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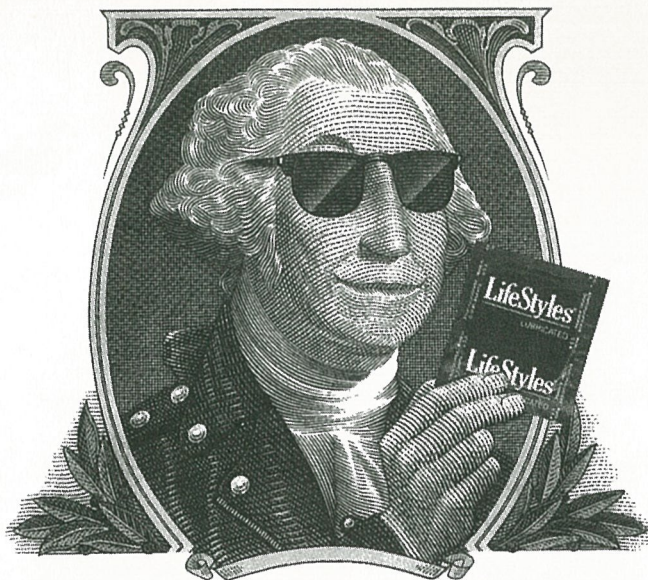
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Again, I have discovered injustice and I feel that it should be addressed and brought to light. Remember that what I am about to tell you is *my* half of the story. This is *my* observation of a situation and nothing would make me happier than if the accused would submit a rebuttal.

The story goes like this: it was Thursday, October 17th, the precise time was 3:50 p.m. I was right on time. (*On time* if you don't count parking and walking to make it into the Alumni room in the SAU). I was going to the quarterly advisory board meeting for the *Reporter*. As I stated, it was 3:50, so parking and walking from the commoner lot was not an option. Being late would not have reflected well on my image as a responsible editor. With that in mind, I drove to the administration lot, hoping to find a spot that would allow me to arrive on the mark. To my dismay, there were no places to park, so I decided to try my luck elsewhere. At the last second I noticed that there was a car parked in the fire lane next to the administration lot. Mind you, this was not any old ca: it carried the signature license plate *RITI*. If you do not know whom that plate belongs to, ask around and someone should be able to tell you. So at this point I glance at my watch and figure, "if its good for *RITI*, then it should be good for me."

The meeting lasted for about two hours, and upon my return I found that ever-so-familiar sight of a ticket tucked neatly under my windshield wiper. Oh well, I figure. If I break the law, then I must pay the price. All at once something occurred to me: what about *RITI*? By this time, the full size *Buick* was gone, but I started to think.... "I wonder if *RITI* received the same punishment as I had." My thought to this question was no, so I considered investigating further. The next day, I consulted my Campus safety source (who will remain unnamed for confidentiality purposes) about the matter. I was told that it was made clear to those who give tickets that *RITI* was not to be ticketed, no matter where it was left waiting. This fact seemed greatly unfair to me.

Why should *I* be ticked and another person who broke the same rule not be? What does this say about the value of punishment at RIT? And furthermore, why should I even *pay* the parking fine? It is truly a slap in the face to think that there are people who are above the law in this community. Just to insure that I was on the right track I placed a call to the Rochester police department to confirm my knowledge of fire lanes. I was told that a fire lane, no matter who you are or what your license plate reads, is a "no parking zone." In the city, as well as the whole state of New York, an individual parked in the fire lane would be ticked or towed. So once again there are people at RIT who are not required to follow the rules that they themselves impose upon us.

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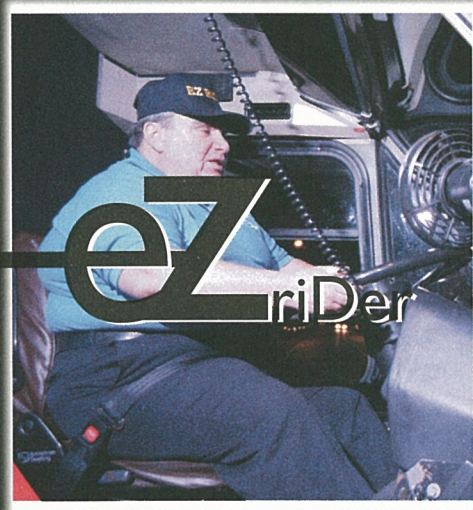
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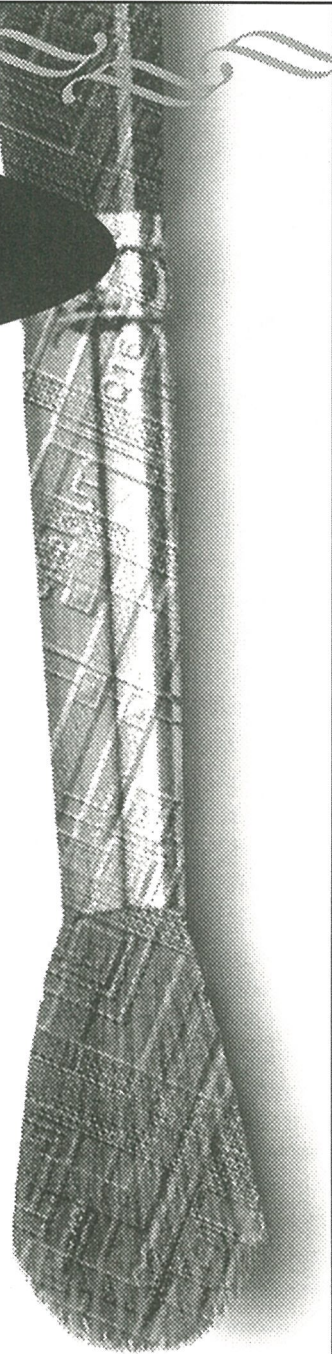
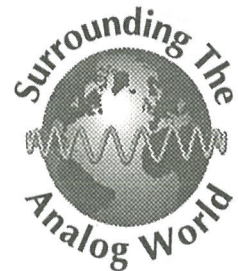
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Student Government

The Alternative Student Fellowship will hold its second annual drag show

Drag Show Hits RIT

The drag show entitled "Absolutely Fabulous" will complement the Miss RIT pageant which will follow.

The show which features Miss RIT 95-96 Samantha Deloris, Miss Firecracker 96 Amber Waye, Miss Gay Rochester Panadora Boxx, and Miss New York State Miss Funny Rochester will take place in Fireside Lounge beginning at 9 pm and there will be a four dollar cover at the door.

the high end estimate of The Pike Company, a local contracting firm. Out of the needed \$1 million needed for the renovations, RIT has allocated \$300,000 to the project. This leaves \$700,000 for the chapter houses to come up with on their own. Without this money, the basements will be closed.

According to Phi Sigma Kappa President Tom Golinski, the fraternities do not have the money for the renovations, and it is doubtful that the money could be raised for the project. Individual fraternities are in the process of hiring their own contractors to assess the basements individually.

Jim Madison of the Office of Greek Affairs said that the alternatives in the event that the chapter houses cannot come up with the money are to close the basements, or to move Greek row to the Perkins apartment area. "We are trying to work with the groups to find a solution," said Madison. "We want the chapter houses to keep their basements. We have no plans to use the basements in any other way."

Regarding the move to Perkins, Golinski said, "It would be a big change, but it is better than nothing."

The basis for the funding problem lies in the number of students affected versus the money needed. The Renovations Planning Committee cannot allocate \$1 million for changes that will affect only roughly 250 students. Likewise, 250 students cannot provide \$700,000 for renovations.

Currently this problem is only in its preliminary stages, and it is possible that more options will present themselves as the year progresses. The timeline for the changes is not available at this time.

By Matt Kozlowski

The weekly meeting of Student Government on October 15 discussed the issues of Organizational Senator Compensation, the Candy Counter survey results, and the creation of SG Platform Committees. The compensation of Organizational Senators was discussed. Currently, SG Senators are given a stipend for their work of approximately 3 hours per week. Most Organizational Senators found they were spending more than 3 hours per week doing SG-related work. The Senators can now receive pay for additional hours worked by justifying the additional hours.

Next issue discussed was the candy counter survey. 87% of the 504 students surveyed did not like the idea of the Candy Counter being absorbed by Campus Connections and vending machines. Many students believed the Candy Counter is a valuable part of the Student Union atmosphere. John Roman, Director of Campus Connections and the Candy Counter, addressed the Senators. He thanked them for the professionalism shown in doing the survey. He went on to say that most of the \$20,000 loss of the candy counter is primarily a result of theft, which is believed to be from cigarette and tobacco products. The results of the survey have prompted Roman to investigate alternative options, such as security cameras, scanning registers, and the possible use of food debit for purchases of certain items at the Candy Counter. Discussions continued with the topic of SG Platform Committees. The three committees that are being looked at are the School SpiRIT committee, Staff/Faculty Connection with SG committee, and the Awareness Committee. The School SpiRIT committee would be primarily focused on researching how the school spirit at RIT can be enhanced. The SFCSSG committee would focus on issues that pertain to both students and faculty/staff. The Awareness Committee would be focused on making the RIT community aware of different cultures, such as the African-American, Hispanic, and Deaf cultures on campus.

There was a question-and-answer period immediately following for special guests President Simone and Dr. Linda Kuk, Vice President of Student Affairs. One issue raised was the construction behind the Computer Science building and the library. The construction is for additional parking lots. The parking lot behind the Computer Science building will be used primarily for Information Technology loading, and the lot near the library will be used for additional parking. Another issue raised was the Student Life Center fees for faculty and staff. Currently, faculty and staff do not pay for use of the SLC facilities, while students are being charged \$35, which is included in their tuition. Plans for future use of the SLC by faculty/staff include a \$35/quarter or \$140/year charge.

The floor was then open to announcements. The Senate announced the debate between Geraldine Ferraro and Pat Buchanan on October 30. The moderator will be Glenn Kist, Associate Dean of Liberal Arts.

The weekly meeting of Student Government is held on Tuesdays from 12:30 until 2:00 PM. All are welcome to voice issues concerning the RIT community.

World News

A 50-year old schoolteacher from Youngstown, New York recently won \$6.7 million from an Atlantic City slot machine. Patricia Brennan's win is the biggest in the history of the Trump Taj Mahal casino, where the jackpot was struck. The woman didn't even use her own money. She played with a complimentary roll of coins supplied by the casino. The jackpot was struck on a Megabucks "Home Run" machine, produced by International Game Technology. The machine scores randomly.

A small airplane with three people aboard crashed in Harlan, Kentucky. All three passengers survived the accident. One passenger had minor back and shoulder injuries, another cut his nose. While, the pilot was remained uninjured. The accident occurred when the pilot tried to land, and ran out of runway. He skidded off the runway and went over a 50-foot embankment. The plane then crashed nose first.

A large quilt memorializing AIDS victims was displayed at the National Mall in Washington, DC. The mall is over a mile long, and the quilt covers most of it. Each patch on the quilt represents a specific AIDS victim. It is estimated that the current number of patches memorializes only 12% of the people who have died from AIDS in the United States. New patches are constantly being hand sewn on it to representing new victims. The quilt, however, is threatening to take up more space than the mall can afford.

The FBI is considering offering a cash reward for anyone who brings forth important information about the cause of the TWA crash. There is debate over the effectiveness of this offer, and it is still under consideration.

Kurdish rebels recently recaptured a key city from their rival faction. Northern Iraq was captured last month by the rival group. Sulaymaniyah, the key city captured, contains over a million people, and the fighting continues. There has been no indication if Iraqi troops were involved in this crisis. Iraq has suggested that the two parties to engage in peace talks, and is prepared to invite them to Baghdad.

An accidental radiation overdose has put 109 cancer patients in danger. The patients were being treated in a Costa Rica hospital when the accident occurred. It was first detected when doctors started noticing that the victims had unusual diarrhea, skin infections, and severe inflammation of mucus membranes in the mouth and stomach. The error has been determined to be in the calibrating of one of the pumping units of radioactive cobalt, which is part of normal treatment.

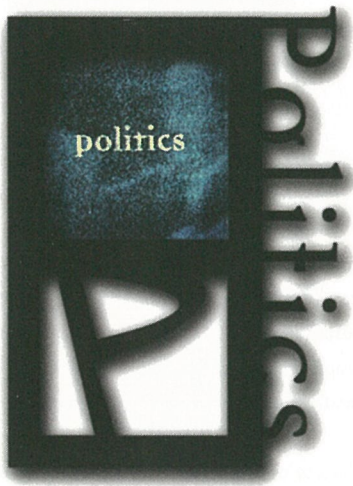
A radio reporter recently confessed to kidnapping and murdering a 2-year old boy. Steven Diddy, 26, was under investigation for the disappearance. Diddy apparently confessed after reporting

on two stories of child molestation on the radio station. The confession came as a total surprise to the police. It has not been determined if the boy was molested, and a motive for the crime has not been revealed. The boy disappeared on February 6 of this year while his mother was sleeping, and was found floating in a nearby river two days later.

Washington, DC was the site of by a recent Latino march, thousands being involved. Of the 30 million Latino citizens living in the United States, an estimated 25,000 people attended the march. The main purpose of the rally was to display unity and gain respect from the government. The march protested the government's mistreatment of American Latinos, and formally made seven demands. Two of them were to raise the minimum wage to \$7 an hour, and to provide free education for all Latinos from kindergarten through college.

In Johnstown, Pennsylvania, an elementary school teacher was put on a three-day suspension without pay for tying three first-graders to their seats as a punishment for misbehaving. Michael Silk has worked for West Side Elementary School for two years. Earlier this month, he had tied some of his students to their chairs with yarn. This went unnoticed until one of the children told a parent. The parent then filed a complaint against the teacher. Parents have also accused Silk of taping the students' mouths shut. Silk admits to tying the children to their chairs with the yarn, but denies using the tape. Due to a lack of evidence, the charges against Silk for taping the students' mouths shut were dismissed. Once he completes his suspension, Silk will be monitored closely and will receive help with his class.

President Clinton, as part of his campaign, is running a radio ad directed toward religious conservatives. The ad features statements concerning Clinton signing a bill banning gay marriages. The ad also says that Clinton works to protect religious freedom and is against late-term abortions except when the mother's life is in danger or severe health risks are present. The ad has been called a way of countering Senator Dole's claim that the President has brought on a "moral crisis" to the country. The radio ad is playing on a majority of the approximately 70 radio stations that Dole has also advertised on.



Political Campaign Strategies

The Dick Morris sex scandal was a quick and painful blow to the Democratic party's political campaign strategy team. The mysterious connections Bob Dole has with tobacco companies and the National Rifle Association is a favorite weapon used by President Clinton. These and other campaign strategies, including past accomplishments, attention to social and ethnic groups, publicizing national party conventions, and raising new issues and negative ads all influence public opinion. It is through these strategies that the candidates hope to win votes and to make their ultimate goal, winning the election, more attainable.

There are countless campaign strategies used by the candidates. The focus of these strategies is dependent upon a candidate's position in the race. If the candidate is destined to win the elections because polls are in his or her favor, then subtle campaigns are used. If the candidate is lagging behind in the polls, more desperate tactics are needed to close the gap.

A favorite strategy of politicians is to promote past accomplishments. In these upcoming elections, this strategy is being used by both presidential candidates. President Clinton can proudly declare that the growing national deficit has slowed since he started his term and that the crime rate has slightly decreased. Bob Dole can speak of his fight to stop the government shutdown last year and recent bills and laws he has helped promote as the Republican Majority leader. Although past political accomplishments are impressive, they do not dictate a candidate's success in the future. Instead, candidates must target particular groups whose vote makes up an integral piece of the election puzzle.

Time magazine recently used the image of a working mother to explain the importance of a specific voter group. This group consists of working women who take care of their children, often without a spouse or partner. Time stressed the fact that this up and coming group is gaining power by numbers and that both Bill Clinton and Bob Dole must gain the support of this group in order to win in November.

Examples of other voter groups that candidates must target



Ferraro V S .

On Wednesday, October 30, at 7:30 pm, RIT is hosting a one-of-a-kind debate between two of America's foremost politicians. Entitled "Shaping America's Future," this debate will feature Geraldine Ferraro, America's first female vice-presidential candidate for a major political party, versus Pat Buchanan, an early contender for the 1996 Republican presidential nomination. The debate will focus on the federal government's role in shaping America's future and will include discussion on crime, abortion, immigration, and the economy. A question-and-answer is scheduled to follow the debate.

Ferraro has been involved with politics for over 20 years. Prior to 1978, she was an assistant district attorney in Queens, NY. In 1978, she was elected to the United States House of Representatives and represented a conservative district from Queens, NY, until 1984. In 1984, her presence was felt on more of a national level when she headed the Democratic Party platform committee. Also in 1984, she was chosen by Walter Mondale as his running mate, and with their victory

are Cubans and Jews. Just a few months ago an American plane piloted by a member of a Cuban political group was shot down. President Clinton quickly issued sanctions against Cuba and some believed it had a lot to do with the influence of Cubans close to the him. The turmoil in the Middle East is another example. President Clinton has gone out of his way to help Israel and its neighboring countries, and by doing so, hopes to gain the support of both American Jews and Arabs.

Political conventions are an excellent campaign strategy that both parties use as a stepping-stone prior to full national campaigning. They are effective since the candidates are given a national platform to voice his party stances and personal preferences. Conventions are such a powerful strategy that USA Today reported a rise in each candidate's popularity immediately after their party's national convention.

One of the more powerful campaign strategies used is to raise issues that the public has yet to hear challenged. Many may say that the idea of raising new issues is easy to implement, but history



B u c h a n a n

in the primaries and their party nomination, she became the first female vice-presidential candidate in history.

Buchanan has been an outspoken conservative politician for many years. His political career began in 1962 when he became the youngest editorial writer in the country for the *St. Louis Globe Democrat*. He has since served as senior advisor to three presidents: Regan, Ford, and Nixon. And he was a strong challenger for the Republican Presidential nomination in both 1992 and 1996. An honors graduate from Georgetown, Buchanan's latest book, entitled *Right From The Beginning*, was a Washington best-seller and discusses growing up Catholic and conservative in Washington, D.C. in the 1940's and 1950's.

Tickets will be available at the Candy Counter for a charge of \$3 for students, \$5 for faculty, staff, and alumni, and \$10 for the general public.

This event will be held in Clark Gymnasium and is being sponsored by RIT's Student Government.

has proven otherwise with the fact that few politicians have come up with new ideas and instead have regurgitated old ones. For instance, Pat Buchanan, who challenged Bob Dole for the Republican nomination, was an impressive contender mainly because he raised a critical issue that no one had debated before: job security. This issue played into the hearts of many Americans who were laid off during the recession and helped Buchanan to an early lead. Even Steve Forbes managed to attract attention by adding a new twist to an old issue with his flat tax idea.

The most important factor in a political campaign strategy is the candidate. A campaign strategy must portray the candidate in the most positive way while attempting to hide blemishes on one's character. Although stickers, posters, pins, television ads, and web pages can promote a candidate, there is no better method than actually going out and meeting the public. Speaking before a crowd, shaking hands with citizens and kissing babies is extremely effective in gaining public support. In this way, the average person can see up close what a potential candidate has to say.

What strategies should be implemented when things look bleak? Campaign personnel will often not abandon their offices until the election is over, but is there a way that a losing candidate can swing votes? Not surprisingly, there are many methods to save a dying ship.

Negative ads were once viewed as media renegades and those who used them suffered more than their targets. Today, negative ads against opposing candidates are common. If we turn on the TV today, we can probably see negative ads targeted against Louise Slaughter or other local November hopefuls. Negative ads are not always a drastic measure, but many politicians resort to them when in desperate need. Negative ads do not explain to the public why a candidate is competent but rather why the other candidate is incompetent. This can come in the form of quoting speeches, citing actions, or criticizing past political decisions and accomplishments.

Character attacks are another political strategy that is often combined with negative media ads. Recently, we have been reminded again and again that President Bill Clinton has had problems with illegitimate business deals, that he escaped the draft, and that he possesses other unpopular traits. However, character attacks are just the tip of the iceberg. We are often exposed to scandals such as the Dick Morris incident or even the apparent suicide of a White House representative.

The campaign strategies political parties will use are many and varied, including desperation tactics that will hopefully save the candidate from a forecasted defeat. What has not been discussed in this article is the considerable amount of funds needed for utilizing such campaign strategies. Not surprisingly, many campaign strategies are not decided on by the candidate or by the campaign manager, but by the amount of funds available. For instance, Bob Dole used most of his campaign funding to earn himself the Republican nomination for president and was at a temporary loss of funds when he began his campaign for presidency. It is more important for you the voter not to be dazzled by stickers and negative ads but rather to read the fine print and understand what each candidate is actually proposing. For it is these plans which dictate the path that our country will follow in years to come.

by: Amotz Zakai

Votes are in on the 104th Congress

Congress adjourned for the last time on Friday, October 4th, until after the 1996 elections. Its adjournment brought an end to the 104th Congress and possibly the Republicans' majority. Overall, nothing too earth-shattering was decided or proposed during the congressional session. With President Clinton heading the Democratic party and the Republicans holding the majority in Congress since 1994, neither side wanted to do anything drastic prior to the elections. That said, the 104th Congress was able to accomplish a few things beside kissing babies and writing books.

Of the major bills passed during this Congressional session, several dealt with crackdowns on criminals. A highly-debated bill, dubbed "Megan's Law," allows for communities to release information to their residents about convicted criminals residing in the area. This bill was brought about to address the concern of residents when repeat sex offenders wanted to move into their communities. While the bill allows for information about the criminal to be released, it protects the victims' identities from being known. Another crime-related bill that was passed involved increasing penalties for sexual offenses involving juveniles.

Besides passing crime related bills, the 104th Congress also tackled wasteful spending in the government itself. Congress cut the number of employees in 29 of 39 government agencies and eliminated 270 federal agencies, offices, projects, and programs. Congress was not done there. They also managed to slash several other agencies. Included in these cuts was a 30% cut over two years in the Corporation for Public Broadcasting; say goodbye to those super-exciting shows about yaks and Idaho night life. Most of these cutbacks were a result of the balanced budget bill's not passing; it failed by two votes, causing Congress to pursue other avenues in the hopes of attracting voters.

The failure of major bills being passed can be linked to the Republican majority in Congress and a Democratic President. It is often the case, especially in an election year, that politicians demonstrate their party loyalty and vote according to their party's position. Unfortunately, the productivity of the government is often curtailed by the fact that the split in government leads to conservative legislation in Presidential election years. Even with low productivity, most Americans prefer to have Congress and the presidency be controlled by different parties. With a split in control, each of the parties has a significant check on each other which makes passing controversial legislation difficult. When one party has control over Congress and the presidency, like the Democrats did during Clinton's first two years in office, passing bills is easier. Consequently, citizen disapproval can become rampant toward the majority party. In 1994, when much of America was uncertain with the country's direction, the public showed their disapproval by giving the Republicans the majority in both the House and the Senate.

Even with the split in party power, the 104th Congress was not a total waste of time. The cost cutting measures passed by Congress on actual programs and agencies was a major step for the government in its efforts to cut into the national debt. That cost-cutting will likely be the determining factor when people look back on the 104th U.S. Congress and evaluate its productivity. All in all, given the power split and the fact that it was a presidential election year, the 104th Congress should be considered a success and a trend setter for the 105th Congress, which begins Tuesday, January 7, 1997.

by Jeremy Donath

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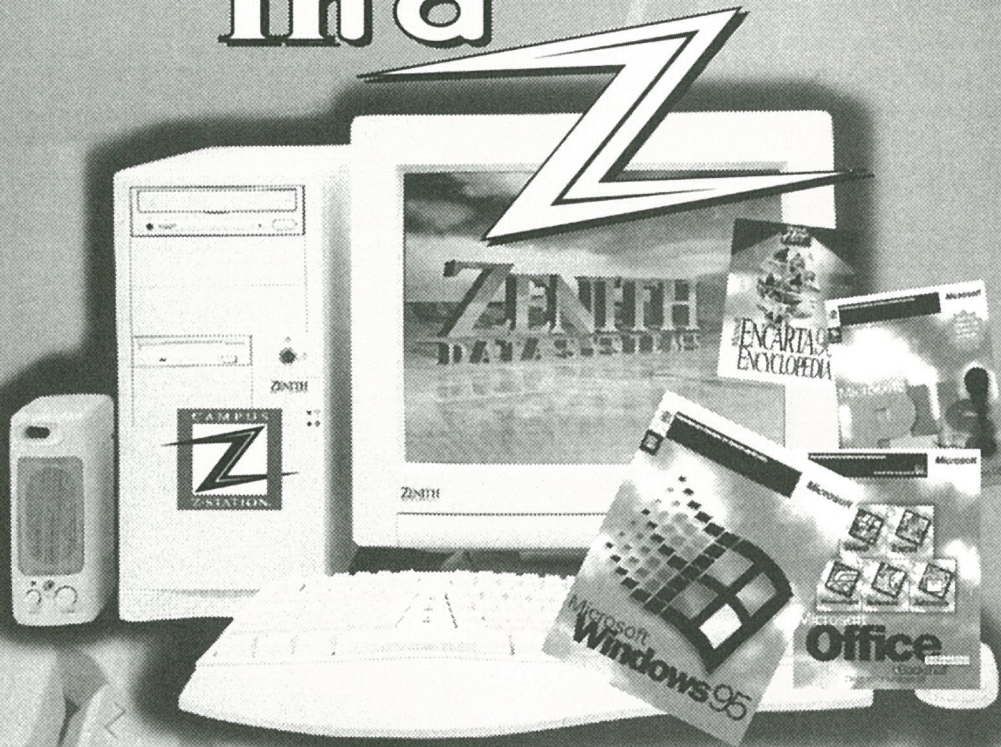
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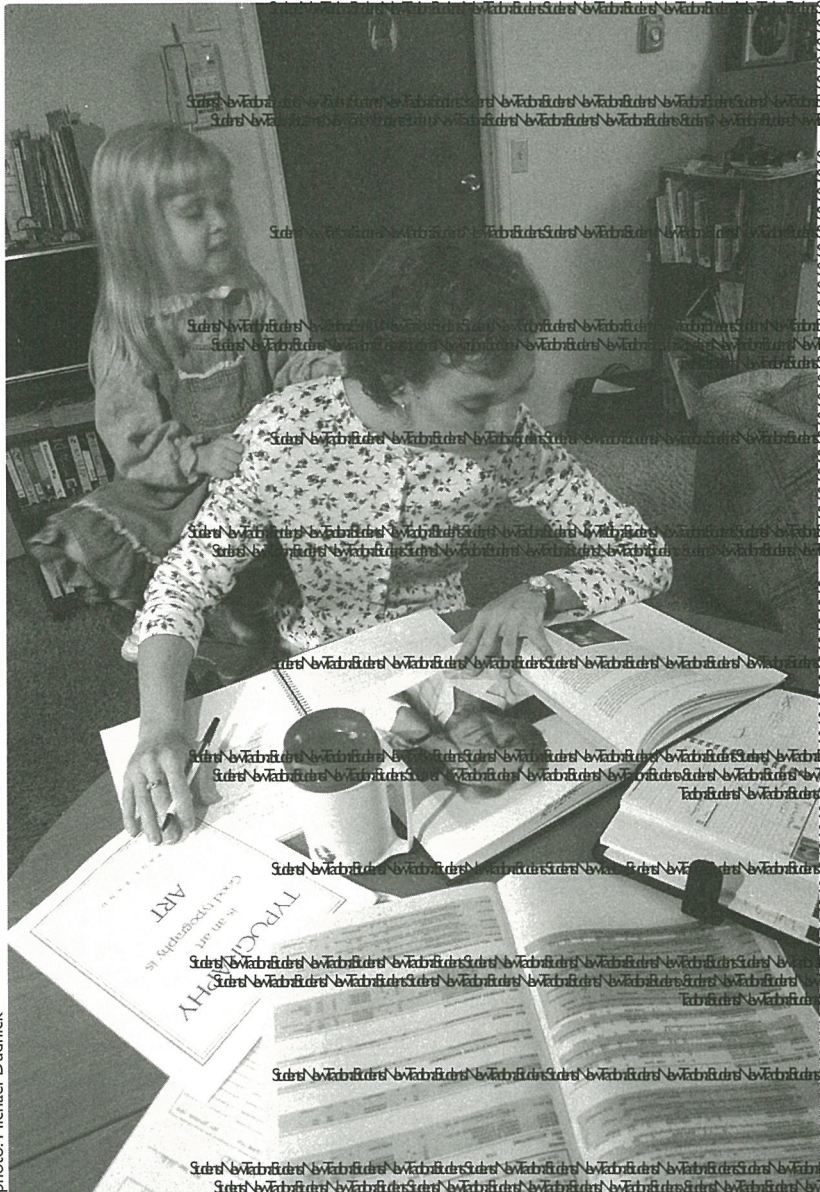


photo: Michael Dudnick

The “traditional” student population at most colleges is comprised of those students who enroll straight out of high school. There are those, however, who come to college after time spent elsewhere. For whatever reasons, a college degree didn’t happen for them via the traditional route. Or if it did, their degree isn’t cutting it for them in the “real world.” So they’re back to school with a lot of life’s baggage dragging behind them and a whole different outlook. These individuals have problems, cares, and concerns unique to their position. That’s why there’s the New Traditional Students’ Association.

John Holmes, the president of NTSA, is a man with a mission. He wants returning adult students to be happy, healthy, and well-adjusted. An energetic, overwhelmingly friendly individual, he exhibits genuine concern for his fellow “New Traditional” students. He looks at the adult student population on campus as a “forgotten minority,” and wants to make certain that they’re not neglected. “Returning adult students are sometimes at a disadvantage,” he says. “We encounter difficulties that aren’t present for the majority of students entering college from high school. Many of us have families to provide for, and/or residences to maintain. There is no source of income other than what we can provide for ourselves. Handouts from parents just don’t happen anymore. I’m not saying that there aren’t plenty of traditional students who work their way through school, but that we often have additional expenses and no one to fall back on when things get rough.”

Besides financial considerations, the time and distraction factor of having children is another difficulty. Kids need lots of attention and care, and that cuts severely into study time. By the time kids are picked up from day care or school, fed, helped with homework or read stories to, and gotten into bed, many adult students are too tired to spend a productive evening in study. “It takes a lot of energy to be a parent. There’s always a distraction or need to be taken care of,” says one returning adult student who chooses to remain nameless. “I’m walking around half the time in a state of sheer exhaustion. Trying to devote myself to my children and my studies at the

same time usually leaves my studies on the short end.”
“Returning to school can also be hell on existing relationships,” says another anonymous NTSA member. Time that was always there for a partner has now deteriorated. Even if your partner is very understanding, the focus in another direction can create a rift that causes problems. Breakups and divorces aren’t uncommon in these situations.”

Another adult student who also chose to remain anonymous makes the point that “A lot of returning adult students don’t want to be here, but because of their employment situation they must be here.” This point is emphasized by Holmes as he recounts the troubles he’s had with neighbors on campus.

“The point is that we are here to get an education first. This isn’t the first time we’ve been away from home, and we’re no longer absorbed with having a place of our own to ‘party’ at. We’re talking survival for ourselves and our families, and it’s a serious matter. Anyone who’s been out there knows that the world is just not one big party. It’s a little frustrating when you ask someone to turn down the music and they tell you [‘Screw] you - move someplace else.’ I mean, you’d expect a little better from individuals at a school of this caliber.”

Holmes mentions the lament of another adult student who says he sometimes feels daggers from the eyes of other students in the class when he slows down the professor to ask a question. John riles as he says, “Hey, here’s a guy who’s been out of school for a while. The stuff is coming back hard.

What’s he supposed to do, just sit there and let it pass him by? The issue is about respect and consideration, and caring about your fellow man.”

Caring is what John is especially good at. If you’ve got problems, he wants to know about them. He wants the group to function as a venting and airing place, as well as a social outlet. “We are a minority,” he says, “but a minority that has just as much right to be on this campus as anyone else. There should be absolutely no reason for any one of us to feel like we don’t belong.”

When you meet Angela, you’re immediately taken by her engaging personality and easy smile. Outgoing and confident, she has tales of resourcefulness and quick thinking that make even the most jaded of life’s travelers smile. “I graduated from high school with a D+ average and a hell of a tan” she laughs. “I was hard drinking’ and hell-raisin’, and I was always told that I wasn’t college material. So after a while, I started believing it myself. After school I set out across country on my motorcycle.

I did odd jobs, sold magazines, was a live-in housekeeper, became a nanny....” The list goes on and on. In ‘89 she enrolled in basic EMT (Emergency Medical Technician) school in Texas. It was there that she learned about a place doing drug research that paid \$100/day to those willing to let doctors test experimental pharmaceuticals on them. Although there wasn’t a call for additional women, because of her EMT training and ability to talk fast, she was able to secure a full-time job as a Vital Monitor. In 1993, she came to Seneca Falls, NY to be with her ailing grandfather. After he passed on, she joined the Navy and was on active duty for a year and a half. Remaining in the reserves, she returned to Seneca Falls and got a job at FF Thompson Health System in Canandaigua. At the time they had a plan that paid tuition for employees at community colleges. She enrolled full time at the Community College of the Finger Lakes where she earned Phi Theta Kappa honors while still working full time at the Health System. She transferred to RIT after a year to join the PA (Physician’s Assistant) program. Still a reservist, she also runs the Veteran’s Learning Center.

Jennifer is returning to college for her second degree. Her first, a B.A. in English Literature, got her an entry level position with a small graphics firm that printed

mainly trade publications. She started out in a secretarial position but eventually assumed more responsibility. When they took on the job of doing the graphics for pharmaceutical labels, she became interested in expanding into creative package design. Unfortunately, it wasn’t felt that it would be “beneficial to the company” to pay her to explore this area. This, and the fact that she didn’t feel that she was being paid what she was worth, prompted her to come back to school.

“School was a fun trip the first time around,” she said. “Instead of a car for my high school graduation my parents said that they’d finance college for me. I went to Penn State and played in the band. My grades were good, and they told us that there were lots of jobs available with an English degree, so I wasn’t too concerned about things. When I hit the job market, I found out just how limited my credentials really were.”

She’s not back for the fun this time around. Through loans and savings she’s paying for a degree in Packaging Science out of her own pocket. Academics have become a much more serious business. “Actually, it’s easier for me to study now. I can stay focused for much longer periods of time. I guess that’s a benefit of being out in the working world for a while.”

Talking with Jennifer, it was easy to see that she was determined and enthusiastic and that there wouldn’t be much to stop her from completing her goal. Another returning adult student though, Mary, has had some transition problems.

Mary has returned to college after a year at Buffalo State and seven years in the US Navy. Originally a photography major, she signed up for telecommunications in the Navy, where she was promised that she would be able to work in the photographic field. Her stay in the Navy took her to London, the Philippines, Italy, France, and Bosnia, but not to a job in photography, so she returned to college with savings and Navy funds to pursue her goal. But it’s been tough for her. Quiet and unassuming, she feels out of place because of her age and different experiences. “It’s difficult to communicate with most of the students because we have such different outlooks. I live by myself and feel completely isolated. Although I’m more disciplined than I was the first time I was in school, the sense of not belonging is a distraction. Sometimes I get discouraged and think about returning to the Navy where I at least have a sense of belonging.”

In contrast, the NTSA’s Vice-President, John Howell, says that he’s finally found a sense of belonging. This is in part because of the club, and partly because of his program. He originally attended Buffalo State in ‘83 as an Industrial Technology major, but transferred to RIT to enroll in Civil Engineering. Unable to find his niche, he dropped out in ‘85 and began working in the printing industry. He worked his way up the ladder, but found that his room for advancement was limited by his lack of a degree. Being hearing impaired, he was able to obtain funding to return from the Office of Vocational and Educational Services. As part of the program, he works 28 hrs/week as a pre-press operator at the T&E Center and as an NTID adjunct teacher in Electronic Publishing and Printing Technology. At first he felt isolated because of his age, but joining the group made him realize that he wasn’t alone. The work load and the care of his daughter makes it difficult academically, but he’s much more focused this time around because he knows what he’s doing. “When I first went to school I didn’t really know what I wanted. I was a first-generation

college student and didn't have any role models. In my opinion there should be a course in high school that explains more thoroughly what the options in the real world are all about."

Dawn Denny is a 28-year old transfer student now in her sophomore year at RIT. Dawn's decision to come back to school is unlike most returning students. Dawn was forced to make the decision to come back to school because of the deterioration of her hearing.

After high school she went to community college for two years and obtained her associate's degree in Applied Science. Once she received her degree, Dawn decided to forgo further schooling and began to work as a full time medical assistant. However, with her hearing becoming progressively worse, it became evident that she needed to choose a new career. This is when Dawn decided she was coming back to school, where she's now working towards a career in either ultrasound or biomedical computerizing.

Dawn is no longer employed and is currently a full time student at RIT. She was able to finance it through the aid from VR (Vocational Rehabilitation) and through an inheritance left to her by her grandfather. During the past summer, Dawn stayed with her grandfather and helped him get around while he was very ill. When he passed away he left her enough money to help put herself through college.

In her second time around in college Dawn has a whole new perspective on the college experience. "I see things totally different now. The first time I attended college all I wanted to do was party. Now I see kids doing the exact same thing that I did my first time around in school." But by having spent time in the "working world," Dawn realizes that that's not going to get you by in life: "I know how it is once you get out of school. You have to be more prepared, more serious, because it's very competitive out there."

The fact that Dawn is a few years older than many other college students creates communication problems. Not only does Dawn attend school with 18- and 20-year olds, but she lives among them in the Perkins housing complex for RIT students. "It's not that difficult being an older student, but sometimes I do have different views than other students. You see there are these fraternity guys who live below me and are constantly having parties. The noise doesn't bother me so much because I'm deaf, but come 2 o'clock in the morning I can still feel my floor moving. Basically I think it's important to have fun, but you have to realize how hard and competitive the real world is. So while people are here academically, they should try to make the most out of being here."

For some people the creative and energetic atmosphere of college can be too attractive to let slip by. This was the case for Grace Gladney. Initially, she didn't have a great desire to attend college. By the end of her senior year in high school she didn't feel like she was ready to make the transition, so she opted to go to work instead.

What prompted Grace to start school at RIT was being a full-time employee here. She works in the Printing Management and Sciences Department as a secretary and financial assistant. "Being a part of this department, I noticed the type of careers and jobs the students were getting through the management program, which piqued my interest."

Grace was given the opportunity to go to school and work on advancement in her career. She is a part of the Flex Degree program, which provides for all of her

tuition and financial expenses except for textbooks.

Grace, who doesn't reveal her age, admits that there can be disadvantages to going to school later on in life. "I'd say it's harder for me as opposed to other students because I don't have the flexibility in my schedule that they do. It's harder for me to complete my assignments...[because] I have to work full-time at my job here at RIT and then juggle my classes around that."

"Reflecting back, it would have been much easier to have gone to college right out of high school. Having gone straight out of high school to college I would definitely be much further in my career than where I am now."

Grace does feel she has an advantage over students who haven't yet been out in the job market. She has a sense of how a business is run, and how a person is supposed to deal with different management styles and different personnel. "After graduation, a lot of students don't know how to handle themselves when put into a real business atmosphere. They haven't the skills to deal with people. The Co-ops aren't enough to prepare a person for the work force. The 10 weeks that the Co-ops last aren't enough to give them the whole feel of how a business is run. They don't get the same experience as would a permanent employee. So for that, I do feel like I do have an advantage over the other students."

For many, college is a stage in their lives that they have to be ready for. And for some people the college stage isn't right after high school. This is what Barbara Lee, a 4th year student at RIT, found out.

Barbara went to college for only two years. She just wasn't ready for the college scene. "A lot of people at the age of 18 are too young for college. They need to get out on their own and live a little."

After college didn't work out, Barbara worked in New York City as a stagehand for a few years. By 1993 she realized she didn't have a future there. She found herself unable to get a union card, without any type of health insurance, and with no job benefits. She entered an employment program to assist in finding a new career, and it helped her decide on continuing her education here at RIT. She moved from New York City to Rochester to attend school, and will be graduating this spring with a degree in Photographic Technology.

As an adult coming back to college, Barbara felt that one of the most difficult academic challenges was dealing with her math classes. Ten years after math class, grasping mathematical concepts can be difficult. To cope, she enrolled in a math class called Continuing Education, which was filled with adults. Here she had, as she describes, a wonderful teacher and an opportunity to be in a class with people in the same position of needing to be refreshed on a lot of their mathematical backgrounds.

Being an adult student in classes with young adult students can be, as Barbara put it, "Entertaining at times and annoying at others. I noticed that in many of my liberal arts classes the younger students don't talk much. The older students are the ones who participate in class and act eager to learn.

"Having been out on my own, coming back to college has been a completely different experience. I can appreciate what college is all about. While younger students are trying to figure out the least amount of classes they need to take before graduating, I'm trying to figure out how to take the most before I leave. Basically, I feel that my education is my responsibility, and I should make the most of it."

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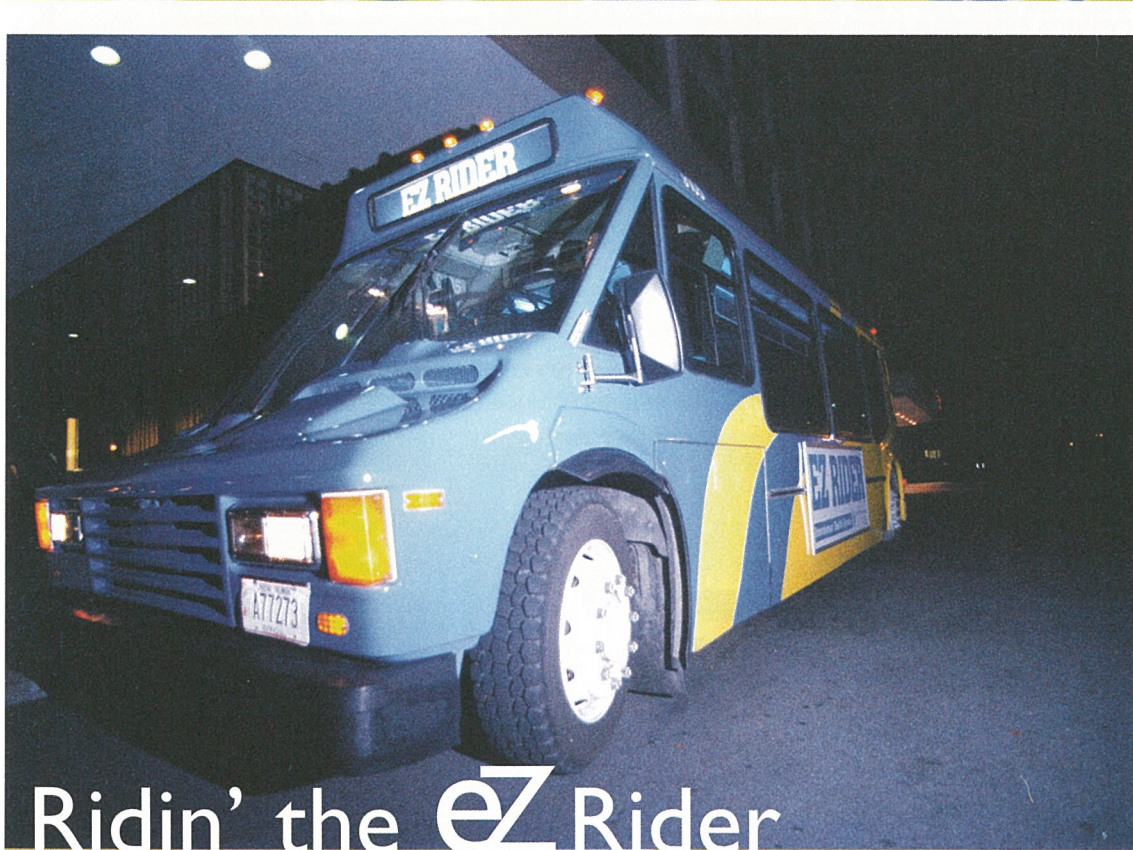
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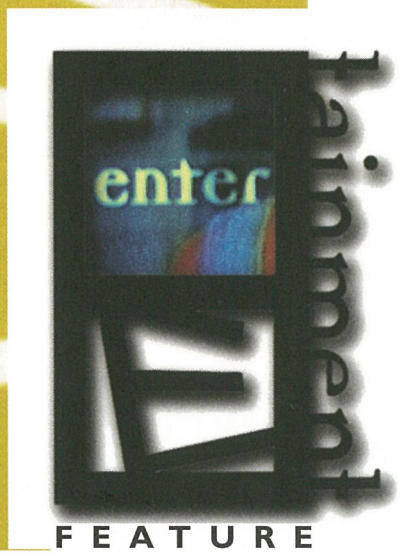
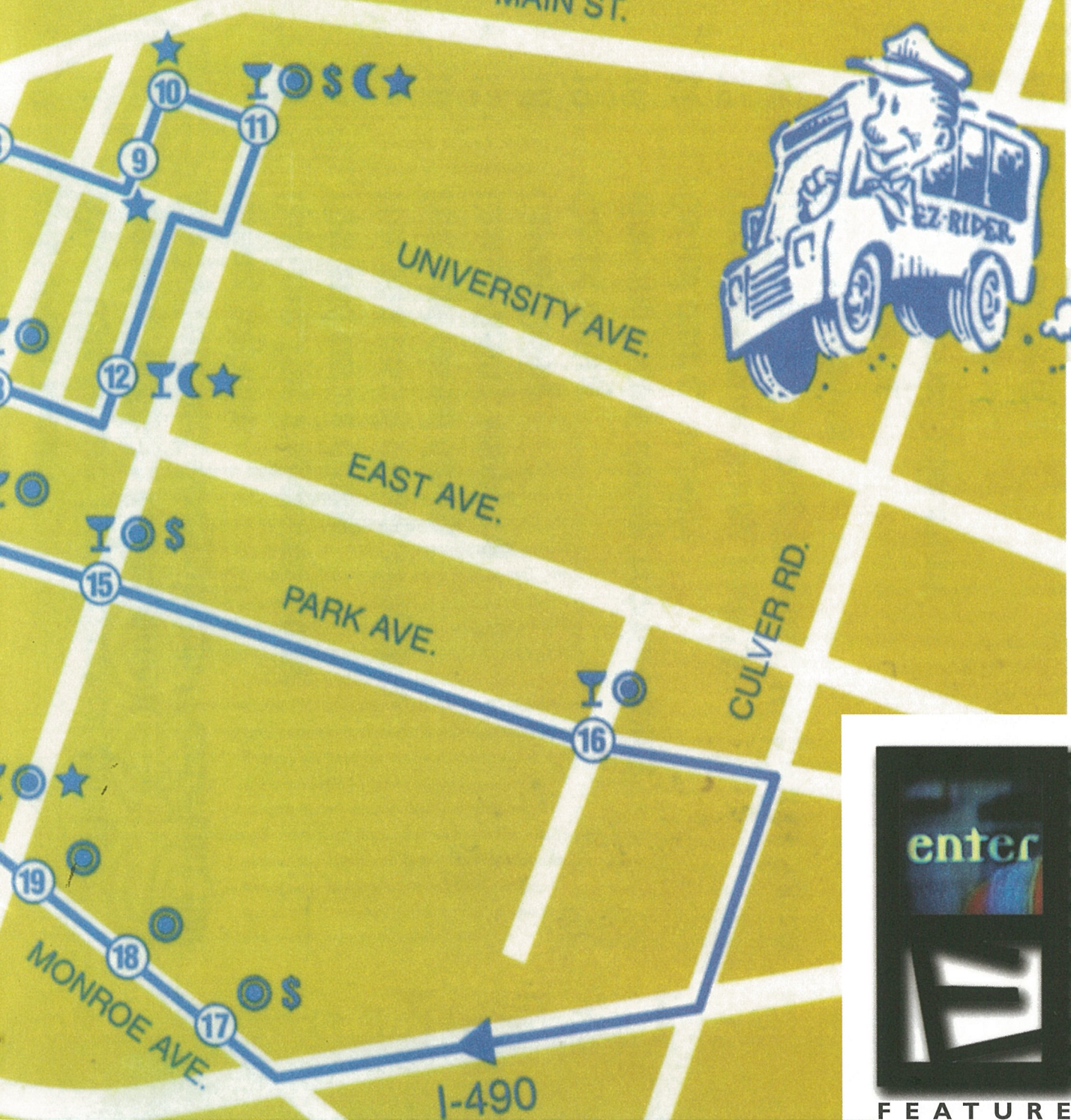


Ridin' the eZ Rider

E-Z-Rider, that crazy yellow bus with the illuminated blue interior which zips around downtown, creating a mystery for all who see it go by. What is it? Well, people still aren't sure what it is, or what to think about it. I say this, because while riding on the little yellow bus, I noticed that many people were pointing and staring at us in amazement. They were probably wondering, "who are those people riding the short bus and where are they going?" What is up with the blue and yellow motif, anyway? Well, my driver, Tom Cirrincione, stated that the choice of the interior took a "lengthy decision process," but in the end, "definitely catches the eye." He went on to say that "curiosity gets many people on the bus, visitors and locals alike," and in my mind, it is drivers like him that keep these individuals coming back.

Still, what is the E-Z-Rider service all about? It is sponsored by the city of Rochester, and according to Kevin Fallin, who is in charge of the service and the drivers, the service started this past July and has served 13,000 people so far. Also, at this time, E-Z-Rider and the individuals involved are going through a year-long inaugural trial period which has caused skepticism amongst the Rochester community. However, the year of financing will hopefully be followed by support from business dollars within the district and advertising by the city, as "Rochestarians" and business owners begin to realize the benefits of consumer and tourism dollars.

Right now it offers a convenient way to enjoy the night life of downtown. Friendly drivers escort you to all of the entertainment areas, while you are safely contained within a lively interior of psychedelic seats, silhouetted by the iridescent light inside. Most importantly of all, the RTS bus number 21 connects to the E-Z line on Main Street, offering a safe ride for those students who may be out for a wild night of drinking.



Unfortunately, not all of the busses in service look the same, but they all offer a comfortably heated ride through downtown. The service is in operation:
 Mon. - Fri. 5:30pm - 10:00pm
 Fri. & Sat. 5:30pm - 12:00midnight

It arrives at stops every fifteen minutes. For those that want to simply take a relaxing tour of the district, the full trip is approximately 45 minutes. As a matter of fact, Tom, my driver, states that the service "is a great way of giving your out-of-town guests a personal tour." Also, drivers like Tom give a good deal of detail about the city and are always glad to answer whatever questions you may have.

WHAT THE DOWNTOWN DISTRICT OFFERS

Along the route you can take advantage of many aspects of the Rochester entertainment scene. Simply hop off when you see something of interest, because no matter what happens, the E-Z-Rider will return within fifteen minutes. Just make sure that you "look" like you want on, so that the driver stops. Unfortunately, I made the mistake of smoking a cigarette at the stop. The driver must have read this as disinterest because he flew right by.

Outstanding choices in restaurants include fine and casual dining alike; with choices in the genres of ethnic, fast food, sandwich shops and cozy cafes. Along the route

http://cityguidelycos.com/

18./19.

Now that we are all becoming familiar with how to utilize the E-Z-Rider service in the downtown area, it will be more

important than ever to become aware of what is going on in Rochester. To do that you can tap into the internet. Once you have connected to this page (see title), you will want to qualify and down-size your search. On your screen you will see a full-size map of the United States, which offers access to 7,500 web sites from over 400 U.S. cities. By simply clicking on NY state you will jump to information about the mid Atlantic region. From there you will want to click on Rochester, which is under the NY state menu. Once you arrive at the page for Rochester, you will receive a short bio on the city, along with a quick-access menu to the different forms of entertainment available.

Also provided are fast links to all of the information you will need in order to plan an evening out in our city. Clicking on *Hot Spots* will link you to the places worth visiting around town. *Vital Statistics* incorporates information and statistics provided by city hall and an overview of what the city has to offer. *News Links* allows you to peruse through information from the *Democrat and Chronicle* and the *Times-Union* papers.

If you are interested in quickly accessing sports information, you will want to check out *Hometown Sports*. This will give you a quick synopsis and stats of the *Rochester Rhinos*, *Red Wings* and *Amerces*.

Local Flavor will advise you of upcoming events, and the *Weather Report* will help to inform you of what to wear to such events, providing worthy information to locals and visitors alike.

Of great interest should be the link to *George's What's What in Rochester*, which provides *George's* personal opinions on everything from cool clubs to pubs. However, for those who are more visually-oriented, take a virtual tour through Rochester in the *Visual Relief* section.

Finally, clicking on *Visitor Information* will access a map of the city and a categorized search that will facilitate your need for action and excitement. So take a look, because you never know what's out there until you do.

ERIC SHAFFER

E-Z Rider E-Z Rider E-Z Rider E-Z Rider E-Z Ride

you will also find night life, such as live bands and dancing, as well as a shopping district offering a variety of boutiques. The E-Z guide to downtown boasts having "everything from mainstream to extreme." Entertainment in the area includes live theater, fine cinema, symphonies, museums and the Frontier Field for sporting events.

The trip has the potential of providing fun for everyone, since each stop offers something different. The E-Z-Rider pamphlet goes on to state, "Just hop on the E-Z-Rider shuttle for a FREE lift to Rochester's HOTTEST spots."

Conveniently enough, you can start your trip by parking at either the Metro Center or High Falls, both offering sponsored parking in their garages. Once on the bus, the driver will point out spots of interest to you, as he did for me. Between stops 17 and 22, Tom made me aware of the inherent positive quality of Monroe Ave., which was described as the heart of entertainment on the cusp of the city. Here you will find plenty of establishments to eat and drink at. The *Bug Jar* offers a hangout for those looking for an alternative-style corner bar, while *Woody's* offers your traditional bar and grill scene. Also of interest is the *Village Green Bookstore*, which features fine chocolates, as well as all types of printed materials. If you are looking for a good meal, *Aladdin's Natural Eatery*, *Mama Taconie's* and *Alexi's* all offer a variety of meals at reasonable prices. Finally, for those connected to the media highway, the *Hub Cafe* is a new and innovative "on-line" coffee shop.

The next stop pointed out is number 11, the *Village Gate Square*. Here you will find a compact shopping extravaganza, which is a fine alternative to being a "mall rat." Also, there are a plethora of restaurants here, offering interior and exterior dining by season. Standing out from the rest is *Savannah's*, which is featured this week in the restaurant review. Also located here is the *Crocodile Rock Cafe*, which is definitely worth checking out, especially on Wednesday's Jazz night, offering a small cafe-type environment. It sets a mood of its own.

At stop 28, our driver pointed out that the High Falls area is probably the main attraction of the route, offering fine and casual dining, plenty of entertainment and

Sleepers

Mike and I decided to check out the new movie *Sleepers*. After seeing the ads in the Reporter for the past two weeks and countless television commercials, we were interested in the film. It is always an experience to see a movie on opening night. We were late to the theater, and expected to need binoculars to see the screen. To our surprise, there were fifteen other people in the theater. We were a bit confused.

We watched the opening credits roll by, showing off an all-star, powerhouse cast. Expectations were quite high with names like Kevin Bacon, Dustin Hoffman, Robert Deniro, Minnie Driver, Jason Patrick and Brad Pitt. (Wow! think about the paychecks that must have been handed out for this film). The story is about four boys, a prank gone bad, their time spent in a reform school and how the events there changed the directions of their lives forever.

The movie begins in a working class neighborhood in New York City called, "Hells Kitchen." It is summer and the kids are all out getting into trouble. Early on, we see the role of the church in the neighborhood and in the protagonists' lives. Robert Deniro plays a priest with a casual approach to preaching. Father Bobby liked to preach from the bump-and-shove of a pick up game instead of the pulpit. The portrayal of the priest as the boys' friend was interesting. The difference between Father Bobby's approach to teaching the boys and all the other "authority" figures in the kids' lives was a clear look into generational differences. This difference was brought out early and continued throughout the movie. We found the story to be dull, however. Interestingly enough, though, we didn't

the movie being so long, two and a half hours. There weren't that many surprises in the movie. Mike thought the revenge was a little soft. I tend to think it was pretty well done, there was a depth and range to the way revenge was taken. I think this gave the movie some extra life. The character development was lacking in our opinion. At one point during the boys' incarceration, there appears a guard who offers a bit of kindness. One brief scene and this guard is gone. We thought this was a bit suspicious. Later in the movie, Dustin Hoffman's character suddenly appears. The only knowledge of him comes from the neighborhoods: a mob boss' brief talk with him. All we know is that he used to be a good lawyer, but now he is an alcoholic with a drug problem who lost the last four cases he took. We are never given any context as to how this lawyer fits into the neighborhood or why. The Fat Man is another character who has one scene of developmental dialog and later figures prominently. These were all characters whom you didn't necessarily need to know about, but got the feeling that things were being left out.

Visually, the movie was well made. There was a rich and varied use of symbolism. The prominent role of the church provided some of the symbolism. Tunnels of light and dark provided us with some more symbolism to ease us in and out of the taboo subject of rape and child abuse. We thought the prison rape scenes carried the needed power, and were still dealt with in

a tasteful way. It was obvious what was going on. It cut out quickly and your mind easily filled in the rest. They helped do this by having the audio continue after the edit.

There was some interesting use of black and white footage in flashback scenes. One of the boys was in solitary confinement. It was dark, except for one ray of dusty white, almost holy looking light shining through a hole in the glass and hitting the bruised and bloody palm of his hand. The dust in the light formed the grain in the film for a black and white flashback sequence which played itself between his fingers. The audio that went along with all the flashback scenes was much like when you're falling asleep in front of the television on a sunny, winter Saturday. The voices are full of static, faded, stretched out, and yet the accompanying images are in real time. Audio overlaps image while things blend and fade, so you are never sure of what belongs where. There is speculation as to whether or not the movie is based on a true story. It doesn't matter to me because the film was entertaining, and that is why I went to the movie. It didn't change either of our lives, but we were entertained for a couple of hours. What more can you expect? This wasn't the *Discovery Channel* or *National Geographic*. It was a Hollywood movie and that was what we got. **We'd say to wait until it comes to R.I.T. and see it for two bucks.**

Jerred Bogli

shopping. However, Tom maintains "that the main attraction is the laser light show... and free parking garage."

The War Memorial is exceptional for hockey games and concerts, while *Frontier Field* hosts other sporting events. Finally, Tom made sure to point out the entire Park Ave. and East Ave. area, which offers a diverse evening out with plenty of action and people around. Also in the area, which everyone should already know about, are interesting little shops and cafes.

BUT, WHAT IS THE CROWDS' REACTION?

Mike Hardy, who is the Director of Visitor Information Services in Rochester, has plenty of positive things to say about the service. He states that he is pleased with the service and feels that it meets the dual goal of servicing locals and visitors. From there he went on to say that people here for conventions have been pleased by the service and "visitors [have become] the frosting on the cake." Basically, what it comes down to is that he is optimistic and excited about the usage of the service, as well as the people involved.

Kevin Fallin, who is in charge of the E-Z-Rider service, states "that the service is doing better than he had expected and has created a solid positive reaction from the community, as well as from tourist [response]." However, he went on to say that there has also been a "slow reaction from business in the area." This is probably because they are still skeptical about the service and wary about the business that it will generate. Still, he feels that positive attributes, such as *Frontier Field*, the showing of *The Phantom* and the High Falls area, will keep the service running into the future.

Tom Cirrincione, my driver and a part-timer who simply loves his job, says "that it is great for college kids like yourself," and that overall the service has been good.

SAVANNAH'S GRILL & BAR "Where There's Smoke..There's Fire"

Savannah's is a traditional grill and bar, serving lunch and dinner with what they describe as "American fare with a southern flair." It is conveniently located within the confines of the *Village Gate Square*, at 274 N. Goodman Street, and can be easily accessed at stop #11 on the E-Z-Rider route. They offer free and centrally located parking, wheelchair accessibility and reservations (271-2790). They also cater large parties and maintain a well-stocked, full service bar. The convenience and positive experience provides a perfect evening for all crowds that are out looking for a good time with great food.

The atmosphere is developed with a southern style and irresistible charm. The host was wonderful, welcoming us to the establishment and asking what he could do to make our evening more enjoyable. On top of this, the upbeat crowd provided a lively environment. The interior design only accentuates the positive characteristics of the restaurant, making it fun and comfortable. Overall it creates a "comfy" and quaint setting, which is always on the edge of excitement.

It seems that the southern hospitality runs over into the service as well. Cristy, our server, created the pleasant experience that we encountered through her beautiful voice and enchanting demeanor. She seemed comfortable in this setting and in complete control of the situation. All of this tied together with the quick and tidy service, which made me feel like I was in heaven.

Even before the food was served, I was sold on this restaurant. It was the food that pushed me over the edge into complete submission. The menu is stocked in the areas of drinks, appetizers, sides, barbecues and entrees.

The name of the drinks alone set the mood and theme of the restaurant, offering such specialties as the Dixie Stinger and the Savannah Peach. So no matter what your mood, they are sure to match it with a drink.

The lunch menu offers the right style and selection at affordable prices for college students. Next, the dinner menu offers a full range of appetizer choices, which introduce the southern style with choices like Cajun Fingers and Savannah's Hushpuppies. The Southern Barbecue is described as "Slow cooked, using seasoned hardwoods." You will have to believe me when I say that this shows through in the quality of the finished product: the meat is tender and succulent. While you are there, you should definitely check out the Barbecue Combo, or the Memphis Dry Rubbed Pork Spareribs. Either way you will discover that they don't exaggerate when they state, "We simply offer the best Southern Barbecue in these here northern parts."

The major appeal of the food, beyond the taste, is the great presentation and rack of exotic hot sauce located on the wall, as if you were in your mom's kitchen. Even though the bill can rack up quickly for dinner, the price is well worth it, because the experience provides you with entertainment, southern exposure and a pleasant state of satisfaction in your belly.

20.

ERIC SHAFFER



photo: Michael Dudnick

People on his bus love admiring the Rochester skyline, and "It benefits the businesses in the area, by bringing in tourists." I inquired about the effects of vagrants and street people in the area. His response relieved questions about there being any problem at all. He told me "that these undesirables have not been a problem." He feels that this is because he lays down the law, which is a one-strike policy calling for no begging or use of offensive language. He says that, "I don't mind them as long as they follow the rules: they're just down on their luck." So overall, he feels that E-Z-Rider is a definite plus to the Rochester community.

Along the route we stopped at the *Radisson* hotel, an establishment which definitely takes part in the service. Here I was told that everyone has been very receptive: Leonard Perkins, who was behind the front desk, was glad to answer my questions. He answered, "it has been good for us...Especially this past summer." The guests say that they enjoy the convenience of it all, and it seems that the service is a positive feature for vacationers and business travelers alike. In conclusion, Leonard states, "I haven't gotten complaints from cabbies." However, you never know--as things begin to grow, they may start to be adversely affected.

During my travels, I ran across many different individuals who were utilizing the lift for a variety of reasons. Roy Howard and his associate, both from Creative Seminars: Recording and Reproduction, were in town for the N.Y.S. Psychological Convention. They were glad to let me know that they had been hopping on and off the E-Z-Rider to visit our lovely city. Both of them think that the service is a great idea and invites a cross-section of people to make use of it. Roy even went on to say, "I have enjoyed every minute of the ride so far."

Next, I bumped into Gary Petroski, formally of Buffalo, who has made Rochester his new home. "The E-Z-Rider makes getting in and out of games at *Frontier Field* easy and convenient." However, he feels that it could become so much more: it just needs to "snowball, and could become the crux (or center), of everything." With more stops and advertising, he feels that it could have the potential to work very well for the city, stating, "I believe that this is the answer to Buffalo's Rapid Rail System, but it definitely needs time to catch on ... but is what the city needs."

THE MEAT AND POTATOES: DRIVERS

Still, it is the drivers that make this such an exceptional service. This is because they help to promote Rochester as a friendly city and have done a great job of letting people know what's going on. They are also becoming very fluent at answering questions. Why are they so good at their job? It's because of the five hour training seminar that they all go through. During this time they take a driving and walking tour of their route. This allows them to develop a rapport with businesses in the area and to see what's out there. Mike Hardy states that, "Drivers have been receptive [and are] helping with the overall perception of the E-Z-Rider program." Mike is also the person who trains the drivers on the Entertainment factors in the district. He goes on to say, "Businesses realize that the drivers can be important in getting the customers in the doors."

WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD

Even though some aren't very optimistic about the future, like one ominous rider Thursday night, who said, "Whenever they do something right, they always screw it up," the future still seems bright for the E-Z-Rider. This is because it is something that the community could thrive on, and therefore, deserves a closer investigation into what is being done to continue it into the future.

Mike Hardy anticipates service into the future, but believes that it will take more than great drivers like Tom, whom he thinks "is a great guy, [and is] very enthusiastic about his job." He believes "that we will need assistance from the city and businesses in the future." Along the same lines, Kevin Fallin says, "Expect to see it grow in the future...as more people become aware." However, he agrees with Mike that "The key will be to get the restaurants and businesses involved." He also feels that the city will have to do more advertising in the future.

Right now Mike feels that the mayor of Rochester and lifeline service through RTS are very helpful, but admits, "We will need innovation to succeed in the future." Mayor Johnson has gotten into the act by establishing a get acquainted night on the shuttle, which consists of progressive dinners through the district with influential members of the community. He is doing this both in an attempt to promote the E-Z-Rider and the downtown district. One of the drivers who drove the mayor said that "The mayor is just bar hopping...as far as I'm concerned, he's just another guy on my bus."

In the future, Kevin Fallin feels that the High Falls area will become the major entertainment center, with the introduction of its new micro brewery, which is coming within a year's time. This is something that is expected to increase service in the future.

Finally, Mike Hardy feels that a vital part of the future success is "to change suburbia thinking and to make the hotels realize that downtown is for everyone. We need them to 'buy' into the service and realize that it could be mutually beneficial." Eventually, he says to "look for extended hours and perhaps a small fee."

Mike Hardy -- "There are HOT alternative youth spots (along the route), which are great for college kids." Also, the E-Z-Rider makes getting around easy and replaces the need for a designated driver. Simply take the RTS bus number 21 to main street, which costs \$2.50 round trip and allows you to connect to the E-Z-Rider and enjoy its services until 12 midnight. So whether you are out for a night of partying or dinning for two, or you just want to tour the city -- check out the E-Z-Rider and please let the drivers know what a great job they are doing.

ERIC SHAFFER

photos: Michael Dudnick



Government Research at RIT

05.00
9HZ

by JD Smith

One of the most significant sources of student research projects here at RIT is government-funded agencies. Not only do these agencies provide an excellent way to enhance the experience that students acquire during their study at RIT, but they also pave the way for RIT to become a national leader in research.

Research for federally-funded agencies like NASA, NSF (National

Science Foundation), NIH (National Institute of Health) and the CIA (Central Intelligence Agency) has been an integral part of RIT's academic studies and Master's theses for a very long time. The academic community at RIT has been very appreciative of the research grants awarded by various government agencies, and most would not be where they are today without such funding.

For years, RIT and the RIT Research Corporation (RITRC) have done research for the CIA in various fields. Beginning in the late 1960's, and up until about ten years ago, the CIA had several long-standing relationships with RIT. There were \$15,000 to \$20,000 grants annually paid by the CIA to support individual unclassified senior undergraduate research projects in photographic science and instrumentation. These funds were granted on condition that the students performing the research provide

copies of their senior theses to the CIA. Individual faculty research contracts, mainly in the photographic arts and sciences, were also provided. Finally, RIT graduates were often offered steady CIA employment positions, especially in graphic arts.

In 1983 the Board of Trustees was led to believe that classified research had been done at RIT between 1947 and 1983. Suspicions intensified in 1985, when a sizable increase in CIA-related activities was occurring at RIT.

In early 1991, the President of RIT, Dr. M. Richard Rose, announced he was going on a four-month sabbatical leave to do confidential work for the federal government in Washington, D.C., with the implication that the work pertained to the then-current Persian Gulf War. As it turned out, Dr. Rose was working for the CIA in Langley, Virginia (CIA Headquarters) on things unrelated to the Persian Gulf War. Apparently, the RIT community was upset that the president of RIT was more dedicated to the CIA than to RIT, as he declined to return to discuss these matters with the Faculty Council.

While Dr. Rose was gone that spring, the Rochester Democrat & Chronicle came out with a front-page article about a draft of an RIT publication entitled Japan 2000. Evidently one of the D&C reporters got their hands on some copies of documents from a confidential CIA-sponsored conference. The article contained certain quotations from the draft of Japan 2000, including negative references to the Japanese people and speaking of a

conspiracy by them to dominate the US and the world through "unprincipled use of propaganda and economic power." The article also made discriminatory comparisons between the Japanese and American people.

The newspaper article raised a great deal of alarm in the RIT community. Because of its apparent racism, it was deemed harmful to the school's reputation and the general well-being of students from Japan. Dr. Rose, among others, said that after reading the draft he had decided that it was not racist.

This entire Japan 2000 problem was deemed to be a prime example of the "awkwardness of doing classified work at an academic institution without effective oversight." It also demonstrated the potential damage to an academic institution like RIT when a document like Japan 2000, which seems to be a scholarly paper, is produced in RIT's name without the necessary academic approval. Most importantly, this incident showed how things associated with RITRC, a separate entity from RIT, can be immediately associated with RIT itself.

This disturbing event caused a small group of students, faculty and others to publicly demand a ban on the CIA on campus. Others believed that the D&C had made up an apparent problem when none actually existed. Fortunately, the board resolved these problems and now has a set of reasonable guidelines governing CIA presence at RIT. After all, the CIA is a large source of valuable research funding just as any other government agency. In 1990, more than half of the RITRC's research project funding came from the CIA. Today, the CIA still remains an important source of research projects.

All of the research done now is unclassified, and can now benefit the whole scientific community. Agencies like the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institute of Health (NIH) are funded entirely by the federal government, and much of RIT's research funding comes through these agencies. In all, there are very many government-funded projects currently taking place here at RIT. Following are brief abstracts on some of the major projects being pursued in various departments on campus.

Mission to Planet Earth

Much of the research underway for NASA right now primarily has to do with environmental research. One of NASA's major endeavors is called "Mission to Planet Earth." Because the project is concerned with global conditions that are important to the well-being of the world's population as a whole, the Mission to Planet Earth is considered an appropriate expenditure of federal taxpayer dollars.

Some of the current projects underway are: monitoring the ozone layer, determining how ocean currents influence weather patterns (including prediction of particularly rainy or dry seasons for farmers and forest firefighters and prediction of violent weather conditions for coastal cities), and estimating the amount of greenhouse gases released into the atmosphere by naturally-caused fires in comparison to the amount produced by people, and then evaluating the potential for global warming.

The ideal way to collect data on these subjects is from satellites in Low Earth Orbit (LEO) over long periods of time. A spacecraft in such an orbit, however, is subjected to a very thin atmosphere, which means that it experiences large temperature extremes, somewhat similar to the light and dark sides of the moon. In addition, the major component of this atmosphere is atomic oxygen which is highly reactive. Thus, NASA requires a thermal insulating material which can withstand extreme conditions. The conventional material currently in use doesn't last long enough in LEO.

Prof. M.L. Illingsworth in the Department of Chemistry is the director of the research group responsible for solving this problem. The approach that Illingsworth's group is using to address this challenge is incorporating inorganic components into the same material that is currently in use. Their hypothesis is that the atomic oxygen will interact with these inorganic components to produce a very stable metal oxide "skin" which will protect the rest of the insulating material beneath it. When small pieces of space debris impact this material and damage this protective oxide layer, more atomic oxygen will react to reform the protective layer without having to send a repair person for the spacecraft.

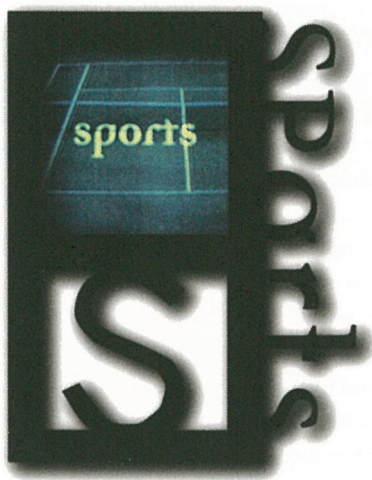
If Illingsworth's group's studies help NASA to find a suitable insulating material for LEO, spacecraft should last longer and NASA will be able to attain its Mission to Planet Earth objectives at less cost. Illingsworth says, "I, and my students, are appreciative and enthusiastic about participating in such a positive endeavor."

College of Imaging Science

Dr. John Schott, in the College of Imaging Science, has also been working with a NASA grant. His group's challenge is to create an improved sensor for NASA's new LANSAT Primary Earth Observation satellite. The RIT Team will be analyzing thermal infrared data in order to better calibrate remote optical sensors. The team is still in the final stages of negotiating the final award.

Students in the College of Imaging Science are also working on a project for the CIA that involves synthetic image generation. Essentially what they are doing is looking at the Earth over the infrared light bandwidth and seeing what it looks like to get an idea of how to calibrate infrared sensors. This research is enjoyable to Dr. Schott because, he says, "...it shows where we don't understand partially transparent objects like clouds, lakes, windows, etc. This technology can be useful in environmental lake studies, also, and to measure pollutant levels remotely from satellites."

continued on page 26



Female Athlete of the Week

Julie Sterling has been named RIT's female athlete of the week for her outstanding performance on the women's soccer team. Sterling has played just about every position this year, and has performed extremely well in all of them. She started off the season at center half, yet since then she has also played stopper and sweeper. In the Tigers game against Keuka on Wednesday, October 9, Sterling scored both goals to give the Tigers the 2-1 victory. She headed the ball into the net off a corner kick from Sue Traynor to make the score 1-0. Then in the second half she scored off a direct kick to clinch the game for RIT.

The Tigers defeated St. John Fisher on Tuesday, October 15, 3-1. Sterling also had two goals in that game, both scored off of corner kick assists from Sue Traynor. She leads the team with five goals and one assist, compiling 11 total points. The Tigers are currently 6-4-2 and look forward to winning their last home game against Nazareth on Saturday, October 26.

By: Kate Pakenas

RIT's male athlete of the week is Derrick Jones. Jones ran an exceptional race at the Drews Invitational cross country meet on October 7-13. He completed the eight-kilometer race in 38th place with a time of 25 minutes, 48 seconds. There were 160 runners in the race from 18 different colleges. Out of the RIT runners, Jones finished second and he shaved an impressive 1:16 off of his time from last year.

"During the past year, Derrick has been running 100 miles a week, and it's going to pay off. He's been looking really strong," said Coach Peter Todd.

We'll look for continued success from Jones and the entire cross country team at the Collegiate Track Conference Championship at Allentown on Saturday, October 26, and for the rest of their season.

By: Kate Pakenas

Male Athlete of the Week

In the sport of water polo, there are fourteen athletes in the pool at once. Each team has six competitors and a goalie. The games consist of four, seven minute quarters. There are goals at each end of the pool, and the object is to pass the ball back and forth in order to get an opportunity to shoot and score. Players can only catch and hold the ball with one hand, and they are not allowed to ever touch the bottom of the pool. Another interesting rule is that if a player scores from further than seven meters away from the goal, the team is awarded two points rather than one.

Men's Water Polo Invited

RIT's club water polo team had enjoyed an extremely successful season thus far, with a current overall record of 10-2. They are ranked eleventh in the country by the Collegiate Water Polo Association (CWPA). The team consists of twenty members, many of which are also members of the men's swimming team. They are led by captain Burcay Gurcan, who was formally on the Turkish National Team. The men have two hours of practice every day under the advisement of head swimming coach, Gary Mauks.

to Division III Nationals

Although water polo is currently a nonvarsity sport here at RIT, the team was invited to compete in the Division III Nationals, held at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in NYC. Eight teams attend the competition, and they are divided into two round robin pools. The winners of each pool advance to the finals and play each other in the National Championship. Twelve teams are invited to the Club Nationals in November which take place in Chicago. The team is looking forward to have the opportunity to participate there as well. Senior Ron Toper stated, "We have a strong team this year, and we have an excellent shot at performing well at the Division III Nationals, as well as going to the Club Nationals."

By: Kate Pakenas

Stats

10/13 Stonehurst Capital Invitational - Crew placed third in their division, placed seventh overall.

10/15 Men's Soccer vs. Union •loss 1-0

10/15 Women's Soccer vs. St John Fisher •Win 3-1

Upcoming Events

10/25 Men's Soccer vs. Clarkson - 4:00

10/26 Women's Soccer vs. Nazareth - 11:00

Men's Soccer vs St. Lawrence 2:00

On Sunday, October 13, the RIT crew team competed in the Stonehurst Capital Invitational. Local schools competing in the races included: the University of Rochester, SUNY Albany, Ithaca, Hobart, the University of Buffalo, Geneseo, and Oswego, they participated in both college and open divisions.

The invitational included one three-mile head race in the morning and a 1500 meter sprint in the afternoon. Scores were

Crew Team Places Third at Invitational

tabulated by adding the time for the three-

mile race and three times the results of the 1500 meter sprint.

RIT placed third in their division and seventh overall. The Tigers received a bronze medal in the men's heavyweight open and finished with the fastest time in the three-mile morning race. According to player Brian Lynn, "It was a perfect day of great weather and great racing."

The team's official season takes place in the spring, and member Dave Moszak commented, "The team is getting stronger and stronger every week. We will be working very hard in the winter to have a successful season in the spring." Lynn also stated, "If we continue to work hard, we should do really well."

By: Erica Muse



Electrical Engineering Department

Dr. Guifang Li in the Electrical Engineering Department is working with a number of government grants right now. One is a \$300,000 grant from NSF to pursue optical communications systems in telecommunications. Research projects will include "A Novel FM Microwave Fiber-Optic Link for Antenna Remoting and Phased Arrays" and "An Ultra Wideband Microwave Fiber Optic Transmitter Based on Laser Diodes," among others. Another is an estimated \$79,000 grant from NSF for an undergraduate photonics lab development in the EE Department. Dr. Li also is exploring an innovative approach to microwave fiber optic links for the Navy. He is definitely excited about these research projects.

Mechanical Engineering Department

In the Mechanical Engineering department, Dr. Ali Ogut is conducting research on a new engine turbopump for NASA space transfer vehicles with Lewis Research Center in Cleveland, Ohio. Dr. Ogut has earned the first 3-year, \$237,000 research grant from Lewis' Space Propulsion Division. The existing turbopumps with diffusers stall at low flow rates, thus low engine throttle capabilities are restricted.

Ogut says, "As they are currently designed, if the turbopump is operating at below 80 percent of the designed flow rate, the pump stalls mainly because of flow separation in the diffusers and this can present problems for continuous engine operation." Ogut's research is called "Computational and Experimental Investigation of Space Transfer Vehicle Engine Turbopump Design for Deep Throttling," and it primarily involves re-evaluation of design concepts, design and construction of test model diffusers and volutes, and use of a laser Doppler Anemometer for testing. According to Ogut, vehicles using his turbopump will be stationed in space and used to transport from one orbit to another and for missions to the moon and Mars.

Dr. Kempfske's research group in the Mechanical Engineering Department is studying non-invasive methods of measuring fetal cardiovascular health, by identifying fetal blood velocity, amplitude, variability and heart rate variability. They also want to define operational norms for fetal cardiovascular functions early in pregnancy. This will help them to achieve early detection of defects, which substantially affects the choice and success of treatment protocol. Other applications are detection of preeclampsia / maternal toxicity late in gestation / Intrauterine growth retardation / insufficient oxygen and nutrient supply to the fetus / and Retinoic "Retin A" / teratogen causing form and function defects. All of the studies are done in the Netherlands, but the patient population in the Netherlands is similar to USA population demographics.

RIT Research Corporation

At RITRC (RIT Research Corporation), research teams are currently working on two major government research projects. The Research Corporation is separate from RIT but is closely related to it, and many RIT students are recruited to the Research Corporation from virtually all majors. RITRC is located on John Street just off the RIT campus.

One current research project is being undertaken by criminal forensics experts for the U.S. Department of Justice. They are working on the reconstruction of damaged or destroyed documents using digital photography in crime labs around the U.S. Dr. Bob Johnston, who is also currently working on the Dead Sea Scrolls, is also helping in this endeavor.

The other major ongoing project by RITRC is for the U.S. Census Bureau. For the 2000 Census, the Bureau expects around 1.5 billion pages of data, and it must all be processed in about three months. The U.S. Census Bureau hired RITRC to help design forms and processes that will maximize efficiency of data processing for the upcoming census, in an attempt to save as much cost as possible.

This article has only skimmed the surface of everything that everyone here in the RIT community is doing, even for the government. All of those involved in the research are very grateful for public understanding of the necessity of this kind of research and the resulting funds appropriated by the government in order to carry out this earnest pursuit of science, knowledge, and the betterment of life.

Information obtained from the reports of the RIT / CIA Review Panel, November 15, 1991

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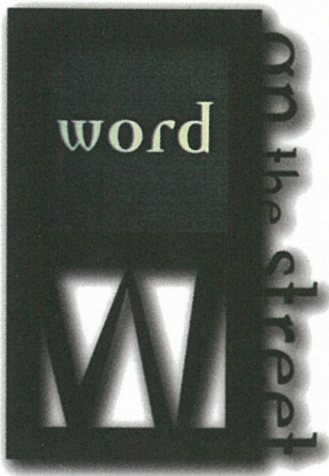
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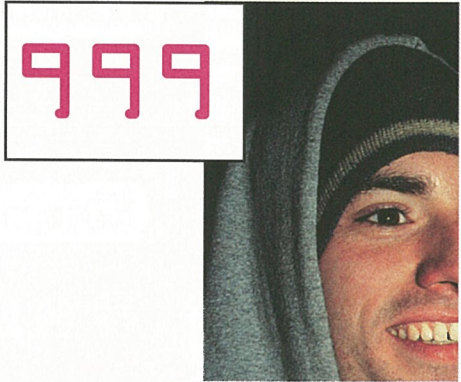
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P.J.
and
Laura
ask:

28 . . .

“What
were
you
most
afraid
of
when
you
were a
little
kid?”



5 Sarah Almanzar, 3rd year Printing Management

“The dark, because my sister was really mean to me and she used to play tricks on me.”
Kelly Brien, 2nd year Illustration

“Well, it certainly wasn’t spanking. I liked that part.”
D.C., 8th year Institution

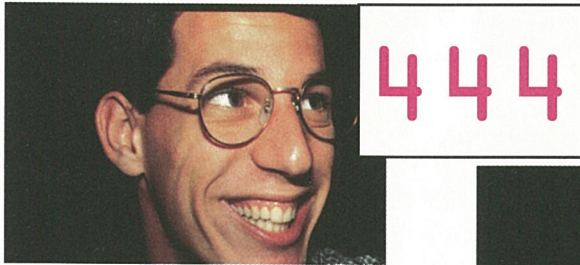
“Water and dogs.”

“For a good length of time from 5th through the 7th grade, I was totally afraid the world was gonna end in a nuclear holocaust. I remember looking out at the sunset every night from my bedroom window, ‘thinking this is how red the sky’ll be after the bombs drop.”

Dyami Bryant, 5th year Film/Video

“Lightning, I don’t know, I love it now.”

8 Troy Hillman, 2nd year Applied Mathematics



“I was afraid of the Incredible Hulk on T.V.”
John Doiron, 2nd year Manufacturing Technology

“Making a funny face and it staying that way for the rest of my life.”

4 Adam Zembrak, 3rd Photo-Journalism

“The monster in the closet and the vampires under the bed, because they’d get me.”

Sean Magee, 3rd year Illustration

“My older brother, ‘cause he had a sling shot and deadly aim.

Jacqui Ketchum, 5th year Criminal Justice



“Getting beat up ‘cause all my friends would laugh at me.”

7 Tyrone Magby, Mechanical Engineering Technology alumnus



“I was most afraid as a kid of soap operas because every time you look at one you start getting entranced. I just feared becoming a soap opera junkie.”

Nathan Sherman, 2nd year Photography

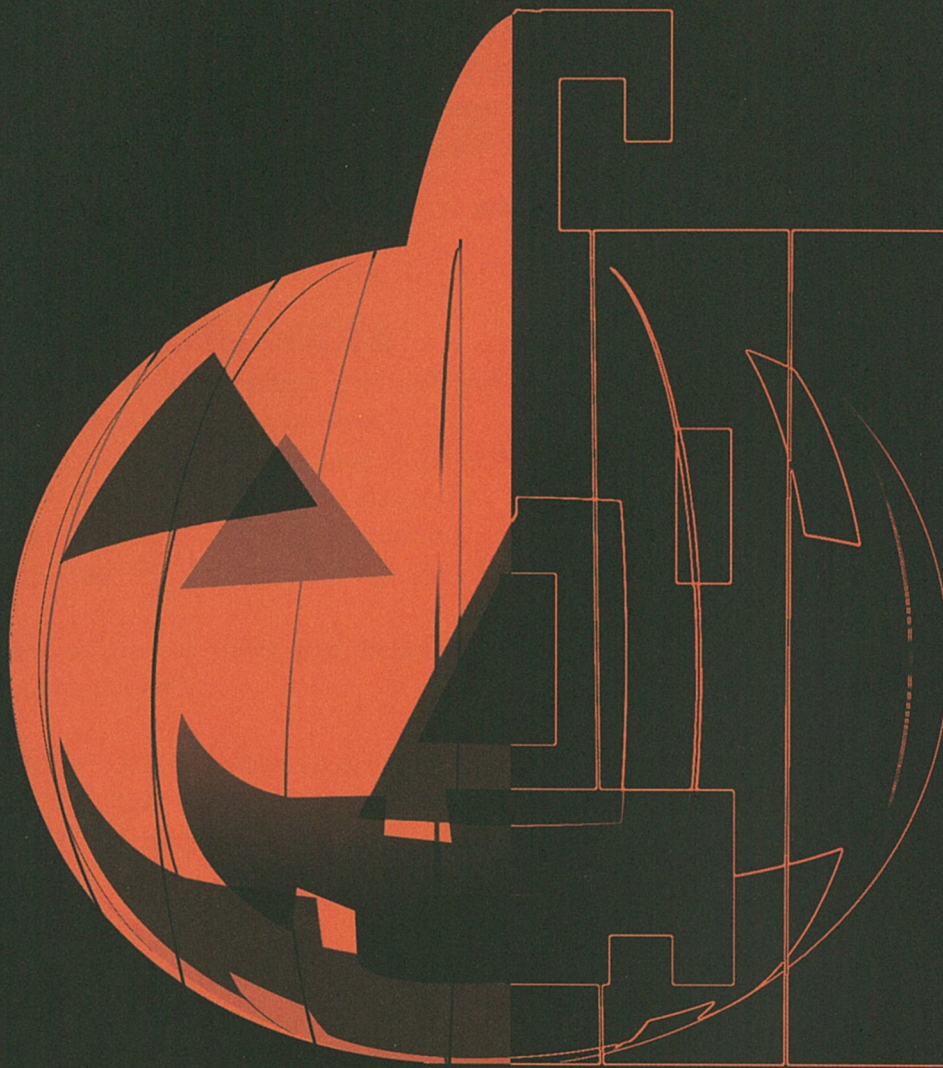
“A big dog because they knock me over all the time while I’m walking and in the wheelchair.”

Erica Reynolds, 1st year Applied Accounting



“Being forgotten about by my parents.”

9 Andrew D. Baker, 3rd year Illustration



pumpkin

by: jered bogli

Waking up one morning, leaves tapping against my window I realized I needed a pumpkin. "I'm a college student, why do I need a pumpkin", I thought to myself? I sat on my bed and contemplated my desire to have a pumpkin. I realized it was a part of my childhood that was still with me, not like Santa Clause, or the Easter Bunny who met with reality early on. There is a timeless magic to Halloween. At that moment it became clear that I needed a pumpkin. I needed it to stay young.

I set out on a quest to acquire the perfect pumpkin. I drove to Wegmans, looked at their selection. "Nothing here," I thought. So I decided I'd try to get a pumpkin from a farmer. I drove to John street where i checked out the selection in front of some white house. Nothing struck me here either. Oh wait, what about that other farmer, the guy right next to Racquet Club with the veggie stand?

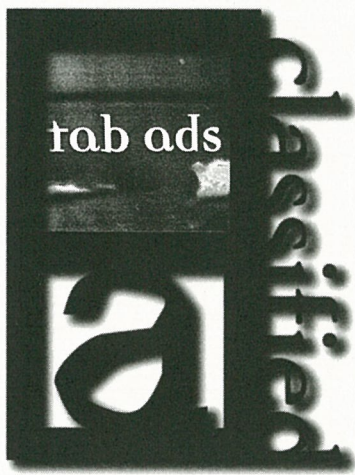
Yeah, he might have the pumpkin I was looking for. Driving back towards Racquet club I thought about how I knew the pumpkin when i saw it. This process of pumpkin picking was entirely intuitive. I had an innate idea of a pumpkin in my head and I needed to find it. The farmer didn't have any pumpkins that struck my fancy. I was a bit disappointed. I explained my situation to him. He was quite sympathetic, in fact he suggested a few more places I could try. I took his directions and headed south on the back roads, arriving at another small farm stand with tons of pumpkins.

I could tell I was in luck. After looking for just a few minutes, I found the pumpkin of my dreams. It was short and wide with this strange bump on the top. I proudly paid for my pumpkin and headed home. By this time the sun was sinking and looking like a pumpkin too. I was struck by another revelation, it was the process of finding the pumpkin that was as important as the actual squash, driving through fields of blowing leaves, with the window cracked to let in the cool sweet smell of the fallen leaves. I couldn't think of anything better. I arrived home and set the pumpkin in the living room. I needed to carve it sometime soon.

Carving a pumpkin. Transforming it into a jack o'

lantern. This is a delicate process. What can I say about it? The actual face is a matter of personal preference. I love to make my jack o' lanterns look really spooky in a silly way. Make everything sorta comical looking, but put some hard angles in the eyes to give it a scary edge. I cut the top off and reached my hands inside. Now I remembered why I love this so much. The insides all cold, wet slimy, and stringy. Ripping the seeds out and having half the seeds fall out of your gross orange goo covered hands. Throwing pumpkin slime at your roommates and separating the guts from the seeds. Toasting the seeds, on a cookie sheet with some salt. I never really understood it. At home we always toasted the seeds, yet I don't remember eating them. I put the seeds in the oven to toast and wondered if I would eat any this year. My roommates had gathered around to help carve the face. I think this part took the longest, trying to sculpt "David" with a big vegetable and a kitchen knife. With enough patience and time, we got it right. This was one crazy looking jack o' lantern. We needed a candle to put inside it. We had no candles small enough, so we used one of those little flashlights. Not as effective as a candle but much safer. We placed our masterpiece on a table near the front window, ran out the door to the middle of the yard and looked at the fruit (or vegetable as it was) of our labor. We were so pleased with our creation. I felt like a little kid again. All the worries and stresses of college disappeared for an evening. It is good to remember to be a kid every so often, to remember the little things that make you happy.

In the end, that jack o' lantern sat on that table until February. It was a moldy old jack o' lantern, but it was still neat to look at. It was mushy and moldy and black. I think it was even more scary in the middle of winter. We're going to get rid of our jack o' lantern sooner this year to avoid any health risks.



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Tab Ads

- The brothers of Xi Zeta chapter of Alpha Phi Omega Say Good Luck PC 84
- We love you Jess! Triangle



Schedule of Events:

Friday, October 25

Bevier Gallery Exhibit Opening: Full and part-time faculty present a sampling of work.

Includes: *Faculty Exhibition II, School of Art & Design, School for American Crafts.* Bevier Gallery, James E. Booth Building. Reception, Friday only 5-7pm. Exhibit runs through Nov. 18

TGIF: *Zeta Cauliflower* in the Ritzskeller from 5-7:30pm. \$1 at the door.

Talisman Movie: *The Frighteners* at the Ingle Auditorium. 7 & 9pm. RIT students/faculty/staff: \$2, Gen Public: \$3, children under 12: \$1. Also playing 10/26.

Saturday, October 26

Fall Open House: Welcome visiting students and families to RIT.

Information Fair: Learn about student groups and clubs on campus. Student Union Lobby from 1-3pm during Open House.

ASF Drag Show: Held in the Fireside lounge from 9pm-midnight. Open to the public, must be 18 or over. FREE

Sunday, October 27

The Phantom of the Opera: Rochester Auditorium Theatre 1pm-6:30pm. Sold out.

Classic Comedy Series: *Midnight Patrol, Another Fine Mess, The Pilgrim, Never Weaken, Why Worry* and feature *The General*. Presented by the film/video department. 2pm in the CIS Auditorium in Bldg. 76. FREE

Schedule of Events:

Wednesday, October 30

Face Off: *Ferraro / Buchanan* debate on "Shaping America's Future". Begins at 7:30pm in the Clark Gym. Tix. Students \$3, fac/staff/alumni \$5, Gen. Public \$10 available at Candy Counter Oct. 17 Call Student Gov. for more information 475-2204

Thursday, October 31

Coffeehouse Entertainer: *Plaster Sandals* at the Commons from 6-8pm. FREE

Friday, November 1

TGIF: *Johnny Vegas* at the Ritzskeller from 6-7:30pm. \$1 at the door.

Talisman Movie: *Phenomenon* at the Ingle Auditorium. 7 & 9pm. RIT students/faculty/staff: \$2, Gen Public: \$3, children under 12: \$1. Also playing 11/2

The Glass Menagerie: *Cleveland Sign Stage Theatre* 8pm in the Robert F. Panara Auditorium. Students \$5 All others \$7. Call 475-6254 for tickets and information. Also playing 11/2

On-Going Events

RITSci: Weekly club meeting 2pm Sundays in the Redwood Lounge. For more information contact Chacote at JLC6396@rit.edu.

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

Events subject to change.

Don't miss the b u s !

Student Government is providing free rides to the voting poles. SG vans will be leaving the Union Circle at 12, 2, 4, and 7 o'clock. The rides are only available for students registered in Monroe County. For more information on rides call 475-2204.

Voter Awareness

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. will be setting up tables in the SAU in order to inform students on the many issues involved in this up coming election.

