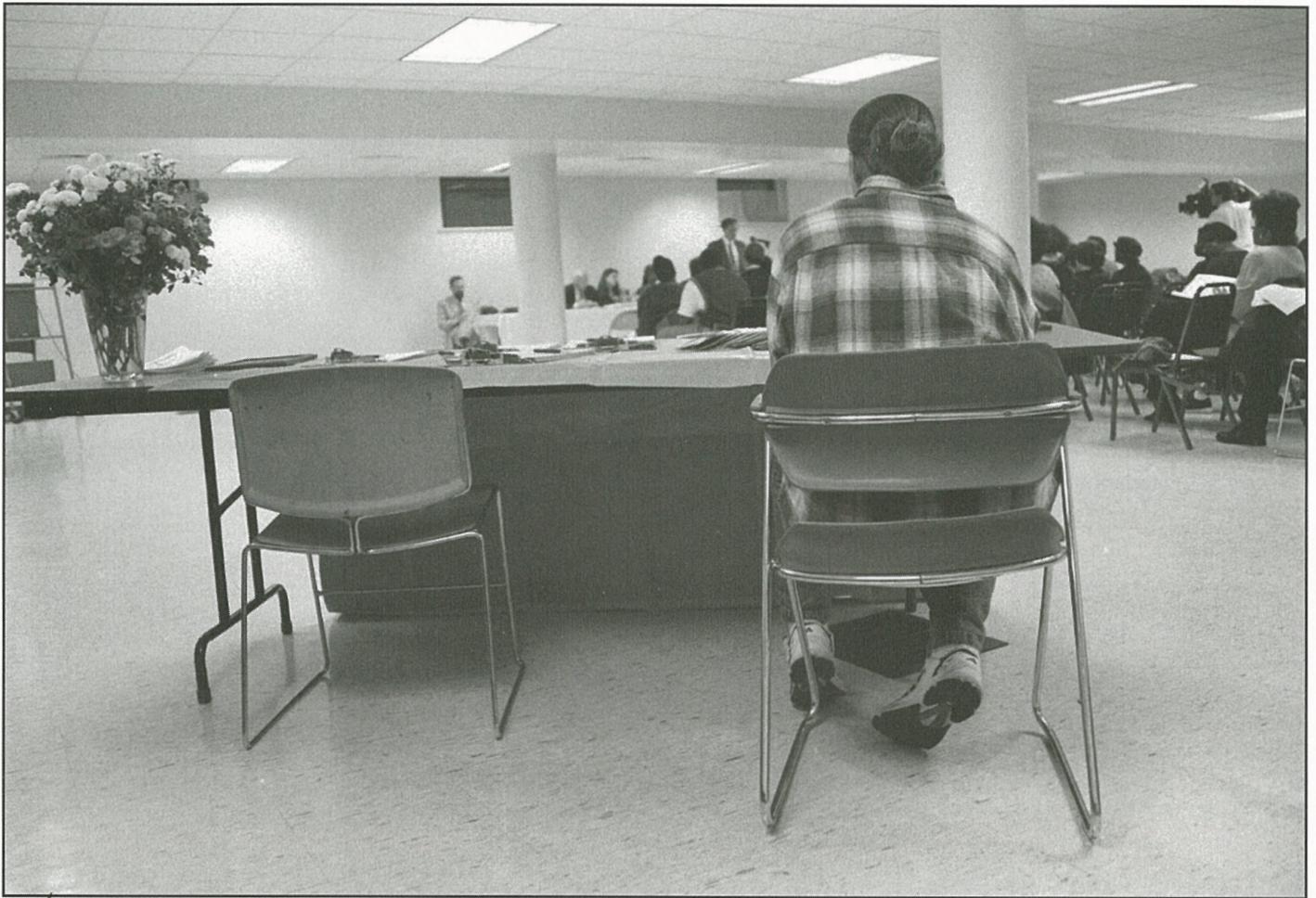


Liberal Arts building, educates people about the legal system and works to expand the list of Rochesterians who qualify for jury duty. The program recruits volunteers from the community to enter the jury pool by distributing surveys, planning events, making public service announcements, and various other efforts. The assumption behind the drive for diversity is that justice is compromised in many legal cases due to an under-representation of African-Americans, Hispanics, women, and young people on juries.

The Jury Diversification Project resulted from a 1994 report directed by Chief Judge of New York State Judith Kaye, called "Jury Project." Drawing attention to the under-representation of minorities, the report declared that counties and municipalities should do all they can to diversify their juries. Vicky Nuse, a student in the criminal justice department, is Jury Diversification's second director in its two year history, and has expanded this area's jury pool by 300 since August. In all, the project has added a potential

500 extra jurists to the courts. "It's been a great experience for me," Nuse says of her tenure at Jury Diversification. "It's also beneficial to my future in that it's brought me into contact with judges, lawyers, and all sorts of professionals in law."

The project was started by the Monroe County Bar Association, which passed it to RIT for implementation. The program director receives surveys from this committee and hands them out. People are also reached through inter-personal channels and through



sponsored events. "We set up tables and recruit people to sign up for jury duty," says Nuse. A committee of attorneys oversee the work, but the considerable expansion of the jury pool is a result of the efforts of students and volunteers.

The initiative by members of the legal profession to diversify juries has been fostered by the passage of recent laws. Prior to 1994, Nuse explains, "jury lists were drawn up from voter registration and home-ownership lists. So people who didn't vote or pay property taxes were left off. But it's been expand-

ed since then to include anyone with a driver's license." In fact, given that the requirements for jury service now include the vast majority of citizens, projects like Jury Diversification may no longer be needed. "This project is meant to help us catch up," Nuse explains. "Hopefully it won't be necessary in a few years, but people still need to be educated and recruited."

Jury Diversification's work coincides with knotty legal problems that have made headlines. Attorney commentators

on *Geraldo* and *Court TV* and books about various trials of national focus like the O.J. phenomenon indicate a national trend toward slamming the legal system. Legal problems of local interest have also arisen. Rochester's legal and law-enforcement image took a beating early this year when a judge overturned Betty Tyson's murder conviction due to emerging evidence that she was innocent and a victim of corrupt police. Similar cases around the country and new ones popping up in this area again have reinforced the need

for a more expansive jury pool.

Whether more diverse juries could prevent a Betty Tyson situation from happening again is a point of contention. But one thing is clear: An increasing number of minorities have been found to have been wrongly imprisoned. And this is what the movement toward jury diversification is seeking to avoid. It also defends itself on the principle that juries should be representative of the communities from which they are drawn. Many people in Rochester would seem to agree; not long ago, Jury Diversification participated with Temple Sinai in sponsoring the

Neighbor Event which featured speakers Betty Tyson and Mayor Johnson.

Nuse reports that her biggest worry is recruiting people to carry Jury Diversification on. "We need RIT volunteers," she says, "and I'm looking for an assistant director." Anyone interested in learning more about the Jury Diversification Project may look at the Criminal Justice Department's web page at www.rit.edu/~695www/.

by Zane Kaylani

photos by Alexandra Daley



How Green is RIT?



Everywhere you look nowadays, environmental issues are hatched with startling frequency. Significant portions of the world-famous Vail Ski Resort were torched recently, and a radical environmentalist group openly assumed responsibility for the act of domestic terrorism. Northwestern states plush with redwoods are constantly the subject of emotional, often downright ugly debate between loggers and nature lovers. The dissipating ozone layer brings about daily warnings of a modern-day Armageddon from scientists and global health experts.

It is not difficult to understand how all this has come about: Our world gets more and more crowded with each passing year, and harmful waste is constantly produced from the filling of our so-called vital needs. It is money and cognitive society against the Earth's physical well-being. The emergence of the Green Party, increased rhetoric on Capital Hill and throughout the government, and hyper-awareness by the public in general, all signify a serious urgency when it comes to the environment we call home.

One unfortunate result of this opinion-crazed era is that certain authority

functions have a tendency to appease their constituents by pledging attention to a neglected harmful circumstance without really taking the issue to heart. For example, a corporation may make donations to the NAACP yet have terrible equal hiring processing. In recent years, more and more has been said on the part of RIT administration as to the importance of environmental consciousness on campus. A long, hard look at today's actions shows that they fall short of the much-ballyhooed objectives.

Once the onus was on RIT to do its part for Mother Nature, certain deliberate steps were taken. Recycling burst onto the scene around fall of 1994, energy conservation practices were encouraged, and certain departments dealing with destructive waste began finding more constructive dispensing methods. All this took place rather rapidly, creating the impression that indeed RIT yearned to mix a figurative green with the orange and black. Unfortunately, it takes more than bins and documents to do so.

There are three major facets to our environmental conservation program: paper waste, energy consumption, and dangerous/destructive waste. The most visible aspect is clearly the paper use issue. More than once over the past couple years, campus-wide announcements were made concerning the importance of doing our part to stem the undeniable destruction of the earth's forests and trees.

Fledgling recycling programs placed designated bins throughout campus for easy paper disposal (and, on a lesser scale, for certain recyclable items such as cans, plastic, etc.). In regard to the academic part of campus, the effectiveness is satisfactory; there's nary a room, lab, or academic space of any sort, at least as far as this writer's eye could see, without those blue bins with the international circular symbol for recycling label. There's a difference, however, between appeasement and actual dedication. Students are often implored to be as conservative as possible; does the administration do the same?

Take President Simone's sporadic universal memorandums. Every now and then, our President is compelled to

communicate with the entire campus. The trouble is, each time he does that, a good 10,000 to 15,000 copies are released in print and heavily distributed around campus. Often, these letters address serious topics, like the unfortunate hate crime in Wyoming a few weeks ago. There is no doubt that the crime was despicable and absolutely, unequivocally cannot be condoned, but hadn't we already decided that for ourselves? Anyone who didn't already condemn the atrocity probably wouldn't be swayed by Dr. Simone.

The president's letter seemed too much like a statement of the obvious. Is half the Amazon worth such pronouncements like this? What about universal e-mail releases? I'm sure by now the percentage of students and staff who regularly use their VAX accounts far outweighs the reach of paper memos, or at least parallels the range.

Impractical communication modes aside, there are the pesky mail folders. Good reasons exist for these. The same, however, cannot be said for their content. There isn't a student anywhere who feels that every mundane announcement or bulletin is truly essential. Recently, I checked my departmental folder and took out two virtual advertisements for Tiger Job Connection, which brings the total reminder count regarding the service's existence to 200 or so. Then there were the sixth and seventh copies of my quarterly financial aid statements, all of which reveal exactly the same thing. Most puzzling, though, were the three or four bulletins informing me of unique major classes being offered this upcoming quarter. That's fine — no one should mind being informed of those opportunities — but hasn't anyone heard of a bulletin board? They're everywhere! The same purpose could easily be served with one single copy, strategically placed, for all to see. Either someone wants to read the announcements, or they don't. There are, of course, exceptions where the content is vital and must be received on a personal basis, like class notes compiled for NTID students, grade information, and important papers. But many students feel that half of what they pull out of those folders is really not worth the mass production and release.

The situations in the dorms and the on-campus complexes are worth examining, too. While living in Colony Manor over the summer, this writer received a fresh look at RIT housing and its recycling access. As an avid newspaper reader, I compiled a monstrous pile of print and stored it away with plans to dispose of it properly. Come cleaning day, I searched for the closest bin and was aghast to discover that it was a solid 500 feet away. Now we're talking perhaps dozens of pounds of the material. As much as I really cared, I eventually said, "I don't think there's any way I can do this." I am therefore extremely embarrassed to admit that the pile went right into the closest garbage bin, which was conveniently located directly in front of my unit. I walked away with a terrible feeling of guilt. Certainly, other students have done the same thing.

In every private residence throughout the Greater Rochester area, mandatory blue boxes supplied by the city are used for stockpiling recyclable materials. All you have to do is drag it out to the curb once a week. It makes it convenient to recycle, and nearly eliminates any excuse not to do so. Perhaps if similar aid were provided on campus, those in less conveniently located apartments would be more apt to do their part.

The dorms, on the other hand, are a little different. Comprehensive inspection of various locations and interviews of the residents showed that, while recycling is there, it is not quite visible. Each wing has a couple of bins for paper, plastic, and cans, usually located in the lounge. Several students admitted that, more often than not, the pain of walking out of the room every time something recyclable needs to be discarded trumps moral responsibility. Something as simple as plastic boxes could be distributed to each room so that the students may collect recyclables over time and recycle at a more reasonable pace.

Have you ever walked through the academic campus at night and noticed that entire empty floors are brightly lit? Last year, an interesting bulletin was posted throughout the dorms to reveal RIT's expenditures on energy the previous year. It was a whopping figure of more than four million dollars. The notice emphasized that we were pushing our tuition up with

excessive electrical consumption, and that the world needs all the energy it can save. Is that why all those empty classrooms enjoy illumination well into the night? How often do staff members stop and say, "Oh wait, we shouldn't be doing so and so because it isn't practical use of energy."

Finally, we come to harmful or dangerous waste removal. This is one area in which RIT excels. There is a comprehensive policy description of Hazardous Waste Handling & Emergency Response available from the Environmental Health department, as well as a thick Chemical Hygiene Plan and personal safety booklet. Unfortunately, most of the information is indecipherable without an Environmental Science degree, but it's good to know something's being done with respect to all the chemicals our schools — the photography classes and labs, in particular — dispose of each day.

Still, the dearth of information with regard to general conservation policies is discouraging. RIT's home website has a section where you can read every word of the bylaws and policies of our school. Despite the myriad of topics offered, there is not a single drop of information about our green awareness or the consequences of destructive behavior to our own environment. Aside from the stockpiling of recycling bins, attention to harmful waste, and lots of preaching aimed at the students, the school does not seem to invest a great number of personnel in environmentally-friendly activities and procedures.

No doubt anyone with foresight can see that we're doing all the wrong things these days for the earth. Hypocrisy rules with legions of citizens decrying global damage, then going outside and washing their gasaholic automobiles. Comfortably tucked away in Western New York, we sometimes can't help but feel like a speck on the map, a microscopic factor in the environment's well-being. Then again, isn't everyone? Society consistently forgets that the sum of our parts is greater than the whole.

*by Alex Long
photo by Greg Benenati*

sportsportsportsports sportsportsportsports sportsportsportsports sportsportsportsports

RIT Plays Strong in Tournament

The RIT women's volleyball team ended up with a 3-1 record during the Tournament of Champions, improving to 27-7 for the year.

During the two day event, which was held on October 23 and 24, five area schools played at the Clark Gym in a round-robin format, with each team playing each other once. The teams included Cortland, NYU, Ithaca, Brockport, and RIT.

On Friday night, RIT opened up with an impressive win over NYU. They defeated them in all three games, 15-5, 15-6, 15-12. Highlighting the match were Ushi Petal's five aces. In the women's second match, it was a different story as the Tigers were defeated by Cortland, one of RIT's arch-rivals, 15-5, 18-16, 11-15, 15-7. Cortland, ranked first in the region, is RIT's only obstacle in reaching the second round of the nationals.

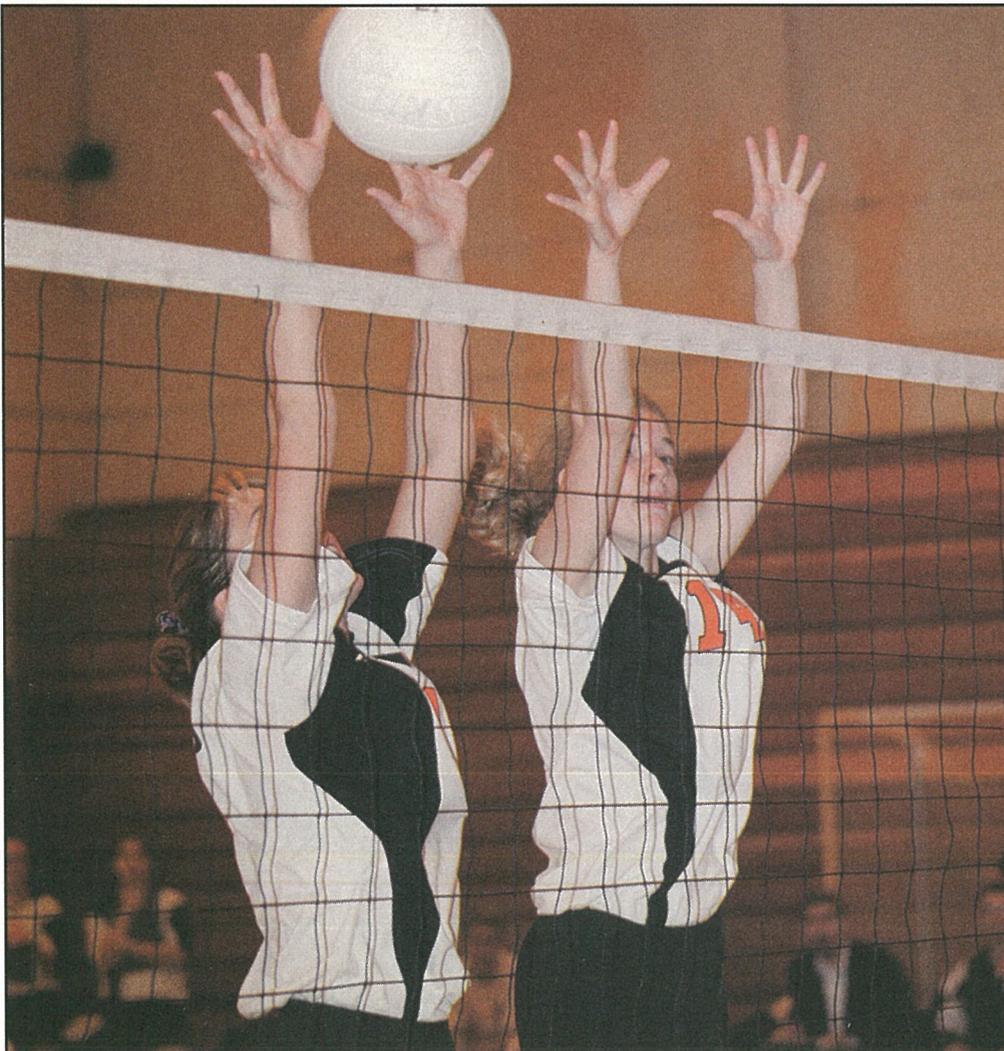
Other matches held that night included Ithaca and NYU's successive wins over Brockport and a Cortland victory against Ithaca. Cortland finished the tournament 4-0 (32-2 overall).

On Saturday, RIT rebounded from their loss the night before to crush both Ithaca and Brockport. Against Ithaca, the team won 15-8, 13-15, 15-13, 15-8. They then shut out Brockport 15-8, 15-10, 15-13.

An All-Tournament Team was named at the conclusion of the matches. Two RIT players were selected to the team: Tracy Wilt and Krissy Caton. MVP for the weekend was Adriane Battaglioli of Cortland. Also named to the team were Christine Widing and Jessica Walker (Cortland), Molly Jahraus (NYU), and Jen Salmon (Ithaca).

by Brett Fleming

photo by Andrew Gombert



Reporter Athlete of the Week

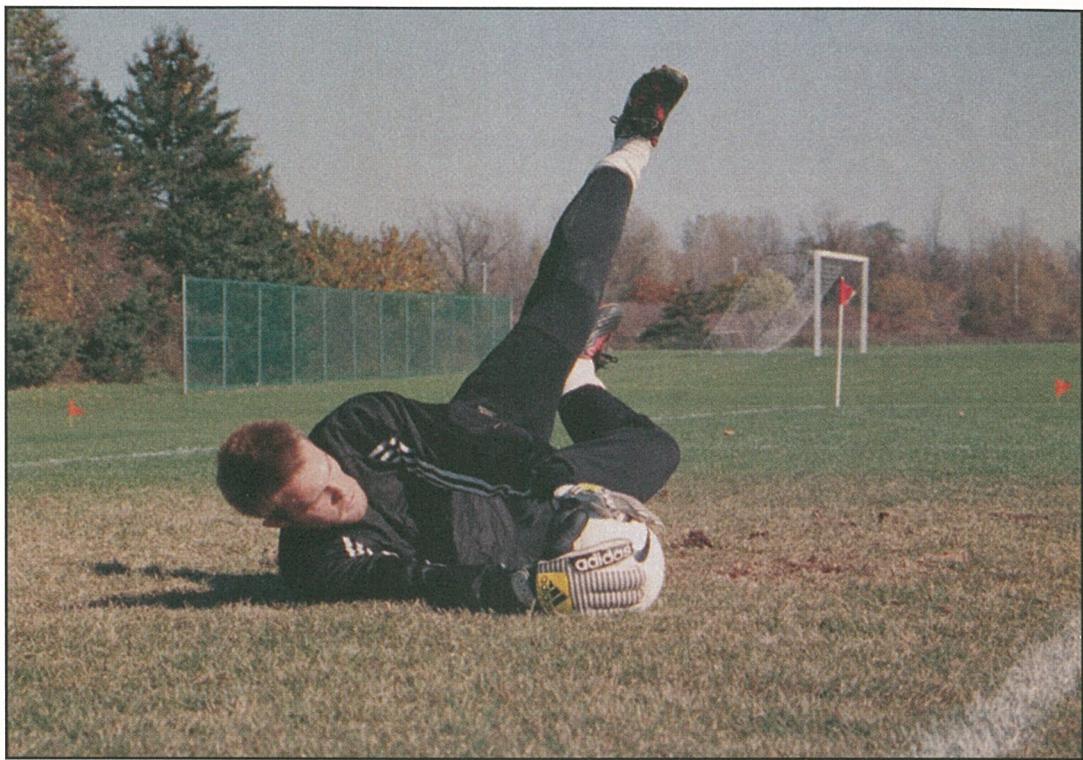
Adam
Lehmann:

The Wall

The RIT men's soccer team has seen a great deal of success this season, securing the number five ranking in the region and providing the college with some exciting moments. The team's current record stands at an impressive 10-5-1. Their strong showing this season is surprising when you consider how young the team is. So what's the secret of their success? Senior goal tender Adam Lehmann.

Lehmann's heroics in the net have been nothing short of spectacular. He has posted 1.12 goals against average through the first 16 games of the season, and has shut out his opponents seven times. Lehmann's statistics make him one of the region's most talented goalies, which comes as no surprise to coach Bill Garno, who remarked, "Adam is a ferocious competitor. His strengths and abilities have allowed for a lot of the success that we've had." Nothing illustrated this point more than Lehmann's performance against Ithaca. In the tight 1-0 victory, Lehmann made an unbelievable

14 saves throughout four quarters, plus overtime. The win over



Ithaca catapulted the Tigers on a hot streak in which they won 7 of the next 8 games.

Lehmann's contributions are not limited to his ample talent; he also brings veteran leadership to each and every game. He has been the Tiger's starting goal tender since his freshman year, and his experience has had an impact on the other players on the team. Garno said of Lehmann's leadership, "Adam's presence on the field inspires the other guys to raise their own level of play."

As his collegiate career comes to an end, it is evident that Adam Lehmann has left his mark on the RIT men's soccer program. And, as this season nears its conclusion, Lehmann is undoubtedly focused on going out a winner.

*by Jon-Claude Caton
photo by Michael Fagans*

Kings of the Ice

At the beginning of the season, the RIT men's hockey team was ranked third in the nation. Now, several games into the season, the undefeated squad has proven that being ranked behind two teams was a drastic underestimation of RIT's talent. Despite a close one goal victory over a skillful Mercyhurst team, the Tigers haven't been seriously challenged by any of their opponents. Nothing illustrated the team's dominance more than their season-opening 11-1 blowout of York. After winning the Fredonia tournament the weekend of October 23 and 24, the Tigers were upgraded to their rightful position of first in the nation. With a large portion of the season remaining, the RIT hockey team will have to maintain their elevated level of play to defend the position. Fortunately, the Tigers seem to have the will and determination to stay at the top.

by Jon-Claude Caton

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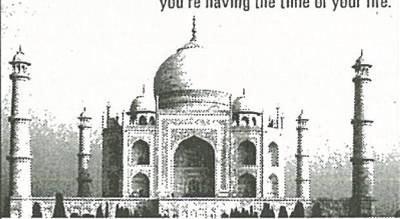
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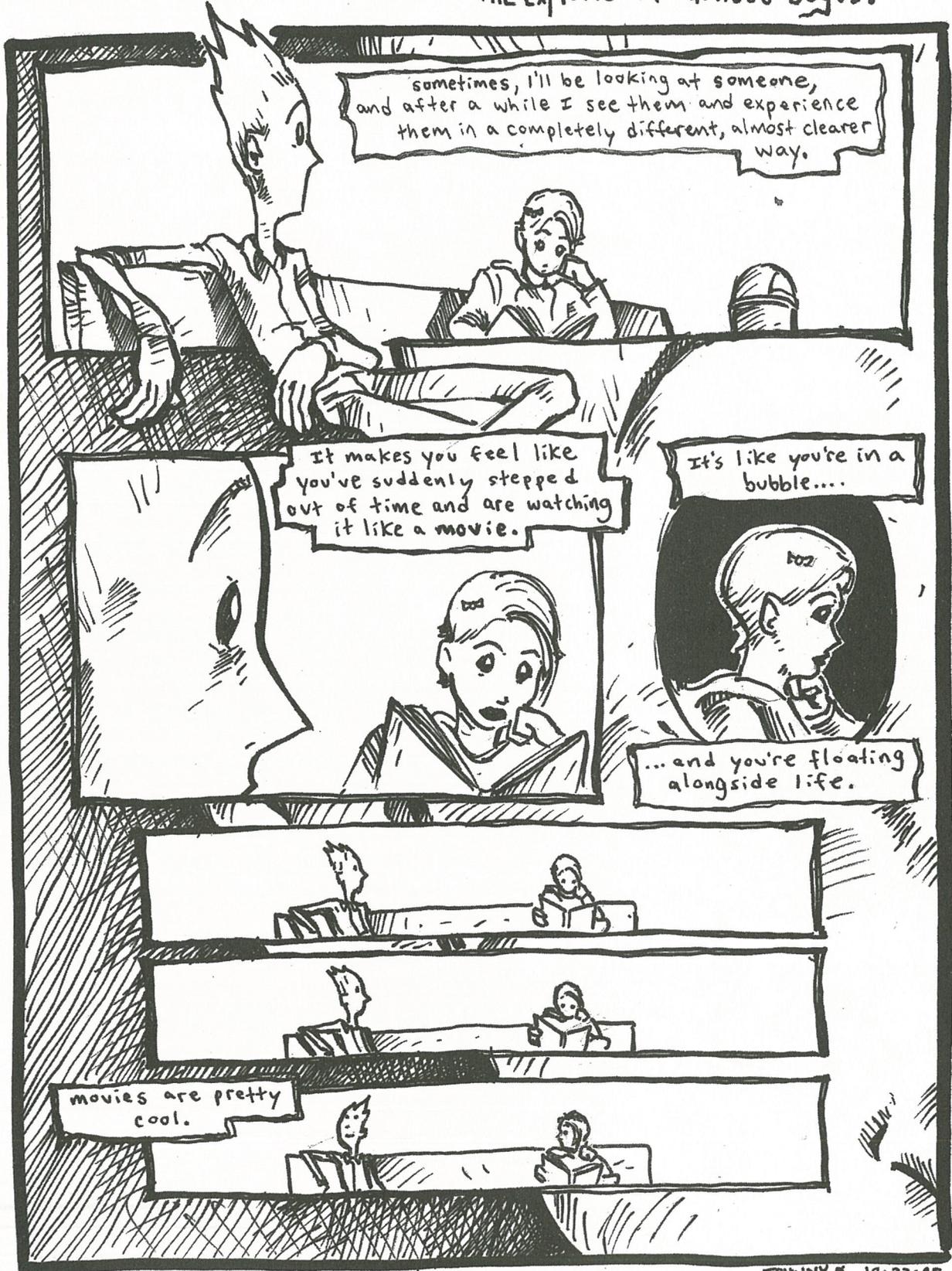
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movies are pretty cool.

Wheels in Motion

Lori Benson and Miguel Ortiz are not your typical dance partners. As soon as they emerge onto the stage it becomes obvious that Miguel is in a wheelchair. Once the music starts it is apparent that he is also a dancer. He and Lori are able to seamlessly combine their movements so that they complement and utilize each other's strengths.

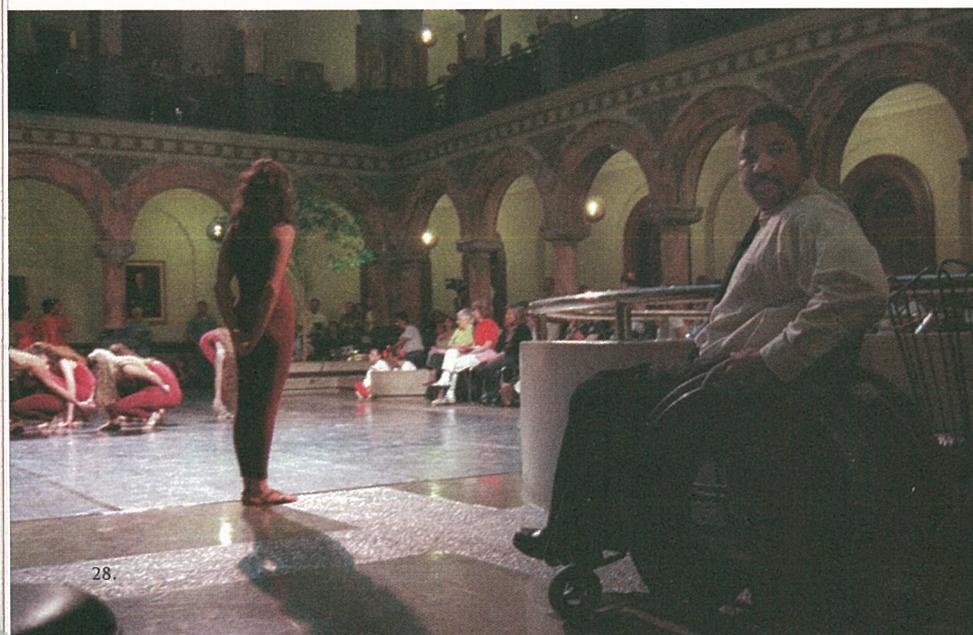
In 1994, Lori Benson came to a wheelchair basketball practice and asked if anyone was interested in dancing. Miguel, whose philosophy is "I'll try anything once," was the only person to take her up on her offer. Miguel hasn't played basketball with his old team in years and is currently a full-time student at SUNY Brockport.

Miguel has faced challenges his entire life because of polio. As a child he used to crawl and pedal a tricycle with his hands. Until he got a wheelchair eight years ago, Miguel used crutches to travel.

Lori choreographs and teaches dance in the Rochester area. As founder of "Wheels in Motion," she works to educate the public about the abilities of the handicapped and developmentally disabled through dance.

The two have been dance partners for years and their rapport with each other is obvious. They may not always agree offstage, but their connection and ability is beautiful to watch once they start to perform. To see them dance is to realize that there are no limitations to human movement and expression.

Miguel relaxes by bantering with members of events, audiences and his dance company. He is always quick to laugh and is encouraging and supportive of others. One day a young boy in a wheelchair was brought by his mother. Miguel reached over and engaged the boy in conversation. Even though the



teenager could not respond verbally, his face lit up as Miguel spoke to him.

The ability of Miguel and Lori to communicate and inspire people through dance is impressive. One of the young girls in the dance company always cries after Lori and Miguel perform to the song "My Heart Will Go On," even though she sees the dance at least once a week.

The highest compliment that can be paid to "Wheels in Motion"

is that they are a dance company. To speak of handicaps diminishes the talent and expression that Lori and Miguel bring to the stage every time they perform. They are ambassadors to people who take walking for granted, and they break barriers with each performance.

*story and photos by
Michael Fagans*



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Have fun and help others! JOIN SOS!!! Look for us at
Gracie's Oct. 26 & 27 at dinner, and in SAU lobby on
Oct. 28 from 10-5. SOS '99... it's where you want to be!!

Tab Ads:

Bear-Dog I love you! Some day they will respect our
inter-species love.
-Smelly

Message from above - Remember, my humble flock of sheep,
that I can not stand the music at the Harvest Fest. Please get
some soul and hire James Brown.

Sometimes in the morning I wake up hungry, but that usually
passes after vomiting from the night before.
-Greg

Thank you, Beth, for paying us! We love you!
-Reporter staff

The touch from the elder will guide you Gohan.
-Anthony

Correction:

The story "Comix Cafe Serves Up Real Humor" in the October
16, 1998, issue of *Reporter* contained some errors.
Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday shows at Comix Cafe are
at 8:30 p.m. There is a \$5 student discount with ID for the
10:45 p.m. show on Fridays, not for the Sunday performances.
Reporter regrets the errors.

CalendaRIT

NOVEMBER 6–NOVEMBER 12

10/14–11/11

Street Fighter Video Game Giveaway
Purchase tokens in the SAU Gameroom for
chances to win a full size Streetfighter Video Game
see SAU Gameroom for detail

Friday, November 6th

7:00pm & 9:00pm
Talisman: Zorro
Ingle Aud.
\$1



**CLOSED
CAPTIONED**

Friday
at 9pm
and
Saturday
at 7pm

Saturday, November 7th

7:00pm & 9:00pm
Talisman: Zorro
Ingle Aud.
\$1

6:30pm–whenever

RITSCI Movie Marathon

Arnold-a-thon:

Terminator 2, Total Recall, Eraser
all movies are closed-captioned

CIS Auditorium

FREE



Monday, November 9th

8:00pm–game over
Monday Night Football
SAU Gameroom

Thursday, November 12th

8:00–10:00pm
Jon Leibing
The Grind

Monday, November 16th

8:00pm–game over
Monday Night Football
SAU Gameroom

