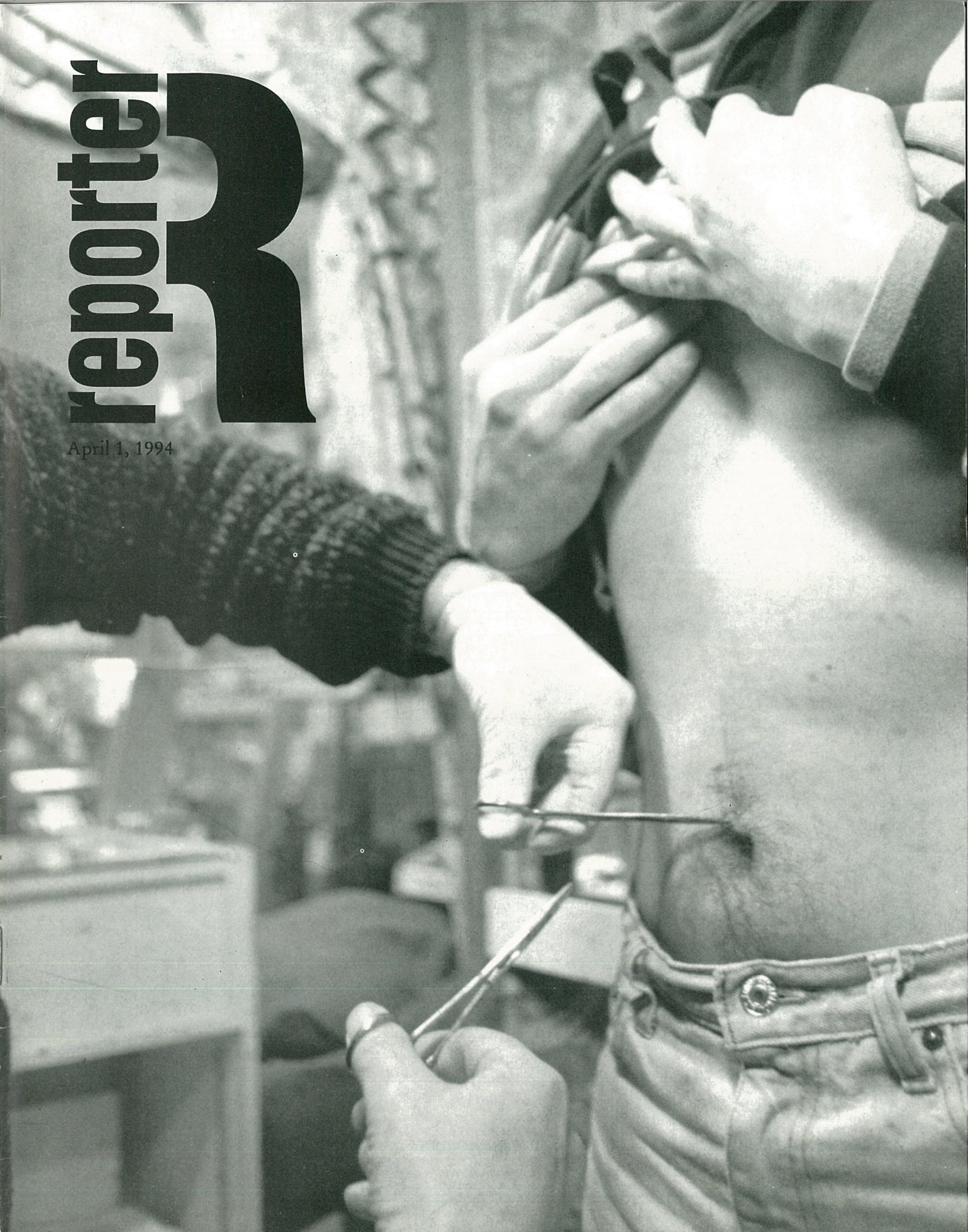
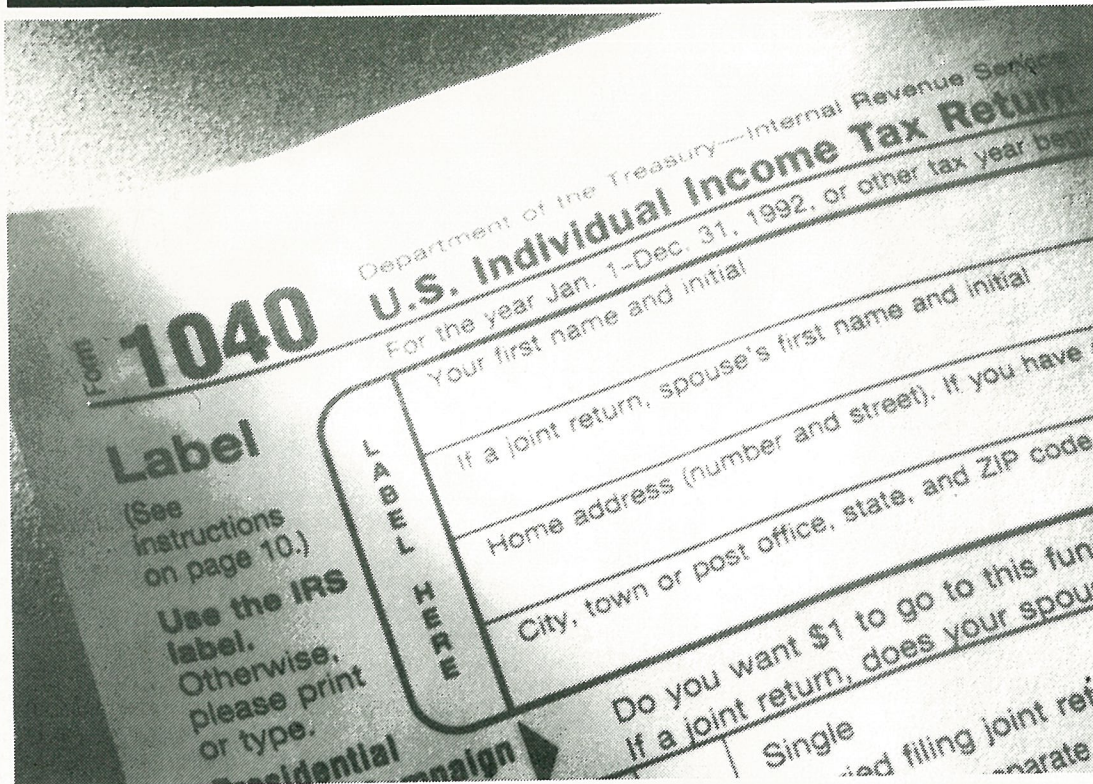


reporter

April 1, 1994



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REPORTER MAGAZINE is published weekly during the academic year by students at the Rochester Institute of Technology, One Lomb Memorial Drive, Rochester, New York, 14623. Editorial and production facilities are located in Room A-426 of the Student Alumni Union, Voice/TTY (716)475-2212. Subscriptions: \$7.00 per quarter. The opinions expressed in REPORTER do not necessarily reflect those of the Institute. RIT does not generally review or approve of the contents of REPORTER and does not accept responsibility for matters contained in REPORTER. Letters may be submitted to the REPORTER in person, or through RIT e-mail, send letters to: REPORTER. Letters must be typed and double spaced. Please limit letters to 250 words. REPORTER reserves the right to edit for libel and clarity. No letters will be printed unless signed and accompanied by a phone number. All letters received are property of REPORTER MAGAZINE. REPORTER takes pride in its membership in the Associated Collegiate Press and American Civil Liberties Union. copyright 1993 REPORTER MAGAZINE. All rights reserved. No portion of this magazine may be reproduced without prior written permission from REPORTER.

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Reshaping the Family for the 90s

by Jermaine Oneil Jackson

One of the major dilemmas facing American society today is the loss of the traditional family system. Once considered an intangible asset in almost every sector of society, it is now a mere fragmented institution filled with inhumane, individualistic, and materialistic constituents. In fact, it can be argued that the root of today's social problems lies in the lack of family values, which can be attributed to the prevailing attitudes of the individuals involved.

It is safe to say, for the most part, that the biggest challenges families face in the 1990s is the struggle to survive against drugs, unemployment, crime, violence, poverty, divorce, dissension, teen pregnancy, and AIDS. It is also safe to say that many of the present-day families are single-parent households, with the woman usually being the head. In nearly all these cases, the women are either divorced, separated, or single with children. Even in a two-parent household, the woman, having a higher income than the men, is usually the head.

Most of the problems of today's families is the lack of a father figure. In the traditional family, the male was usually the head, the provider of the whole family. He was the one that the whole family depended on and looked to for its survival. He was the protector of the whole family, and the woman was their to help him. Nowadays, more often than not, it is the other way around, even in families whose "heads" have never been to work or on welfare. In many cases, the father isn't even in the midst of their children. Therefore, many of these children grow up never really knowing, or really loving, their fathers. This is a very crucial stage for children to go through in their lifetime, particularly in their early years, when they need two loving, caring parents. Since procreating and parenting requires two people (a male and a female), nurturing, caring, providing for them, and guiding them through their life also requires two people. It is very difficult for one person to do it alone.

Unemployment is also a major source for family problems. Since jobs in the 90s

are hard to come by, the drug culture becomes more prevalent, leading to crime, violence, corruption, poverty, dissension, and, most importantly, AIDS. This predicament hits many families, who want to live the good life but do not have the finance necessary to ensure it. Therefore, they look to drugs and crime as a means of escape and to get the best in life.

Sadly but truly, a major source of family problems lies in the thought processes of individuals. As said earlier, the family has become a fragmented institution with inhumane, individualistic, and materialistic con-

stituents. Although troubles may head their way, the family that stays together through thick and thin is the family that prevails in the long run. However, a divided family whose individuals only focus on individual interests is likely to succumb and crumble. If the American family is to survive toward the year 2000, these and other problems must be overcome.

CHARLIE SHEEN **TOM BERENGER** **CORBIN BERNSEN**

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Respite Cares! Needs Volunteers

Respite Cares! a division of Heritage Christian Home, is looking for volunteers to train and place in its respite to caregivers program. The organization has members give a little of their time to become a friend to children or adults with a developmental disability, brain injury or Alzheimer's disease. The training is for temporary, non-medical relief.

For more information about becoming a volunteer throughout Monroe County, call Marilyn Curtis, Coordinator of Volunteers at 381-6550.

AIDS Quilt in Rochester

The AIDS Memorial Quilt, one of the most impressive efforts to raise awareness and funding for AIDS, is coming to the University of Rochester April 8-10. Begun by the Names Project Foundation on October 11, 1987, the quilt is a living, growing tribute, to those who have died of the epidemic.

As of October of 1993, the quilt has 25,246 panels, spanning over ten football fields in area. The panels are memorials to anyone who has died from AIDS. Some of the more famous people represented include: Arthur Ashe; Rock Hudson; Robert Maplethorpe; Anthony Perkins; Freddie Mercury; and Ricky Wilson (formerly of the B-52's). Also included are: Kimberly Bergalis, who contracted HIV from her dentist; and Allison Gertz, a young heterosexual teenager whose death brought nationwide attention to the virus. AIDS is already the seventh leading cause of death among people ages 15-24 nationally, and is the leading cause of death for women ages 20-39 in New York City.

The quilt has raised over \$1.3 million for AIDS research, and has drawn 3.7 million people in just over six years. The quilt represents all 50 states, Puerto Rico, and 29 different countries.

The display will take place at the River Campus Sports Complex Field House, on the University of Rochester campus. Opening ceremonies will begin at 12:00 noon on Friday, and close at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday. For more information, contact the RIT PIERS group at the Student Health Center, or via the vax account PIERS. There is also a University of Rochester AIDS Memorial Quilt Information Line, 275-2255.

P.E. Reduction Denied

A proposal to reduce the 6 quarter physical education requirement to 3 quarters was deferred by Policy Council. Originally initiated by the Physical Education department, the new requirements consisted of 2 activity physical education classes and 1 wellness course.

While the review process included unanimous votes by the Physical Education faculty and the Intercollegiate Curriculum Committee (ICC) and a favorable vote by Faculty Council, Student Government representatives had reservations about the wellness course provision. These reservations led Policy Council to deny the proposal.

"I have had one meeting with Todd Delaney, Student Government President, and I am hopeful a compromise may be worked out," stated Frederick Bleiler, Director of Physical Education.

Leonard Urso at NTID

Scottsville, NY artist Leonard Urso will display an exhibit of sculpture and paintings on April 7-29 in the NTID Switzer Gallery (located on the second floor of the Lyndon Baines Johnson Building). The artist's reception, from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 14, is free and open to the public.

Urso, who is a former designer for Oneida Limited Silversmiths, has displayed his work in numerous locations including: the Chelsea Gallery in Cleveland; the Artworks Gallery in Seattle; and the International Design Center in New York City.

The Switzer Gallery is free and open to the public 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays. For more information, call 475-6855 (voice/TTY).

Princeton Review Sues Kaplan

The Princeton Review has filed suit in Federal Court against its competitor, Kaplan Educational Center, over unsubstantiated advertising. The two companies, who offer test-preparation courses for the LSAT, GMAT, GRE, and MCAT, agreed in June, 1993 to promote fair and honest reporting of score improvements backed by an independent research firm.

Earlier in the month, Kaplan launched an advertising campaign promising scores higher than the Princeton Review's, but they were not backed by any representative study.

"If Kaplan was capable of raising students' scores, it would have conducted a study to prove it," stated John Katzman, President of the Princeton Review. "To just pull numbers out of the air is a disservice to every student who's planning to take one of these tests."

Campus Safety's Brickbeat

In February of 1994, Campus Safety responded to 2,431 service calls in the RIT community which resulted in 448 incident reports filed by Campus Safety officers. Among the services provided:

Escorts	465
Motorist Assists	516
Noise Complaints	54
Motor Vehicle Accidents	16
Incidents reported during February	
Larceny (totaling \$9,196)	29
Vandalism (totaling \$1,045)	8
Other Assaults/Harassments	13

Although each person is ultimately responsible for his or her own personal well being, learning and practicing basic precautions could enhance one's personal safety. Anyone interested in learning more about programs and services provided by the Campus Safety Department should call Chris Denninger at 475-6989/6654 TTY.

HOT SPOTS

K E R S T I N G U N T E R

THE SHRINER'S CIRCUS

Every year, the Shriner's circus comes to town and puts on quite a show. The profits are given to various children's hospitals and burn centers around the country. The atmosphere is less showy than that of the glitzy Las Vegas-style of the larger circuses, such as Barnum & Bailey; frankly, I enjoyed it more. I enjoyed seeing more of the circus talent and less of the circus babes.

The format came right out of the Official American Pie Guidebook. The circus opened with a presentation of colors and a heart-pounding version of the National Anthem. The robust ringmaster launched the show with "Main Street USA." The acts that followed were well performed and very funny although they were sometimes predictable (if you've seen one circus...). And at the end of the show, I highly recommend a trek down regression row. Shed all your needs for mature behavior, and take a ride on the elephants. It's great fun.

The big acts were usually performed one at a time instead of three at a time as the larger circuses do. This made it possible to enjoy the circus without straining your neck to catch all of the action at once.

This circus may lack the big names and the glitz, but it did not lack sincerity. This was an incredibly sincere circus. All the performers wanted to put on an entertaining show, and they simply oozed with this sincerity. Many of the acts were among the best I've seen of their type, including the "Carillo Brothers" highwire act and the "Knockabouts" clown/acrobat act. As for the others, I could tell that they really wanted to be the best that I've ever seen.

I applaud the Shriner's Circus; it shows how good a small circus can be. They've pulled up the tent stakes now, but next time they come to town — bring on the clowns!

UPCOMING EVENTS

CONCERTS/MUSIC

- Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra:
Hadyn and Mozart (classical)
Hochstein Music School
April 8 & 9 at 8:00 p.m.
Tickets - \$17-\$33 & \$8 at door (students only)
454-4596
- Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra (classical)
An Evening of Shakespeare
Eastman Theater
April 14 & 16 at 8 p.m.
Tickets - \$17-\$33
222-5000

Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra (classical)
with the Canadian Brass
Eastman Theater
April 22 & 23 at 8 p.m.
Tickets - \$17-\$33
222-5000

Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra (classical)
with Kazimierz Kord, cond., and Simone Pedroni, piano
Eastman Theater
April 28 & 30 at 8 p.m.
Tickets - \$17-\$33
222-5000

Rush (classic rock)
Community War Memorial
May 4 at 7:30 p.m.
Tickets - \$22.50
232-1900

Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra (classical)
with Peter Bay, cond., and Lee Luvisi, piano
Eastman Theater
May 5 & 7 at 8 p.m.
Tickets - \$17-\$33
222-5000

Rochester Oratorio Society (classical & jazz)
Asbury First United Methodist Church
May 7 at 8:30 p.m.
Tickets - \$10 & \$15, \$11 & \$16 day of concert
473-2234 or 288-8986

LECTURES/CONFERENCES

Cities Without Suburbs
David Rusk, author, urbanologist, and former mayor of Albuquerque, New Mexico
RIT Webb Auditorium, Gannett Building
April 7 at 7:30 p.m.

From Power to Power: A Conference for Women of African Descent
Includes 28 speakers and 16 seminars
April 15-16 at RIT
Registration - \$30 (students), \$55 (others)
Registration due by April 4
475-5505

Arts Rochester '94
Memorial Arts Gallery
May 3 at 7:00 p.m.
Free admission
473-7720

Music is More than Just Sound
Ellen Koskoff, Associate Professor of Musicology and Ethnomusicology at Eastman School of Music
RIT Webb Auditorium, Gannett Building
May 5 at 7:30 p.m.

MOVIES

Little Theater (232-3906)
Shadowlands
Evenings at 6:50 & 9:30 p.m.
Sat. & Sun. mat. at 12:50 & 3:30 p.m.
The Piano
Evenings at 7:10 & 9:40 p.m.
Sat. & Sun. mat. at 1:10 & 3:40 p.m.
The Accompanist
Thursday at 7:20 & 9:45 p.m.
Naked
Evenings at 7:00 & 9:45 p.m.
Sat. & Sun. mat. at 1:00 & 3:45 p.m.

MUSEUMS

Memorial Arts Gallery
53rd Rochester-Finger Lakes Exhibition
April 3-May 15
473-7720

SPECIAL EVENTS

Auction and Wine-Tasting
The Strong Museum
April 9 at 8:00-11:00 p.m.
Tickets available at 473-2234 or 271-0443
World Wrestling Federation
more than 50 stars

Community War Memorial
April 13 at 7 p.m.
Tickets - \$9, \$12, and \$15
232-1900

THEATER

Jesus Christ Superstar
Auditorium Center
April 5-10, call for times
Tickets - \$27.50-\$37.50
222-5000

Run For Your Wife
The Downstairs Cabaret Theater
Through April 10, call for times
Tickets - \$21
325-4370

Nonsense II: The Second Coming
The Downstairs Cabaret Theater
Through April 10, call for times
Tickets - \$18-wkdays & \$21-wkends
325-4370

Rochester City Ballet
A Spring Bouquet of Classical Ballet
Auditorium Center
April 23 at 2 & 8 p.m.
Tickets - \$12 mat. & \$15 eve.
222-5000

Cinderella (ballet)
Robert Panara Theater, Johnson Building
April 28-May 1, call for times
475-6254 voice/TTY

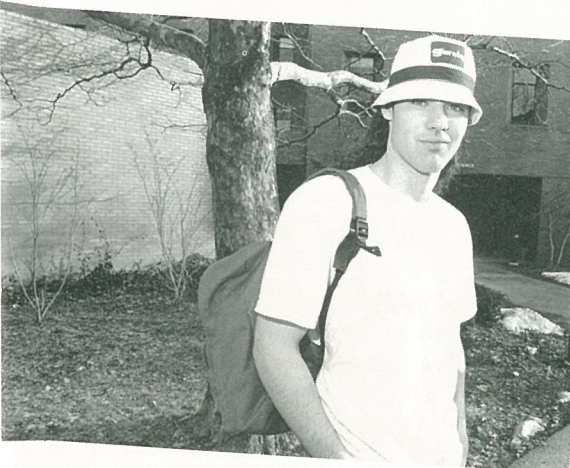
Celebrate Broadway
RAPA Playhouse, Auditorium Center
April 15, 16, 17, 22, 23, 24
May 13, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22, call for times
Tickets - \$15, \$5 (students)
442-0190

Miracle Worker
GeVa Theater
April 5-May 21, call for times
232-GEVA
Fiddler on the Roof
Brighton High School Auditorium
April 15, 16, 22, 23 at 8:00 p.m.
473-3220

continued on page 13

how do you feel about

body piercing?



"I think it's no problem, during the summer or spring you can walk out looking good."—Robert Saudera, 3rd year, printing management

"It's cool, doesn't bother me. I probably wouldn't do it, though."—Jeremy Alexy, 1st year, Undeclared Science ◀

"I like it. I agree with it."—K. B. Suarez, 4th year, JPHL

"It depends on where they pierce their bodies, I'd have to say."—Damion Klaus, 4th year, Criminal Justice

"It's not attractive to the extent most people do it."—Matthew Ricket, 3rd year, Industrial Design

"It's cool for whoever likes it, I guess. I've been thinking about my eyebrow."—Sean Havens, 3rd year, Illustration ▶

"Well, I don't care for it."—Kurt Humphreys, part time student, Computer Science



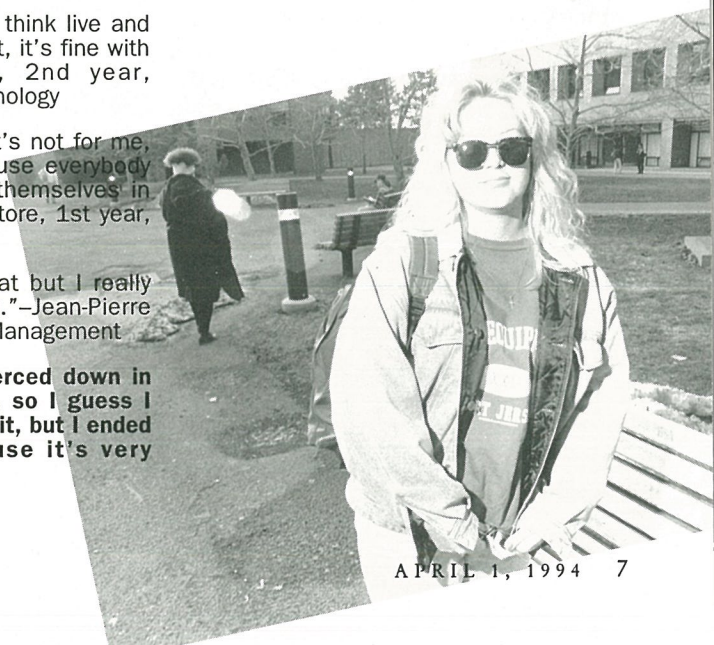
"I've got my belly button pierced, I have no problem with it. If people want to do it, that's fine. People who disapprove of it, I can understand because it's a different kind of thing, and people are afraid of different. As long as they keep it clean and don't get infected, it's fine."—Sabra Crockett, 3rd year, painting ◀

"I don't find it attractive, I think live and let live. If they want to do it, it's fine with me."—John McCormick, 2nd year, Electrical Engineering Technology

"I don't find it attractive. It's not for me, but I think it's okay because everybody has the right to express themselves in their own way."—Mary Paratore, 1st year, Accounting

"I don't really get into that but I really don't care if people do it."—Jean-Pierre Pujat, 2nd year, Printing Management

"Well, I got my navel pierced down in Florida over the summer, so I guess I don't feel too badly about it, but I ended up taking it out because it's very uncomfortable."—Christine Pilznienski, 1st year, Marketing ▶



COMPILED BY
MATT McNAMERA
PHOTOGRAPHY BY
RICK CINCLAIR

tO Pierce Or nOt tO Pierce

by XAVIER

“**T**o pierce or not to pierce... or what to pierce?” is the question. In any case, body piercing has become a new fashion statement. “Hey look, I have an extra hole in my body!” Next to tattoo’s and hairstyles, piercing the body has for a long time been a way for people to accessorize their appearance. For women in the U.S., it is not uncommon to have an ear or two pierced. Then men caught on to the ear-ringing thing. It caused a little bit of uneasiness in the household but it was tolerable for those conservative parents. “What rebels,” they would say. Then to out do what had already been done multiple earrings became another piece of the escalator leading to the ultimate body piercing experience. This is when the pain factor may have become an issue. Is it the pain that we love? To continue with the very general overview of the “pattern of piercing,” the nose became the next target for the “piercing gun.” This would enable us to run chains from either ear, to the nose. (I personally feel that “Hellraiser” was the

movie that encouraged the chains, but that would just be my warped opinion.)

Nipples, Nipples, Nipples Let’s all pierce our nipples. As you may have noticed this “escalator of body piercing” seemed to be moving down the body. After the nipples, people who thought piercing was strange started thinking, “What’s next? The bellybutton? The skin between your toes that collects toe jam? Or what about genitalia?” Ouch!!! Without a doubt all of these predictions have come true. Soon people were able to link a chain from their head to their toes. Oh, the thought is stimulating.

Even though piercing the body has become a new fad in our culture, mutilating the body is nothing new around the world. If you think piercing your lip is new...try sticking a half cylinder of bamboo through your lip. Do you feel your neck is ugly? Pierce your neck, or stack about 20 gold rings under your chin to extend it about two feet. In no way am I laughing at this. In fact, I am increasing the length of this article.

In order to explore the body piercing issue, Reporter searched for someone who was looking to pierce something other than an ear or a nose. And by golly they found one, Vanessa Sanchez, a fourth year graphic design student. Our friend, Vanessa, had been pondering the thought of piercing her bellybutton (I refuse to write naval), for a long time. Now was the chance to show the RIT community it is ok to pierce. First she had to be psyched up, then a date was set, and we took off to the *Wild Side*. What you are about to read is an actual conversation by the actual people in this actual story. Ten minutes before the piercing we stopped at Hess Mart and conversed.

Xavier: Say you’re nervous.

Vanessa: I’m very nervous.

X: Do you want to get it done?

V: Yeah. I’ve always wanted to get it done. This is crazy. I won’t be able to hide this though.

X: Why not?

V: Because if I wear a bathing suit or a body suit you can see it.

X: What if you take it out?

V: I'm not taking it out. I'M NOT TAKING IT OUT! It will go along with my tattoos (laughing).

Once we walked in, there was no turning back.

Xavier: How do you feel?

Vanessa: I feel nauseous.

X: Do you feel like having pizza?

V: Yeah!

That is the answer I was looking for. The room where she was about to be pierced is nothing like we had expected. The room was about the size of a booth that you try clothes on in the mall. There was no bed, bench, or even a dentist chair. She would stand for the entire experience. The gentleman that was to do the piercing wasn't what I had expected either. He wasn't bald, his face wasn't covered with tattoos, and he was far from a freak. He was a very cool guy. And Sue Long, an apprentice body piercer, had a short story to share with me.

Sue: One girl had her nose done once, walked down the steps to Aaron's Alley and knocked over a bunch of racks.

Xavier: So it was like a domino effect?

S: Sure was. It was quite interesting

That girl definitely wasn't standing the whole time, was she? Life is so funny, isn't it? Oh it gets better. I pried Sue for more answers.

Xavier: What kind of piercing do you do?

Sue: I can work on customers for the ears and the nose. But, I'm not ready for needle piercing.

X: NEEDLE!

I proceeded to the room where Vanessa would be standing for the piercing.

V: I'm sh*tting in my pants!!

I tried to get closer to see what was going on in the room but, it was very small and I could barely see, especially with four people in the room. So I did the only thing I was there to do... ask Vanessa more questions. Keep in mind I could only see a little bit of what was happening.

X: How do you feel now?

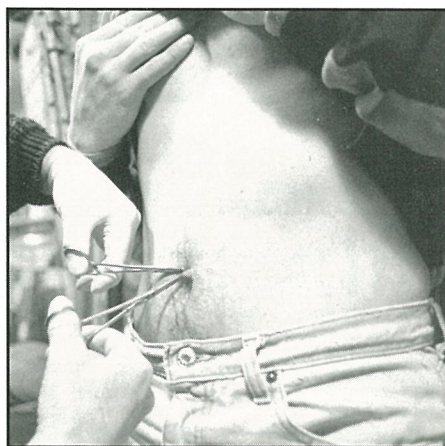
V: EEEEEEEEEEE! Oh my God, Oh My God... No way in hell am I getting...(soon she cut herself off and screamed these words) OH MY GOD!!!

I took the liberty of assuming that the needle had gone through the skin of her dainty bellybutton. Just then Sue com-

mented "wait until you have to give birth without drugs." I relayed the message to Vanessa and she replied something like this: "I am not having kids."

That was the quote I felt I should end on for this first encounter with the Wild Side but then the photographer and I discussed what had happened. We wanted more. It had been a quick event, taking less than ten minutes. We decided to try to find another person (preferably a male) to pierce their body. I thought, "Where am I going to find another RIT student to pierce a body part?"

I had classes. I didn't have time to look for a willing soul. I tossed and turned all night, "Who, who, who?" After my owl impression I asked myself, "To pierce or not to pierce?" I decided to pierce. It was the only way for me to fully experience body piercing. I felt so dedicated to the



article. The next question was, what to pierce? Many ideas were thrown at me: nipple, neck, nipple, penis, nipple, bellybutton, nipple. I chose my bellybutton. It would be a his and her bellybutton review. At one point in time I wouldn't even think of getting my ear pierced, let alone my bellybutton. So I prepped myself for the event by drinking a lot of milk and taking all of my vitamins.

In the meantime, I interviewed Vanessa a little more. I will set the mood... we sat in front of her television on her floor with the smell of grapefruit in the air.

Xavier: Now that you have your bellybutton pierced do you...(she cut me off)

Vanessa: Feel sexier Ha! Ha!

X: Do you feel sexier?

V: No I don't feel sexier but, I'm looking forward to the summer to show it off.

X: Is it really painful now?

V: No, but it took a week before I could sleep on my stomach. But, if I get punched in the stomach it will hurt. Bobbi Joe has kneed me a couple of times.

X: Did you have dreams about pain? Or did you wake up from having a nightmare about being pierced?

V: Not really. I just wouldn't let anyone touch me. I was nervous. I think I had nightmares before I had it done. I was delirious on the way there.

X: Do you have a favorite Beatle?

X: Should I be worried going down to the Wild Side.

V: No, it didn't hurt that bad. But, Thank god I didn't look at it. I'm glad I didn't see it before I got it done because I would have felt the pain.

X: I am probably going to look.

V: No, do not look.

X: Why? Do you think I am going to pass out?

V: Yeah, you're going to be standing there. I don't know why they make you stand.

X: So how long have you wanted this done for? Were you like, five years old?

V: No, It was this past summer. But actually I wanted my nose pierced.

X: Did you want it done after you saw the Aerosmith video came out?

V: No, but I thought that was how it was going to be. Also there were two girls on Oprah that said they got it done laying down.

I was noticing that she said no quite a bit. Then I asked another question.

Xavier: Do you think you should have been lying down?

Vanessa: Yeah!

X: How will your parents react to your bellybutton?

V: I'm going to keep it as well hidden as I can, because they don't know about my tattoo's. They might think that I won't get a job. Like I am going to apply for a job in a bathing suit. I'm going to be in a wedding and... (I cut her off.)

X: Do they have open bellybutton dresses or something like that.

V: No, but no one knows about my tattoo's and if it is low in the back you can see my tattoo's

X: Are you considered a "wholesome girl" at home?

V: No, but it is very conservative.

X: So are you a rebel?

V: No, that sounds corny.

X: Are you an outcast?

V: No, I'm just different from the people that were in my high school. It was like 90210 in my high school.

X: Did you hang out with the wild people in your school?

V: No, I hung out with everyone.

X: You were like Ferris Beuhler.

V: I guess?

X: He is a cool guy.

X: When you shower do you find you hit the bellybutton ring a lot, and do you scream when you hit it?

V: Yes, I do hit it a lot and I scream a lot in the shower.

X: Is there something I should know about the bellybutton ring?

V: Make sure you spin it when you put the medicine on because I couldn't do it. I had to let Bobbi Joe spin it. The skin around the ring was very tender. It was painful for the first two days.

X: Why are you telling me this?

V: I'm sorry.

X: No, you're not.

V: It's not that bad don't worry about it. Just don't look.



X: But, I want to look. Why did you do it?

V: I don't know. I just wanted to try it, if I don't like it I will just take it out. I just think it would be cool.

X: OK then. Well, hopefully when I get pierced they will go really slow. So was it worth it?

V: Yes, it was definitely worth it, I would have been mad if I didn't do it.

Although it seemed as though some of the questions were useless it was important to find out about a person who thinks about decorating the body. I

thanked Vanessa for her cooperation. Soon, I thought, "My turn, my turn," and boy, oh boy, I couldn't wait. I thought I was going to be nervous, scared, or something. The days passed before me just as they always had in Rochester: cold and wet. For some that is nice, OH, but not for me...noooo... I'm never happy. That's another article.

So the day came to lance my stomach and still I felt fine. Once again I picked up the photographer and we took off for the *Wild Side*. We conversed and joked. She asked me if I was Italian. I responded by saying, "Of course I am, I'm wearing a turtle neck and I'm driving a Camaro." What that had to do with my bellybutton I will never know. Still, I wasn't worried. Then we pulled into the parking lot. I finally realized I'm here to pierce my body. What was I thinking? "You only live once," that's what I was thinking. In order to take my mind off what was about to happen, I asked Ken "the piercer" some questions.

Xavier: So do you need a license to pierce?

Ken: That's the problem, there should be. You have people who think they can do it and they end up using the same needle on seven or eight people.

X: ...And that's not good is it?

K: No, it is not.

I was ready. Then Amy, the photographer, said, "Don't be scared." Being the sarcastic guy that I am I said, "are you going to hold my hand?" She just laughed. I took that as a no. As I looked at all the pictures displayed on the walls, I felt that the bellybutton was the normal thing to pierce. Although you were not there to see or experience what I did, I'll let the dialogue lead your imagination into my world.

Xavier: I bet she can't breast feed. Hub?... Oh look at that, a neck that is pierced.... So, should I just get ready or what? Are you going to prep me? Do I have to shave any hair off? Am I fat?

Ken: No.

X: See, I'm not fat. Did you notice an increase in people coming in to pierce their bellybutton after that Aerosmith video came out?

K: Yes. Isn't that strange?



I proceeded to choose the ring that would remain in my bellybutton until it had healed. I picked purple because I love purple. Then I asked Amy...

Xavier: What do you want me to do?

Amy: I want you to look scared. (I made a face.)

X: Is that scared enough?

A: No. (in a soft fragile voice)

X: How do you want me to look? I'm not really scared.

Ken : That's good.

X: That's good? (I didn't know what that meant but it worried me) Well should I look at it?

K: It is up to you.

X: Will I pass out?

K: Well, if you do, we can get it on film.

X: Oh boy!

Something snapped in my head; logic started to kick in; it said, "Hello... Xavier... you are going to let a man stick a sharp object through your ever so delicate skin, without a drug or even Novocain." Then Ken took the needle and moved in on my bellybutton.

Xavier: Oh Boy! This is where I start getting nervous. (Being as self-conscious as I usually am, I asked Ken again...) Am I fat?

Ken: No, you're not.

X: Oh boy! Now it's getting to me. OH YEAH!

I wanted to look at my belly so badly but I was scared to. I didn't know if I would pass out. It felt like he started to make the incision. I started to laugh. My belly was jiggling like an amateur belly dancer. This was not a good time to laugh. To help me ease along this experience one of Ken's workers said, "Oh my God, I feel it too." Thank you. I had to look at this point. He wasn't done, I still

hadn't felt a sharp pain that...

Xavier: Wooo Oh Boy! Oh WOW! This HURTS! GRrrrrrr!

Ken: Does it hurt?

X: Yeah but it's not bad.

I saw some blood come out and Amy tried to grasp the opportunity to get the shot.

Amy: Could you move so I can see?

X: BLOOD!

K: Gotta' get that blood in there.

X: Of course.

He didn't hit a vein or anything and it didn't gush out. It was just blood. Ken was trying to close the ring and he grabbed a few of my hairs and it was tough for him to find the ring.

Amy: Oh no! (with distress in her voice)

Xavier: What? Did you run out of film?

A: Yes.

X: Do you want to wait? Cause I can wait. (in a deep tough voice)

A: Yes, YES.

X: Unless it is dangerous to wait.

K: No, no I can clean it up before I close it.

X: Is this going to be hard to take out because it looks like it is pretty hard to close.

K: No, it's cause you have a hairy naval. (He said it, not me.)

X: Oh Boy!

Just then I felt really sick and my whole body started to heat up. My legs became very weak. I was trying to be a tough guy and take it but... I'm not a tough guy. I'm a chewy soft, huggable marshmallow guy. So like a marshmallow I was oozing when I got hot.

X: Oh, Oh I feel really weird right now.

Well, Ken must have seen that special sparkle in my eye cause he immediately said...

Ken: You better let him sit down.

Xavier: Yeah seriously, Oh wow!

K: That's natural for the piercing.

A: Giggle, giggle

X: Aahhh.

K: All piercing is followed by getting warm, ringing in the ears, and possibly passing out.

X: Oh Yeah! I feel that right now.

K: Sometimes it's a real trip. If you feel like you're going to go just go, it will only last about ten seconds.

X: Could I have some water.

I must have drunk a gallon of water before I felt like standing again. The whole time I was sweating as if Rochester was going to stop raining and I would be replacing the amount of rain fall with my sweat. Although it would be slightly saltier. Ewe,

yucko, but... I just deal with the facts. Slowly the nauseating feeling was leaving my body. I felt a cool breeze.

Xavier: That's the weirdest thing I've ever felt. (Still they handed me more water) It's nice and cool now. I feel like I just ate a York Peppermint patty.

Ken: If you were naked you would still feel warm when it first happened.

Then I thought I should have done this while I was naked. But, we don't want to be disgusted, do we?

X: That is wild! That was worth the experience.

In a matter of minutes I had gone through an ultimate natural high. I recommend this instead of bungee jumping. Oh, and I loved it. Amy commended me on my braveness. My ego soared. That lasted about a second or two. I was looking at my new ornament and I thought, how wonderful life is. Since I have arousal cilia in that area, it was hard to see the ring. It was there ...Oh it was there. After I was back with the real world I asked the unavoidable question.

Xavier: I know there is a special person you have who comes in to pierce the penis. Was the guy who had it done screaming?

Ken: Really loud!

X: Was he a big tough guy?

K: Oh yeah!

X: Were you and your workers laughing?

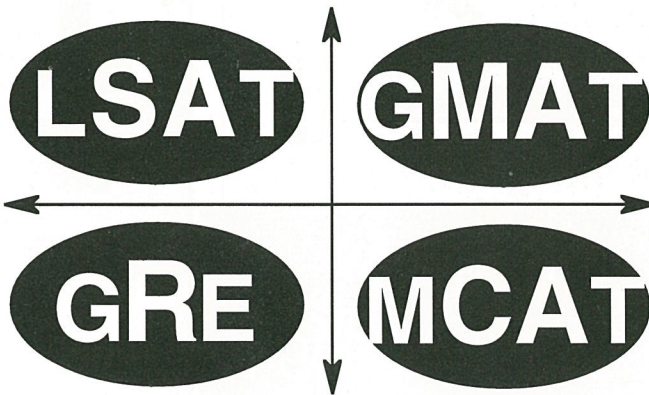
K: YEAH!

I then asked Ken what was the weirdest body part he has ever pierced. He said it was all pretty weird. He has done the neck, arms, love handles, and yes the clitoris. Boy oh boy that would hurt. In some cases someone gets their penis pierced and they end up having a sprinkler system

for a urinary tract. Sounds delicious doesn't it. Ken also pulled out a book that blew Amy and I away. I think Amy said it best when she blurted "These are people who enjoy pain, right?" And Ken replied, "Well that's obvious." Looking through that booklet was the icing on the piercing cake.

What was even a bigger kick in the rump was that sexual intercourse could be performed with rings, rods, and chains attached. I strongly suggest everyone goes down to the *Wild Side* and checks out that picture book and be glad you're not a freak, cause I'm sure it hurts. I thanked Ken for his service (why? I don't know) and I drove home to write my article. Here it is. I hope that my experience has become your experience. If you ever feel crazy or if you are sitting around, craving a short painful experience, go on down Monroe Avenue and..."Hey babe... take a walk on the *Wild Side*... I said hey sugar take a walk on the *Wild Side*... and sing doo do do do do do do...do do...do do do do do do...do do...do doooooo..." PHOTOS BY AMY WOOD

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Baker D. Come and check us out. For more info call Chris at x3347.

PERSONALS

JTW— HAPPY EASTER Darling!! ILU!

FOUR MONTHS, BABY!!! I love you, George.

Big Sis CM, Just to say HI and SMILE!!! From Lil' Sis VL :)

That I'll be \$225 a month please.

Sharon, nice playgirl magazine. Let's hope your daughter has higher moral standards than yooou!

Lara—Article VIX, Section 6...enough

said! Congratulations on Pres!- your evil step sister!

I miss Cancun. I miss Johnny. 7 weeks left baby!

To the DJ at Carpe Diem (serious in control), PG loves you, lets do it standing up!

SAFARIJOE-Happy one year! I Love you!-MOON KID

Michelle your plants will die!

To Tri-Sigma Sisters—Cannot wait for the banquet to come up next month?

Let's go crazy and show our pride and spirit! :) Nervous Banquet Chairperson

Katie: You may be a great editor but.. gotta work on your BOWLING a bit.- Steve

Jelly-Eye Saga #1!Your mom's got a glass eye with a fish in it!

Congratulations to all the new officers and chairs of the RL!!- NLB

To the new reporter staff (Especially Photo), Drop the carrot and loosen up!

I love and miss Don D. Where is he now I need him? I love him so!

Bart "I was a little loose coming out of turn one and crashed."

Happy 23rd Bithday Trieu!

Katie— Congratulations on a year of success! your little

TO SPRING NEW MEMBERS OF TRI-SIGMA—we wish you all the best of LUCK!—SIGMA LOVE, TRI-SIGMA SISTERS!!

Whittemore get a life! Soon!

Michelle, those gosh darn Rabbits nested in a nut fell off the ravine when playing the darn punch buggy game.

Good luck deciding the fate of humans.

Katie— "G", your little

Hey Lil' Meow! I'm still your biggie Meow, no matter what!!! :)

Nancy!— The next time somebody calls you a b ch remember you'e my little & smile! You'll be a GREAT Parliamentarian!!

Kari Leo, I love you and miss you a lot - Jamison

Good luck Womens Lacrosse - lets make it a winning season as usual!

Bob B.—I've enjoyed all the times we've spent together and I hope many more will follow! - M-Dog

Bean Creature Name #1: Ed

Bean Creature Name #2: Pufah

John— Thanks for yet another weekend-of adventures!

LH & SF- Good times to all and how was last night for you both? Love KLC!

LAZ - I Love you for the rest of our livesKC.

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8:00 pm

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CalendaRIT



April 1-April 7

1 9 9 4



Schedule of events

Friday, April 1

• **"The Electronic Book"** Seminar presented by RIT Professor Frank Romano. An overview of electronic publishing. In the Goudy International Center for Font Technology and Aesthetics, School of Printing Management and Sciences. \$125.00 fee includes seminar, fee, handouts and refreshments. Call x2052 for further information. 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

• **Portfolio Presentation.** Learn some general guidelines on how to prepare, organize, and present samples of your work, 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m., Bausch & Lomb Center, 1st Floor Conference Room.

• **Information Technology Expo** sponsored by the ITSO at RIT. Featuring student-generated computer graphics, animation, multimedia communications, virtual reality, video digitization and telecommunications exhibits as well as lectures on the information highway. In the SAU, free. Call A'isha Ajayi at 475-7281 for more information. 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

• **Lunch 'n' Learning workshop on "Text Marking and Note Making."** 12:00-12:50 p.m. in room 2383 of Eastman Bldg. Interpreters must be arranged for by individual. Free, all welcome. Feel free to bring your lunch.

• **The RITZ will be showing "Dog's Life,"** 5:00-7:30 p.m. \$1 at the door, free pizza.

• **Talisman presents "Bob Roberts" and "Dave."** "Bob" at 7:00 p.m. and "Dave" at 9:00 p.m. in Bldg. 6, A205. Free.

Saturday, April 2

• **Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority sponsors a Teen Pageant "Jewels of Today, Pearls of Tomorrow,"** for local high school girls. In Ingle Auditorium at 7:00 p.m. \$5 students, \$10 others.

Sunday, April 3

• **Alcoholics Anonymous** will be meeting at 11:00 a.m. in the SLC classroom.

Monday, April 4

• **Have a nice day!**



Tuesday, April 5

• **Off-campus summer job recruitment.** in the lobby of the SAU from 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Please call 475-2068 for further information.

• **"Taking Good Lecture Notes,"** a Lunch 'n' Learning Seminar. 12:00-12:50 p.m. in room 2383 of George Eastman Bldg. Feel free to bring your lunch. Interpreters must be arranged for by participant. No need to pre-register.

• **Dr. Richard Williams,** author of "They Stole It But You Must Return It," will be presenting a discussion of his book at NTID's Panara Theatre at 4:00 p.m. A reception and book signing will follow.

• **Question and Answer Information Session on the Housing Selection Process.** Residence Life Staff will be available to give information and answer questions about this year's housing selection process. In Kate Gleason, first floor lounge at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, April 6

• **Interviewing Techniques Seminar.** Shows you how to prepare for an interview, the sequence of a typical interview, and how to effectively present yourself. 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m., George Eastman Memorial Bldg., room 3319.

• **Monthly Meeting of Minority Alumni Advisory Committee.** 6:00 p.m., Alumni Room, Student Alumni Union.

• **Isaiah Thomas Awards.** Award given to John J. Curley, Chairman, President and CEO Gannett Co., Inc. for contributions to the newspaper industry. Reception in the Fireside Lounge at 5:30 p.m. Address and Award Ceremony in Ingle Auditorium at 6:30 p.m.



Thursday, April 7

• **Writing Letters to Win Jobs.** Learn how to write effective letters of inquiry, application letters and follow-up letters. 12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m., George Eastman Bldg., room 3287.

• **Deaf Speaker Series "Past+Present=Future"** A panel of alumni, featuring Linda Nelson. 4:00-5:00 p.m. in Tower A Lounge. Call x6759 for more information.

• **RITZ presents "Mannish Boi & the Blues Kings."** 7:00-9:30 p.m. in the RITZ. Free munchies.

• **"Cities Without Suburbs." Caroline Werner Gannett Lecture Series.** David Rusk, author, urbanologist, and former mayor of Albuquerque, NM. will be speaking. 7:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. in James Booth Bldg., Webb Auditorium. Reception following lecture outside of Webb Auditorium.

We hope you enjoy the CalendaRIT listing of events. To publicize your event to the entire campus at no charge, send the name, date, location, time, contact person, phone number, and any other pertinent information to Donna Burke, Student Activities, Student Alumni Union, room 1324 (x2864 V/TDD) by 4:30 pm fourteen working days BEFORE THE ISSUE in which you would like it published.

CalendaRIT

Compiled weekly by Department of Student Activities/Student Alumni Union and published by REPORTER Magazine, Rochester Institute of Technology

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One World, One People Conference

8 p.m., April 15, Frank Ritter Ice Arena

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Student Government, 475-6569

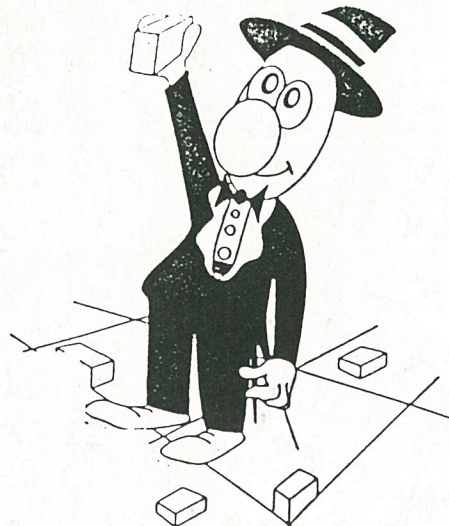
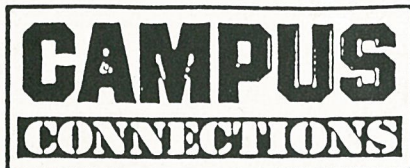
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