

REPORTER

DECEMBER 8, 2006 | WWW.REPORTERMAG.COM



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Editorial

Saving Lives, One Game At a Time

You play as Ben, the nine-year-old leukemia patient, hovering about on a skateboard and shooting mutated cells. There are seven levels, each representing a side effect of Ben's chemotherapy. From baldness to puking, you must defeat a hideous monster that is causing the cells inside Ben to mutate. A child's drawing of a vampire haunts the bleeding level in all its refrigerator-worthy glory.

This game is no joke; it was the wish of leukemia patient Ben Duskin, filled in full by the Make a Wish Foundation. Instead of pitching a ball at the World Series or going to Disney World, young Ben wanted to make an encouraging computer game for patients dealing with the side effects of chemotherapy.

This game has helped spark a movement in video games, one that appears to be unintentionally mimicked in the Nintendo Wii and Playstation 3. A contest has even been set up by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation calling for video game development ideas that either promote a healthy lifestyle or educate the gamer about health. Ben's Game is an example of the latter, while the foundation cites Dance Dance Revolution (DDR) as the epitome of the former.

But, topping the mere calorie burning of DDR, Playstation 3 players have the option of setting up their system to analyze complex human protein structures to assist a Stanford medical research project; this research will hopefully lead to a cure for certain types of cancer, and even Alzheimer's. And, after you cure cancer, you can go help win Earth's allied war against The Scourge.

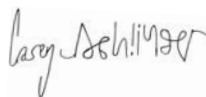
Are video games finally becoming health-conscious? Is the day coming where a gamer isn't limited by the specs of their computer, but by the strength of their pecs? When I hear rumors of gamers breaking their television sets with projectile Wiimotes (made unintentionally airborne during an intense simulated katana battle), I can't help but wonder. Wii even launched a game called Trauma Center: Second Opinion in which the player performs surgery on patients by manipulating the remote through space.

Will gaming ever become a physical sport? I remember early 90's Saturday mornings filled with Ninja Turtles and Track and Field on the NES, where as many as six players could stand on a mat, pounding their feet as fast as possible in a frantic attempt to beat Olympian sprinters. We would all get on our knees and start hitting the sensors with our fists like we were beating out a roll on a snare drum, exasperating ourselves. It was hopeless, and anyone who ran in the manner encouraged by the game would blister up and do a face plant after making it a mere meter, but we were moving.

I ended up running varsity cross country in high school for five years. I'm not going to blame a video game for that, but, oddly, some of my first experiences with competitive "running" were on a four-foot square plastic mat in my pajamas. Now, I doubt that I'll end up curing leukemia from my experience with Ben's game, but I'd like to think that well-intentioned video games are the stepping-stones to an interesting future.

Ben's Game: www.makewish.org/ben. Play it. It's free.

If you want to help cure cancer, too, like Playstation 3 players, the program can be downloaded for your computer at <http://folding.stanford.edu>.



Casey Dehlinger

Editor in Chief



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Cover photo by Chris Felber. St. Thomas Church, located in Long Beach, Mississippi, suffered a huge amount of damage when the water line reached well over ten feet. The church will be demolished and a new structure will be constructed in its place. ◀TOC by Matt Bagwell, A classic Rolls Royce sits parked in front of a FEMA trailer on Washington Street in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi.



Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

This letter is in response to a "Letter to the Editor" run on November 10 by Edward Wolf regarding ROAR day (held on October 26). I just wanted everyone to know the truth of the matter firsthand.

First of all, ROAR day was incorrectly referred to as the "ROAR campaign." It's not a campaign at all. Quite possibly, it was confused with the "Powered by the Future" campaign, which ended June 30. Also, its duration was identified as being a year in length, when in actuality it began on June 15, 1998. ROAR day also was not a "tacky campaign... so fixated on the mighty dollar;" hence the acronym mentioned earlier in Mr. Wolf's letter to Raise Our Annual Responses (sans the word "campaign"). Responses are not monetary but instead the number of students, faculty, and staff who participated that day. Raising our participation level as an institute ranks RIT in the top numbers from the *US News and World Report*. Such great participation turns an RIT degree from a hobby you love into a lucrative career you live.

Mr. Wolf went on stating that "a lot of the students...did not really understand what ROAR day was, but after being told it was a way for RIT to raise funds, many of those students I talked to felt the same way I did...appalled." I personally apologize for whomever divulged this misleading information and the willingness which compelled some to viciously and unknowingly feed this rumor. Obviously, raising funds was not the ultimate intention of the day. I guess some people just didn't get the memo; for that matter, those people probably didn't receive the email sent out to all students, see the table tents in all of the dining areas on campus, listen to WITR, look at any of the flyers, pass the ballooned easels in every college, open RIT's homepage, or hear me with the megaphone atop the Eastman Quad that day to learn just what ROAR day was all about. I just wish facts could have been straight before a letter was written to the editor of this publication when just the week prior there was an entire page informing readers about the event going to take place on October 26. Well, maybe some RIT students don't open their eyes for whole days at a time, but the word was everywhere and many believe we did an excellent job with promoting.

Apparently, "RIT is constantly bombarding parents, alumni, and philanthropists to make contributions." I'm disheartened that students are unaware of where all of the money they take full advantage of everyday comes from. Without support from parents, we could say goodbye to lower ticket prices for students at concerts, the RIT ambulance, campus events, and the emergency blue light call boxes that are located all over campus. Without support from alumni, we would say goodbye to the Gordon Field House and be paying more than twice as much for tuition. There would be no financial aid, scholarships would be a memory, and you wouldn't have a building to have classes in nor would there be any equipment in those classrooms. Basically, our private institution would be nonexistent without funding, which is now evidently going unrecognized.

There was also reference in the letter stating that the money collected from students went toward the unrestricted campus fund. This claim is also wrong; if not specified elsewhere, money the students gave went towards Student Government. Specifically, these gifts are going towards renovating the old pool area to house the growing number of clubs and organizations on campus. My sincerest apologies to those who felt ROAR day was "sugar-coated," "insensitive," or insulting to any student's intelligence. Mainly, ROAR day was created to do just the opposite and to let the students become aware of where the money comes from that pays for everything they see and encounter on a daily basis.

As far as ROAR day being a "blatant example of the lack of respect RIT has for its faculty, staff and students," I believe it seems more disrespectful to slur over 100 volunteers who thought it was more than worthwhile to spend some/all of their day helping at the eleven locations across campus in order to make your degree look better after you graduate. You're disrespecting them for improving the rest of your life. I'd be embarrassed to know that I had insulted those who had done so much for me.

On a personal note, I have been working for this institute since I began my freshman year in 2002 as a caller in the Telefund Office, which the Office of Development encompasses. For five years, I haven't given up on one of the most difficult jobs on campus. Neither have a number of dedicated students who contact parents and alums nightly despite ridicule from uninformed peers. It is unfortunate to know that there are still a small number of people on campus who take for granted the bricks they walk over and through every day. Such deliberate disregard is insulting to those who work behind the scenes. These are the people who get alums to donate to the college that runs and prints the *Reporter* where such slander is published.

In conclusion, I again personally apologize that some students found ROAR day as an "insulting campaign...to contribute where the budget ran short," because the rest of us realized it was a day where you can give pocket change to decide just how much your degree will actually be worth. How much is your future worth?

Sincerely,

Andrea Larko

Fifth-year Illustration

RIT Telefund Assistant Coordinator

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RITFORECAST

compiled by Govind Ramabadran

To All,

As an alumnus, I have been a fervent supporter of RIT as an institution that provides a solid, marketable education taught by professors who have been successful in the private and public sectors. I worked hard at RIT as a student and I work hard as a citizen of Monroe County to pay my taxes. However, in light of the revelations being made regarding the fast ferry debacle, I am ashamed that RIT has associated itself with the ex-mayor William Johnson. As the evidence develops, this is an individual who acted, at the very best, cavalierly with taxpayer funds. At the very worst, he may have acted criminally. I'm sorry to say that my fervent support of the Institution has turned to fervent opposition. While New York State and its counties struggle with a declining tax base, an inhospitable business climate, skyrocketing taxes and violent crime we need an educational base that supports excellence in public policy, not a reminder of failure.

Sincerely,

James M. Smithers
PPHL Class of 1984

Dear Reporter,

I saw in the November 10 issue that there will be a Women of RIT calendar, was there any intention of releasing a calendar featuring the Men of RIT? I think that might help ease any tensions regarding having only a Women of RIT calendar. Wouldn't that help make the school more appealing to women as well?

Regards,

Paul Solt
pds2352@rit.edu

Friday 8 DEC	Free HIV/AIDS Rapid Testing SAU Lobby. 9 a.m.–3 p.m. Come and get tested for HIV/AIDS by the state Health Department.
	Chocolate on Ice Frank Ritter Ice Rink. 11 p.m.–1 a.m. Cost: Free with the donation of a non-perishable food item to FoodLink.
Saturday 9 DEC	Tiger Tracks Train Show Gordon Field House and SAU A-420 (MRC Room). 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Trains, operating layouts, vendors, and more. Cost: Free for the RIT community; \$5 for the public.
	College Bowl Practice Session SAU Alumni Room and 1829 Room. 11 a.m.–3 p.m. Practice for the January 20 competition. Cost: Free.
	Electronic Gaming Society Tournament Clark A & B. 1 p.m.–12 a.m. Play Red Steel for Nintendo Wii and Gears of War for Xbox 360. The \$5 cost goes to Child's Play Charity.
	World Music Ensemble Concert Ingle Auditorium. 3 p.m.–4:30 p.m. Cost: Free.
	College of Science Winter Gala College of Science Atrium. 8 p.m.–12 a.m. Cost: \$10 single, \$15 couple and faculty/staff.
	Student Athletic Association Committee Formal SAU Cafeteria. 8 p.m.–12 a.m. Cost: \$15.
	The Ying Quartet Ingle Auditorium. 8 p.m.–10 p.m. Part of David Perelman's Performing Artists Concert Series. Cost: \$14 for faculty/staff, \$6 for students, \$20 for the public.
	CAB Sat. Night Stand-up Ingle Auditorium. 11 p.m.–1 a.m. Next Wave Comedy Tour. Cost: \$1.
Sunday 10 DEC	3-on-3 Basketball Tournament SLC Courts 4 & 5. 12 p.m.–5 p.m. Sponsored by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Cost: Free.
Monday 11 DEC	Celebrate by doing the tango with someone, as today is Tango Day in Buenos Aires, Argentina.
Tuesday 12 DEC	Bob Barker turns 83 today. Celebrate by watching <i>The Price Is Right</i> before he retires in six and a half months.
Wednesday 13 DEC	Break is in 10 days. Shouldn't you start making plans to go home rather than go through the mad rush on Christmas weekend?
Thursday 14 DEC	CAB Thursday Night Cinema Series Presents A Christmas Story Ingle Auditorium. 10 p.m.–1 a.m. A holiday classic. Cost: Free.

The title "NEW ORLEANS REVISITED" is presented in a bold, serif font. The word "NEW" is on the left, "ORLEANS" is on the right, and "REVISITED" is centered below "ORLEANS". A circular graphic, resembling a globe or a complex network of lines, is superimposed over the word "ORLEANS". The entire title is framed by a thick black horizontal bar.

BY JOE GRASSO | PHOTOGRAPHY BY MATT BAGWELL & CHRIS FELBER

The most compelling reality seeps from a screen. Hurricane Katrina was the end-of-summer melodrama of last year, which now lives on in the minds of many simply as a soundbyte from Kayne West: "President Bush does not care about black people." Katrina's aftermath has fallen from the graces of television's all-seeing eye; it no longer flashes in the glowing window of information, but the clean-up is far from over.

Hunker in close to this page, and keep your eyes wide open at all times. Bob Marley is wrong; everything is not going to be all right. Terrible machinations in the politics of this city describe the essence of injustice. The destruction is a living example of why our country needs to recognize that unless we progress and profit together, we are not progressing at all. Remember the words of Eugene Debs: "While there is a lower class I am in it; while there is a criminal element I am of it; while there is a soul in prison, I am not free."

Hurricane Katrina stormed drunk and ornery into the Crescent City on August 29, 2005, inciting Lake Pontchartrain to violence and smashing the levees into ineffectual shards under feet of rushing floodwater. The only communication available were various media outlets as the city descended into dark madness. This is the story we know.

These are the people we watched air-lifted from rooftops, the people we saw wandering down the interstate searching for food and water in scorching, unsheltered heat. These are the nearly 30,000 lives that were crammed into the Superdome and slept for weeks on a football field. The people who lack legal recourse to redress their grievance with the City of New Orleans for failing to maintain the levees. These are the homeowners whose insurance refuses to pay for damages caused by a hurricane because the "actual" damage was caused by floodwater. This is the dirge for nearly 2,000 dead. This is the story that continues.



David Fowler(right) and his friend Danny, now live in their FIMA trailer, which stands on the barren foundation of their home on the outskirts of Bay St. Louis, Mississippi | Photography by Chris Felber



Scenes of post-Katrina damage along the Mississippi coast (clockwise from left): a Long Beach billboard; a hotel room in Gulfport; remnants of the "Destiny Oaks" neighborhood | Photographed by Matt Bagwell



Sunday, November 25

Heading south through Mississippi on I-59, the first creeping intimations of the state of things arrives as we sight a field filled with FEMA trailers. Over a year after the disaster, it's strange to see them here, miles from New Orleans, and sitting around unused while thousands of Katrina victims are refugees scattered around the country.

After crossing the inter-coastal causeway, Interstate 10 brings us into Louisiana. A subtle shift in landscape occurs: the trees are bent, broken, and uprooted. Piles of debris linger in the parking lots of closed department stores. The infrastructure is wounded, and aside from road traffic, this area is ghostly still. Apartments lining the highway are missing windows, and new skylights have been punched into roofs by varying-sized debris.

Tuesday, November 27

"Wake up my sweet little peas, it's time, time, time to wake up." Hattie, a Common Ground director with orange hair escaping at sharp angles from beneath her pink felt hat sing-songs through the hallways, dancing rhythms with her clogs. Awoken by this serenade at 6 a.m., the Collective assembles in the couch-eteria for an impromptu morning meeting. The Common Ground Collective is one of a handful of volunteer organizations working in New Orleans. It was founded by Malik Rahem on September 5, 2005 with keystone members already wading deep in the toxic waters during and immediately following Katrina's arrival. The Collective was initially forged to provide medical care and supplies to the residents of Algiers.

St. Mary's Elementary School in the Ninth ward sat under ten feet of water for three weeks. Today, it bustles with activity and purpose. Common Ground Collective was granted use of the facility, which they renovated and now use as a center of operations. The upper Ninth ward is a war zone. Houses with car-sized holes in them sit beside vacant lots and piles of rubble. Military Police roll slowly down Congress Avenue in an armored Humvee.

The few outsiders who venture into the upper Ninth ward to lend a hand live at St. Mary's, finding their place in Common Ground's agglomeration of college students, anarchists, communists, Christians, and a few runways who have finally found a home. They are one of only a few organizations nationwide that are doing anything at all for Katrina's victims.

Today's project ahead of the Collective? Residents of the Woodlands housing development are slated to be evicted from their homes and direct action may be needed. There is a chance that while the residents are tied up in court, the police may arrive and begin to empty the apartments. There is a call for those willing to intercede and, quite possibly, become arrested in the process. After a suggested moment of reflection, the room divides itself into those willing to be a hard line that will deny the police access to the complex and those that will form a soft line to give the hard line enough time to get situated.





Wednesday, November 28

The natural disaster of the hurricane is perpetuated in New Orleans, though it is no longer a disaster of natural origin. The new cause: primarily neglect, greed, and ignorance. Logistically, the trouble is over housing and property. The Housing Authority of New Orleans (HANO) colluded with the department of Housing and Urban Development years prior to Katrina to remove subsidized housing in New Orleans. And with thousands of refugees in Texas to this day unable to return home after they were forced to evacuate, the most important thing that the people of New Orleans need is a place to live. Many left all they had here, only to find the developments boarded up, chained off, and guarded by pit bulls of the state.

Thursday, November 30

For those uninitiated with the term 'gutting,' allow me to explain. Gutting is the process of tearing the walls, drywall, ceiling tiles, floor, furniture, and anything else you can think of out of a house. Think of it as spring cleaning by Jack the Ripper on a bad day.

Up at dawn, this time our reverie is Glen, a slender wisp in a fedora channeling Woody Guthery. We assemble our gutting regalia: Tyvek suit, rubber boots, gloves, and a respirator. Six teams of five or six gutters roll out to all parts of the Ninth ward. There is a waiting list to have your home gutted, and a longer list to have your house rid of mold. Many disaster clean-up environmental companies are busy in the Big Easy, but the residents of the Ninth ward cannot afford their services, and many live in houses choked with toxic mold and microorganisms cultivated during three weeks in stagnant water.

The aftermath of Hurricane Katrina is more than just government ineptitude or corruption. The French Quarter hums along with little more than a steely gleam in its eye to show the tribulations of a hurricane that killed over 1500 people in Louisiana alone. But here in the Ninth ward, here in Orleans Parish and other coastal areas, the damage has a visceral effect on the observer.

The good news is the spirit of volunteerism and love that is so obvious at Common Ground. There are citizens of Germany and Australia living here in the Ninth ward, gutting for an eight-hour shift not because there is glory here, not because there is money here, but because there are people here in desperate need of support and solidarity. New Orleans needs us.

To learn more about the Common Ground Collective and join in solidarity, visit www.commongroundrelief.org.

Above: A small memorial site was created from the wall of a once-standing building along highway 90 in Long Beach, Mississippi | Photographed by Chris Felber.

To see more Hurricane Katrina photographs by Chris Felber, visit the display cases on the second floor of building 7B from December 4 until December 16.

PERSONALS

REPORTER IS

cost, when you can get a massage for free in exchange for a massage. Only women in the 50-60 range . Thanks

Guy friends only-m4m-24

I have never posted on here before and don't exactly know what to write, so I will just be myself and be honest, I can't go wrong w/ that right? I am a working professional who is in search of other guys my age to get together with and just have a good time, nothing perverted please. Many of my friends no longer live in the Rochester area so I am a little lonely and a lot bored. If you are 21-29 and could use another regular, straight, normal guy friend then hit me up. Thanks.

2 FREE basketball tickets at Blue Cross Arena, 7:30pm tonight-m4mw -27

ROCHESTER RAZORSHARKS VS. MONTREAL MATRIX at Blue Cross Arena at 7:05pm tonight (11/29/06) reply via email, AIM, or call (845) 555-5641 asap for pickup or delivery. I don't want tickets to go to waste.

Female movie/coffee and conversation friend wanted - m4w - 32

Nice guy, attractive and fun just want to have a woman's company once and awhile, for dinners, coffee, movies, without the pressure of a "date." No pressure, no romance, just friends.

MEN SEEKING WOMEN SWM looking for woman to join me at dinner or movies - 44

I'm a healthy non-smoking/drinking, financially stable, guy looking to start a friendship that would

hopefully lead to a long term relationship. I am trustworthy, honest, volunteer often, and

with email. Will need to leave Saturday AM.

TRADES

WILL TRADE VAN FOR TV

I have a 1996 Ford Windstar that requires some repair. Willing to trade for 32" or larger TV in excellent condition.

16FX32IN RED OAK LOG TRADE FOR STUMP REMOVAL

willing to trade this red oak 16 ft long oak log if you can grind the stump out for me please email for more details, log is straight and perfect for milling lumber or if you want the firewood.



ADVERTISING MANAGER ART DIRECTOR CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE WRITERS & DESIGNERS

brown hair, and was wearing glasses and a light brown jacket. So sorry, if you'd like I'll treat you to dinner.

Dinner date wanted!!!!!! Executive Dinner Party!!!!

Dinner party for Saturday into Sunday out of state. All expences paid. Business professional looking for company to attend executive dinner party. I have been to these functions before, and there is all you can drink all night if you so choose. Will return Sunday afternoon. Please send photo along

look for a Studio

Model to help test new equipment and work on Portfolios in exchange for cd of images. Experience a plus. must be available several times a month. Build a great portfolio in a creative and cooperative Studio

CHUCKY AND BRIDE OF CHUCKY DOLLS

I have Chucky and Bride of Chucky dolls. They are approximatley 24" tall and are in Excellent conditon. I am willing to barter for a tiny, new born llama. Thanks!

SEVERAL TALENTS TO BARTER WITH

I can offer Guitar Lessons, Writing/Editing Services, and a Personal Shopper Service. I've been published over 85+ times, given awards in music and was a PR major. Looking for a decent Laptop or other interesting items. What do you have to trade?

LET'S MAKE A DEAL

I am looking for personal stories. It could be something meaningful and deep or something horrific or it could be about you making a pie. Whatever. These will be used in a book I am putting together. Confidentiality will be respected. In return for stories, I am offering the following: Books, yarn, old toys, a futon mattress, cds, VHS tapes, some clothing, old magazines, an old adding machine, and some other stuff. Or I could draw you a picture.

JOBS

LOOKING FOR PEOPLE WITH PROBLEMS

National talk show looking for guests. This week it's your chance to let it all out. Is someone interfering in your relationship? His/her ex, husband, wife, or family member? Dating a relative? Pregnant by a relative? Pregnant by a relative? Do you have kids with your sister's husband and she doesn't know? Need help revealing a secret? Sexy job? More than one lover? Want out of the closet? Need help getting out of a destructive lifestyle? Do you have a pimp? Do you just have to do it? Did you

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Because you know you want to.

Interviews will be conducted from December 11-15.

NANNY WANTED

We are looking for a responsible and high energy person to spend 2.5 to 3 days per week with our 1 year old. College students welcome. Please contact us with your credentials and desired hourly rate.

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR MASTER PSYCHICS, CLAIRVOYANTS, MEDIUMS

A very large, reputable Psychic Network is now accepting experienced, dependable and serious Readers/Psychics. The site and phone lines are promoted by TV commercials, print and on-line advertising and no self-promotion from Readers/Psychics is required but is optional. You must be able to log in at least 20 hours per week. Set your own schedule of days and times you are available for calls. Compensation is \$.30 per talk minute/\$18.00 per hour. Contests, bonuses and great weekly incentives Pay is weekly and paid to you by PayPal.

WINDOW CLEANER... NO HIGH RISE- GREAT PAY

This is a position for the #1 window cleaning company in the world. We are a national franchise ranked #1 (in window cleaning industry) by Success Magazine and Entrepreneur Magazine. This is for a full time or a part time position. Our hours are Monday-Friday (optional Saturdays) day time hours. No holidays and no weekends!!! Paid vacations (only for full time employees) and many ways to earn bonuses. Please check us out on the web at www.fishwindowcleaning.com for national locations and more information about us.

LIVE-OUT HOUSEMAN BUTLER

A Live-Out Houseman-Butler for Long Island. Housekeeping and serving. Monday to Friday. Please have experience in a private home. We are looking to interview and hopefully hire this week. \$60,000 to \$75,000 to start. Tell us about yourself.

Music Review

Saosin – self titled – Capitol Records

by Evan McNamara

This major label debut from emo rock outfit Saosin is the band's first recording since the departure of their frontman, Anthony Green (who now handles vocal duties in the critically-acclaimed group Circa Survive.) Although Green is gone, it's almost like he never left; filling his shoes is Cove Reber, who sounds almost exactly like Green, with his high-pitched voice and small vocal range included.

On this album, Saosin tips their hats to the sounds of the early days of Thrice (minus the screams, of course; this is a major label record, after all), later days of Thursday, and oddly enough, themselves. Much of the music sounds merely like rehashed versions of songs from their last EP, *Translating the Name*. As before, crunchy and calculated guitar riffs are adorned with occasional harmonics, while the drummer bashes away happily, peppering each song



with fancy fills and fast beats. I had trouble hearing the bass at all, which may be due either to mixing problems, or the fact that the bass player usually just finds and plays the root note, always getting lost in the beefy guitar tone.

The bottom line: this record is well-executed emo rock (I know—I cringe when I hear that phrase, too) that has been studio-polished to the point of being overproduced. The biggest problem with this release is that all the songs are so similar and forgettable that the album lacks direction. Sometimes I forgot whether I was listening to the first song, or the third song, or wait, was it the seventh song? Oh well, I've already lost interest anyway...

If you're interested, however, you can check out their website at www.saosin.com.

Restaurant Review

Phillips European Restaurant



by Govind Ramabadran | Photography by Ralph Smith

As soon as you enter Phillips European, you will immediately begin to relax. The mood of the restaurant is one of pure culinary seduction; by the time you've settled into that secluded booth, the food will already be there, freshly prepared and flavored so temptingly that you'll be salivating over it like a crack addict with his first fix in weeks (I'd try to keep the drooling in check if you bring a date along.) Though the atmosphere is one of a posh café in Milan, Paris, or Vienna, the restaurant's location is only ten minutes from RIT.

Desserts are what make Phillips European famous. The caramel pecan cheesecake is one of their most popular confections, and for good reason: this cheesecake, topped with caramel and pecan crumbs and served with chocolate sauce, is to die for. One of their most renowned chocolate cakes is the Bailey's and Cream Torte; topped with mousse and Bailey's Irish Crème, it will make any chocolate lover's day.

Though Phillips European is known for its admirable assortment of desserts, their selections for lunch and dinner cater to almost every dietary preference imaginable. But be warned: prices for dishes ranged from about \$9-\$40. Though most of the dishes come with a freshly prepared salad and a choice of sides, the portions are not as large as you might assume. If you're on a tight budget, you may be better off with just desserts.

Overall, Phillips European is an excellent restaurant. The service, aside from the hour-long wait, was very friendly and attentive at every step of the way. If you're looking to spend a relaxing afternoon or evening with that special someone—and are prepared to spend a fair amount of money—Phillips European may be what you're looking for.

For more information about Phillips European restaurant (including a detailed menu), visit www.phillipseuropean.com.

AT YOUR LEISURE THINGS, STUFF, AND PEOPLE, TOO...

STREAM OF FACTS DECEMBER 8

December 8, 1609—Reading room Sala Fredericiana opens, making Biblioteca Ambrosiana the **second** public library in Europe.

Although the **second** was at one time considered to be the fraction 1/86,400 of the mean solar day, it is now defined as the duration of 9,192,631,770 periods of the radiation corresponding to the transition between the two hyperfine levels of the ground state of Cesium-33. Could it be any more **simple**?

After positive results in rehab last month, Nicole Richie is now set to begin production of the fifth season of The **Simple** Life with Paris Hilton. They will both be **camp** counselors.

Camp is the name of a village in the Republic of Ireland, located between **Dingle** Town and Tralee.

English astronomer Herbert **Dingle** is a best known for devoting his **life** to proving Einstein's theory of special relativity to be logically inconsistent. *Ed. note: really, he just never understood it.*

The characters Bert and Ernie on Sesame Street were named after characters in Frank Capra's *It's a Wonderful Life*: Bert the cop, and Ernie the taxi **driver**.

Prior to her success as an actress, Minnie **Driver** was singer for a jazz group called "**Puff**, Rocks, and Brown."

"**Puff** the Magic Dragon" is American military slang for gunship airplanes used in Vietnam. The guns fired red tracers that gave the appearance of breathing **fire**.

December 8, 1980 — Mark David Chapman opened **fire** outside musician John Lennon's New York apartment. Lennon died within an hour of the attack.

QUOTE

There are three things to remember when teaching: know your stuff; know whom you are stuffing; and then stuff them elegantly.

Lola May

HAIKU

by **Brian Garrison**

Chocolate chip cookies:

A utilitarian

Unit of happy.

REPORTER

RECOMMENDS

High Turking. Named after the fraudulent 18th century chess playing machine with a person hidden inside, Amazon's "Mechanical Turk" beta testers perform tasks that machines currently aren't suited for. After completing a task, payment goes onto their Amazon accounts, where it can be transferred to a real bank account. This morning, I drew a picture of happiness for two cents. And I gave someone else a thought, and they gave me a penny. You won't get rich doing it, but if you have nothing better to do... <http://www.mturk.com/mturk/welcome>

CARTOON | by Alex Salsberg

BOYS of R-I-T 2007 CALENDAR PREVIEW:



SUDOKU

Difficulty: Medium

1					5		9
		3			7	2	8
	8		5			4	6
	5				9		
	2			3			4
			8				1
7		5			6		9
9	4	8	3			1	
6		2					3

If you've never done one of these, this is how it works: each row and column should contain the numbers 1-9 once and each of the blocks should contain each number once too. The answer is on the website, go check it out!

JUMBLE

Desserts

ric eamrc
spraty
ésfuolf
caromano
ekca
ildnpgum
rbesehr
ooieck
duracst
eueingrm
inddugp
reltif
ipe
gteianl

ice cream, pastry, soufflé, macaroon, cake, dumpling, sherbert, cookie, custard, meringue, pudding, trifle, pie, gelatin



SLAPPING BASS with style

Slapping Bass with Style

by Evan McNamara | Photography by Dave Londres

The instant a musician gains mastery of his instrument a certain phenomenon occurs in which that musician immediately becomes a subject of idolatry. Everywhere that this musical giant travels, his skill and precision leaves nothing but groveling, devoted followers in his wake. Victor Lemonte Wooten is aiming to shatter this phenomenon. Though his musical skill is the stuff of legends, he is anything but the stereotypical rock star.


Known by most as the bass player in famed fusion group Bela Fleck and the Flecktones, Wooten has released five solo albums to date. He has also studied and played with legends such as Bootsy Collins of Parliament Funkadelic fame, Stanley Clarke, and Larry Graham. Perhaps most renowned for his amazing slap-bass stylings and rhythmic fret board wizardry, Wooten is one of the fastest rising stars in the music scene today.

With bass guitar in hand, Wooten made a stop in Rochester on his Soul Circus 2006 Tour to promote his solo album of the same name. Following a packed clinic at the "musical Mecca" House of Guitars, Wooten made time to answer a few questions for *Reporter* before going to the German House Theatre, where he would perform later that night.

Reporter Magazine_ How has the tour been going so far?

Victor Wooten_ Wonderful! Good response, great crowds... We had a great band called the Lee Boys with us for a while. It was a great inspiration having them around for a few days.

RM_ Philosophy seems to be a big part in the way you approach music and life, in contrast to many musicians who strive for just technical ability. Could you expand on this?



VW_ I think most musicians have their own philosophies, but not all of us talk about it. A lot of the time when we go to play music, we forget about our philosophies and get right into the technical aspect of it. But I try to look at music like a language, and we don't look at speaking a language technically. We just do it! The most important thing is having something to say. When speaking, we know our technique so well, that we rarely, if ever, think about it. The focus stays on having something to say through language. My approach to music is the same.

RM_ You have had the opportunity to play with many great musicians. How do you approach playing with people with different styles and abilities?

VW_ I approach it the same way as if I were going to sit down and talk to them. You have to listen to what they have to say to know what you want to add... We have to look for that common ground that allows us to communicate effortlessly. When I play with different people we try to find that common ground where the music just flows out.

RM_ If you could raise the dead and play music with anyone, who would you choose?

VW_ The first name that comes to mind is Miles [Davis], but it would be something I would want to think about. I'd love to hang out with Jaco [Pastorius]. I don't feel the need to play with Jaco because I've heard him play so much, but just to hang out. Jaco had an energy that I loved.

RM_ That would be interesting since a lot of people compare you to Jaco [Pastorius].

VW_ The only way I compare myself to Jaco, besides being a bass player, is in the spirit, the energy, the fun he had when playing that instrument. He put his whole self into that instrument every concert...but I would love to spend some time with some of the great classical composers. Stravinsky, Mozart, Beethoven. The thing that we don't realize about those guys is that they were good improvisers. We have to remember that they didn't approach classical music the way we approach classical music. The same way Miles [Davis] and 'Trane, didn't approach jazz the way we approach it. We're trying to learn jazz while they were creating jazz! Jazz was their lifestyle, so now we're trying to preserve it. They were the rogue musicians of their day, the same with the classical composers.

RM_ What music have you personally been listening to lately?

VW_ I've spent a lot of concentrated time listening to Chick Corea lately since I had to learn some of his music for a week-long gig in New York City. I got to play as the bass player for the ElektriK band at the Blue Note. But right now I'm away from music. When I'm not on stage, I'm not putting something on to listen to. I really try to look at music as a language. If you want something good and meaningful to say, you're not going to sit around in a room and talk all day. You're going to get out and have experiences. Music is the same way. So for me to get on stage and have something meaningful to say, I don't get that from practicing all day. I gotta get out and have some fun! And then when I get on stage, wow, I've got something to talk about!

RM_ So the bottom line is that there is more than just music out there?

VW_ Oh, I hope so! But yes, there definitely is.

Later that evening, as the lights dimmed and the band took the stage, the crowd erupted with wild cheers and applause. The band blazed through a tune which introduced the band members musically, allowing each an opportunity for a short solo. At this point it became apparent that every person on that stage possessed enough power to melt your face and rock your socks with a mere flick of the wrists.

Throughout the show, the audience was treated to solo performances from Wooten's older brother Joseph Wooten on keyboards and vocals, and a blistering drum solo from Derico Watson. Wooten's other brother, Reggie, displayed his unique style of finger-tapped guitar work and astonished the audience with perhaps the only "slap-guitar" ever played. Wooten also took the stage by himself to display just why so many see him as a musical icon. Weaving in Christmas tunes such as Jingle Bells and Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer, and classic Amazing Grace, Wooten let loose a beautiful amalgamation of sound and vibration which was nothing short of breathtaking.

But as the house lights came up, it became clear exactly what it is that makes Wooten and all of these musicians so special. The band stuck around for over an hour to mingle with fans while breaking down equipment. There was not a single annoyed look when each band member was asked to sign hundreds of autographs in succession. At the end of the night, Victor Lemonte Wooten and the members of his band are still people, just like you and me. •

ADJUNCT PROFESSORS AT RIT

BY SAM STOCKHAM | ILLUSTRATION BY MIKE NORTON

Chances are if you're at RIT, you've had an adjunct as a professor at one point or another. Some students are unaware that they've even had adjuncts, or are unsure of what an adjunct really is. Some students look forward to the useful, "real world" experience and knowledge adjuncts bring to the classroom. And some students (including myself when I began working on this article) absolutely dread the sight of an adjunct. We fear incompetence, disorganization, and an inability to communicate. What we fear is bad teaching.

I spoke with several students, professors (full-time and adjunct alike), and college deans here at RIT in an attempt to learn more about the situation. The truth is that adjuncts aren't simply hired out of desperation or laziness by their respective departments. All adjuncts are professionally qualified as any other professor at RIT would be, and adjuncts, in general, have the most difficult time of anyone trying to effectively run a class with the means available.



WHAT IS AN ADJUNCT?

Adjuncts fill gaps in curriculum, teaching broad-ranged introductory level classes all the way up through specialized graduate level courses. They are hired on a quarter-by-quarter basis, keeping faculty and tuition costs down and bringing real-world experience and networking opportunities to their respective schools. They're like the place-kickers on the [non-existent] RIT football team; they're brought in for a specific purpose. Sometimes they nail the sixty-yarder and win the game, and sometimes they completely ruin all of their teammates' chances for a win, a-la Scott Norwood, or Ray Finkle (laces out).

Dr. Peter Ziarnowski, an adjunct at both Monroe Community College (MCC) and RIT's Psychology Department at RIT for the past five years, as well as a practicing psychologist, describes adjuncts as "the backbone of the department." This is certainly true to an extent, but as I began speaking with different colleges and departments on campus, I learned that the role of adjuncts can change drastically from one discipline to another. A college like CAST (College of Applied Science and Technology) for example, has such a large student population and course load that they employ a whopping 87 adjuncts and 67 tenured faculty. In comparison, the COE (College of Engineering) employs 80 tenured faculty and just 13 adjunct professors.

Lecturers and visiting faculty also help support departments by playing special roles. Lecturers are non-tenured faculty with a year-long contract whose primary function is to teach. Unlike regular faculty, lecturers (as well as adjuncts) do not have research obligations; their focus is strictly on the classroom. In fact, lecturers are generally expected to teach 125% of a standard course load. Often times, lecturers and adjuncts are used for "service courses," or courses requested by another college (think Writing and Literature or Intro to Multimedia). Visiting faculty are usually only at RIT for a one to three year span, highlighting a specific area of expertise or research. Some colleges, such as GCCIS (Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences), also have "blended faculty," whose responsibilities are split between teaching and research.

THE PLIGHT OF ADJUNCTS

While working on this article, the one consistent point that *everyone* I spoke with made was this: adjuncts get the shaft. Dr. Wayne Morse, Interim Dean of the College of Business at RIT, equated a fully loaded adjunct salary to that of a high school teacher, at best. Colin Mathers, who taught his first quarter at RIT this fall in the Philosophy Department, pointed out, "I'm teaching two courses here, one at MCC, and three at St. John Fisher, and my wife still brings home more money than me." Third-year Computer Engineering major Aric Schorr's father became an adjunct professor at RIT, but decided to leave because he made much more money working in his field as a privately practicing psychologist.

But for people in an adjunct's situation, there aren't many options. Tenured faculty positions are highly coveted and very competitive. What's more, full-time faculty also have a much larger commitment to the school, including research and advising requirements in addition to departmental obligations. For someone who wants to teach at the college level, adjunct positions are often all that's available. As Dr. Bruce Austin, chairman of the Department of Communication at RIT put it, "sometimes the difference between full-time faculty and adjuncts is that the full-time faculty were just lucky enough to get the job."

Not only are adjuncts paid less, but less money is spent on them as well. GCCIS is the only college to supply every adjunct with their own office, while every other college and department offers shared offices—if any. Though space and resources are limited, anything an adjunct may need (such as phones, copying, staff assistants, etc.) is usually accessible through their department. That is, unless you're part of the majority of adjuncts who teach in evening programs at RIT, in which case you may have a little trouble tracking down your staff assistant after business hours. And I was a little shocked to find that in the COE, adjunct professors are not even supplied with RIT email addresses.

In addition to all the tangible disparity between adjuncts and full-time faculty, there is also the issue of professional respect. Sharon Warycka, a lecturer in the Department of English who began her career at RIT as

an adjunct professor, described adjuncts as “second class citizens... maybe third.” It’s sort of cyclical: adjuncts assume full-time faculty feel superior, and full-time faculty assume adjuncts feel envious. Obviously, not *everyone* feels this way, the notion being a little less prevalent at RIT than at other schools. The majority of adjuncts here have specialized experience, too, and just about all of them are employed elsewhere in addition to RIT.

Warycka probably said it best when she compared adjuncts to “temp” workers. The comparison is spot-on: adjuncts are paid much less than any full-time employee doing the same work. In most cases, the turnover rate is very high, and as she put it, temps “hurt continuity and the general experience level in the company.” She cited the quarter-by-quarter contract renewals as one of the biggest obstacles for an adjunct professor intending to stay with RIT and trying to schedule and prepare for future courses.

ADJUNCTS AT RIT

Adjuncts have a different function for each college within RIT, yet the process for finding them is basically the same across the board. Each college has an Industrial Advisory Board that helps track potential candidates, but the majority of candidates are found simply through word of mouth. Recommendations from current faculty (full-time or adjunct), alumni, corporate networking, and even unsolicited resumés all help RIT locate qualified adjuncts. One thing that actually puts RIT at an advantage over other schools is the struggling Rochester economy. Dr. Jorge L. Díaz-Herrera, Dean of GCCIS, pointed to downsizing at Kodak, Xerox, and Bausch and Lomb as helpful to RIT in that these companies’ layoffs have helped saturate the local pool of qualified specialists.

That isn’t to say adjuncts are hard to find—pretty much every college has an ample supply of qualified adjuncts available. Carol A. Richardson, the Interim Dean of CAST, used the word “expendability” when I asked her about the kind of standards adjuncts are held to. “If we get any complaints, we will terminate the contract. We have people waiting in line to adjunct.” In fact, in GCCIS this past quarter, one adjunct was actually replaced right in the middle of the quarter. (The college was unable to disclose who or what department this occurred in, but regardless, their handling of the situation was quick). While every college I spoke with made it pretty clear that a poorly performing adjunct would not be brought back, no other school seemed to show this type of concern and sense of urgency.

The most important lesson to be found here is that adjuncts are *not* held to lower standards, not as far as hiring or performance standards are concerned. The checklist of standards the College of Business uses for hiring and maintaining adjunct faculty includes items such as: “Discipline-based article in peer-reviewed journal, editor of peer-reviewed teaching journal, full-time job in the teaching area, member of a corporation’s board of directors, practice-related article in peer-reviewed journal, editor of peer-reviewed practice journal,” etc. The only difference between the adjuncts and full-time faculty in the College of Business is that adjuncts only need a master’s degree, not a doctorate (in addition to meeting all other shared criteria).

A STUDENT’S PERSPECTIVE

Perhaps the best way I can illustrate the potential positives and negatives of an adjunct is through a student’s perspective. Luke Auburn, a second-year Professional & Technical Communication major took a newswriting course last year, and had a pretty frustrating experience. “It seemed like [the adjunct professor’s] other job hurt [her teaching],” Auburn said. “She would say things like ‘I’ve been real busy this week’ or ‘Sorry I didn’t get your email.’ She was very disorganized.” He even mentioned that by the end of the quarter, the students seemed to have very little respect for her. In all fairness, this was her first time teaching a course, though I would argue that perhaps the college or department might have supported her better. In GCCIS, for instance, all first-time adjuncts are assigned a faculty mentor to offer support and advice on teaching.

This situation, however, was also a great example of how an adjunct’s real world experience and connections can really bring something unique to the classroom. This adjunct professor, also employed by the *Rochester Democrat and Chronicle*, used her connections to get the class full tours of the newspaper’s headquarters downtown, as well as the channel 13 WHAM television station near campus. She brought in several guest speakers, all of whom shared valuable industry experience and advice, and she even had the class attend a panel about news coverage and the 1971 Attica prison riot. It featured Pulitzer Prize-winning Jack Garner, a local reporter who won the award for his coverage of the riots.

WHEN YOU ASSUME...

I used to assume adjuncts were just a way for RIT to keep spending down. I sort of envisioned them as aftermarket parts in the car that is college professorship. It seemed like many others shared the same perspective I did, so it’s understandable why a bad experience with an adjunct can be so infuriating for some of us. It feels like our education is suffering because RIT wants to cut costs and keep faculty cheap. This definitely isn’t always the case.

It’s obvious that adjuncts don’t do it for the money, the fame, or the glamour—they do it because they like their field and they like teaching. So remember, the next time you encounter a disorganized adjunct or a disenchanting full-time professor, the only difference between the two is that one has a Mercedes in the parking lot and the other has a Hyundai... with a duct-taped exhaust pipe. •



I WANT YOU

TO BE AN

ORIENTATION ASSISTANT

Information Sessions:

Tuesday, January 9	8-9 pm	SAU - 1829 Room
Wednesday, January 10	7-8 pm	NRH 1250
Friday, January 12	1-2 pm	Bldg. 1 - Room 3287
Monday, January 15	7-8 pm	SAU - 1829 Room
Wednesday, January 17	6-7 pm	Gleason A055
Friday, January 19	1-2 pm	SAU - Clark B
Tuesday, January 23	7-8 pm	Bldg. 86 - Room 1150
Thursday, January 25	8-9 pm	NRH 1250
Friday, January 26	1-2 pm	SAU - Clark B
Sunday, January 28	5-6 pm	Gleason A055

You **MUST** attend one of the above information sessions to apply.
 E-mail jdhcst@rit.edu to request interpreting services.

APPLY TO BOTH THE OA & RA POSITIONS!

(please be aware that you may only accept one position)



Center for
Residence Life
 RIT

Pick up an application at an Information Session:

"*" INDICATES INTERPRETERS HAVE BEEN REQUESTED

Dec. 12	5PM	SDC 1300*
	9PM	Gleason A055
Dec. 13	4PM	Sol Activity Room
Dec. 18	2PM	EPB 1st Floor Lounge*
	7PM	Sol Activity Room*
Dec. 19	1PM	SAU 1829 Room
	10PM	Gleason A055*
Jan. 8	12PM	Apt. Area Office (Colony Manor)*
	10PM	Gleason A055
Jan. 9	2PM	Sol Activity Room
	9PM	NRH 1250*
Jan. 10	9PM	NRH 1250*

Be a Resident Advisor

THE RIT FACULTY: FANATICS APPLY WITHIN

BY ANTONIO CASTILLO | ILLUSTRATION BY KRISTEN BELL

RIT has a reputation for producing students who are employable, with great acumen in the workplace and highly specialized skills (paraphrased from any promotional pamphlet ever mailed from the Office of Admissions). Students, take a moment to pat yourselves on the back for being ideal job applicants. Now, answer this for me, “What is the source of RIT’s credentials?”

“That’s easy!” you retort, “It’s all of my hard work.” Well, yes, you are possibly a brilliant whatever you are, but you are also a product of four, five, or (for those of us still hanging in there) six years of RIT instruction. The Institute owes much of its success to its students, but where would the students be without their professors?

Once we become RIT graduates, we hunt for jobs, the very thing the faculty were doing right before they arrived on campus.

ATTRACTING FACULTY WITH OUR MONEY

RIT learned something from its work for the CIA years ago. Every year it monitors, or benchmarks, schools who attract faculty the administration prefers teach here. Bill Bianchi, RIT’s Budget Director, says, “RIT must remain competitive in order to recruit, retain, and motivate that best faculty.” CIA tactics aside, which could not be verified, RIT spends a great deal of money, and time, to hire and employ the faculty year after year. (See Fig. 1)

Every student has probably wondered, “How much are they paying this person—with my money!?” Bianchi indicated that there is not a standard salary RIT offers faculty who apply. A faculty member’s salary depends on their rank and discipline. Faculty are ranked as professor, associate professor, assistant professor, adjunct, or lecturer. Accordingly, their pay rate decreases with a lower rank. Furthermore, Bianchi explains,

“Professors in business and engineering earn more than their counterparts in the arts and humanities, true across the board in higher education.”

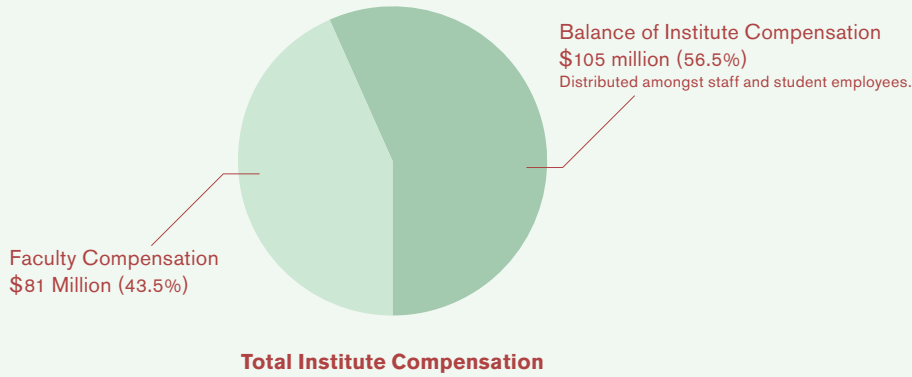
It appears that once they are in the door, few faculty leave. Bianchi notes that the turnover rate for faculty is low. Before a salary offer can be made though, a suitable hire must be found. RIT likes to raise many things, but the number of faculty is not one of them, and not everyone who wants a job gets one.

THE HUNT FOR FACULTY (SEE FIG. 2)

When faculty positions need to be filled in a college, a specialized faculty search committee is assembled. It consists of the dean and select department chairs. Their sole responsibility is to finally replace “Professor Monotone.” According to Carol A. Richardson, the Interim Dean of the College of Applied Science and Technology (CAST), the applicant list for one faculty position can be as long as 100. “It’s a much more involved process than it used to be because [individual colleges] are held accountable,” Richardson explains. “We have to show that we really have done a national search. You can’t just bring up one of the old boys that you knew from graduate school.”

It should come as no surprise that RIT faculty specialize in their work. In the College of Imaging Arts and Sciences (CIAS), Professor Jason Arena and Professor Adam Smith, faculty in the New Media Design program, instruct courses which are meant to advance skills specifically related to their students’ field. In the case of Arena and Smith, they teach the principles and software used in Motion Graphics, 3D Modeling, and Interactive Design. Their work is just one example of RIT’s approach to learning, in which theory melds with application.

Fig. 1



Compiled courtesy of Dr. Robert Bowen and Dan Cosper, from RIT's Institutional Research department. The data applies to full-time faculty who are teaching at least one course (i.e. have some instructional credit) and who are in "tenure-track" positions (i.e. eligible to apply for tenure in the future or who have tenure).

Time Spent

Based on "Full time equivalent (FTE)" breakdown.

- Teaching: 86%
- Administration: 9%
- Funded Research: 2%
- Scholarship: 1%
- Other: 2% (includes activities like curriculum development, public service, and advising student organizations).

Age

Mean age of RIT faculty: 39
Mean age of new hires, 2006: 37

Gender

Female: 30%
Male: 70%

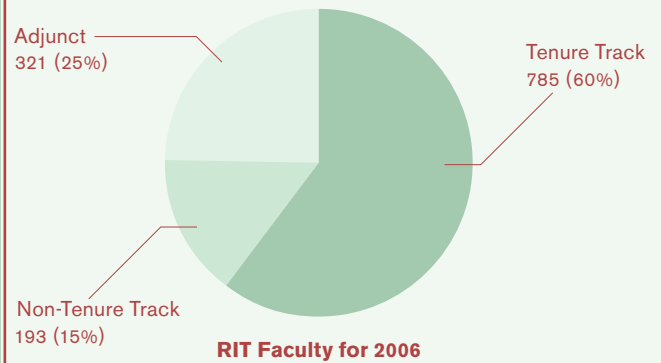
Race

African: 5%
Hispanic: 3%
Asian: 7%
American Latino: 1%

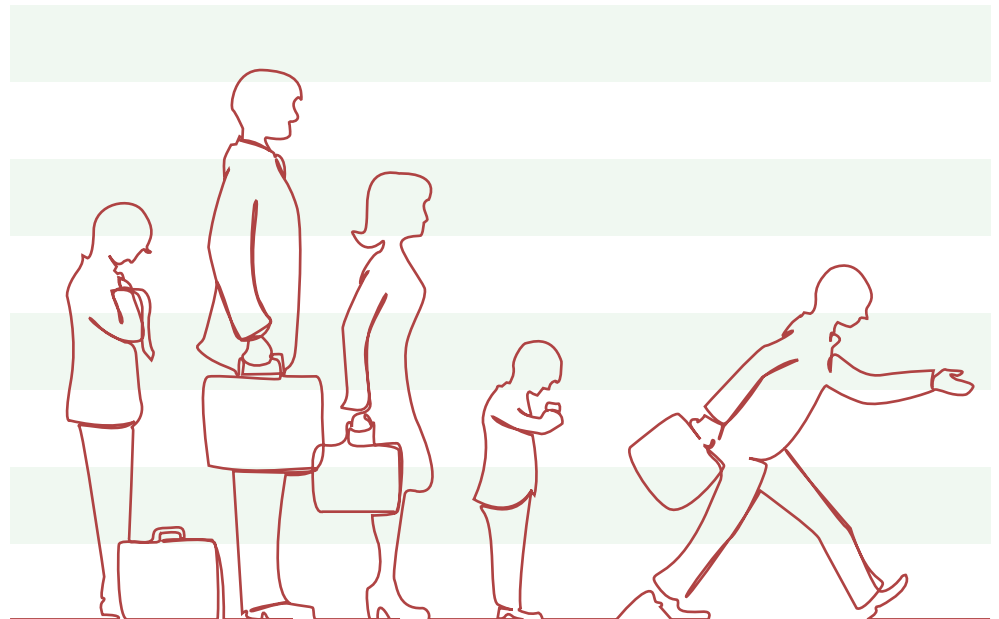
Earnings

Mean annual salary: \$84,618

Fig. 2



*From the Academic Senate Website:
<http://www.rit.edu/~ritaswww/>



Thus, full-time positions require an exhaustive search, especially with tenured faculty. "It takes a year to hire a tenured faculty member," says Richardson. "A tenure track takes a whole year because we have to do the advertising, about six months, and then telephone interviews. We phone interview ten out of a hundred on average, and then the Dean decides how many of those will be brought to campus."

Potential faculty members are subject to the scrutiny of their colleagues and future students. Unofficially, it is an opportunity for student-imposed humiliation with little repercussion. Officially, the intent is to measure their teaching ability. Richardson explains that in CAST, "We grill them on their research and we see how well they can respond. If they can't answer the questions we cross them off the list. This gives us an idea on how they present. Every college does it differently, though."

If the applicants for the tenured faculty positions make it through, then the college picks the best one and makes them an offer. Should they turn RIT down, then the search committee proceeds right down the list. Wait, wait, wait. Turn RIT down—with our reputation—who would dare?

"In the process, sometimes we lose our recruits. Other colleges, such as RPI, outbid us. They offer more research money for new equipment—they constantly outbid us," admits Richardson. "RIT doesn't have a big endowment like the schools we compete with. We're working on it."

Before you transfer schools, take this into consideration. Richardson boasts, "RIT is more likely to attract a faculty member that wants to teach. We have excellent teaching facilities and excellent faculty. In CAST we require the professors who apply to have three years of current industrial experience. We won't hire a fresh Ph.D. who has no experience. We need the faculty member to bring examples into the classroom of why they are using these tools and following these processes."

HELPING FACULTY STAY FOCUSED

Once on campus, there is always the possibility that even a great faculty member becomes out of touch with their students. When RIT's faculty does not perform up to expectation, they are directed to Lynn Wild, Assistant Vice-President for Teaching and Learning. Her office is responsible for training the faculty, making sure they can communicate with students, and, in general, be effective educators.

Lynn Wild is enamored with all of RIT's bricks, explaining that she is not very traditional. The enthusiasm she exudes for the campus suits Wild very well, as she is responsible for instructing our instructors.

When we sat down to speak, Wild was conducting a grant writing boot camp. Together with Majorie Zack, the Director of Sponsored Research Services, their techniques have helped raised \$600,000 in funding for the university. "Getting grants is great and it is something you should be interested in, but how can you take that interest and make it something that informs your teaching?" poses Wild.

She believes, "all of RIT's scholarship should be directed to helping and benefiting the students. RIT is a huge draw for faculty who are interested

in doing novel things. Opportunities for undergraduate students are great here, and for faculty who like to teach and like to make a difference in people's lives, this is the place to be."

Like students, the faculty can feel overwhelmed with the quarter system. "Faculty are concerned with how they are going to do it all," Lynn explains. "There is a lot of work on behalf of the faculty. The Provost jokes that if he were hired today he would not make tenure." (Here's a student tip for overwhelmed faculty: if you gave fewer tests and assignments, then you would have less work. Okay, it was worth a shot).

Instead, Wild's office conducts seminars and workshops which develop teaching methods. Unique approaches, such as learning from an improvisational comedy coach, are helping faculty break the ice, get students to let their guard down, and, overall, make class time more enjoyable. When asked about her perception of how well the faculty meet the needs of students, Wild says, "Most people come to work well intended. They want to do their job and nobody likes to think they are not serving the students well. The President and everyone here is very student-focused."

Wild reminds students that they share a responsibility as well. "You're paying a lot of money to be here; I'm very aware of that and we want to make sure you get what you're paying for," says Wild. "Having said that though, learning is a partnership. It's really about 'how are we going to learn together.'"

Believe it or not, skipping lectures and not completing a reading assignment makes even the ice-cold professors feel bad. It may be hard to see the faculty as capable of emotion when you receive a low grade that you know they could not wait to deliver. But professors, however, get depressed at points in the quarter too, especially when their students are not working up to their potential. It causes them to go crazy, which is arguably the reason they were hired in the first place. As long as RIT has fanatics in front of the classroom who go crazy over design principles, gene sequencing, and astrophysics, the students will feel it is worth their time (and money) to brave the brutal winter mornings. *

A complete list of Benchmark Schools can be found at: <http://finweb.rit.edu/humanresources/benefits/benchmark.html>

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Tiger got game!

01

A quick look at RIT's Winter Sports Scene

by Alyssa Chamberlain and Michael Johnston | Photography by Dave Londres

Men's Basketball

Last season's record: 14-11 (8-6 League play)

The Men's basketball team is coming off a fairly good season last year, finishing fourth place in the Empire Eights. They ended up losing to the #1 seed, St. John Fisher, in the semis of the league playoffs. They qualified for the ECAC Upstate tourney, but lost in the first round to another number one seed in Oswego State. The Tigers have a good core of players returning this season, led by 6'7" senior big man Tim Bacon. The team started out this season 2-0, but then had a tough game against Clarkson, losing 62-51. It should be an exciting season for the Tigers as they look to improve on their 8-6 Empire Eight record of a year ago. They open up league play against last year's league champion St. John Fisher on January 5 at 8 p.m. in the Clark Gymnasium, and they will host the Harold Brodie Tournament on December 8 and 9. The Tigers will play their first game of the tournament at 8 p.m. on Friday. Look for the Tigers to have a slightly better record this season and (hopefully) for them to scrape out a birth into the NCAA tourney.

Women's Basketball

Last season's record: 6-18

Last year was a sort of "rebuilding year" for the women's basketball team. They struggled through most of last season, only scraping together six wins. Silver-lining: the lackluster season last year gives them the opportunity to improve greatly this season. Senior Ramata Diallo, a 5'7" forward, is coming off a great year, where she found herself on the second team All-Empire Eight squad. Look for Diallo to improve this year, and to make a run for a first team spot. She and the rest of the Tigers are off to a great start, winning their first two games against Clarkson and Keuka, and then beating Meredith College last Friday at the Shenandoah Tournament in Winchester, Virginia. The Tigers' next home game is on December 9 against SUNY Fredonia at 6:30 p.m. in the Clark Gymnasium. They open up league play against St. John Fisher on January 5, also at the Clark Gymnasium. I see the Tigers finishing the season in the middle of the pack.

Women's Hockey

Last season's record: 15-10

The Women's Hockey team is enjoying a very good start to the 2006/2007 season. They have managed to allow only two goals against in their five games so far this season, posting a 5-0 record and starting off 4-0 in league play. The team received the number 10 ranking in this week's USCHO.com D3 hockey poll. This is big news; NCAA rules require a school to have at least two Division 1 teams before they can give out full athletic scholarships. The success of the Women's team could be a good start to RIT achieving this status. Sophomore Danielle Nagymarosi and Junior Isabelle Richard are tied for the team lead in points with 11 a piece. I see the Tigers having a monster year, finishing very close to the top of the league. If not a first place finish, they will at least be in the running to make a deep post-season run.

Men's Hockey

Last season's record: 9-24-2

The Men's team is experiencing their first full Division 1 schedule this season. Their results have been up and down, winning home games but losing most of their away games. They are 5-5-2 so far and are 5-2-1 in conference play. The team is the newest member of the newly-formed Atlantic Hockey League and is trying to make a name for itself—this year has been dedicated to proving to the rest of the league that the Tigers do, in fact, belong in Division 1 Hockey. With their recent win against Holy Cross, the Tigers technically have the best record in the conference. The Tigers next home game will be on January 6 against Niagara. Look for the team to finish at the top of the league this year. They are not eligible for the post season, but they still have a great shot at a regular season title.

Women's Swimming and Diving

Women's Swimming and Diving looks to have a mixed season this year, already having chalked up two losses and two victories. They started out strong, defeating Alfred University (143-98) at their first meet of the season, but then went on to lose two consecutive meets to SUNY Fredonia (91-52) and SUNY Oswego (98-134) before winning against St. Laurence (131-96). If they can keep their energy up and don't become overconfident, they might pull out a winning season this year; however, it's uncertain whether or not they'll be able to consistently win matches. The team finished out a somewhat mediocre year last winter by placing 11th out of 15 teams in the NYSWCAA championships. If they can keep from falling into a teeter-tottering routine of wins and losses, they could do much better this season. Not to be a herald of doom, but I'm not sure they can do it. Consider it a challenge.

Men's Swimming and Diving

Men's Swimming and Diving also have a record of two wins and two losses. The beginning of the season looked none-too-hopeful for them, with a defeat at the hands of Alfred University (98-144). They then went on to defeat SUNY Fredonia (146-95), but didn't follow up, losing to SUNY Oswego on a rather narrow margin, earning 114 points to Oswego's 138. They pulled out, however, and defeated St Laurence University, 144 to 98. The men's team had a good season last year by finishing sixth out of 12 teams at the UNYSCSA championships in February, and they might be able to match it this year if they approach the season with determination. They could easily top what they did last year—but then again, they could just as easily rest on their laurels.



Wrestling

The Wrestling team has started out the season rather depressingly, with too many defeats and not enough victories to note. They opened their season with the Bomber Invitational at Ithaca College and seven individual victories; they went on to lose against SUNY Oswego (16-31). After Oswego, the RIT wrestlers finished ninth out of 13 at the Red Dragon Invitational, with 66 points total, and freshman Mike McNally taking the individual title. Their last season had its highs and lows, with a string of losses and low placements at invitationals that led to a fifth-place finish at the Empire conference championships in February and sending then fourth-year student Zach Greenberg to the NCAA wrestling championships last March. If they fall into last year's rhythm, they might pull out a good season this year, but that depends on whether or not they let themselves get stuck in a rut and become unable to pull out of it. Nevertheless, I see the wrestling team as something to watch out for this year. Call it a gut feeling. •

01 // Third-year Nate Bachmann competes in the RIT Invitational Wrestling Tournament in the Clark Gym on Saturday December 2. RIT took seventh place in the team competition. 02 // Third-year Quinn Donahoe prepares to dive during the RIT swimming and diving team's victory over St. Lawrence on November 11.

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RIT RINGS

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by Chad Carbone

RIT Rings has been pulled this week to make a point about the gross lack of quality incorporated within this section of our publication.

Rings is a horrible piece of print for one reason and one reason only: *you*, the reader/caller. There has been a precedent placed upon Rings that labels it as little more than a drunk-dial line. For a time, this characterization was fine (and sometimes even humorous); however, I've officially had enough of reading drunken stupidity. This call-in column has been the staple of *Reporter* and a reader favorite for about a year now. However, it's grown tiresome and has been abused by inebriated students who think they are being funny when they are, in fact, not funny at all.

I am the Views editor for *Reporter* and, lately, I've found that Rings is not being used to its "Views" capacity. I have no control over what you, the reader/caller, say. However, I do have the ability to omit any call that I deem unsuitable to be run in this magazine. If you have seen some of the more recent RIT Rings, you can see that the content barely filled up the page. Most of the calls that were received were obscene and child-like; in my mind, that makes them unfit for print. It is painful to listen to messages on our machine because I have to refrain from sticking pencils up my nose in a fruitless attempt to stab my brains out and thus lower myself to the intellectual level of these calls.

Here's an example of what I am talking about:

Saturday 1:06 a.m.

Hey RIT Rings I think I might have just killed one of my best friends beta fish and I smell. She said I smelled and sprayed me with Febreze. Isn't that weird?

No. It is not weird. It is stupid and should not be printed in 6,000 magazines. Frankly, those three sentences alone have made this page worth less than an alcoholic's promise to stop stealing money from his ex-girlfriend's purse. This message is not contributing anything meaningful or poignant to *your* magazine. I stress *your* because we make this for you.

It is *Reporter's* duty to spread awareness on this campus. As such, we try to bring the student voice out to the RIT public through our articles, but in some cases, we miss. We don't cover something important, one of our writers makes a horrible mistake, the articles aren't informative or entertaining, etc. Calling in to *Reporter* is an opportunity for the average RIT student to express a perspective that might otherwise go unvoiced; it is **not** a venue for idiocy. Readers who constantly fill our answering machine with trash about electing a lobster as president make me wish there were more pencil sharpeners on campus (I can't even find *one*).

In our ADD generation, most people do not take the time to read entire articles, so a two or six sentence blurb can do wonders to make someone think. This is the reason people read Rings: it's short. If a reader is not enthralled by one Ring, he will move on to the next Ring until he is entertained/amused/(hopefully) informed. This is the beauty of Rings. It's simple. I see plenty of potential in Rings, but it is not up to me to expose it. It is up to *you*. My job is to make my section the best it can be. A real views section should have real views. Here is *your* opportunity to voice *your* opinion.

Don't let me down. I'd like my brain to stay at the intelligence level it currently resides in.

*Have an objection to this article? Tell me about it. The phone number is still right up top. **

SELECTIVE SERVICE DRAFTING IN A NEW AGE OF WAR

by Geoffrey Shearer

A draft isn't just for sports. Thankfully, at this current juncture it is, but the idea of dropping the books, picking up a gun, and heading to war is more than just a bit unnerving. With countries such as Iran and North Korea presenting that unsettling glint of conquest in Bush's political eye, our next draft may not be as far down the road as we're led to believe.

The peacetime draft was created when FDR signed the Selective Training and Service Act in 1940. This act also established the Selective Service System, which is the independent federal agency that men are required to register with upon their 18th birthday. Between 1948 and 1973, men were drafted during peacetime to fill vacancies in the military that weren't satisfied by voluntary enlistment. Since the draft held during the Vietnam War, there have been many changes to the system that allow fewer reasons to excuse oneself from service.

One excuse from service that remains is conscientious objection (and yes, it's exactly what it sounds like). This objection to the draft encompasses a moral dilemma with war based on religion. However, there are federal participation programs for these conscientious objectors, which enlist objectors into non-combatant roles performing *work of national importance*, both in and out of the military. Objector programs entail no training or duties with weapons; their work often includes conservation, social services, and health care.

Draft exemption today would differ drastically from our historical precedents. World War II allowed for married men to be exempted from the draft. In Vietnam, full-time students working positively towards a degree were exempt from the draft; today, college seniors are exempt until the end of the current school year, while the rest of the collegiate student body is only exempt until the end of the current semester. A lottery would be held for which groups of registrants would be called first, essentially starting with people ages 20 to 25.

The Bush Administration informs us that there will not be a draft (just as the government had done in World War II and the Vietnam War) maintaining that the draft would be ineffective with the type of military we have today. Draft Service Bills are introduced to Congress often, and are consistently defeated. While details like age-range and term-length change, what appears to remain constant is the required service of both men and women in the future.

Is this fair?

In a society that actively strives to "break the glass ceiling," is drafting women in military combatant roles a step forward in equality? Or would women be drafted into non-combatant roles similar to conscientious objection. Again, I repeat: is that a step forward in equality? Regardless of a historically chivalrous military draft, these issues of gender equality in the military are being defined through draft legislation proposed in Congress many times over the past few years.

If the draft was reinstated tomorrow, you may find yourself head to toe in military garb within two weeks. After receiving the results of an initial evaluation, registrants have only 10 days to file for exemption before induction processes begin.

During the Vietnam War, draft dodgers felt that the United States was unjust and immoral in its intentions. This anti-war sentiment coupled with mass rebellion challenged the war machine they saw as America. These dodgers would inflict physical damage to themselves, purposefully fail literacy tests, become mail-order ministers, or commit felonies solely to be exempted or deferred from the draft.

Maybe you think that the draft makes you, a citizen, into a harlot for the national pimp for sordid efforts you deem immoral. Or maybe you are one to reply that it is the duty and honor of a loyal citizen to stand and defend her freedom in order to be entitled to it. Regardless of which side of this fence you stand, one question remains: if and when the time comes, what will you do? •





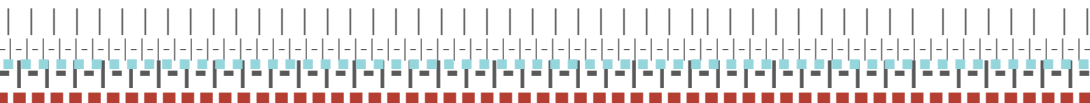
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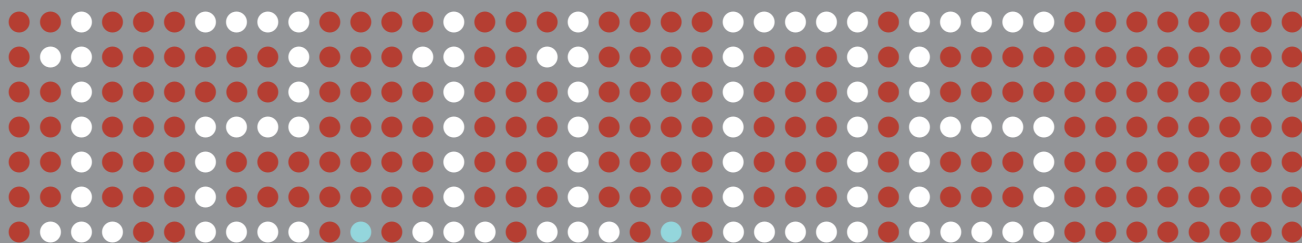
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