

REPORTER

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SCOOTER
JUST CLOWNING AROUND

IYQ

10

NOT ON MY I.D.

Last week, at "Pizza with the President," I voiced my concern in regard to the ubiquity of Social Security numbers on our campus. I have investigated the Social Security Act and would like to reiterate one of its clauses: "Social security account numbers and related records that are obtained or maintained by authorized persons pursuant to any provision of law enacted on or after October 1, 1990, shall be confidential, and no authorized person shall disclose any such social security account number or related record."

At present, we disclose these numbers on the face of every RIT identification card and, perhaps more seriously, in every class roster distributed to faculty (and subsequently left in plain sight on desks in classrooms across campus). The list of examples does not end there, but I am confident that we are all aware of the widespread use of these numbers.

Clearly, correcting the problem is a costly proposition. I would advocate fixing the most flagrant issues (identification cards and class rosters) first. Perhaps the social security number can be encrypted by some means known only to those who must administrate them. I put the question of how to protect the students to those in authority.

It is too late for the current generation of students; their numbers have already been compromised. If the situation is corrected now however, we can all take pleasure in having protected the generations of students to follow.

Thank you for your time.

—Jeremiah Parry-Hill

FULL RESPONSIBILITY

In your editorial in the October 8 issue of *Reporter*, "A Pathetic Sight," I do not understand the motives behind your sheer disrespect and downright degrading statements toward your fellow classmates. If you wanted to further alienate RIT students from organizations associated with the Institute, I believe you have succeeded in doing so.

In my short tenure here at RIT, my memory provides sketchy details of a particular club fighting the administration for funding. Looking further back, I remember when permitting alcohol on campus was debated. The details of these and other issues are not important, the outcome is—students lost. Within recent memory, RIT students have valiantly attempted to fight the will of our administration, but in the end the strong iron fist of Building One prevailed every time. Why would Pepsi be any different?

I cannot speak for other students on campus, nor will I attempt to. I knew about the Pepsi forum. Could I have skipped my intramural soccer game? Maybe I should have postponed my mid-term studying? Taken time off from work? Or not done my homework for the next day's class? I don't see how any of these activities qualify me for your "do-nothing" label. Personally, Pepsi isn't worth my time. I'm here to get an education. Granted, I do prefer Coke and it is less expensive, but I'm

confident that even the Pepsi Corporation cannot take away my personal freedom to stock my backpack with whatever beverage I choose.

Strictly from a matter of principle, I understand that when another administrative-sponsored change at RIT is forced down the throat of the student population, a feeling of overwhelming helplessness comes over us all, no matter how benign the intentions or beneficial the outcome. This perception could be avoided by good public relations on the part of our school administration. My suggestion? Make it seem as if the masses have a choice ahead of time and pull all the strings behind the scene, instead of rubbing the puppeteer in our faces after the fact. It gives a better overall impression than the apparent foul-smelling deceit surrounding almost every major issue.

Your dedication to your organization and your pursuit of your ideals for a better RIT are commendable. Your practice of insulting the very people whose best interest you claim to represent is nothing short of deplorable.

I therefore must disagree that the general "apathy" you appear to find in RIT students is due to our "generation" or possibly video games. I do not blame any of these outside factors in my lack of involvement in the Pepsi matter, or any other issues. I blame myself. I blame myself for having better things to be concerned with. I blame myself for studying. I blame myself for athletic involvement and extracurricular activities. I blame myself for working. I blame myself for going to class. I blame myself for doing exactly what I pay to go to school here for—earn a degree. I take full responsibility.

—Christopher C. Craver, 3rd Year Business Student



CORRECTION: In last week's Editorial, New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani was erroneously referred to as Governor Giuliani. We apologize for this mistake.

MEAN PEOPLE SUCK

Last week, a series of incidents on this campus exemplified the hate and naivety of some people in our society. The RIT Gay Alliance was the target of anti-gay attacks when someone (or some group of people) tore down their signs and "edited" their chalked walkways. After that, some went so far as to verbally insult members of the group. The various signs that had been hung simply to say, "it's OK to be gay," and to encourage gays to be proud of who they are. They were not disturbing in any way, and could be considered no different than the many signs that clubs, Greeks, and other organizations regularly put up all over campus. It would seem that by this day and age, people would have learned to be accepting of each other, but apparently not.

On Tuesday, on the one-year anniversary of the brutal slaying of Matthew Shepard, I was honored to attend the campus candlelight vigil held in his memory. I was shocked to hear Women's Center head Julie White go through a list of atrocious and violent acts that had been committed in the last year against gays and lesbians, describing each incident in intense detail. She said that over 3,000 people had been injured or killed in a year when most other levels of crime were on the decline. These people were singled out simply because they were, or were "perceived to be," gay. I cannot understand acts like this. I do not understand how a person's sexuality, lifestyle, religion, color, or culture is something that sets them apart as targets of hatred. Why, in a society that has fought for years to ensure that everyone gets equal treatment under the law, are we maiming and defaming each other, simply because of our differences. People are people and should be treated as such, regardless of personal views/choices.

Some of my best friends are gay. I do not see them or treat them any differently than I do anyone else. In fact, their sexual preferences don't even enter my mind when I am with them. The fact is, their lifestyle difference doesn't make them any less worthy, important, or talented than others I know, and does not affect me in any way. It is disheartening to see that many of us have yet to learn this concept; that being different does not equate to "bad" or "wrong."

In recent years, there is a popular saying that has been heavily marketed: "Mean People Suck." It is a brief, harsh, and honest statement, and all too true. Being mean, or less than accepting, does suck, especially for the targets. It is disheartening to see that hatred and non-tolerance is still a big part of our culture. Let last week's events be an example of what needs to be improved upon. Last week's attacks may have been targeted at gays, but next time, it could be some other group. Now, at RIT and all over the country, we celebrate our diversity everyday. That diversity makes us unique and strong, and we should learn to appreciate those who may not be exactly like ourselves. There is no place for this type of hate in this world.



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MAYBE... SPEED-CHEATING?

I don't think anyone would argue that cheating is wrong, but is the world really black and white anymore? Are there really only two options: "right" and "wrong," or is it possible to be "a little wrong" or "mostly right?"

How many drivers out there follow the speed limit at all times? How many follow it at all? If "everyone is doing it," is it still wrong? In this example, if everyone is driving well over the posted speed limit, it is actually better for you to do the same, in order to avoid accidents caused by people passing you.

You have to ask yourself, "If it's OK to be 'just a little wrong,' and after all, 'everyone else is doing it,' then when does it become 'really wrong?'"

School is supposed to be preparation for the real world. As much as we would like to forget it, we have a long history of electing political leaders who didn't win based on their honesty. Every day we buy from big corporations who didn't get the tremendous market-share they have by fair and ethical business practices. Lawyers go to court daily to defend clients, regardless of whether or not the person is guilty. Very few people are interested in justice for the sake of justice.

Ever notice how in movies, the characters that does whatever it takes to succeed, is often more successful than the one who does everything by the book and never breaks any rules? Unfortunately, I think this is a better representation of how the world works than we would like to believe.

—Michael Reilly

EVEN BETTER THAN THE REAL THING

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—Christopher C. Craver, 3rd Year Business Student

SUBMIT SUBMIT

NOTE: Letters (limit to 200 words) and Opinions (limit to 500 words) may be submitted to the **Reporter** office or sent via e-mail to reporter@rit.edu (text files only please). All submissions must be signed and include a phone number. We reserve the right to edit all submissions. See page 5 for more information.

10/22/99

REPORTER



PHOTO BY CHRIS EHRMANN

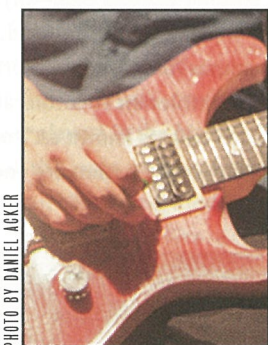


PHOTO BY DANIEL ACKER



PHOTO BY DANIEL ACKER

16. Population Overload

The 1996 incoming class set a trend by becoming the largest freshmen class ever admitted into RIT. The trend continued through to this year, but there is one problem—why does RIT continue to accept more students each year when there isn't enough housing? Or do we just not know the entire story?

8. Solid Foundation

RIT's Brick City Festival and Parents' Weekend bring out school spirit. Events get good reviews as students and parents come together to celebrate

20. Faces of RIT: Karen Steitler

After 20 years of service, the first and only director of Substance and Alcohol Intervention Services for the Deaf, Karen Steitler retires

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REPORTER Magazine is published weekly during the academic year by a staff comprised of students at the Rochester Institute of Technology. Business, Editorial, and Design facilities are located in Room A-426, in the lower level of the Student Alumni Union. Our voice/TTY line is (716) 475-2212. The Advertising Department can be reached at (716) 475-2213. Subscription rate is \$7.00 per quarter. The opinions expressed

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RIT Students Speak Out Against Hate Crimes

By Jon-Claude Caton

Photos by Chris Ehrmann



On Tuesday, October 12, RIT students held a vigil in which they spoke out against hate crimes committed against the gay population. The event was prompted by the one-year anniversary of the senseless murder of Matthew Shepard, a gay college student in Wyoming. Local news affiliates, as well as RIT president Al Simone, attended the protest. RIT student Sal Zimmerman, and the head of RIT's Women's Center, Julie White, spoke on behalf of the gay rights cause.

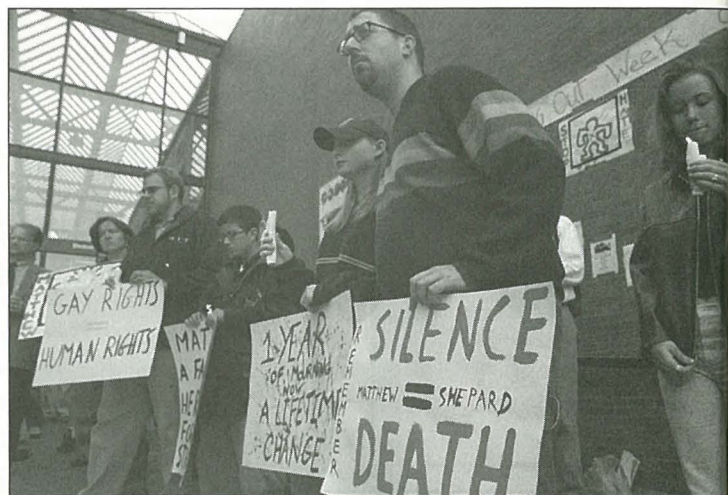
Following a prayer led by campus ministry member Pastor Jeff Herring, White offered a perspective of the events with an in-depth description of Matthew Shepard's murder. In addition, she commented on the growing need for tolerance and firm support, citing a rapid rise in national hate crimes in the US. The increase of hate crimes comes as a surprise when one considers that the nation's overall crime rate has been decreasing.

"We know the power of working together to live openly and free of oppression," she commented. "The time has come to break

the silence." Zimmerman added, "we must continue to work, continue to educate, so that Matthew Shepard will not have died in vain."

Both White and Zimmerman pointed out that RIT is not immune from the acts of hate endured by the gay community at large. Zimmerman commented, "Many of the gay rights signs on campus were torn down or vandalized this week." In response to the acts of vandalism on campus Dr. Simone offered this, "anybody who committed the anti-gay acts will be apprehended," he continued, "there is no room on this campus for hatred, intolerance, and bigotry." Dr. Simone added, "we are intolerant to intolerance."

This week was also the celebration of what is known as "coming out" week, in which gay people from all over the nation are encouraged to proclaim their homosexuality. •



MINORITY GROUPS ATTACK HORTON SPEAKER SERIES

By Jon-Claude Caton

The recent RIT Student Government advertisements for the Horton Speaker Series have created a great deal of controversy on campus. Many minority groups are claiming that the advertisement, which asks students to fill out a ballot in which they choose who they would most like to hear speak during this academic year, is not diverse enough. Students have posted signs around campus that claim that the selection of speakers offered does not represent the diverse student population on campus. The bulletin calls for a boycott of the ballot, as well as the Horton Speaker Series itself.

One such student, Javier Orellana commented on the need for diversity among the showcased speakers. "I understand the need

for high caliber speakers to fill the gymnasium, but what about the Hispanic, Asian, and Native American population?" He continued, "myself, as well as many other students can't relate to a lot of the speakers that are offered, we don't feel that it is fair." Orellana did however praise the choice of Ellen DeGeneres. "She is one of the better choices, she can definitely speak to many of the students on campus." (See page 10 for a *Reporter Point and Counterpoint*.)

This year's selection of speakers includes the ice cream moguls Ben and Jerry, the widow of Martin Luther King Jr., Coretta Scott King, as well as famed astronaut Buzz Aldrin. There has not been any word on whether or not there will be any revisions made to the line up that is offered. •

•At UN headquarters, a population clock ticked off the world's six billionth human among the 370,000 babies born October 12th, many of them destined for a future of poverty and illiteracy. In Bosnia, visiting UN secretary-general Kofi Annan, marked the milestone "D6B" by honoring a boy, born two minutes past midnight to Fatima Nevic in a Sarajevo hospital, as the world's symbolic six billionth person. Bangladesh organized a parade; London planned a rally; and China, with the world's largest population at 1.25 billion people, held an array of ceremonies. (*Reuters*)

•Wilt Chamberlain, one of the most dominant players in the history of basketball and the only person to score 100 points in an NBA game, died last Tuesday at 63. Jim Wells, a fire department spokesman, said there were signs that Chamberlain might have had a heart attack. Chamberlain was hospitalized with an irregular heartbeat in 1992. (*AP*)

•Whether or not Aaron McKinney helped pistol-whip a gay student, leaving him to die in the freezing prairie, is no longer in dispute. At the opening of McKinney's murder trial, his lawyer said he would not contest that McKinney played a role in the fatal beating of Matthew Shepard last October. However, attorney Dion Custis did tell prospective jurors that drugs and alcohol spurred McKinney's actions, and his client's use of those substances would be a core part of his defense. (*AP*)

•Two months after voting to downplay the theory of evolution in its' public schools, the Kansas Board of Education is still trying to figure out what its new science curriculum should say. Kansas' new standards omit much of evolution as a subject for statewide testing, including the theory that man and apes evolved from a common ancestor. Although teachers are not required to omit evolution teaching in their classrooms, critics fear that many schools will adjust their lesson plans to avoid subjects that won't be part of the new tests. The US Supreme

Court ruled more than a decade ago that states cannot teach creationism, the belief that a divine power created the universe. Since then, many creationists have turned to attacking evolution's validity. (*AP*)

•The man accused of running apartheid South Africa's chemical and biological weapons program won a legal victory this week when a judge dismissed charges that involve more than 200 deaths abroad by poison. The ruling in Pretoria High Court, if it is not overturned, means that some of the most chilling details of the apartheid state's alleged murder techniques will not be heard during the trial of Dr. Wouter Basson, dubbed Dr. Death by the local media. Basson, 49, could be sentenced to life in prison if convicted on the 61 remaining charges, which range from drug dealing to murder. (*AP*)

•Someone stole my bike. It's blue. If you see it, please report it to Campus Safety. (*Sterns*)

•Israel rolled back its clocks one hour to support Orthodox Jewish prayer schedules, but the Palestinian West Bank remained on the regular time. An Israeli security source told reporters that the time change resulted in the deaths of three Palestinian terrorist bombers. As the terrorists were en route to targets in Haifa and Tiberius, their bombs exploded in their cars, killing three of the men. The security sources said bomb-makers in the West Bank had set the timers for 6 p.m. but that the bomb-carriers incorrectly assumed that the hour's difference had been factored in. (*MSNBC*)

•Berlin artist Anton Henning, 35, unveiled his brown-splotched work, whose title translates to "Meatballs, Gherkins, Beetroot, Potatoes, Watermelon, Lemon Juice and a Large Brownie." It will run through January 2000 at the prestigious Museum of Modern Art in Frankfurt. The title signifies what Henning ate to produce the splotches, which are sealed with resin so they would not smell. (*MSNBC*)

"Crime prevention is Everybody's Job"

An interview with Chris Denninger, Assistant Director, Campus Safety

By Andrew Dollard

Recently, *Reporter* spoke with Chris Denninger, the Assistant Director of the RIT Department of Campus Safety. Mr. Denninger discussed, among other things, Campus Safety's function at RIT, its goals, and its relationship with the student body.

"Campus Safety's primary role," said Denninger, "is that of 'peacekeeper'."

"The duties that this designation entails are numerous," he added, "including the protection of people and their property, security at special events, fire safety, crime prevention and investigation, and the security of 4.2 million square feet of building space." Denninger also noted that parking regulation, one of the better known activities performed by Campus Safety, actually comprises just five percent of the department's total activities.

This year, Campus Safety has a number of goals for the RIT campus and for the department itself. These objectives include, but are not limited to: a reduction in instances of motor vehicle theft, an increase in on-the-job training for Campus Safety employees, and improved customer service. The department is also opening new offices in the Colony Manor and University Commons apartment complexes. This continues a trend set last year when Campus Safety opened an office in Ellington Hall.

According to Denninger the department is also providing "community patrol officers" in all residential areas. The intended purpose of these officers is to help prevent crime, as well as educate the students about crime prevention. In addition they serve as a resource for students when problems arise. Denninger stated that the officers are part of Campus Safety's effort to create positive interaction between the department and the student body.

Denninger stressed the need for Campus Safety to work with the student body in order to be effective. The students' role is that of prevention. "Keep your eyes open," urged Denninger. He also placed a great deal of weight on the dangers of leaving belongings unattended and in plain sight. Students should alert Campus Safety immediately when they feel a crime has been committed, either by dialing x333 or using the blue-light phones.

In summation Denninger said, "Campus Safety is committed to providing RIT with professional, courteous, and efficient service twenty-four hours a day." He encourages students with any comments or questions to call him personally; his office phone number is 475-6620 (475-6654 TTY).

SOLID FOUNDATION

By Jeff Prystajko

PHOTO BY CHRIS EHRMANN



How RIT put Parents' Weekend and Brick City Festival within the exact same two days is beyond my comprehension, but surpris, it works! This year's second annual Brick City Festival was a success-not because we got the best comic (we didn't) or a huge mainstream band (nope), but because it united two (often conflicting) generations of people together for a short time.

PHOTO BY DANIEL ACKER



The Brick City Festival-a time of enjoyment; attending a concert, theatrical performance, comedian show...



PHOTO BY CHRIS EHRMANN

Parents' Weekend-a time of utter chaos; making sure your room is spotless, the loss of all independence, no parties...

At every event there was a mix of both students and their families gather to be entertained. It didn't matter if one of Colin Quinn's jokes missed the mark, or that the trio of kids doing karaoke up on stage at the Ritz missed every note; people had *fun*. It was a chance for both parents and their children to share quality time with each other—an occasion that, sadly, is a rare occurrence nowadays.

Yes, we can all agree that at RIT school spirit is lacking. "There's nothing to do," or "everything here sucks!" is a common thought. Well, correct me if I'm wrong, but I felt the exact opposite during that weekend—I *felt* spirit. The crowds; the laughter; the smiles. I suppose what I really want to say is, during a normal school day—everyone hustling and bustling, getting to class—this campus *breathes*. During Brick City weekend, the campus was *alive*. It had energy.

It had
soul.

REAL PEOPLE, REALLY WEIRD MUSIC

By Lindsey Manley
Photo by Daniel Acker

After melodic-pop rockers **Guster** finished their touring of major venues and were asked where they wanted to play, singer Ryan Miller said, "We want to play a huge gymnasium in Rochester, NY!" And play a huge gym they did, on October 8 at RIT's very own Clark Gymnasium.

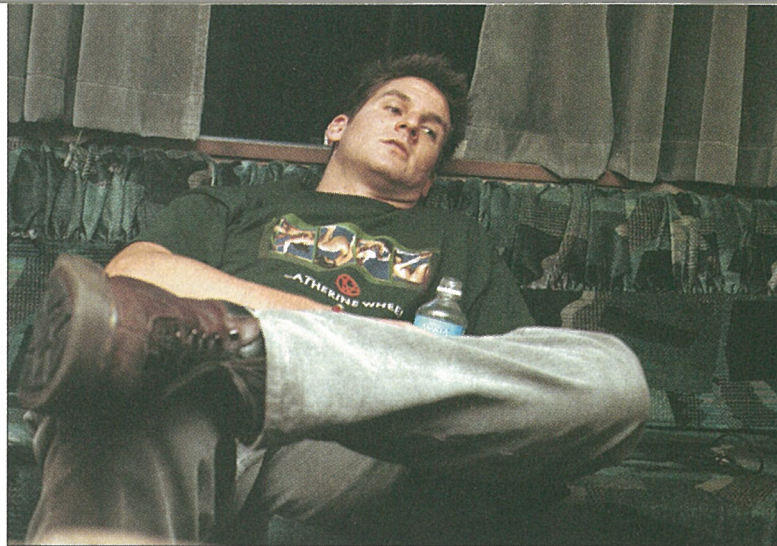
Although more than half of the crowd was from locales other than RIT, **Guster** put on a very lively and loud performance to a very devoted audience. Such respect was evident when the band was able to play a completely unplugged song while Miller crowd-surfed in the middle of another tune. "[Make this] not a 1, 2, or 3 man show, but...a 679 person show," he said, just prior to jumping in. 679 people was not the exact attendance—even by half—but the point got across.

This performance was supporting of **Guster's** new album, *Lost and Gone Forever*, just released on September 28. It is their first produced by Sire Records, whom they just recently signed a deal with. Appearing on a major label has brought many opportunities, says co-guitarist and singer Adam Gardner. "It's so nice to have radio promotion," he acknowledges. Their albums are sold in stores now and not just at shows, or online; they get some radio play—they even scored a gig at this year's *Woodstock*, playing the West Stage opposite *Kid Rock*.

All of this was made possible by their constant touring. "You need to tour to get to the next level," says Adam, a few hours before taking the stage, while his companions played whiffleball on the quarter mile. After making the decision to go "full-time, after junior year" at Tufts University, **Guster** toured college campuses around the country, creating not only a fan base but friends as well.

"I know people in every city," he says. "It's always different," playing a city over again. "It keeps getting bigger and bigger." Bigger is the right direction he wants to move in. "The band—we're on track doing everything we've hoped we would. The realistic dream is to keep going. The only goal as far as success goes is for people that haven't heard us to do so."

Besides **Guster's** obvious dedication, their success comes partly because of their unusual band setup and powerful stage presence.



Adam and Ryan play guitar and sing, and Brian Rosenworcel handles percussion. It is all acoustic—there is no bass.

The best part about **Guster's** show could have very well been the percussion. Ryan played the bongos and cogerars with his hands just as loud and fast as any drummer in a rock band could do with sticks. Seeing his hands flail about and make such rhythm was quite cool.

As with every show, **Guster** played the Barbra Streisand/Neil Diamond song "Sweet Caroline," and then immediately after, let someone on the stage to sing a duet with Ryan. Josh Witkowski, a recent graduate of Brockport, was the lucky guy who got to sing "You Don't Bring Me Flowers" with Ryan.

"It was fantastic," says Josh, who has been following **Guster** for five years now. Witkowski knew more of the words than did Ryan.

Being a rather strange band, it was not surprising to hear the different styles of **Guster**. Adam attributes this to the eclectic taste in music the band has as a whole. Among the groups he listed as his personal favorites—and the ones playing in his stereo—include the Tragically Hip, U2, The Cars, Van Morrison, and Talking Heads. Some influence *may* come from producer Steve Lillywhite, who has also produced U2, Talking Heads, and Dave Matthews.

Also, "There is a track [on the new album] that sounds like the Beach Boys," he says, describing it as their tribute to the band.

Elements of bands like the Violent Femmes, Smashing Pumpkins, Rusted Root, and Radiohead could be heard throughout the set, not to mention the Neil Diamond and Barbra Streisand bits. One song began with a syncopated beat they sampled from a tiny keyboard. Brian told the audience it was the keyboard "we bought in upstate New York!"

Overall, **Guster** came across as a very personable band, with their on-stage personalities nearly matching their real off-stage selves. They conveyed such emotion, were so fruity and friendly, addictive, manic and dedicated, it is no wonder they received such a positive vibe from such a small crowd. **Guster** seems *real*. The only problem—which fans from Syracuse and Ithaca made up for—was the lack of support from RIT. •

GUSTER

This is Diversity?

POINT

By Ben Clothier

After looking at Student Government's proposed speakers, I find that only four candidates could be considered a member of a minority.

This is not good, especially after RIT has emphasized the importance of recognizing diversity numerous times. Am I to understand that white males are still at large? Back in the day, it was always white males who got the fame and limelight. Now we have four minority speakers out of a crowd of eleven. Is that an improvement? Hardly.

It could be construed that the minority is getting recognition, but just enough so that the charge of "exclusive white male club" will not be thrown at Student Government. Obviously, "almost exclusive white male club" is not much of an improvement, if at all. Regardless, the speaker ballot sends the message that only white males have a chance at success. To be generous, they have let some minority figures receive recognition, but only if that figure has worked harder than the white male contingent of the ballot.

Furthermore, the field of candidates reinforces the white male precept that everyone else is inferior. The belief is obviously false, but the logic could be, "Because I have not seen several non-white male celebrities and public figures, then it could mean that they are not as good as we are." They might cite lack of education bad neighborhood or such for the minority's alleged inferiority. Whether they are be correct or not, they are still mistaken in thinking such things. Whatever disadvantages the minority disadvantages white males just the same. It's more important that we avoid that paradigm and encourage each other to be the best.

Some people would object that one's background is irrelevant to his or her chances of succeeding in life. Granted, there is little or no connection between these, but we should consider that minorities are increasing in numbers. I'm given to understand that by the middle of next century, minorities will outnumber today's majority.

Here's a scenario: If we continue to assume that the minority in general is not good as the white

male, and encourage that idea, we are encouraging minorities to do nothing. The chances are that they will do exactly that. That means you will have to pay more for welfare, criminal and civil trial processes. In a nutshell, we are responsible for whatever effects we have on our brothers and sisters.

It may be an exaggeration that this issue will have a national effect, but seeing that several people in several areas are not satisfied with the treatment they have received, we can use this opportunity to make a start toward equality for all. I believe that the Coalition of Misrepresented Students were too harsh in encouraging students to "get all SG ballot boxes and throw them away or burn them," but that does not mean their purpose was wrong. It must be understood that you have to encourage Student Government so that they will work harder to foster diversity. Furthermore, I'm quite certain they will appreciate your feedback. •

Don't Kill the Messenger

COUNTERPOINT

By Jeff Prystaiko

Q: What do Joe Torre, Jesse Jackson, and Naomi Wolfe have in common?
A: They were all memorable speakers from last year's Horton Speaker Series.

I think I've made my point.

But in the event that I haven't, let me explain a little bit further; dig up a couple of details. Every year, the programming segment of Student Government holds a sequence of events called the Horton Speaker Series, in which notable figures from across the country—even the world—come to RIT to address an issue they care about. For two weeks this year, beginning with the October 1 issue of the *Reporter*, SG placed an advertisement on the back cover of the magazine detailing the choices available to the students, giving them the chance to voice their opinion on whom they would like to appear here in person. Choices ranged from Dr. Drew Pinsky

and Adam Carolla of MTV's *Loveline* fame, to distinguished astronaut Buzz Aldrin, to recent political celebrity Minnesota Governor Jesse Ventura; the rest are also an eclectic group.

But in the eyes of a select group of students, the list is not eclectic enough. Of the ten people that appear on the list, only two can be described as part of an "ethnic minority." The students claim that with RIT's recent efforts to promote diversity and pluralism, why don't the choices reflect that endeavor?

Let's start with the simple facts. The factors that enter into choosing the potential speakers play an important role in narrowing down the final choices; they may seem trivial when the final goal is to attract a top-notch speaker, yet they cannot be ignored.

Numero Uno: COST. In contrast to what some people may think, Student Government does *not* have an infinite amount of money in their budget; monetary restrictions must be followed, just like any

other club or organization. That means that getting the world's most eloquent, intelligent speaker is, of course, out of the question—but it considerably narrows down the playing field as well. Generally, the average cost that is paid for a speaker ranges from \$20,000-30,000; rarely, if ever, is that amount exceeded. Judging by some of the speakers from the past, however, it can't be argued that the money has been wrongly spent.

The second criteria: AVAILABILITY. There are two conflicting schedules that have to be resolved before a guest can be announced: *theirs* and *ours*. Just by glancing at the available choices, it is quite obvious that "duh!" these people are busy. Katie Couric appears on the NBC *Today Show* daily, Ventura has a *state* to run. However, that's only half the problem. RIT has only one indoor area fit to seat a crowd necessary for such an event—Clark Gymnasium. Since many of the sports teams are scheduled to utilize the building, events must be planned around competitions. In essence, once a date is

Hitting the High Notes

By Jason Pacchiarotti

One of the highlights of the Brick City Festival has been the performance of the RIT Singers and the RIT Philharmonic. Every year, these groups—made up of students and alumni—perform a wide range of works, generally including a nice blend of classical songs with some recent popular songs.

This year's concert began with a piece by the Brick City Brass Choir. The Choir, or BC2 as they refer to themselves, is composed of mostly trumpets, trombones, and tubas, and is conducted by Michael E. Rubling. Rounding out the group is harpist Beverly Hyatt and percussionists Aaron Swyers and Louis Wisely. To open the show, BC2 performed a stirring rendition of Aaron Copeland's "Fanfare for the Common Man." This piece is one of the more recognizable tunes of the twentieth century, and was also used as the theme for one of the Summer Olympics.

The four subgroups of the RIT Singers made up the bulk of the show, collectively singing 21 songs. Director Edward T. Schell, a professor in the College of Liberal Arts, led the assembly, and Megan Phillipe

Photo by Daniel Acker

shared the piano accompaniment with him. The 14-member all-women RIT Encore sang five songs, including the popular favorites "Good-Lovin'," and "Why Do Fools Fall in Love?" Next up were the Brick City Singers. This all-male seven-member group sang two slow songs: "My Wild Irish Rose," and "Bring Him Home" from *Les Miserables*.

Next, the RIT Alumni Chorale sang four songs, including the peppy "The Glory of Love," and the modern pop song "Blackbird." Their first song "Fine Knacks for Ladies" was highlighted by the quartet of Christine Sevilla, Abby Chodoff, Tino Agnitti, and C. Pike. Afterwards, the nine-member male-group Eight Beat Measure also sang four songs. Their rendition of "Movin' On" was accented by the flute playing of Donna Thibault. They finished off with two fun songs: "What Shall We Do with the Drunken Sailor?" and the quintessential barber shop quartet song "Coney Island Baby."



The entire RIT Singers finished off their portion of the concert with six songs, the first three of which were sung in another language. "Hombe" was sung in Kenyan and led by Erin Ineson; "Dirait-on" was sung in French; "Ave-Maria" in Latin. Their second-to-last song was "I Want Two Wings," a very difficult song to sing, yet it earned the group a second round of applause.

The full RIT Philharmonic ended the show with two popular pieces from the century. The first was "Skaker Variations," a familiar piece by Aaron Copeland. It was written in the 1940s and is from *Appalachian Spring*. However, even more familiar was their final piece, John William's "Raider's March," from *Indiana Jones*. The two works symbolized a year-long retrospective on great American composers. •

open for Clark, the people who haven't been deleted due to their cost may be removed by their own individual schedules.

And lastly: NAME RECOGNITION. The Nobel Peace Prize winner was just announced recently; however, if you had never heard of the person, would you even care what the topic of discussion was about? Exactly. Students want somebody famous, someone they can associate with. The speaker has to be somebody larger than life—an actor, a musician, a politician. In other words, the event will succeed or fail depending on whose name is on the ticket.

Now, Kristy Mooney is the current director of Programming in Student Government—she makes the final decisions about the final survey choices. For the sake of this opinion, let's fire Kristy. Adios, she's gone. It's now YOUR task to find eight suitable choices that will follow the above guidelines and satisfy the ENTIRE CAMPUS. You're given a few "catalogs" that basically allow you to "shop" for speakers; each page has lovely color photos, descriptions,

costs, and schedules of availability for each name. Step one: take a big thick black permanent marker and X out all the thirty-grand-and-overs in the book. Next, compile as detailed a calendar as possible that shows when Clark is open, then find some possible candidates that would fit into one of those windows. Then, narrow down your choices to whom you think more than 50 students will show up for, announce them, and wait (let's not even discuss what the procedure is for actually *getting* the person; we'll bring Kristy back now).

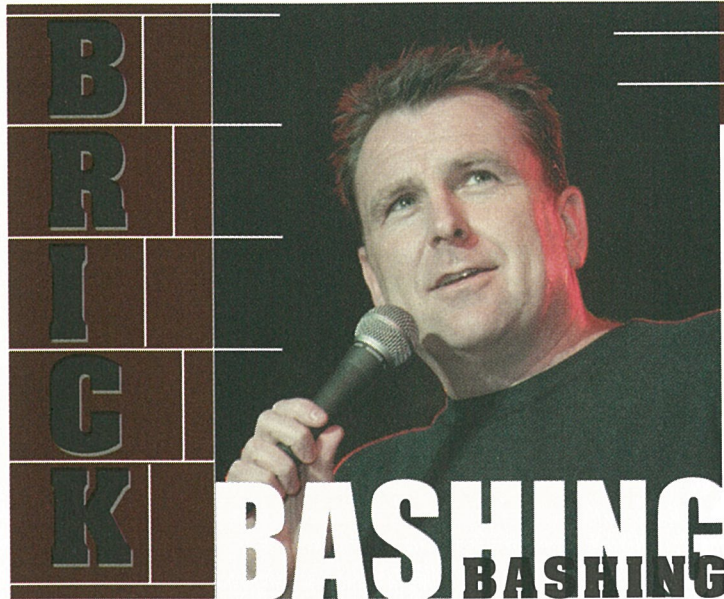
So now we have a final list of speakers that the RIT community is to decide upon. Surprise! Not everybody likes it! In fact, some "extremists" are so angry that they plan to protest by setting fire to and destroying the ballot boxes (using freedom of speech to destroy the same freedom of others).

Well now it's time to exercise *my* freedom of speech. I don't care if the entire list of speakers consists of all whites. Nor do I care if the entire list is composed totally of minorities.

I don't care about the messenger, I care about the MESSAGE.

When I attended Jesse Jackson's speech last year, I didn't sit there thinking to myself, "I can't identify with what he's saying because he's black." I listened to what he *said*, either agreeing or disagreeing with his opinions, and then formed my own conclusions about the man. I don't vote for a person based on their race, ethnicity, sexual preference, etc.; when I choose I don't just look at the *pictures*, I actually *read* the descriptions next to them. As a member of the media, I might be interested in what Couric has to say about ethics in reporting; then again, I might just want to find out how Ben and Jerry became multimillionaires from ice cream (and maybe they'll even have free samples if they come. Hint, hint, SG?)

To conclude, I can't think of a more better hackneyed cliché to use here than "Don't judge a book by its cover." Speak out for what you want to hear—not who you want to see. •



Photos by Chris Ehrmann
By Ashish Jaiswal

Colin Quinn came to the stage and immediately started bashing his announcer (with little applause) for giving him what he considered to be a weak introduction. He then proceeded to bash Rochester (with *much* applause) saying that "Rochester makes Buffalo look like Paris in the twenties." He moved on to more bashing—just some general topics—before retorting on a group of guys in the front row. He stereotyped them and made fun of them, and attacked them as being the "Adult conception of the teenage male in the late nineties." On the other hand, his accusations at them were quite humorous. He then started to chat with Elizabeth, a loud girl in the row behind me. He started to poke fun at her wondering, "Why is she there?" and with whom she was there with. After this, Quinn began to ridicule general topics for about five minutes before ending the show rather abruptly.

Before the act I felt that Colin Quinn was a relatively mediocre comic; I couldn't quite understand why RIT could not find anyone better, even in the short time they had due to the cancellation. I was happy then, of course, to find out that he was much more humorous in person than he has ever been on *SNL*.

My opinion of Quinn is now much higher than it was, but he was not as strong as he should have been being the Brick City Festival headliner. In his defense, he seemed to have a sore throat and physically appeared somewhat ill. Brian Tucker, on the other hand, was nearly as good as the headliner. In the end, the sold out performance was definitely worth the price of admission. •



I approached the Clark Gymnasium with the mindset that I would be one of the very few people in attendance for Colin Quinn—and whoever was going to warm the audience up before Quinn attempted his stand up. To my surprise, I found a crowded line buying tickets, and no one requesting refunds. I walked in to the hot, stuffy, and nearly filled gymnasium. Searching around to find seats somewhere near the front, I overheard a family talking about how Jon Stewart canceled his appearance just three weeks prior to the show; yet he performed the same night at the University of Maryland. Meanwhile, I thought of Colin Quinn's dismal performances on *Saturday Night Live*, and hoped for the best.

At 8:15 p.m. the show started with Brian Tucker, a contributor to *Late Night* with David Letterman. I remember thinking, "great, another bad comic." Once again, I was wrong—Tucker was very good indeed. I laughed during his entire act as he cracked jokes about "local schools that advertise using television ads" and just simple occurrences of the everyday. Near the conclusion of his act he moved in and utilized the interpreter to "help him invent a new dance" using the sign for "freak-ya." Finally, Tucker moved on to some jokes about dancing before departing the stage.

WEBSITE OF THE WEEK COMPILED BY STEPHEN CRIM

<<http://inside.rit.edu>>

"Portal" is the latest buzzword on the web these days. EVERYONE has a portal, from my.eBay.com to my.wegmans.com; it's become a really lucrative business. Portals are meant to act as a start-off point for browsing the web—providing access to search engines, link indexes sorted by topic, and news. The reason this is such a major business is because the initial home page is, for lack of better wording, the most aimless point of web browsing. A user is more likely to click on an advertisement when they aren't already using a particular site.

RIT's website (www.rit.edu) has been attempting to make itself more useful to students, staff, and faculty for some time. This

past spring, for example, the Virtual Student Union (VSU) was created; however, RIT's site was still not particularly useful as any kind of portal.

All this is changed with the new inside.rit.edu site. RIT's Webmaster, Dower Chin, has designed a true portal with links inside and outside of RIT. They include everything in the VSU as well as a plethora of other information and news. I urge any of you more aimless surfers to send a few packets to this site. It may bring some much-needed focus into your web browsing. Now if I can just bring some of that into my *life*... •

Stages of Comedy

By Jeff Prystajko

Photo by Chris Ehrmann

I'll confess—I love movies. Going to the theatre, stuffing myself with delicious artery dissolving, heavily buttered popcorn, and catching the latest masterpiece (or bomb) Hollywood has delivered. I mean, who would rather eat that leftover Domino's pizza that's been sitting in the fridge for a month when you can get the same feeling watching *The Blair Witch Project* instead?

But then again, as much as I'm attracted to film, it's nothing compared to the wonderful thing known as live theatre. Very few movies actually "draw" the viewer in, making them feel like they're a part of the action. Not so with the stage. You're there, in the midst of everything. While I'm not going to complain about six-channel Dolby Surround Sound, there's something to be said about hearing the actors' voices for *real*. And that's the enticement it is real; you hear every line that's flubbed, see every tear that's shed, watch every stage light that falls from the rafters (yes, yes, it happened in *The Truman Show*, but it was much more interesting when I saw it with my own eyes).

And to think I nearly hated the theatre when I was younger! Ugh, that's what watching several years of your high school's musical will do to you I suppose—all singing, no substance. But when introduced to college and professional performances, I was a changed man. It was like, "oh, wow, these people are actually *acting*!"

The preceding can no doubt be attributed to the RIT Players, the campus' very own leading providers of comedic and dramatic live entertainment. When I saw *A Midnight Summer's Dream* last season, I was thoroughly impressed. I expected a similar experience with their Brick City Weekend production of *Lend Me a Tenor*, but I was mistaken—it was better.

In a nutshell, the plot: Saunders (Don Rider), the manager of the Cleveland Grand Opera House, is expecting world famous opera singer Tito Merelli (Brian Wowak) to perform *Othello* for opening night. When Tito fails to show up on time, Max (Sean Magee), Saunders's assistant



and singer-wannabe, insists on taking the part. He knows the role, and is convinced he'll woo the object of his affections, Maggie (Liz Becker), who is obsessed with the opera master's wonderful range and voice. Tito shows up eventually with his quarrelsome wife Maria (Heidi Schading), but after a bout with alcohol and some wax fruit, he falls asleep and fails to wake up in time for the performance. "HE'S DEAD!" Saunder screams. But he devises a brilliant plan—put Max in there! So in costume, he performs, and fools everybody—Maggie; Julia, the leader of the Opera Guild (Rebecca Kudgus); the ever-unrelenting Bellhop who so dearly wants to meet him (Edgar Blackmon); and Diana, the Opera Company's leading soprano (Sara Berg). He performs so well, in fact, that they all fall in love with the man. Matters become more complicated when the *real* Tito wakes up, and gets into costume; now, not only are the women chasing the imposter, but so are the police.

The rest of the plot I won't dare reveal, but I will say the second half contains probably the biggest number of sexual double entendres I have ever heard in a play, movie, or any medium for that matter. The "ending" is hysterical, but what follows is even more amazing—an 85-second choreographed "fast forward" version of the entire play.

Director Walter Wolf, chair of the Computer Science department, did an excellent job in making sure the characters performed their roles perfectly—from Sean Magee conveying a true dedication to his role as the fake tenor, to Don Rider just going *completely* over the top.

Lastly, I'd say give this bunch their own sitcom. No, I take that back—they'd be too good for the small screen. They belong on the stage. •

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OPINION

opinion

BY WILLIAM HUBER

IS IT ART?

It's pretty hard to determine exactly what is on display at the Brooklyn Museum of Art, unless you actually go see it yourself. Why? Because every article on the subject apparently tries to outdo the articles that came out the day before, in terms of shocking descriptions of the exhibits.

Basically, most of the articles you can read are concerned with one thing: *Holy Virgin Mary*, a portrait of the Virgin Mary depicted with a breast made of elephant dung, presented on a canvas made of pornographic pictures. However, depending on which other articles you read on what time of day, other projects on display can be all sorts of gross and shocking things. If the "artists" themselves were as creative as the people writing about the exhibit are, we'd be in a whole world of trouble.

But I digress.

The big "stink" that brought this exhibit to the public's attention is the fact that Mayor Giuliani tried to take away the display's funding because he doesn't consider the stuff "art," and the fund money was for "art." So now we must ask: "What is art?" Immediately, two schools of thought come to mind. These two are the most common viewpoints, judging just by my own personal observations.

The first school dictates that art must be beautiful, in the sense that beauty is synonymous with pleasing, soothing images. Eye-catching and spectacular art is permitted, but overall the piece must be esthetically pleasing. Art may be painstakingly crafted, detailed down to a single track of a single hair in a single brush stroke. Or, art may be beautiful in its simplicity, in its accessibility, in its ability to relate to the viewer. Whatever the case, art must be beautiful.

The second school of thought believes that art must push the envelope of awareness. Art must never, ever be boring or pedestrian. It must generate much arguing and interaction. It must always reach for the "next level." Progress towards this next level is yearned for, while creating something that conforms to yesterday's rules is utterly despicable. To people who believe in this doctrine, the shocking is beautiful.

Must a piece be disgusting to be shocking? Why can't a truly inspired, beautiful new painting be shocking as well? Do we, as a society, take beauty for granted? Is it truly only a piece of disturbing and

offending art that can get this kind of attention? I hope not. For instance, the paintings of the Renaissance were undoubtedly beautiful—the works of the "school of beauty" (see above) during this time were powerful, masterful and intensely sought after and appreciated. Nowadays, the only thing that gets this kind of attention is the stuff sitting in the Brooklyn Museum of Art. Whatever the case—be it shocking, beautiful, good, bad, whatever—art will always be expression, and since we value independent thought, there will always be a thousand different definitions of "art" and "beauty."

However: there is one thing that I believe is a universal constant of art, which does not depend on whatever school of thought you subscribe to. Art may generate intense discussion but *it must be able to stand alone as an entity separate from the artist*—an object that no one needs to explain or justify. This is where *Holy Virgin Mary* and other paintings and sculptures like it fail. The artist must be close by, telling us that it really isn't meant to offend anyone; what, in this case, the dung means, etc. This is why these things aren't art. Maybe if Chris Ofili (creator of *Holy Virgin Mary*) had sculpted a really good elephant out of the elephant dung or something along those lines, it might be art. Maybe.

So this stuff isn't art but we must protect it anyway because if we condemn materials like this then we are hypocrites: upholding the tenets of Free Speech on one day but telling a silly little man he can't put his silly little painting up the next. Because these objects do not fall under the definition of "art," they should not be funded by an art museum or be given art grants or anything else like that. Maybe if there were an "independent thought" award or something like that, this would be eligible for it, but don't give it money for being what it's not.

One other thing, before I must end this rant: How many of you heard about this exhibit before Giuliani tried to take its money away?•

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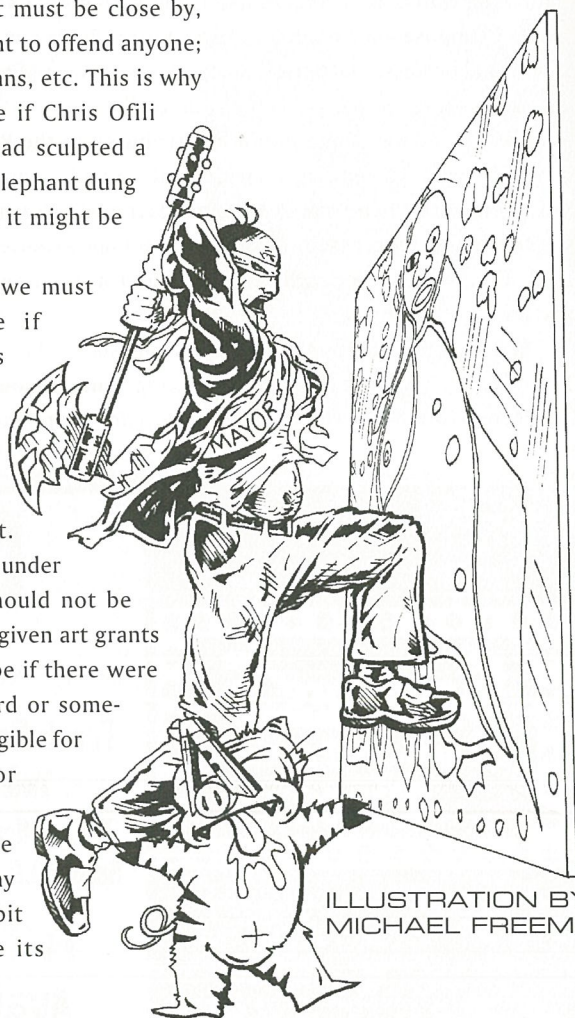


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Population Overload

Is RIT accepting more students than it can handle?

By Sherrie Fields
Photos by Chris Ehrmann

As upperclassmen returned to RIT for another school year, and freshmen arrived for their first, a large portion of the residence halls were still under renovation, and the expanded University Commons complexes had yet to be completed. Due to the delay, students found themselves in alternate housing at local hotels, such as the Radisson, the Marriott, and the Red Roof Inn. This has led many frustrated students to ask, "Why has RIT raised its acceptance rates if it doesn't have enough housing?"

Although there were cases where a number of students were placed in temporary housing, it was not due to a larger freshmen class or lack of housing space. The Center for Residence Life works closely with the office of Admissions to assure that the projected number of incoming students is compatible with housing availability at RIT.

Even though the campus currently looks like it has less housing available, there were open spaces after placing all "overflow" students into housing. Since a portion of the Residence Halls was not ready for occupancy, many wondered why Residence Life decided not to use Valentine Hall, a residence hall on the campus of the University of Rochester. Last school year, a number of RIT students occupied Valentine Hall due to a lack of space on campus. It was not rented again this year because it could not accommodate the number of new incoming students. Valentine can only occupy up to 200 people, but the new University Commons complexes actually makes up for the lost space in the residence halls.

The admissions process is one that is very complex, and many factors play a role in this yearly process. Each year, the Office of Admissions is given an enrollment goal in which the focus is to not only bringing in a certain quantity, but also a specific quality of students. In recent years this has included

the admission of more African American, Asian American, Native American, and Hispanic American (AHANA) students, and female students. The rate of undergraduates admitted has declined, although there has been an increase in amount of applications submitted to RIT. This is attributed to the large application "pool" that has allowed Admissions to focus not solely on quantity but the quality of students.

Enrollment goals are established nine months before the next academic year. Goals consist of a comprehensive plan that deals with the enrollment of new students, the current student population, the enrollment goals of each college, and the goals of the executive administration. Daniel Shelley, from the offices of Admissions, and Jeanis Brodie, of the Center for Residence Life, meet on a regular basis as fall quarter planning begins. The projected number of students calculated by Admissions for the 1999-2000 school year was off by only 40 new freshman, which is considered very good.

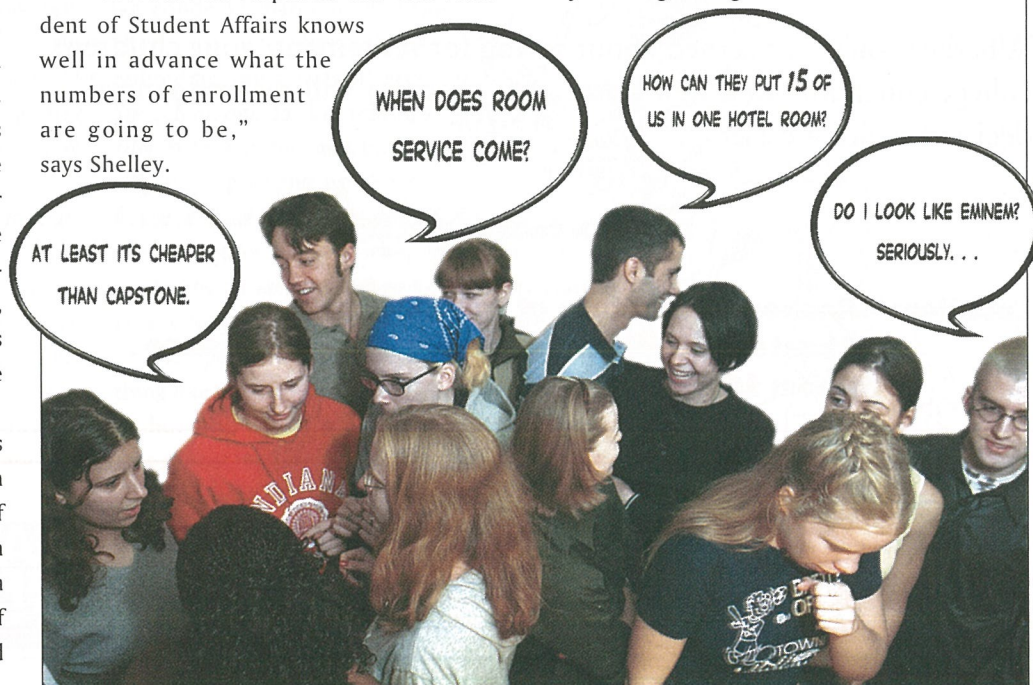
"There are no surprises. The Vice President of Student Affairs knows well in advance what the numbers of enrollment are going to be," says Shelley.

So what is the fate of the 40 new freshmen who were not included in the projections for that year? "Historically, we have at least 65 'no-shows' in the residence halls," says Carla Dilella, Assistant Director of Administrative Operations.

Due to financial problems, personal issues, or change in enrollment, additional students are placed into the housing that was reserved for the no-show students.

Until students can be assigned housing, they are placed in temporary housing such as the Radisson Hotel. Temporary housing is a necessary measure to assure that the no-show students are not going to decide to return to RIT and find that their housing has been reassigned.

"It has been RIT's policy to offer housing to every student that seeks it," says Dilella, which is why Residence Life reserves between 100-150 overflow spaces at the Radisson each year. The policy at least assures temporarily house to incoming freshmen whom may have signed a housing contract but could not be placed in a compliant living space. For example, a male, smoking student cannot be placed on an all-female, non-smoking floor. In this case, he is placed in temporary housing until accommodated. In these situations, prior to arriving at RIT, students are notified by mail that they will be placed in a temporary housing arrangement.



Although the previous situation is a regular occurrence, this is not the case for the majority residing at the Radisson. At the beginning of the school year, 73 students were placed in the Radisson. Most were students who submitted their housing contracts late, transferred schools, or just showed up on move-in day requesting housing. International students tend to be placed at the Radisson because the housing and admissions information packet is sent together, whereas domestic students receive the preceding information separately. This makes it very easy to forget or overlook the housing contract information. And, due to the time it takes to mail information to another country, many international students arrive without a housing contract.

The Radisson attempts to reserve a specific section of the hotel so students are confined to one area. This is done in an attempt to create a type of "dorm experience" during the students stay. A Residential Assistant (RA) is hired to further increase the dorm experience, help the students adjust, and to provide them with information on their housing status. A shuttle bus is provided to transport students to class and to Grace Watson Dining Hall if they had a meal plan.

Last year, Carey Thomas, a third year student, was placed at the Radisson for 2 1/2 weeks and says there were benefits and drawbacks. "We received maid service and had access to the hotel's facilities, such as the pool and weight

"It was a major inconvenience. I signed a contract for a fully furnished apartment and I got a little box of a room instead."

room. But one of the drawbacks was that I wound up ordering a lot of pizza because the shuttle wasn't very reliable."

Many wonder if students are actually "living" in a regular dorm situation, since the hotel is also occupied by non-students. "I think it was similar to the dorm experience. Hanging out in the halls was prohibited, but you could hang out in a friend's room or go to the pool and hang out," says Thomas.

RIT only had the Radisson booked until September 27, so Residence Life needed to reassign the overflow students within less than a month. Most of the students only spent about 1-2 weeks at the hotel and the rest of the students were moved out by September 24.

Although there are those who would have preferred beginning the year in an on-campus housing facility, most overflow students have only missed a brief time of dorm or apartment life, making it a bit easier to adapt into the living situation.

However, it is not always a smooth transition when housing plans are delayed. For

some students, housing assignments were put off due to the construction process. The unfinished construction of University Commons apartments resulted in the future residents of that particular complex to be placed in a local hotel, The Red Roof Inn.

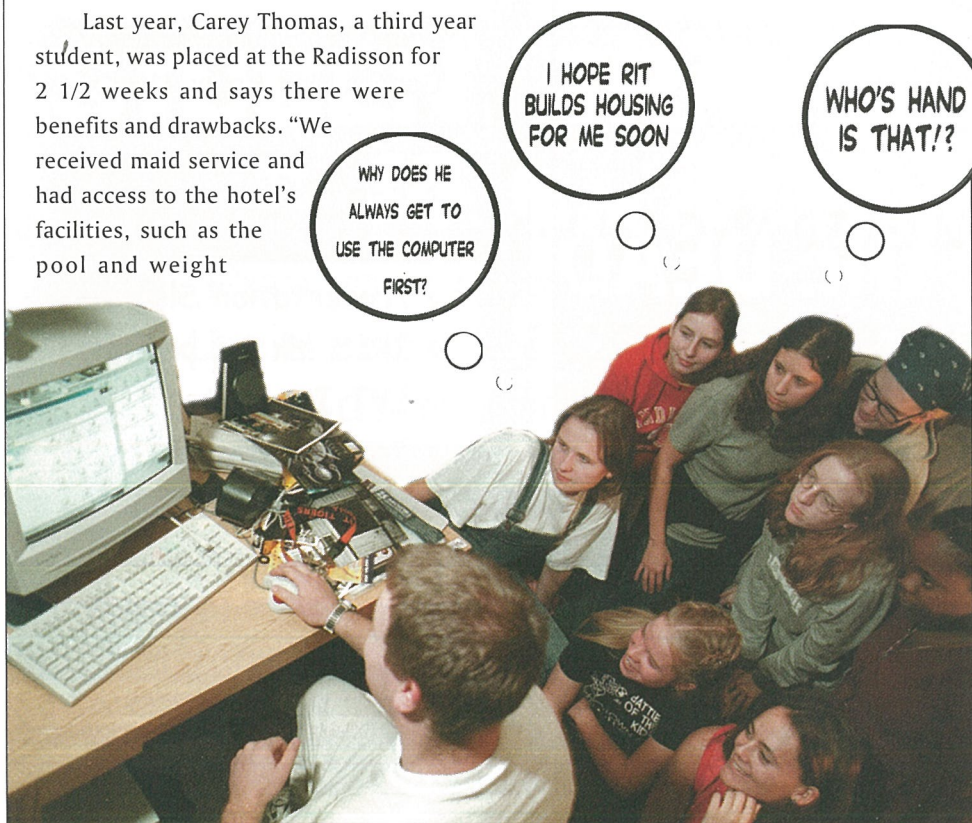
When asked about the experience of having to stay in the nearby hotel as opposed to on-campus, fourth year student, Walter Dudley said, "It was a major inconvenience. I signed a contract for a fully furnished apartment and I got a little box of a room instead."

Dudley, who was placed at the Red Roof Inn from August 30-September 9, felt there was little effort on RIT's behalf to accommodate the students and ensure that their stay be comfortable. Students still paid \$407 in rent for the month of September, but were not provided with an RA. The lack of an RA meant students were left to inquire about their apartment status themselves.

In addition to not having a RA on sight, the transportation was not very reliable. "We didn't have a shuttle bus, we had to page a driver who worked for University Commons to come pick us up and transport us around." Dudley continues, "This became an inconvenience because he was the only driver providing service for everyone. Even though some students had cars, it was taken for granted that some didn't."

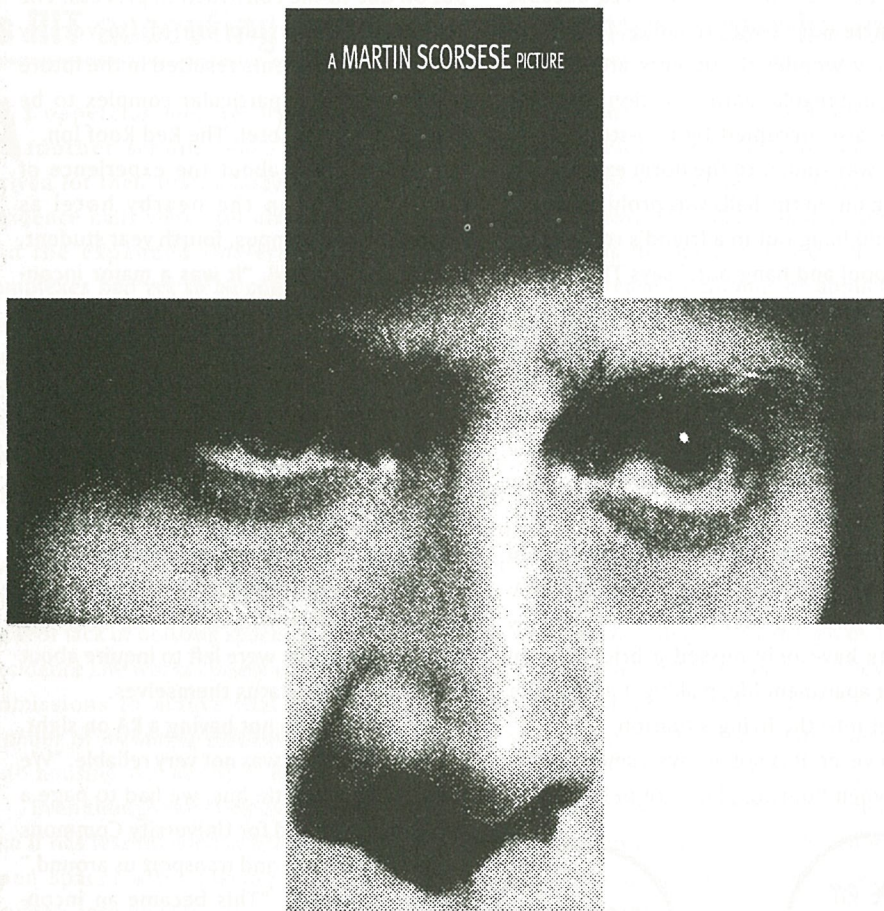
There are bound to be some mistakes or glitches in the system when having to house 70 percent of the undergraduate population. However, Daniel Shelley states, "This has been the most efficient and well organized year for the Center of Residence Life that I have witnessed. I think they are doing an excellent job."•

Problems may arise next year since it seems RIT is planning on destroying the Racquet Club complexes after this school year. Look for a follow-up article in an upcoming issue of Reporter.



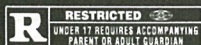
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Karen Steitler

BY GLENN BERNIUS

Tucked away, on the second floor of the Student Health Center, is the Substance and Alcohol Intervention Services for the Deaf (SAISD). There, in their center, is the office of Karen Steitler, the director of the program which bridges the gap between Deaf people who abuse substances and the means to put an end to their addiction.

For 20 years now, she has served as a foundation for the organization, keeping the SAISD on the forefront of health and human services for the Deaf. However, this year, things will be different. On December 31, Karen Steitler will be retiring, leaving behind the immeasurable dedication she has put into the project, dating back to its very first day.

At the time of the program's inception, there was nothing of this kind for Deaf students. In fact, the common, and unmistakably false belief at that point was that Deaf people typically were not prone to using alcohol or drugs. However, a study by two RIT professors debunked that myth, demonstrating that the Deaf are just as likely to struggle with dependency towards a substance as their hearing counterparts.

"Naturally, anyone with a disability would have a higher incidence level for addiction," Steitler stated. "In society, they may feel insecure about themselves. It is more difficult for them to communicate and get a job. [Addiction] may kick in as a means to relieve stress and isolationism and help them feel good about themselves," she added.

Sensing the need for a service, RIT requested a grant from the branch of government now known as the New York State Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS). The grant was accepted and, through an agreement between the OASAS, the Monroe County Department of Health, and RIT, SAISD was given one year of funding to create a totally accessible service system. Twenty years later, the program is continuing as strong as ever.

Karen Steitler has spent 20 years bridging the gap between Deaf people who abuse substances and the means to put an end to their addiction.

Steitler was hired on October 1, 1979, after replying to an advertisement in the newspaper. At the time, she had done extensive work with people with disabilities (though not with the Deaf).

Initially, she accepted the position as Coordinator of the SAISD, reporting to a Supervisor on a frequent basis. Though, after six months into her tenure here, the decision was made that both positions could be combined into a single job of Director. It was at this point that Steitler became the first, and only, Director of the SAISD.

The SAISD program operates through a variety of means. They assist the Deaf in fighting their addiction from the day they walk through the door, by smoothing any barriers that a Deaf person might face in receiving treatment.

On an educational basis, the SAISD presents information in regard to deafness and drug and alcohol abuse programs. This extensive base of knowledge has led people as far away as California and Florida to come to the SAISD, particularly when there are no similar programs in the nation.

They then will "look at each individual and give them their particular needs," as Steitler puts it. "Many people don't realize that a lot happens before treatment. Then for the next 14 to 21 days, it is a matter of getting the person through the program. You then have to follow through treatment until they are successfully back into their society," she adds.

Without the assistance of the SAISD, this process alone would carry a lot of difficulties for a Deaf person. Few treatment centers have any notion of how to interact with someone who cannot hear. Likewise, meetings or discussion groups are useless without an interpreter present. This is yet another way how the SAISD assists the Deaf.

To counter many of these potential pitfalls, Steitler helped to initiate a program for in-patient treatment for Deaf and Hard of Hearing persons at the John L. Norris Addiction Treatment Center. The center is located in Rochester and is noted for a staff fluent in American Sign Language (ASL). Daily Group Therapy is also conducted in ASL.

Throughout its existence, the program has struggled with government cuts in funding. "If there is anything I won't miss about the job, it is all the bureaucratic red tape," she said disgustedly. In contrast, Steitler is very thankful for RIT. "I am truly



PHOTO BY DANIEL ACKER

appreciative of the support they have given the program. They didn't have to carry our contract and certainly not for 20 years," she said thankfully. Steitler then added that "RIT has been there in difficult funding times and has always seen what we were doing and stood by us."

Additionally, Steitler is also extremely thankful for the contributions of her four person staff, putting credit for the success of the center largely on them. "I'm so proud of the staff. We believe in what we do and all share in our enthusiasm," Steitler said. She later disclosed that, above all else, she will miss working with those four people.

A person of great energy, retirement certainly does not mean taking it easy for her. She will still be volunteering with the program, particularly in writing reports and getting the new director acquainted with contacts and daily routines.

While Steitler will be pleased to start this new chapter in her life, she admits that it will be a little saddening for her to see this part of her life come to a close. "It has been the highlight of my professional career and such a major part of my life. Certainly, it's been the cause of some major headaches and sleepless nights. Still, I am privileged to be able to retire and have not a single regret about any decisions I have made in my life."

Similarly, RIT, and the scores of people she has touched, both directly and indirectly in her time here, are the ones most privileged to be granted 20 years of compassion and service from Karen Steitler. •

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
<http://www.rit.edu/SA/coun/SAISD>

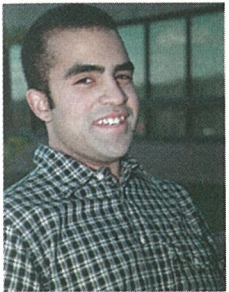
WORD ON THE STREET

It seems that RIT is in a constant state of construction. As soon as one project is completed, another one commences right next to it. If you had the decision-making power, what would you like to see renovated or added to our campus?



"I think the tiger [mascot] should be bigger and [made of] 24-karat gold."

—Jackie Korak
2nd year, Social Work



"I'd really like to see a tunnel connecting the [academic and residential side of campus] together; especially for the winter."

—Julian Olivari
3rd year, Photo-Illustration



"Everything could be renovated. [RIT] is pretty dull so they could mix it up, switch it around, and do something creative."

—Daryl Bradley
1st year, Electrical Engineering



"We could get a football team so we could go [and support] a sport that everyone would enjoy, and add a 'college town' where we could all go and hang out instead of having to go down-town."

—Ragu Gullapazzi
4th year, Packaging Science

COMPILED BY BRIAN MOON
PHOTOS BY MATT ROSENBERG

"I don't know, they've already renovated everything."

—Kristen Kelly
3rd year, Photo-Tech

"I think [they] should concrete over the little bumps and hills over by Raquet Club."

—Jesse Untracht-Oakner
2nd year, Photography

"I think they should build more apartment housing."

—Danielita Becker
2nd year, Information Technology

"They could bring in some more nature, [such as] more flowers."

—Jackie Radell
4th year, Illustration

"I think it would be practical to add a tunnel that connected the academic and residential side of campus."

—Sarah Rich
2nd year, Nutrition

"I don't see any renovations that need to be happening. The renovations that are happening at this point are kind of annoying."

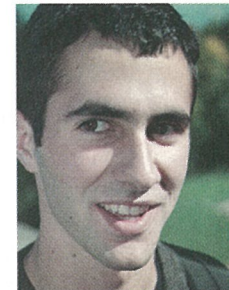
—Leila Navidi
1st year, Photography

What would you
renovate or add to
the RIT campus?



"I like it as it is
right now."

—James Chiu
1st year, JPHL



"I think the [residence] halls could be renovated to be a little nicer, homier."

—David LaSpina
1st year, Photography



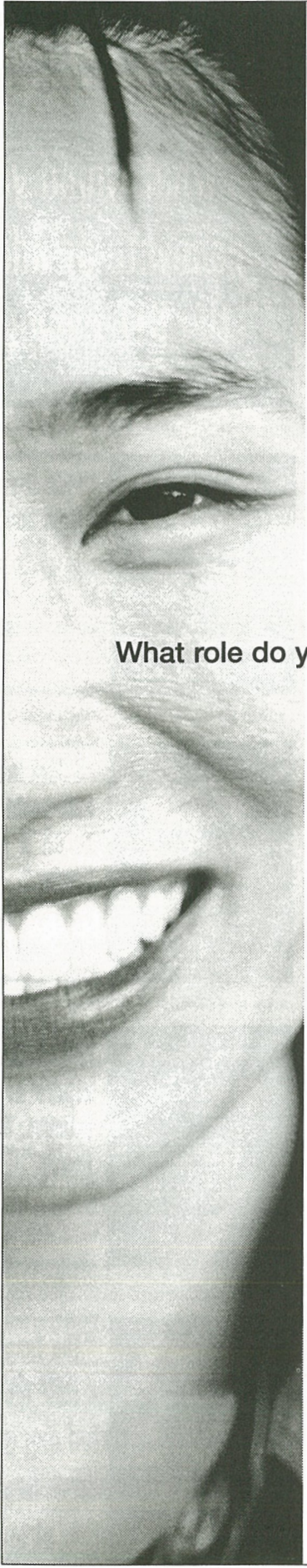
"Give the Fine Arts studio a lounge with couches; like the Photo House."

—Katie Lanni
4th year, Fine Arts



"The tunnels could be
more descriptive."

—Carey Gupta
1st year, Dietetics



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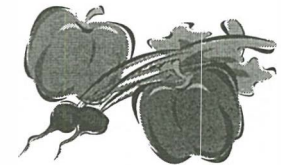
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Tough Stuff: (Top) It takes three Brockport players to corral one Cockless Roach

Break Free: (Above) One Cockless Roach pulls away from a gang tackle

Girls Just Wanna Have Fun

BY RANJAN AHUJA AND THE REPORTER STAFF
PHOTOS BY BRAD PENNER

The day is cool, the sun shines, and dozens of women run on a grassy field, tackling and pulling each other to the ground. Limbs fly everywhere and a pile of sweaty bodies' wrestle on the turf. Sound familiar? It should, for last eight years RIT has fielded a Women's Rugby team. This year, the team moved from competing in Division III, to the Empire Division.

"We're playing a strong game, but not a very technical game," says Erin Sharkey, a.k.a. 'Red', team captain, and four-year veteran. Red refers to the physical strength of this year's athletes, but also the group's lack of experience. She said, "I think it is unfortunate that we lost a lot of seniors this past spring, just when we were finally given the chance to advance. We have the ability, our team just lacks experience."

Those who were watching the game two weeks ago most certainly picked up on another of the team's qualities: spirit. And they have lots of it. The October 9 home game against SUNY Brockport lacked nothing in intensity. Both schools ran and tackled hard for the ball, a mindset underscored by the fact that at least six of the players are out for the season with injuries. Rugby is a full contact sport, in which few, if any, pads are worn. Brockport took this game; three tries (goals) to none.

Afterward, each team sang out an enthusiastic cheer for the other. Try to get that *rah rah ree* cheer out of your head and imagine something much less girlie. These athletes are physical competitors with a great sense of sportsmanship. After the two teams shook hands, Jaime Connolly, team vice

president, walked off the field, limping slightly from a hit (or two or three?) to the shin. "Oh," catching us off-guard she said, "You can't write a story about the Rugby Team without coming to a social."

A look of fear fell upon our faces. Unsure of what kind of female bonding we were getting involved with we stuttered, "Umm, uh, well, I guess."

We later found out it is a tradition for the home to host a mixer for the visiting team after each game. This particular get-together was held at an RIT team member's apartment, off-campus. The pouring of carbonated beverages (not Pepsi) was copious. RIT's team hollered, "We call on Brockport to sing us a song!" Brockport obliged, singing some traditional tunes, and then the RIT women joined along. It was fascinating to listen to the women sing (and shout) to a variety of rugby songs that both teams could recite word for word.

In the groups that formed around the room, conversation jumped between topics, from sports, to movies, to social and women's issues. How do the teams manage to play such an all-out competitive, physical game, and then shrug off all the bruises and kick back?

Michele Schiffhauer of Brockport commented thoughtfully, "It's definitely a breed of people."

Jaime walked around the room in bunny rabbit slippers, passing around some refreshments and animal crackers. "I think my toe is broken," she pondered, "but I can't feel it because my shin is so bruised." But she sure wasn't limping.



Outta My Way: Determination leads the Cockless Roaches up the field

Women's Rugby is a RIT club sport. The team of 25 is always looking for new and enthusiastic members. There is no experience necessary; many of the women never played rugby before they came to RIT, but most of them participated in some other form of athletic competition in high school. For those of you that missed tryouts for the fall season, the team also competes in league play during the spring. To find out more about the team, contact Erin, the team captain, at 424-8700 or by email at ees4101@rit.edu. You can also contact Jaime, the team's vice president, at 321-1557 or by email at jec6870@rit.edu.

Come out and experience women's rugby for yourself. You haven't seen rugby until you have seen the RIT Women's Rugby team in action. •

**The team hosts Syracuse, Saturday at 11 a.m.
Check the Rugby board outside the Ritz for
possible schedule changes.**

Sports Briefs

BY ANDREW QUAGLIATA

•The Women's Tennis team finished third at the EAA's. They opened the weekend with a 5-2 victory over Utica, then fell to Nazareth in the semi-finals 5-4. To finish off the weekend, the Tigers defeated Hartwick 5-4, in the consolation match.

•The Women's Soccer team upped their season record to 4-8-1, with a 1-0 victory over St. John Fisher. Midfielder Carol Rivers scored her fifth goal of the season at 49:26. Freshman goalkeeper Christie Brewer recorded her fourth shutout of the season making 10 saves.

•The Women's Volleyball team took home their fourth tournament title of the season at the Ithaca Volleyball Invitational. The Tigers went 3-1 on the weekend, defeating Lycoming, St. John Fisher and #16 ranked Ithaca. It was a weekend to remember for senior setter Ushi Patel. Besides collecting 239 assists, 73 digs, 23 kills and four double doubles in four matches she was also named tournament MVP, AVCA/Sports Imports Division III National Player of the Week, Rochester Area College Athlete of the Week and RIT Co-Female Athlete of the Week. Not to mention she reached three career milestones! Patel recorded her 6,000th career assist, becoming the third player in Division III history to reach this mark. She also added her 1,500th career dig and played in her 500th career game.

All-tournament selection Emily Verbridge added 104 kills and 67 digs on the weekend. Against Ithaca Verbridge recorded a career high 32 kills. She also set a new school record for 20+ kill matches in a season with nine. Katie Sander had an outstanding weekend for the Tigers as she collected 50 kills and 80 digs. Middle blocker Jill Brewer also played a key role offensively, she added 53 kills, 23 digs and 16 blocks. The team travels to Buffalo State on October 26 to conclude their regular season. If Tigers continue playing good volleyball, the team could play well into November.

GAME ON

RIT Men's Hockey Preview

BY AARON LANDERS

PHOTOGRAPHS BY MEGAN JOLLY

Attention RIT students: as you walk from the parking lots or down the quarter mile to get to your classes, you may begin to notice that there is a slight chill in the air. Your t-shirts may take a back seat to flannels and sweaters, and your shorts will be stored in the back of your closet until spring comes.

That's right, winter is just around the corner. In another month, snow will most likely be on the ground, which will leave most of you confined to your dorm rooms or apartment with nothing to do. For all of you that are dreading the harsh Rochester winter, today is your lucky day, because I have a suggestion on how to beat those winter blues: RIT Men's Hockey.

The RIT Men's Hockey team is possibly the strongest of our athletic teams. They have consistently made both the ECAC playoffs and the NCAA playoffs. Last year was a spectacular year for the Tigers, who finished with a 27-1-2 record, won the ECAC West playoffs, and made it to the semi-finals of the NCAA tournament.

The 1999-2000 season looks to be another great one for the Tigers. They have a new coach, many strong veterans, and a good crop of rookies. The following is an in-depth look at this year's Men's Hockey team.



Back in Action: The RIT Men's Hockey team preps for another big season

Behind the Bench

Possibly the most notable change for the Tigers this year is the departure of Coach Eric Hoffberg. At the end of last season Hoffberg stepped down after ten years of coaching the Tigers, finishing his RIT coaching career with a 188-82-22 record. In command now is first year head coach Wayne Wilson. Wilson, a native of Guelph, Ontario, comes to RIT after being the assistant coach and chief recruiter at NCAA Division I Bowling Green University for 13 years. He also had a tremendous career as a defenseman at Bowling Green, scoring 101 points, playing in 165 consecutive games, and captaining the team during his senior year. Wilson's wealth of hockey knowledge and experience, which also includes playing junior hockey in Guelph and coaching at the University of New Hampshire, should prove to be an asset for the Tigers this season.

Up Front

According to Coach Wilson, the team does not have the same depth at the forward position as they did last year. The Tigers have lost co-captain Luke Murphy and leading goal scorer Matt Garvey, among others. Even with the loss of these key players, the forward lines look to be strong this year. "We have three

lines that can go with anyone in the country," says Coach Wilson. "Our forth and fifth lines are a little bit younger, but as they develop, they are all going to be very good players too." He added, "When we dress twelve guys for a game, I feel pretty good about the twelve that we have. I think that we can match up with a lot of different teams." Key forwards for the Tigers this year include, senior All-American and ECAC West Player of the Year, Pat Staerker (22 goals and 35 assists last year), seniors Scott Jones (10 goals and 10) and Michael Gargiles (7 goals and 13 assists), juniors Peter Bournazakis (16 goals and 35 assists) and Jon Day (19 goals and 30 assists), as well as sophomores Derek Hahn, and Brian Armes. Hahn led the team with seven points in the NCAA tournament last year, and Armes recorded nine points in ten games for the Tigers.

On the Blueline

"We have a lot of numbers returning on defense, and we didn't recruit anyone on defense. If I'm concerned about any one area, then that might be the only area that I'm concerned with." Wilson went on to say "I'm really going to be relying on Wes Blevins, McAllister King, and Jerry Gallaway to anchor what we have." Other impact players for the Tigers on defense will include senior Adam Driscoll, junior Shawn Wilkins, sophomores John Scott

and Rob Vessio, and freshman Dale Coughlin (a transfer from Mohawk Valley Community College). "For the first five or six games, I'm going to try to experiment with everyone and get them all playing time and let them kind of weed themselves out, and see who's going to take charge and who's not."

In the Net

Goaltending is probably the biggest question on the minds of almost all RIT hockey fans and supporters. The Tigers lost two very solid goaltenders, Jamie Morris and Jeff Ozminkowski, because of graduation. Morris finished last season with an impressive 21-2-2 record, facing 664 shots making 600 saves for a .904 save percentage, a 2.63 goals against average and three shut-outs. He finished his career as the all-time save leader at RIT with 3,258. This year, the goaltending question is still up in the air. Wilson says "We have three goalies on the team right now. We lost a goalie after a week of classes...I'm not sure if he was going to be number one, two, or three on the team, but it gave us some depth in that position. When you've got that much youth, you can switch things around and you're not as dependent on one or two guys. Which I think we are right now with the two of them that are going to have to carry the bulk of the load, and also be compared to Jamie Morris. They're untested, but I think they are going to do pretty well." The three goaltenders, all of whom are freshman, are Matt Hrirnak, Chris Sherman, and Tyler Euverman.

Team Outlook

Overall the team looks to be a strong competitor in the ECAC West division, as they are every year. Captaining the team this year will be Pat Staerker, and Jerry Galway. "They're captains because they have the "C" on their jersey, but I think all of the upper classmen have to lead, and I think the direction you want your team to go in always going to follow not only the captains, but the seniors," Wilson says. "I think they know the inner workings of the team pretty well, and if they're not happy with things, they've got to be vocal in the direction that they want to go in." The team is also going to need some of the freshman and players who saw limited ice time last year to step up and be impact players.



Above: First-year Men's Hockey Coach Wayne Wilson's has a positive outlook on the upcoming season

"We don't have the depth that we had last year, which isn't necessarily a bad thing, because good players like to play a lot," explains Wilson. "We do have some good players back in Staerker, Day, Bournazakis, and so on, so they are just going to have to carry a little bit more of the load of the play. I think there are some other guys like Brian Armes and some others that were kind of disappointed in the amount of ice time that they got last year that are looking forward to stepping up, and then we have some freshman that are going to fill in."

The outlook for the team is good this year. With many top-notch veterans on the team, and a strong class of freshman, the Tigers will look to dominate the ECAC West division once again, and return to the NCAA tournament. Coach Wilson hopes that he can continue the success that RIT Hockey has had in the past. "Anything short of winning the ECAC West Championship will be slighting the guys and the program."

The Tigers open their season at the Blue Devil Invitational at Fredonia this weekend (their first game is Friday at 4 p.m. against Findlay). They will play in the Chase Tournament in Rochester on October 29 and 30. Then they will play two non-conference games on November 5 and 6 against Findlay, before facing-off against Brockport on November 19 in their home opener. Game-time is 7:30. Come out and support your RIT Tigers as they make a run at the ECAC West Championship and the NCAA Division III Title. •

Leading Intramural Teams

Standings as of 10/12/99

Football

Div. 1 Franchise 5-0
Div. 2 9'ers 5-0
Div. 3 Miller Time 5-0

3 on 3 BB

Div. 1 Tain't 4-0
Div. 2 Club Racquet 2-0
Div. 3 Rough Riders 3-0

Ice Hockey

Div. 1 Good Nacho's 2-0
Div. 2 TKE 3-0
Div 2/3 Salt Licks 3-0

Indoor Soccer

Div. 1 (East) J-Maf 2-1
Div. 1 (West) Visit 4-0
Div. 2 (Monday) Phish 3-1
Div. 2 (Sunday) Red Flash 4-0
Div. 2 (Thursday) Rochester City 3-0
Div. 3 (East) Chinuts 4-0
Baker A 4-0
Div. 3 (Thursday) GB's 3-0

Volleyball

Div. Co-Ed (West) Enforcers 4-0
Div. 1 23 Women Army 3-0
Rug Burn 3-0
Div. 2 (East) Red Eyes 4-0
Div. 2 (West) Stonecutters 3-1
Sloperly 3-1
Div. 2 (Monday) Red Flash 3-1
Phi Sig 3-1
Div. 3 (Sunday) Timberwolves 4-0

Softball

Div. 3 Team Wack-it 3-1

**Special thanks to
the Intramural Office**

It Takes Goals to Win

The Tigers play strong, but lack offensive firepower

BY KEVAL MEHTA

The scene was set on October 9 for the RIT Men's Soccer team to bring home a great victory in front of a packed home crowd against local rivals Nazareth College. But Nazareth came to spoil the party on RIT's Brickcity Festival weekend as they knocked in a last minute penalty to take home the honors.

The sad situation of the game was that RIT dominated play for the entire 90 minutes. The Tigers had far more shots on goal than Nazareth, 22-8, and several shots hit the post and crossbar. It was frustrating and seemed like a goal would never come, as Nazareth also looked impotent up front. Coach Bill Garno said, "We owe the loss to our own lack of finishing. We failed to take advantage of at least eight solid scoring chances." This game was a prime example of how the team has struggled to finish all season long. With four minutes left in the game Nazareth was awarded a penalty shot on a questionable call. The RIT keeper guessed correctly to the right, but was unable to make the save.

Matt Albrecht, RIT's Male Athlete of the Week, was shadowing the opposing team's forward from the marking back position. "Against Nazareth he was a force on defense winning all the loose balls. Our lack of scoring puts a lot of pressure on our back four, and Matt has stepped up to the challenge."



PHOTO BY KEVIN LORENZI



PHOTO BY BRAD PENNER

Leg Out: Rick Anthony Slides for the ball.

Coach Garno made a few positional changes to gain full potential out of some of the team's stronger players. The best example is when the team captain, Rob Galinski, shifted from left wing to striker against Union to score. It is encouraging to see that the freshman seem to be playing well. Players such as Rick Anthony and Shaun McLarney, mentioned before as players to watch, have grown into top players. Along with Jay Grow, they are seen as the future leaders of this team.

Three days after the team's loss to Nazareth, the Tigers slump continued. After a four-hour bus ride the team put in two goals, but could not top Union, in a 3-2 loss. Obviously distressing, but the coach seemed upbeat about a few things. The team's defensive play was a bit rusty at the beginning of the

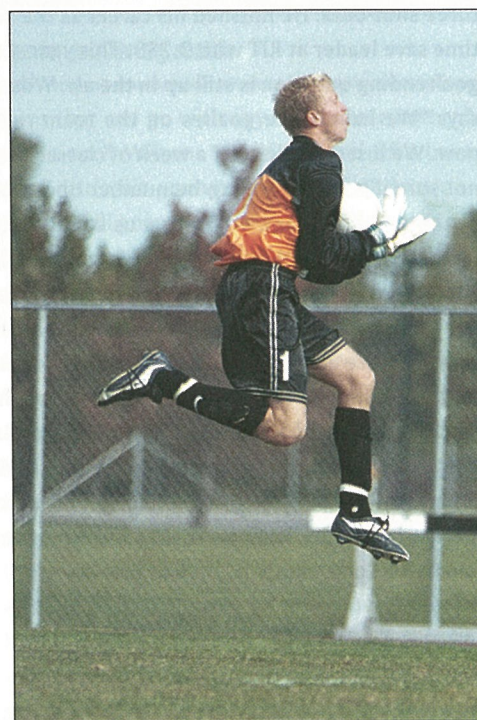


PHOTO BY BRAD PENNER

Snagged: Goalie Kevin Meredith doesn't let this shot get past.

season, but it seems to have taken shape now. Coach Garno still feels that the team lacks "on-the-field" leadership and each player needs to put in a full 90 minutes of soccer. He hopes these two factors come together in the team's upcoming games. Come out Wednesday October 27th when the Tigers host Geneseo. Support the team, enjoy the great fall weather and see some competitive soccer action. •



Above: Unveiling of the RIT's new state-of-the-art boathouse.

Left: The Women's Crew team cuts through the water.

Right: Christening of the David R. Moszak, a new men's eight shell.



Spirit Shines at Annual Regatta

BY KELLY PEARSON

PHOTOS BY CHRIS EHLMANN

A bright sunny day, beautiful fall foliage, live entertainment, plenty of food, and lots of rowing, the 1999 Stonehurst Capital Invitational Regatta had it all. The prestigious rowing event was held on the banks of the Genesee River, Sunday, October 10. The Rochester Institute of Technology, the University of Rochester, and the Greater Rochester Chamber of Commerce sponsored the annual event, in which collegiate teams from all over the Northeast and Midwest compete for some of Crew's biggest honors.

This year's event kicked off with the unveiling of RIT's new state-of-the-art boathouse. The Crew team's new home, thanks in part to the generosity of trustee Joseph Briggs and Chairman Emeritus Board of Trustees Thomas Gosnell, was unveiled during a ribbon-cutting ceremony held on Saturday, October 9. The boathouse includes two large boat bays, a kitchen, showers, locker rooms, an office and conference room and, will house the team's five boats. The ceremony also

included the christening of the "David R. Moszak," a new men's eight shell. The boat is dedicated to the memory of David Moszak, a former RIT administrator and long time supporter of the Crew team, who passed away this summer. The new additions to the six-year old program look to strengthen the team for years to come. As the afternoon progressed, students from RIT, UR, Syracuse University, Cornell, Dartmouth, Harvard, Ithaca College, and Wisconsin, among many others, competed in this year's Stonehurst Regatta. RIT's Men's and Women's teams had strong finishes in all the races. In the Women's Heavyweight Eights-Collegiate position, RIT placed fourteenth overall and in the Men's Heavyweight Fours, RIT placed ninth. As the crowd of more than 8,000 enjoyed great rowing, they were treated to live musical performances from the various colleges in attendance. RIT's Jazz Ensemble and the various a cappella groups on campus performed to the delight of the spectators.

Miguel Samper, a first year student who attended the Regatta with his parents, said, "The atmosphere is quite festive." Sophomore Emily Olney added, "The RIT spirit is overwhelming! We have given out tons of the little RIT flags." Commemorative RIT flags were handed out to students, parents, faculty, and alumni who visited the school's tent throughout the afternoon.

Lou Spiotti, Director of Athletics, commented, "There was a tremendous outpouring of interest and support from the faculty, staff, and student body. Clearly, RIT had the most people at their tent throughout the day."

Spiotti added, "[The Stonehurst Capital Invitational Regatta] continues to grow and develop," as he reflected back to the first Regatta, held eleven years ago, in which only a few hundred people attended. Chuck Mitrano, Director of Sports Information, stated, "It's great to draw a few thousand spectators at the collegiate level, but to draw more than 8,000 is amazing."

Spiotti concluded, "We are absolutely thrilled at the way Crew has gone at RIT and I know that its success will continue long into the future." •

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TAB ADS

Seriously, my hair is Blue!!!

- Blue haired Features Editor

Lawnmower man-I see you've developed a taste for older women. Told ya, two weeks.

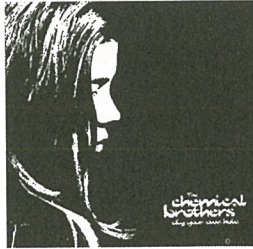
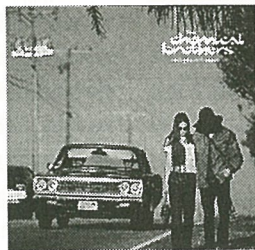
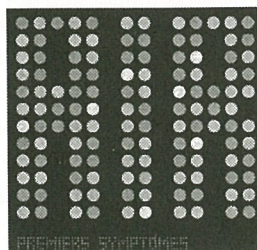
- J

Erased form existence!

- Otto

Kris, Kelly & Emma: Congratulations on becoming new members of our sisterhood! You are all ding wonderful => Keep up the good work!

- Alpha Lowe, the sisters of Alpha Sigma Alpha



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calendar

October 15th-16th

Rudicon

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Saturday, October 16th

Air Hockey and Pool Tournament

SAU Gameroom

sign up in the gameroom

prizes to be awarded

Thursday, October 21st

Larry Moss

Balloons, Juggling, Magic

8pm in the Grind

FREE

Thursday, October 28th

Andrea Whitcomb

Mime

8pm in the Grind

FREE

October 29th-30th

The Mummy 7pm

Evil Dead II 9:30pm

Ingle Auditorium

see both for \$1

both captioned Saturday

Thursday, November 4th

Leah Carla Gordone

Acoustic music

8pm in the Grind

FREE

November 5th-6th

American Pie

7 & 9pm, Ingle Auditorium

\$1

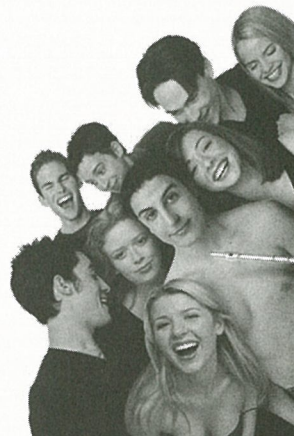
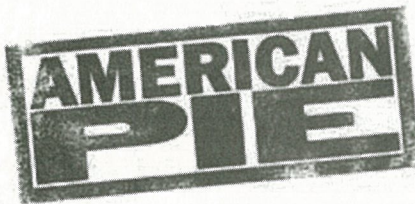
Friday November 12th

Josef Verba, concert pianist

8pm, Ingle Auditorium

\$5 students, \$10 fac/staff,

\$15 public



Tickets are available at the Candy Counter in the SAU (cash or debit) or in the SAU Game-room (charge by phone or TTY, 475-2239). Events are subject to change.



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