

# REPORTER

JANUARY 12, 2007 | [WWW.REPORTERMAG.COM](http://WWW.REPORTERMAG.COM)

# 2007

What will the New Year bring?

Predictions on page sixteen.

# REPORTER

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# Editorial

## Saddam's Ethernet Noose

White House Press Secretary Tony Snow mentioned that President Bush read *The Stranger* by Pulitzer Prize winning author Albert Camus just last summer. It is the story of a man who, without remorse, kills an Arab and is sentenced to death. The last line of the novel is, "For everything to be consummated, for me to feel less alone, I had only to wish that there be a large crowd of spectators the day of my execution and that they greet me with cries of hate."

Rings a bell, doesn't it? As the grainy image of an eerily calm Saddam Hussein drops to the bottom of the YouTube frame, for a fraction of a second the mind can grasp a terrifying idea as the rope goes taut. For that short blip of time, like a gasp, it's apparent why the cover of *Time* magazine's Person of the Year 2006 issue is a computer monitor with a reflective surface mounted inside it.

The infamous execution videographer may be in serious trouble, as opposed to the crowd of taunters and disrespectful viewers whose offenses are revealed by the video in question that now haunts the internet. This is why the ethereal "you" was named Person of the Year by *Time*, symbolized not by the outline of a face, but by a computer monitor. Perhaps Ralph Waldo Emerson would frown at the sort of over-soul that the internet has become. It truly is the amalgamation of our collective fears, anguishes, and dreams. Is this appropriate, though? Is the streaming video of a hanging man too graphic? Some might even say it's a poor influence.

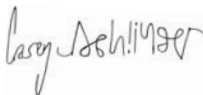
The *Houston Chronicle* reported that after curious ten-year-old Sergio Pelico saw news coverage of Hussein's hanging, he put a slipknot around his neck, secured it to the top bunk of his bed, and killed himself. Which is more important? The freedom to the truth, or the freedom from "dangerous" media?

Perhaps the issue was most eloquently voiced by Margaret Atwood in her novel *The Handmaid's Tale*, where she describes two parallel versions of freedom: freedom to and freedom from. The former refers to our ability to do what we please. The latter refers to our desire to prevent others from doing what they want at our own expense. That American-as-apple-pie buzzword "freedom" doesn't always taste so sweet. Compare the freedom to bear arms versus the freedom from being shot. The freedom to privacy versus the freedom from a terrorist plot.

Sure, Saddam deserved to be punished, but the current debate is whether he deserved to be taunted at the gallows. I do not understand how a country can simultaneously hold the freedom to execute a man, but leave their victim the freedom from verbal abuse. It makes little sense to hold a man's feelings to a higher consideration than his life, no matter what the circumstances, but especially when Saddam seemed to take after Meursault, of *The Stranger*, unrepentant to the very end, standing by his crimes with pride.

Just like the infamous videographer had the freedom to post the video of the execution, the witnesses had the freedom to act foolishly. I only fear that they gave Saddam the audience he wanted, the audience further propagated by its internet incarnation. Saddam received Meursault's final wish.

To truly be punished, Hussein would need to have been greeted by what may be the most unsettling final sight possible: a crowd plagued with expressions of indifference.



Casey Dehlinger  
**Editor in Chief**



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Cover design by Michelle Brook and Casey Dehlinger. ◀TOC Judi Hoffman, Celebrity Psychic. Publicity photo courtesy of Judi Hoffman. See page 16.

# Thinking about Graduate School?

## WHAT?

An information session about graduate programs at RIT that covers the application process, career options, financial-aid, and more!

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## WHEN?

Wednesday, January 17, 2007  
5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

*Pizza and soda* will be served!!

## WHERE?

Bausch & Lomb Center (Bdg. 77)  
Room# A-190 (lower level)

### RSVP:

Office of Part-time and Graduate Studies  
by e-mail [gradinfo@rit.edu](mailto:gradinfo@rit.edu) or by phone 475-2229

A list of current graduate programs available at RIT is at [www.rit.edu/grad](http://www.rit.edu/grad)

Consider **R·I·T**



# Letters to the Editor

**Dear Reporter,**

This is in response to Chad Carbone's decision to remove the intended content for RIT Rings from the [magazine].

This decision has made me think not only about RIT Rings itself but also the *Reporter* as a whole. I transferred from University at Buffalo and in coming here the first thing that I remarked on was the apparent lack of real content in the *Reporter* magazine. It's no wonder that RIT students have no respect for the magazine. Where's the journalism? Where are the real investigations? Oh, how wonderful it is that *Reporter* magazine has colored pages and a beautiful style. Well, I'd rather take a black-and-white magazine printed on crappy paper but with more in-depth articles than one with three-paragraph articles and reviews along with pretty pictures that fill up the rest of the page. Chad mentions that students nowadays don't read the majority of the newspaper supposedly because of a short attention span. While that may be true, it is also because the articles are so superficial that you can read the whole page but not glean any useful or interesting information about it.

So instead of improving your magazine, you take the one thing away that kept your magazine afloat. RIT students have many things to be stressed about, from work to class to all the other things that might happen in one's daily life. Yet there are not many things that RIT students can do to have fun that is not set up by the institution. RIT students shouldn't have to rely on their own school to have fun. So of course the *Reporter* takes away RIT Rings and insults the student population at the same time. While reading the article I got the sense that Chad was trying to parent us and make himself seem smarter-than-thou. He mentions how RIT Rings is the place where students can voice their opinions. But I get the sense that if students truly called in to complain, and I'm sure they would mostly complain about the institution, Al Simone would throw a hissy fit and start editing the magazine himself.

Maybe the *Reporter* should stop acting like a parent or a puppet magazine and start acting like a real investigative journal.

In reference to the RIT Rings section, maybe the magazine should actually scrap the idea of actually calling in and instead have a general area in the magazine where students can write in their complaints, point out interesting things, make funny comments, or call people out, whether good or bad. You guys could set up a mailbox outside the *Reporter* office where students could drop off their messages. Although you would still get stupid messages and insults, not only would students have to sober up a little to write the message and drop it off but it is also akin to what other, more fun, universities and colleges have.

Or you could scrap the whole idea of RIT Rings and leave a brief description of why, instead of lecturing and being patronizing to the student population.

**Tracy Rohlin**

First Year Interpreting

**Dear Tracy,**

First of all, thank you for voicing your concerns. If the individuals who called RIT Rings expressed their opinions in as sophisticated a manner as yourself, then there wouldn't be a problem. I only wish to point out that the unruly callers that Chad Carbone referred to are the ones that we regularly refuse to print for lack of humor, decency, or clarity. If calling this magazine and leaving a stream of racial slurs and swears is what these students consider a "fun time," then I suggest they take up a hobby.

I have absolutely no problem with the quirky and humorous observations of fellow students; I believe that these are the "fun" calls that you refer to, and that's why they are still included. 1000-word dissertations on tuna are often excluded for obvious reasons, but we do what we can to include what is reasonable to publish.

I promise you that if a student called in with a legitimate complaint about the RIT community, I would run it wholeheartedly without fear of retaliation from the Administration, so long as the caller constructed an argument instead of an incomprehensible string of curses that can't be heard over the din of the tirades of their friends in the background. Complaint calls are my favorites, even when it's as simple as the caller who complained about the programming on the RIT TV channels. RIT Rings is maintained with the hope that someday it will be regularly used for such a purpose.

You suggest that we replace the call-in line with a drop box, but I believe what you fail to realize is that e-mailing *Reporter* a letter to the editor essentially fulfills that function, and, sadly, is the road less traveled by the RIT community. I hope that other students will follow your example and provide the feedback that will help *Reporter* grow as a magazine and learn from our readers, as any respectable magazine should.

**Casey Dehlinger**

Editor in Chief



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Inbox  
Junk E-mail  
Calendar  
Contacts  
Tasks  
Folders  
Public Folders  
Options  
Log Off

New Message

**J.S. Ost (RIT Student) : Inbox**

	From	Subject
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	System Administrator	Your mailbox is over its
<input type="checkbox"/>	Xiomara Dossey	Re: my semiannua - plasti
<input type="checkbox"/>	Delicia Atwater	Re: your sheban - Hi Rolle
<input type="checkbox"/>	Timeshare	Sell Your Timeshare for C
<input type="checkbox"/>	WhyWorryAboutCredit	We Could Help to Solve y
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Cash Advance Expert	Need Liquid Funds Now?
<input type="checkbox"/>	Raimunde Russel	Re: your itineranc - Hi VA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Rafik Huggins	Microsoft Vista, Office 20
<input type="checkbox"/>	emerson	fw: Nosso horóscopo para
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	profx@mail.rit.edu	OST, JENNIFER: Academ
<input type="checkbox"/>	Alyssa Milano	Kate Beckinsale Love Hev
<input type="checkbox"/>	ssssss sssssss	Improve your sexual confi
<input type="checkbox"/>	asdfg hjkl	Can't make the first step to
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cell Deal	Pick a phone on us- Motor
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gevalia 2007	Your FREE Coffee Maker
<input type="checkbox"/>	Auction Vehicles	Seized Cars, Trucks, and S
<input type="checkbox"/>	Designer Shoe Dept	Your FREE Holiday Shee
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hugo P. Cartwright	"It would be beyond irony
<input type="checkbox"/>	Homer & Arthur Easley	Floyd, do you think Loris
<input type="checkbox"/>	TheTrue.comCenter	Not meeting anyone at the
<input type="checkbox"/>	Vacuum Central	J.S. your complimentary D
<input type="checkbox"/>	Holiday Giftcard Center	Your FREE \$500 Macy's g
<input type="checkbox"/>	Clarence	And they are on the verge
<input type="checkbox"/>	African American Dating	Let us introduce you to Af
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tom B.	Better than robbing banks,

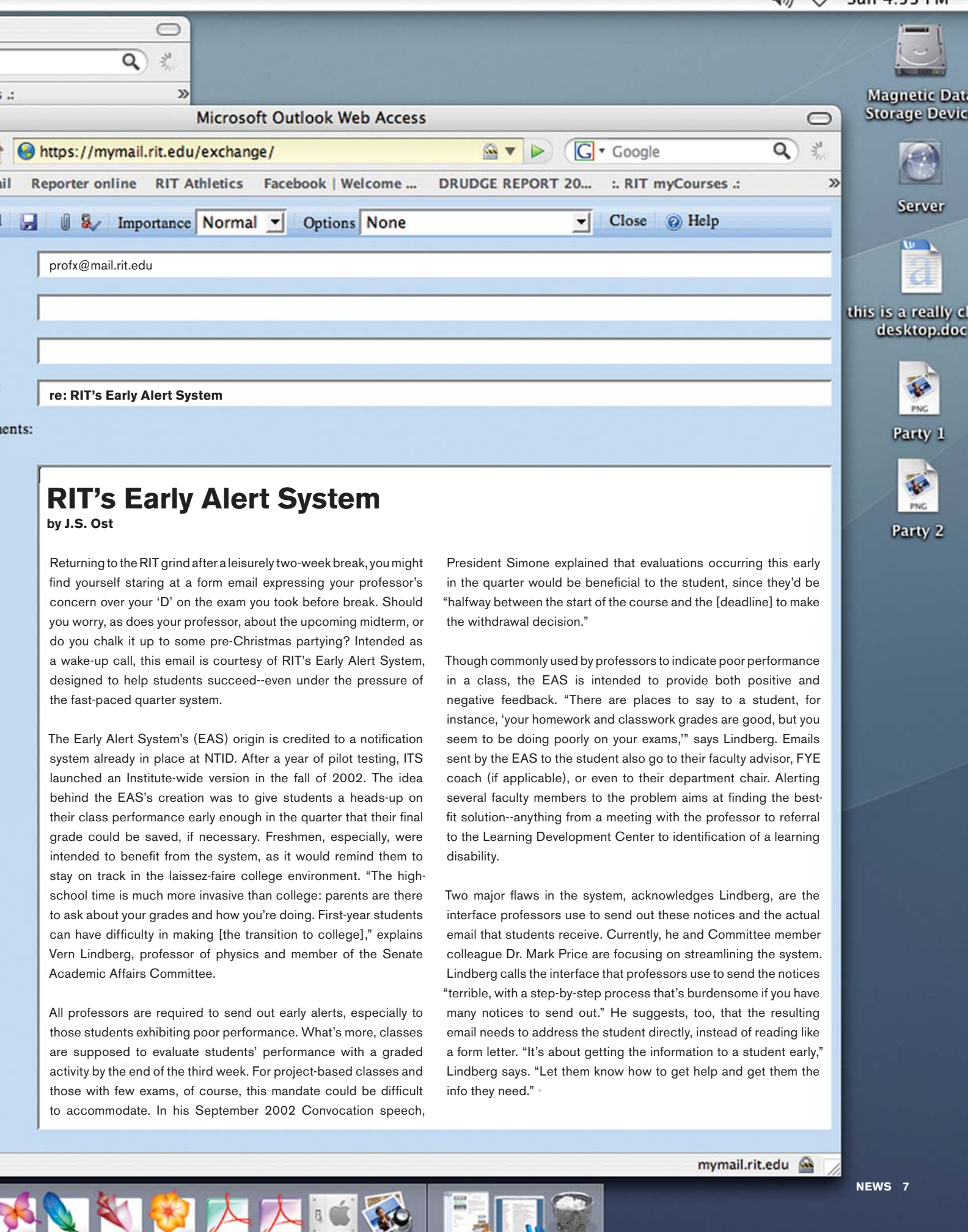
Done

**mymail**

Inbox  
Junk E-mail  
Calendar  
Contacts  
Tasks  
Folders  
Public Folders  
Options  
Log Off

Send  
To:  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Subject:  
Attachm

Done



## Microsoft Outlook Web Access

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Google

Reporter online RIT Athletics Facebook | Welcome ... DRUDGE REPORT 20... RIT myCourses

Importance Normal Options None Close Help

profx@mail.rit.edu

re: RIT's Early Alert System

### RIT's Early Alert System

by J.S. Ost

Returning to the RIT grind after a leisurely two-week break, you might find yourself staring at a form email expressing your professor's concern over your 'D' on the exam you took before break. Should you worry, as does your professor, about the upcoming midterm, or do you chalk it up to some pre-Christmas partying? Intended as a wake-up call, this email is courtesy of RIT's Early Alert System, designed to help students succeed—even under the pressure of the fast-paced quarter system.

The Early Alert System's (EAS) origin is credited to a notification system already in place at NTID. After a year of pilot testing, ITS launched an Institute-wide version in the fall of 2002. The idea behind the EAS's creation was to give students a heads-up on their class performance early enough in the quarter that their final grade could be saved, if necessary. Freshmen, especially, were intended to benefit from the system, as it would remind them to stay on track in the laissez-faire college environment. "The high-school time is much more invasive than college: parents are there to ask about your grades and how you're doing. First-year students can have difficulty in making [the transition to college]," explains Vern Lindberg, professor of physics and member of the Senate Academic Affairs Committee.

All professors are required to send out early alerts, especially to those students exhibiting poor performance. What's more, classes are supposed to evaluate students' performance with a graded activity by the end of the third week. For project-based classes and those with few exams, of course, this mandate could be difficult to accommodate. In his September 2002 Convocation speech,

President Simone explained that evaluations occurring this early in the quarter would be beneficial to the student, since they'd be "halfway between the start of the course and the [deadline] to make the withdrawal decision."

Though commonly used by professors to indicate poor performance in a class, the EAS is intended to provide both positive and negative feedback. "There are places to say to a student, for instance, 'your homework and classwork grades are good, but you seem to be doing poorly on your exams,'" says Lindberg. Emails sent by the EAS to the student also go to their faculty advisor, FYE coach (if applicable), or even to their department chair. Alerting several faculty members to the problem aims at finding the best-fit solution—anything from a meeting with the professor to referral to the Learning Development Center to identification of a learning disability.

Two major flaws in the system, acknowledges Lindberg, are the interface professors use to send out these notices and the actual email that students receive. Currently, he and Committee member colleague Dr. Mark Price are focusing on streamlining the system. Lindberg calls the interface that professors use to send the notices "terrible, with a step-by-step process that's burdensome if you have many notices to send out." He suggests, too, that the resulting email needs to address the student directly, instead of reading like a form letter. "It's about getting the information to a student early," Lindberg says. "Let them know how to get help and get them the info they need."

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# RITFORECAST

compiled by Govind Ramabadran

Friday <b>12</b> JAN	<b>CAB Open Mic Night</b> Ritz Sports Zone. 10 p.m.–1 a.m. Sponsored by CAB and RITSMA. Cost: Free, with pizza to the first 50 people who show up.
Saturday <b>13</b> JAN	<b>CAB Laser Tag</b> Gordon Field House. 6 p.m.–1 a.m. Two laser tag areas will be available for play. This event is available to the RIT community only. Cost: \$3 for one round; \$5 for the night.  <b>Desi Dance Party</b> Clark Gym. 8 p.m.–1 a.m. Sponsored by OASIS. This event is available to the RIT community only. Cost: \$4.  <b>Delta Sigma Phi 20th Annual Sailor's Ball</b> SAU Cafeteria, Clark Rooms, and Fireside Lounge. 8 p.m.–2 a.m. Proceeds are donated to a non-profit organization. Cost: \$15.
Sunday <b>14</b> JAN	January 14 is New Year's Day, if you're following the Julian Calendar, introduced in 46 BC by Julius Caesar. The first year following this new calendar's implementation was made 445 days long to accommodate the year's later start. Under the Julian calendar, one day is gained every 134 years.
Monday <b>15</b> JAN	In 2001, Wikipedia, the encyclopedia where anyone can edit, goes online, forming the new reality known as Wikiality. Some sources claim that Wikipedia is reliable as the Encyclopedia Britannica.
Tuesday <b>16</b> JAN	In 1919, the US ratifies the 18th Amendment, banning alcohol and beginning Prohibition, which ended once FDR was elected in 1933.
Wednesday <b>17</b> JAN	On this day in 1990, the first use of the acronym "LOL" appears on Usenet. Later, spinoffs of the word include lollality, loller, lollerskates, lollercoaster, and lollercaust.
Thursday <b>18</b> JAN	<b>CAB Thursday Night Cinema Series: Clerks II</b> Ingle Auditorium. 10 p.m.–1 a.m. You might want to check out the original before you go see this sequel. Cost: free.
Friday <b>19</b> JAN	<b>Club Day</b> SAU Lobby. 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Club representatives will be on hand to answer questions. Cost: free.  <b>Kate Gleason College of Engineering Winter Formal</b> SAU Cafeteria. 7:30 p.m.–12 a.m. An event to raise money for KGCOE clubs, with appetizers served. Cost: \$10/person.

# SGYEARINREVIEW

compiled by David Spiecker

2006 has come and gone and looking back at the various things that our Student Government has done for us, we divided them into three distinctive areas: school spirit, events, and improving life at RIT.

## SCHOOL SPIRIT

Brown shirts designed by former SG president James Macchiano were distributed during the September Convocation. Faculty got in on the action with brown "spirit" bracelets to remind them that spirit Fridays weren't just for students.

The "Tiger Song," a song/dance NTID tradition, helped celebrate Convocation with its performance by "Mr. and Ms. Roar." It is hoped that this number will be permanently added to both the fall Convocation and May graduation ceremonies.

Notice the trees-turned-orange in front of the SAU during Brick City? SG plans to continue this tradition, inspired by an Asian student's reddening of the trees for Chinese New Year.

Free barbeques were held for several sports teams, including hockey, tennis, and swimming/diving, to increase the visibility of these teams.

## IMPROVING CAMPUS LIFE

SG scholarships, formerly available only to freshmen, are now also provided for sophomores and juniors.

"Dance for your Rent," the all-night dance competition awarding its winners a quarter's worth of free rent, was held again this year. SG plans to work with Housing Operations to continue putting on this annual event.

Erin Brockovich's visit to RIT during Brick City week was facilitated by SG, which compiles the list of potential speakers and finds out which ones are interested in the gig. In collaboration with the Center for Campus Life, planning for this event begins in April or May.

## TO-DO IN 2007

By pairing with the new Student Alumni Network established by Alumni Relations, SG seeks to facilitate networking between RIT students and alumni.

SG is working to have copies of textbooks available in Wallace Library for student use. This initiative is suggestive of MIT's offering materials for many of its courses—including textbook chapters—online for students to download.

Hoping to include greater student input into RIT decisions, SG is aiming to improve student feedback systems. One target is the RIT Calendar Committee, which SG would like to see soliciting more student input.

In conjunction with the Center for Campus Life, SG hopes to secure time during Orientation Week for showcasing the campus's MSOs (major student organizations) and clubs to freshmen.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### HEART WALK INFO. MEETING

JAN. 22, 2007 FROM 5-7PM IN CLARK A [SAU]  
475-6056 OR [PPWCCL@RIT.EDU](mailto:PPWCCL@RIT.EDU)

### CIVIC ENGAGEMENT INFO. SESSION

JAN. 31, 2007 FROM 5-7PM IN CLARK A [SAU]  
475-6056 OR [PPWCCL@RIT.EDU](mailto:PPWCCL@RIT.EDU)

### ETIQUETTE DINNER

FEB. 1, 2007 FROM 5-7PM IN THE FIRESEIDE LOUNGE  
LEARN THE INS AND OUTS OF BUSINESS DINNER ETIQUETTE  
FREE FOR REGISTERED STUDENTS. REGISTER BY EMAIL  
[LEADGA@RIT.EDU](mailto:LEADGA@RIT.EDU)

### ALTERNATIVE SPRING BREAK INFO. MEETING

JAN. 23, 2007 FROM 5-7PM IN CLARK A [SAU]  
475-6056 OR [PPWCCL@RIT.EDU](mailto:PPWCCL@RIT.EDU)



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# INTERNET TV

by Sarai Oviedo



Absolutely *anything* can be found on the Internet these days: Russian mail-order brides, owls with sombreros (o rly?), ASCII-art helicopter games, and even videos! You heard me correctly, kids: you can watch streaming videos over the Internet! But, like locating some hay in a needlestack, it can be a little painful to find gold-quality substance. Lucky for you, I've compiled a list of some awesome websites to get you started. And how!

## **Veoh Video Network**

[www.veoh.com](http://www.veoh.com)

This site works like a television, complete with channel surfing and serial content. Individual videos can be searched by the title, series name, and broadcaster. Registration only requires a valid e-mail address, and as a member you can:

- 1 Broadcast any videos of any file size, length, and resolution.
- 2 Make money through advertising or a pay-per-view business model.
- 3 Create a channel that can be customized with your own logo and have people add their videos to it.
- 4 Group your videos into a series
- 5 Get the Veoh player (like Windows Media Player, only so much nicer) and subscribe to your favorite channels!

Also, both Veoh and the Veoh player operate on Mozilla Firefox and Internet Explorer browsers. And one of the best perks of membership? It won't cost you a thing.

## **Metacafe: Serving the World's Best Videos**

[www.metacafe.com](http://www.metacafe.com)

Another free video site, Metacafe provides a wide array of videos that can be searched on the home page by ratings or name. Videos themselves are watched via a little embedded screen, which can be full-sized at a great loss of picture quality. Tasteful, non-obtrusive ads dot the infrequently used portions of the screen. In fact, if you've ever ventured over to the ever-popular YouTube, this site looks like a cheap knock-off.

But, wait! There's something special going on here. Any member of Metacafe who contributes a video that is viewed more than 5,126,829 times gets paid \$25,558. Whew! Metacafe also has a unique

Producer Rewards Program that pays an individual member around \$60 dollars a day for having "funny and entertaining videos." (Aspiring filmmakers, fear not: members can keep rights to their videos and still participate in the Producer Rewards Program). Metacafe runs on both Mozilla Firefox and Internet Explorer browsers.

## **DivX: Stage 6**

<http://stage6.divx.com/?install2stage6>

This is a new stage for DivX and DivX Player. On Stage 6, videos can be searched by video's title, channels, users, and tags. Membership is free for this site, and users can sell their videos to Stage 6 while retaining the rights to those videos. Stage 6 is also considering the possibility for users to rent their videos. It definitely works on Mozilla Firefox, and *might* work on Internet Explorer, but it's not recommended. Free videos can be played on the DivX Player on both Windows and Macs, but paid videos can only be watched in Windows.

## **Anime Eden Stream**

(by Anime-Eden and powered by Vidiac)

[video.anime-eden.com](http://video.anime-eden.com)

RIT is home to perhaps one of the largest Anime-based organizations on campus. This club hosts meetings an ambitious three times a week to screen works from their extensive library (which, incidentally, card-carrying members can borrow from once a week).

Sometimes, though, three days of free Anime just isn't enough. That's where Eden Stream comes in. A site of *full* Anime episodes, Eden Stream is both tricky and simple at the same time. The simple part? No membership is needed to stream the most popular Anime episodes for free. The tricky part? This site is a branch of anime-eden.com, where membership is required to download more anime, also for free. Videos can be searched by channels, video titles, and websites. The free membership allows you to create your own video stream website by adding *video.* to your domain name.

Viewing Anime Eden and Vidiac's other websites can be done on both Mozilla Firefox and Internet Explorer browsers, and the flash videos can be played on both browsers. •



# Common Sense

## | Creative Solutions to Common Roommate Problems |

by Alex Salsberg | illustration by Greg Caggiano

Before you came to RIT, Housing Operations did everything necessary to make sure you ended up with the most compatible roommate. You're both non-smokers, so no annoying habits. You both listen to "classic rock," which is certainly not a broad category. And most importantly, you're both a three on the utterly foolproof 1-5 scale of messiness. But even with these perfect compatibility standards, roommates don't always get along. Whether you live in the dorms with a fellow classic rock fan, or in an apartment with people you liked last January, you may realize that you too are experiencing some of the common roommate issues.

Roommate issues are varied, and can offend all five of the senses (all six if you're in that dorm room in NRH where the former prom queen went crazy and hanged herself). Here are some of the common problems for each sense, and some creative solutions:

**SMELL:** By this point in the year, you and your roommate might be comfortable around each other. This is very bad. Comfort sounds optimal, but it opens the door to a wide array of odors that your roommate no longer feels he needs to hide from you. In small living quarters, the slightest odor problem will quickly multiply into an unstoppable olfactory menace. Whether he's got BO, a mountain of laundry, a tendency towards flatulence, or he uses Axe Body Spray (seriously guys, it smells like crap and does not actually make women lick stuff that you touch), there's a solution to his casual approach to smell. All you need is the most attractive of your female friends and a signal. The next time he lets one rip or puts off showering, signal the girl to come in and talk to you. Her conversation with you should be normal, but in the middle, all she needs to do is stop and sniff. With his knowledge that this girl might walk in at any moment, Stinky Pete will think twice before emitting any offensive odors anytime soon.

**TASTE:** If you're in an apartment, you have a fridge full of food. If you're in the dorms, you have a fridge full of Gracie's and blue Gatorade. If you're in UC, you have a walk-in freezer, an orchard, and a personal chef. But no matter where you put your food, you and your roommate are going to have to try to find the best food-sharing arrangement. Some roommates agree to share all of their food, but this is a mistake, because one roommate will inevitably eat absolutely everything. Some roommates agree to share none of their food, but this is a mistake, because one roommate will inevitably eat everything. The solution? Devise an extremely complicated food-sharing plan. Share peanut butter but not jelly, share some but not all the cereal, share only the sharp cheeses... The more rules the better. Both of you will be so confused about what you can eat that you won't dare eat anything that you're not absolutely sure about. Roommates may be good at mooching, but they're even better at avoiding doing things because they feel awkward.

**TOUCH:** Your roommate touches your stuff. Sure, he may have his own stuff, but he doesn't have a toenail clipper. And sometimes your computer is closer and he doesn't feel like getting up. And he and your girlfriend are just really good friends. The solution to this problem depends on his personality. If he is germophobe, it's simple: cough and sneeze on your hands a lot. If he's a nice guy, you need to get him with guilt: have someone rig up your computer to have a fake error next time your roommate touches it (that guy down the hall with the beard knows how.) Your nice roommate will feel terrible when he thinks he deleted all your files, and even worse when you sadly say that it's "no big deal." Or if you're roommate's a jerk, just touch all of his stuff. That'll show him.

**SIGHT:** The biggest visual dilemma for male roommates is a roommate who walks around without a shirt. If you can accurately describe his nipples to a police sketch-artist, then you might have this problem. The solution is simple: gradually create an environment that is unsafe for shirtlessness. Turn the heat lower and lower. Start carrying around boiling water with only one hand. Get a lot of pet spiders, and "forget" to close the lid on their jar. With these easy lifestyle changes, you can relax and almost forget that his back hair is shaped like a lobster.

**SOUND:** There are several audio problems that can occur between roommates. The foremost is a disparity in music choices. Sure, your roommate checked "classic rock" on his form, but that was only because Housing forgot to include "crap" as an option. Asking a roommate to turn off his crap can lead to a lot of tension. So here's the solution. Remember the girl who got him to stop stinking up the place? She'll come in handy again. The first step is to buy him gifts, including a pair of headphones. Sign the card on the gifts "your secret admirer."

Don't worry about believability here; smelly guys who play bad music are under the impression that they have a lot of admirers. Now the girl. The next time she comes in the room, have her comment on the headphones in a tone that makes him think that perhaps the admirer was her. Trust me, he'll make sure to use them all the time.

Another audio problem is snoring. RIT has your back on this one. That's why they hand out those miniature bricks during Brick City Weekend. The final audio problem, which might also cross over into sight, touch and taste, is a roommate who has friends over when you are trying to work or sleep. This solution is also simple: just fart a lot. •







# Music Review

## Our Lady Peace - A Decade

by Evan McNamara

It should be noted that in the term "greatest hits," the word "hits" is plural for a reason. It implies that there is, in fact, more than one hit. *A Decade* by Our Lady Peace is the band's latest release, featuring a collection of "greatest hits" and a few bonus tracks. However, "Somewhere Out There" is the only "hit" song on this disk. This begs the question: should this be called a "greatest *hit*" album?

For those unfamiliar with the band's previous work, Our Lady Peace plays a brand of radio-ready rock that Clear Channel eats right up. And why wouldn't they? The bands' songs are appealing to soccer moms and pre-pubescent children alike. Finally, they can agree on something to listen to on their morning drive to the junior high!

The band's sound is frankly contrived and predictable. The singer is clearly a card carrying member of the Eddy Vedder fanclub, and the rest of the band takes cues from Pearl Jam as well. However, where Pearl Jam wrote



songs with meaning, Our Lady Peace seems content to write songs about absolutely nothing at all.

The bonus tracks on the record give us a glimpse into what a more creative version of the band would sound like. The opening riff of the unreleased "Kiss on the Mouth" draws to mind a later generation U2, but that quickly drops out to once again make way for the bland vocal delivery. The final unreleased track is perhaps the album's only saving grace. Vocals aside, this song finds more in common with The Killers and The Strokes than with Soundgarden or Pearl Jam,

which is a welcome change.

The bottom line is that this record has come 15 years too late. Its post-grunge sound, though heavily watered down, would likely have drawn legions of fans in the early-to-mid 90's. But alas! We are forging ahead into a new millennium while Our Lady Peace remains stuck in the days of ripped jeans and flannel shirts.



# Product Review

## Primetime Pimple Punisher or Bogus Blemish Bopper?

by K. Nicole Murtagh

Alright, let's get the facts down. [clears throat] Zeno: the latest in pimple zapping technology! Zeno is a portable battery-operated device that uses heat to reduce acne, leaving your skin looking fresh and new in just 24 hours! It works by applying selective heat to a pimple, causing the bacteria within the blemish to self-destruct! Dermatologist-recommended, Zeno proved effective in 90 percent of patients involved in its clinical study... blah blah, blah blah blah, blah.

Packaged just like an iPod Nano, I can say my first impression wasn't great. It seemed odd that they were making such a strong reference to an MP3 player; are they trying to mess with our heads or something? Yet, I was hopeful—from what I read on the packaging, this seemed like a pretty promising product.



Boy, was I disappointed. My major problem with the Zeno? It was way too hot to use and left big red burn spots where I attempted to do so. Having pimples all over your face is bad, but having accompanying red scorch marks is even worse. The two-and-a-half minute treatment time seemed a bit long as well, and I found my arm hating me by the end of it.

In addition, the price was *outrageous*. It's \$159, with replacement tips selling at \$25. And with just three pimples a day, treatment twice for each, you'll need to buy a replacement tip after only 10 days! I'll gladly

keep my pimples, thank you.

I feel that, perhaps, I was an inadequate tester. Maybe if I could handle to use it twice a day for two-and-a-half minutes of unbearable, skin-scarring pain, it might have worked for me. But hey, don't let me and my weak skin hold you back.



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

STREAM OF FACTS  
JANUARY 12

January 12, 1967 – Dr. James Bedford becomes the first person to be cryopreserved with intent of future resuscitation. He was a psychology professor from **California**.

341 **California** is an **asteroid** in the main belt with an unusually high albedo.

A real **asteroid** belt is nothing like the ones you see in the movies. Space is a lot of emptiness—asteroids are spread over such a large **volume** that it is highly improbable to even pass close to a random asteroid without much effort.

According to the New York Times, the worldwide **volume** of e-mail spam has doubled since last year; more than 90% of all e-mails are **junk** mail.

After her rapid weight loss for *Dreamgirls*, Beyoncé told newspapers, “I’m going to be eating for America over Christmas to get some more **junk** in my trunk.” It’s going to take a lot of milk and cookies to get back to her **bootylicious** self.

The term “**bootylicious**” was first recorded by Snoop Dogg in the song “Fuck Wit Dre Day” on Dr. Dre’s debut album, *The Chronic*.

**Chronic** Candy is a brand of lollipops that are **marijuana** flavored. Despite rumors to the contrary, they contain no THC.

Though humans have been consuming **marijuana** since prehistory, the possession, use, or sale of the drug became illegal in most parts of the world in the early 20th century. Since then, the **ban** has proven largely ineffective.

January 12, 1998 – 19 European nations sign an agreement to **ban** human cloning. The United States also banned human cloning a few years later.

QUOTE

We are mature in one realm, childish in another. The past, present, and future mingle and pull us backward, forward, or fix us in the present. We are made up of layers, cells, constellations.

Anais Nin

HAIKU

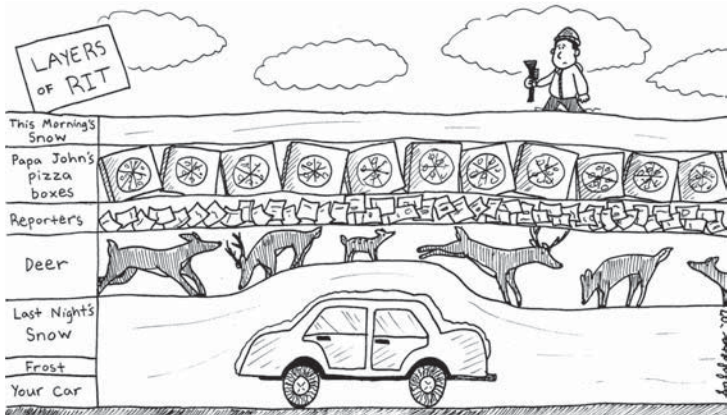
by Brian Garrison  
A tip for good health.  
Don’t eat anything. Ever.  
To prevent cancer.

REPORTER

RECOMMENDS

Greenbulb’s Color Flash Cube... maybe. This camera phone chotchke is a wide-angle LED set into a cube-shaped hunk of plastic with optional red, green, and blue color filters. On the one hand, you’ll have slightly better lit pictures of your drunken self and friends to post on Facebook, with “artistic” color tints. On the other hand, it costs roughly \$15 with shipping, and you must be mere inches away from the camera for any noticeable effect. Your call.

CARTOON | by Alex Salsberg



SUDOKU

Difficulty: Medium

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

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

Famous Psychics & Prophets

sosaantrumd  
lslbyi eltynewar  
isms ceol  
onja fo cra  
ncesrpis lzead  
rlniem  
ssoem  
nohj edrdaw  
dscsraana  
aamemd anudax  
ulraa nrlsio  
ociln rfy  
ervan abxetr  
unimfraol ogstrrame

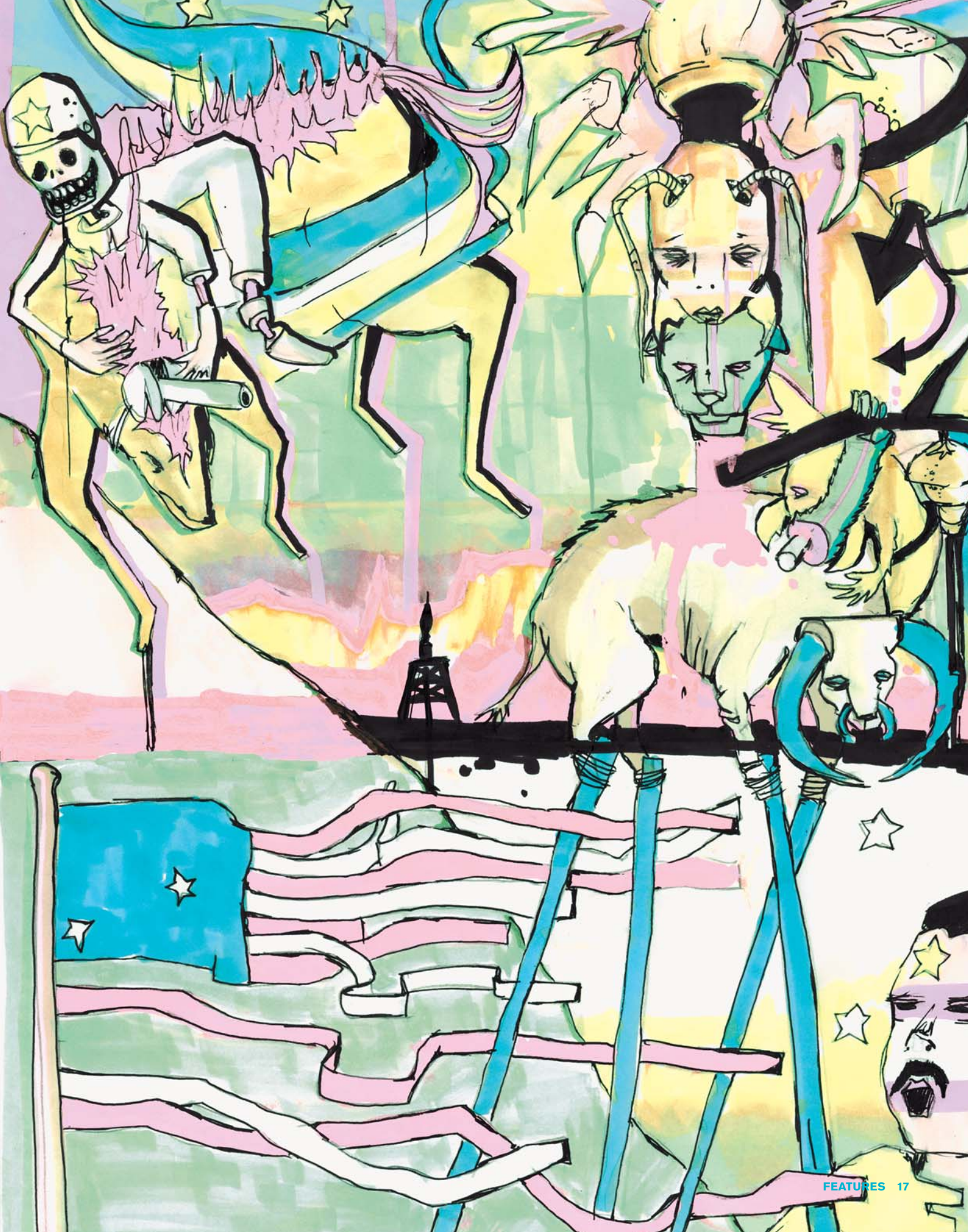
malfunction stommage  
madame xanadu, laura rosin, collin fry, raven baxter,  
princess zelda, merlin, moses, john edward, cassandra,  
nostradamus, sybill trelawney, miss cleo, joan of arc,




# MESSAGES FROM THE FUTURE

**WHAT TO EXPECT FROM 2007**  
BY ANTONIO CASTILLO | ILLUSTRATION BY MIKE NORTON









The world's psychics have weighed in with predictions for 2007. Unfortunately, as many expected, their collective voice is far from unison, their message both bleak and bright. Perhaps there is truth in their cosmic accounting. It is entirely possible that at some point the metaphysical airwaves were interrupted just before our astrological shepherds got the message. This leads me to conclude that if we can do anything to make 2007 more promising, it is to switch to Cingular—the network with the fewest dropped calls.

In order to prepare you for the unexpected, *Reporter* has rounded up the hottest web predictions for the New Year, so you can plan accordingly. The mass killings may dissuade you from graduating this spring, the impending tsunami could change your plans for spring break, and the expected scandal surrounding Condoleezza Rice might make you think twice about the "Co-Eds for Condi" sticker on your messenger bag. Enjoy.

#### **A Word from God: Death**

On January 2, Pat Robertson stated that God sent him a message: a terrorist attack on the United States would result in "mass killing" late in 2007. "I'm not necessarily saying it's going to be nuclear," Robertson said in an interview on the Christian Broadcasting Network. "The Lord didn't say nuclear. But I do believe it will be something like that." Robertson also indicated that possibly millions of people will be affected by the attack, which should take place sometime after September.

Jeffrey R. Palmer, psychic consultant, metaphysician, and author (<http://the-psychic-detective.com>); expects the date of December 27, 2007 will prove to be a very important one. He feels that an event of global proportions will occur on this date. He believes that this event will be related to military actions or a terrorist attack, possibly in Europe.

Lebanon psychic Michel Hayek adds his support to the likelihood for a terrorist attack against the US.

Celebrity psychic and spiritual teacher Sylvia Brown (<http://www.sylvia.org>) sets out to temper any concerns for another 9/11, with this prediction: "There will be no terrorist attacks on the scale of September 11, though there is cause for concern about trucks and trains."

#### **2008 Presidential Ticket: Nostradamus & Lady Luck**

Turning to politics, Palmer predicts: "There is a very strong likelihood of Rudolph Giuliani running for and subsequently winning the US presidential election in 2008. Giuliani will begin campaigning in early 2007. Senator John McCain will likely be chosen as Vice President."

Da Juana Byrd, self-proclaimed professional psychic/medium (<http://www.dajuana.com/>), predicts this for Barack Obama: "There is an illness around this man, perhaps a family member, which will make him think about life and his popularity. Although he is thinking about a run for the White House, there is one thing standing in his way now, and it's not Hillary."

Hoping for an electoral sweep cleaning-up for Obama? Brown says we'll have to wait another eight years for a black American president.


#### **The Weather: Whether or Not You Believe**

Turning to weather, Byrd believes there will be an anomaly on the northeastern shores; something like a "huge waterspout" will get our attention.

Palmer states: "A very strong earthquake centered near Los Angeles on March 13, 2007 causes damage to buildings and roads and bridges and some injuries."

The High Weirdness Project, a website that compiles predictions (<http://www.modemac.com>), found: "a giant tornado will hit Oklahoma City and a hurricane will hit New York City with a vengeance. Hurricane season will be much stronger in 2007 and will batter Miami, South Beach, and Florida. Mobile, Alabama can expect the worst. A giant snowstorm will blanket New York and Toronto. More tsunamis."

Brown believes the USA will have an extremely mild winter, especially on the east coast; Canada will have a harsh winter. Flooding will occur in the South and a possible "tsunami" on the east coast.





### RIT in 2007

The world is shaping up to be a dark place in 2007, if everything goes as expected. However, in isolated Rochester, New York, RIT may go untouched by many of the undesirable events of 2007. Not to worry; *Reporter* sought the advice of a popular New York City psychic, Judi Hoffman, to offer specific insight into what's in store for the Tigers.

Before Hoffman became a professional psychic, referring to her career as more of a yelling than a calling, she was a high school English teacher for a short time. Prior to that, she had been receiving visions of the future since the age of six. Clairvoyance has been thread throughout her life, weaving into her Ouija board experiences as a teenager and her college education at Carnegie Mellon.

Once she jumped into the psychic world as a career, the clients came out of the woodwork. Since then she has been featured on television and radio, and in newspapers and magazines. She envisions what she wants, and then it occurs, which is a talent Hoffman playfully wished she had honed while in college. We spoke about RIT and events that will occur in 2007, such as the Presidential search, victories for the hockey team, and the success of future RIT graduates.

**Reporter Magazine:** "Judi, our hockey team moved into Division I last year. It is the biggest athletic sport on campus. What can you tell the fans about next year's hockey team?"

**Judi Hoffman:** "I read that hockey is a big thing at RIT. Big! Well, I feel they can push it to 6-7 wins in a row. A guy on the team with the letter N or M, first name or last name initial, he's going to be a key player."

**RM:** "Okay, how about our President? After 15 years of service, our current one is leaving. Some expect it will be pretty hard to fill his shoes. Will RIT be better or worse with the next President? Furthermore, any idea about where they will come from?"

**JH:** "If the committee is considering someone from Atlanta, someone from Virginia, or someone from North Carolina, then the choice will be 'okay.' I do believe that person may only stay for two years to five years. It won't be forever."

**RM:** "Any predictions about the next class of RIT graduates? Will they be successful beyond their wildest dreams?"

**JH:** "I have just one thought. Someone is going to run for a political office from the class of '07 or earlier. I see the letter 'L' or 'J', from an RIT class that is about to graduate or has already graduated."

**RM:** "RIT students continue to see higher costs for their education. Will that change this year?"

**JH:** "There's going to be one more knock against higher education, in terms of the cost of student loans and congressional acts. However, I believe it will bounce back with the next President."

In addition to her predictions for RIT, Hoffman also had these remarks for the state of the nation as 2007 gets underway:

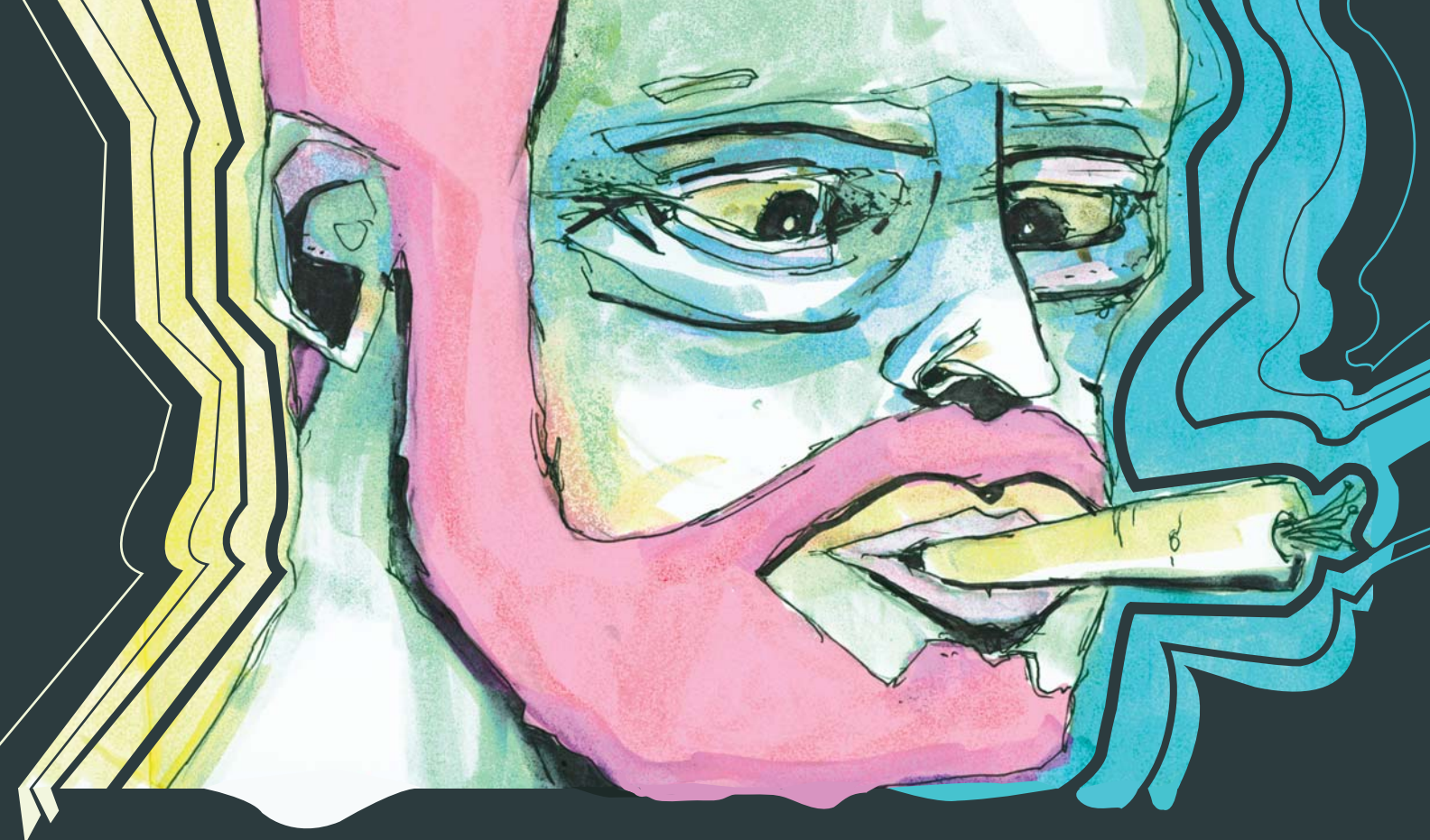
I believe that the next President is 1000% going to be a Democrat. Hillary will beat Obama. However, a McCain-Guliani ticket is very likely. There will be a great economic recovery in 2009.

The predictions for 2007 are all across the board, and many more will continue to fill the web in the days ahead. RIT's future seems to be more stable than the tumultuous road in store for the nation. At the very least, your immediate future may have already been decided. Since the first three weeks of the quarter were at the end of 2006, you may have sealed your academic fate, for better or for worse.

On the other hand, just like the uncanny warm weather that brought springtime to early January, the only predictable thing is that 2007 will continue to be unpredictable. •







by Liz Kiewiet | illustration by Mike Norton

New Year's resolutions are one of many classic American traditions—apparently, in our culture, we need to make so called “resolutions” to keep us on track. In case you have decided to participate in this wonderful tradition, *Reporter* has compiled a list of popular New Years resolutions that might help you make yours, as well as some tips to stick with them. With these resolutions in mind, hopefully you can come up with a fun way to start the New Year!

### Quit Smoking

You may have started because you thought it was cool, but now you're hooked. Unfortunately, the longer you wait, the harder it is to quit.

Why you've decided to quit:

- You have acquired a “smoker's whooping cough.”
- You're tired of getting sick every other week.
- Two minutes in the 30-below degree weather makes your fingers go numb. And your nose. And, well, everything.
- People avoid you on the quarter mile to stay away from the smoke.
- Your new college buddies don't smoke.
- You have no money, ever.

You've probably tried to quit before—learn from your mistakes last time. Build a support group that won't let you quit trying. Try the patch—you may think it's expensive, but in the long term, it's the more economical way to go.

### Spend Less Time Online

A great resolution for all you WOW players out there! Free yourself from the bounds of an imaginary realm; explore the world that is “RL”. Ask yourself: “how many times have I visited woot.com today?” If the answer is greater than one, perhaps ungluing yourself from your computer is in order.

The same applies to Facebook—is it *really* necessary to log in and find out what your friends are up to every hour? If you find yourself spending too many hours keeping up with your FB friends, an easy way to spend less time online is to crop your friends list. Those kids you met in FYE and added but haven't talked to since then? Friends you never talk to in real life, but added on FB because you “know” them from a class? Yeah, probably time to take them off your list.

Instead, get involved in various clubs, find friends that want to get out and do stuff—don't just sit in your room. Follow through with all those “hey, we should get together sometime” wall posts you've made.

### Lose Weight

All that Gracie's food and the legendary “freshman fifteen” finally caught up to you. Rather than choosing the easy (and expensive) option of buying new clothes that fit, choose to lose the weight and make yourself healthier in the process.



# simple solutions to your **RESOLUTIONS...**

The first step is to stop loading up your plate at Gracie's like you're preparing for hibernation. To quote Ellen DeGeneres: "We're not bears! We don't need to be eating all we can eat. We'll be back the next night to eat the same amount of stuff as before!"

After you've removed that extra five pounds of food from your tray, you need to get active. RIT's Student Life Center (SLC) boasts a huge gym area with as much exercise equipment as you could ever want. Sign up for a spring quarter wellness class and, in the meantime, join the breakdancing club or some similarly athletic club.

## **More Exercise**

This can go hand-in-hand with resolving to lose more weight. Or, perhaps you're embarrassed of all the huffing and puffing and sweating that occurs after a single flight of stairs. Or maybe you're just not "performing" as well as you used to. Exercise might be the answer.

Here's what you gotta do: If you hate exercising, or you've never exercised before, start slow and make it interesting. Try out a different machine in the SLC everyday—bike, use the elliptical, the weights, etc. Or, if you prefer a routine, do cardio one day, and weights the next, with one or two days off a week. If you can stick with it for an entire month, you won't be disappointed.

And if you're too nervous to go to the gym because of the amount of people there who could be watching you, you can always exercise somewhere else. You could even buy DDR, set it up in your room, make sure the door is closed and no one is around, and play the exercise mode (on standard) for half an hour or so. Not only will you be exercising, but you might actually forget you're doing it and have fun.

## **Attend Class (or, Pay Attention in Class)**

Come on, folks. We/our parents are dishing out big bucks to be here. And no, we're not here just to get away from our parents so that we can drink, do drugs, and have sex with as many partners as possible. Part of the reason why we're here is to get the education so that when we get out into the "real world," we can make so much money we won't know what to do with it. Besides, deep-down, we all know that RIT is not "party school" material.

Maybe you've noticed you're ashamed when people ask your GPA. A good way to combat bad grades is to go to class. Professors take notice of the students that attend every class; they also take notice of the students who at least *act* like they give a damn. Raising your hand to ask one (relevant, useful) question per week might even earn you some brownie points.

If you're having trouble paying attention, there are two possible culprits: one, you're dozing off in class because you stayed up all night doing something that was *obviously* more important, or two, the class bores the heck out of you. If you're dozing off, the obvious plan would be trying to get seven or eight hours of sleep at night. Try starting your morning with a hot shower or a small cup of coffee to wake you up before class.

If you can't stay awake because the class is really boring, try taking notes to keep yourself awake—*without* your computer. By writing down some worthwhile words from the lecture and avoiding doodles in the margins, you might even manage to learn something in the process. It'll make studying for class exams later on that much easier.

If you don't go to class, remember "D is for dishwasher," which is what you'll end up doing when you show an employer your grade reports riddled with them.

## **Get 'R Done!**

The most important thing about making a New Year's resolution? Stick with it! Just because you gave yourself a little slack one day, don't give up. It's supposed to be hard—that's why you saved it for the all-important resolution. Letting yourself slip once or twice doesn't mean you need to scrap the whole idea.

Instead, try counting the days you've been living your new and improved lifestyle. Challenge your friends to see who best keeps their resolution. Good news is, once you reach 25 days, you've pretty much made the change habitual. Good luck! •

# Be The Next Tiger Idol!

Got talent? Come try out!

Come to the SG Office (located in the SAU RITreat)  
to sign up for a time!

Wednesday, January

**17**

**6-8 PM**  
SAU Cafeteria

Monday, January

**22**

**6-8 PM**  
SAU Cafeteria

Wednesday, January

**24**

**4-6 PM**  
SAU Cafeteria



[sg.rit.edu](http://sg.rit.edu)

# WITR 89.7 FM

internet stream at [witr.rit.edu](http://witr.rit.edu)

## hockey broadcast schedule

1/12	Sacred Heart	Away	7 pm
1/13	Sacred Heart	Away	7 pm
1/19	Connecticut	Home	7 pm
1/20	Connecticut	Home	7 pm



# WORD ON THE STREET

COMPILED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY BELVADUDE

## Q: What is your spirit animal?



"Glyptodon."

**Justin Solitrin**

Third year

Advertising Photo

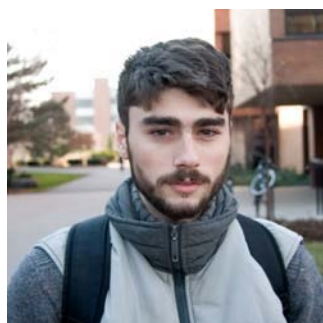


"Sloth."

**Jesse Knotah**

Second year

Computer Science



"Hobbes."

**Chris Peters**

Third year

Multidisciplinary Studies

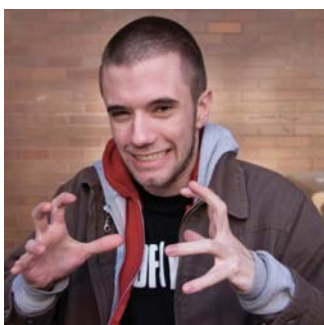


"The Australian frilled lizard."

**Tim Zhukov-Khovamisky**

Second year

Computer Science



"The Grundle jaguar and Rikki Tikki Tavi."

**Mark Newell**

Third year

New Media Publishing

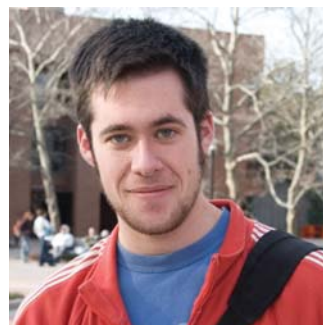


"A dolphin, since they have bigger brains than most humans."

**Lacey Johnson**

Fourth year

Photojournalism



"Stop the murder of the innocent in Palestine."

**Arthur Simmons**

Third year

Biotechnology



"Stingray."

**Blake Huang**

Third year

Psychology



"The wolf."

**Nick Bruno**

First year

Film



"Garfield; he gets me right here."

**Lindsay Berkebile**

First year

Film

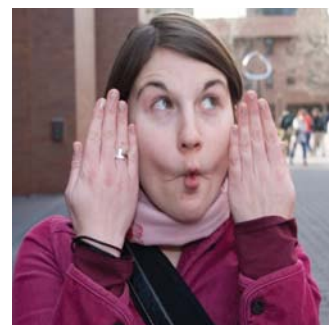


"Platypus."

**Osama Eisa**

Second year

International Relations



"Tuna."

**Susan Morelock**

Fourth year

Fine Art Photo





01

# SPORTSDESK



02





## BASKETBALL

Photography by Matt Bagwell

01// Members of the RIT basketball team look on from the bench during the second half of Saturday's loss to Alfred University.

02// Barrett Zeinfeld tries to finish a fast-break for RIT. Alfred came from behind to win 69-60.

03// RIT's Rick Whitwood pleads with the referee over a foul call during the second half Saturday's game against Alfred University.

04// RIT's Colin Roy defends against an Alfred University player.



# THREESTARS

by Geoff Shearer

## Danielle Nagymarosi

### Women's Ice Hockey

Danielle Nagymarosi, or "Dee" as friends know her, is aiding RIT's Women's Hockey team in a big way. Dee's commitment to the ice is nothing new, but in her first season as an RIT Tiger, this transfer from Eastern College Athletic Conference ECAC rival Manhattanville has already proved herself both on and off the ice.

In no small way, Dee has helped our Tigers in reaching an undefeated season of 10-0-0 overall and 8-0-0 in the ECAC East play. Dee is currently leading Division III with 14 goals and 25 points, not to mention being named ECAC East's Player of the Week in December.

Dee's coach Scott McDonald added, "Dee is an extremely gifted hockey player in all facets of the game. [She] has excellent skills and skating ability, but truly separates herself from her competitors by the way she thinks the game." McDonald continued, "Her hockey sense and ability to react to the action on the ice is remarkable. Not many players at any level have the ability to think the game like her." Certainly Dee's skills are not going unnoticed by the younger athletes on the team, and one can only presume that having a player like Dee is benefiting the team far beyond the level of mere personal achievement.

Coach McDonald conclusively states, "Dee is a true hockey player; she's not someone that just plays hockey. She has a competitive spirit and plays with an edge every time she hits the ice. It doesn't matter if it's a game or practice—she wants to win."

## Allison Griggs

### Women's Indoor Track and Field

Track and Field is a sport that cannot be won single-handedly by one outstanding athlete. Nevertheless, Indoor/Outdoor Track and Field athlete Allison Griggs is the "most talented and decorated thrower in RIT history," states Coach Dave Warth. As a fifth-year senior, Griggs' experience is not only further supplementing her esteemed athletic ability, but is also complimenting the training and abilities of RIT's new group of throwers.

During the last Outdoor Track season, Allison won her second All-American Award in the hammer throw in three years. Within RIT's athletic body, Allison holds distance records in the shot put and 20-pound weight throw for Indoor track during the Winter season. Allison's exemplary performance stretches into Outdoor track as well, with distance records for RIT in the shot put, discus, and hammer throw. This season, Griggs is complimenting her personal quest of boosting credentials by mentoring a group of new throwers; a task Coach Warth says, "she has taken to...extremely well."

Undoubtedly, Griggs' abilities will continue to be an asset to RIT's throwing team and track and field team as a whole; all the while she still is able to maintain the balance between academia and higher athletics. Coach Warth agrees, "She is incredibly driven in both athletics and academics and finds a great harmony between the two."

## Tim Bacon

### Men's Basketball

At a towering 6' 7", it's easy to understand how Tim Bacon can begin to make his presence known on the basketball court. It goes far beyond that, though: Tim's athletic prowess for RIT's Tigers has been nothing short of remarkable. "In the past he has contributed a great deal, but this year he has been unstoppable in the post," stated Head Coach Bob McVean. "Even though opponents have double and triple-teamed him, he has given the team everything he has to give."

Between the 2004 and 2005 seasons, Tim played in all 55 games and started for all but one in 2005. Additionally, his commitment was dually impressive as his performance with shooting percentages of 59.8% in field goals early in last year's season, pulling through for an astonishing 69.6% average over the last nine games of the season. So far this season, Bacon has shot 54.9% in field goals over eight games and leads the team in both offensive and defensive rebounds. Bacon is currently leading the team in average points per game.

This year, the Men's Basketball team is 5-4-0, with a tough loss to University of Rochester this month (a game Bacon had nine rebounds in), but remains undefeated at RIT. "Tim is a huge part of our successes and leads by the way he plays the game," said Coach McVean. "Tim is having a great senior year and that is the way it is supposed to be."





01// Danielle Nagymarosi by Dave Londres 02// Allison Griggs by Coco Walters 03// Tim Bacon by Matt Bagwell

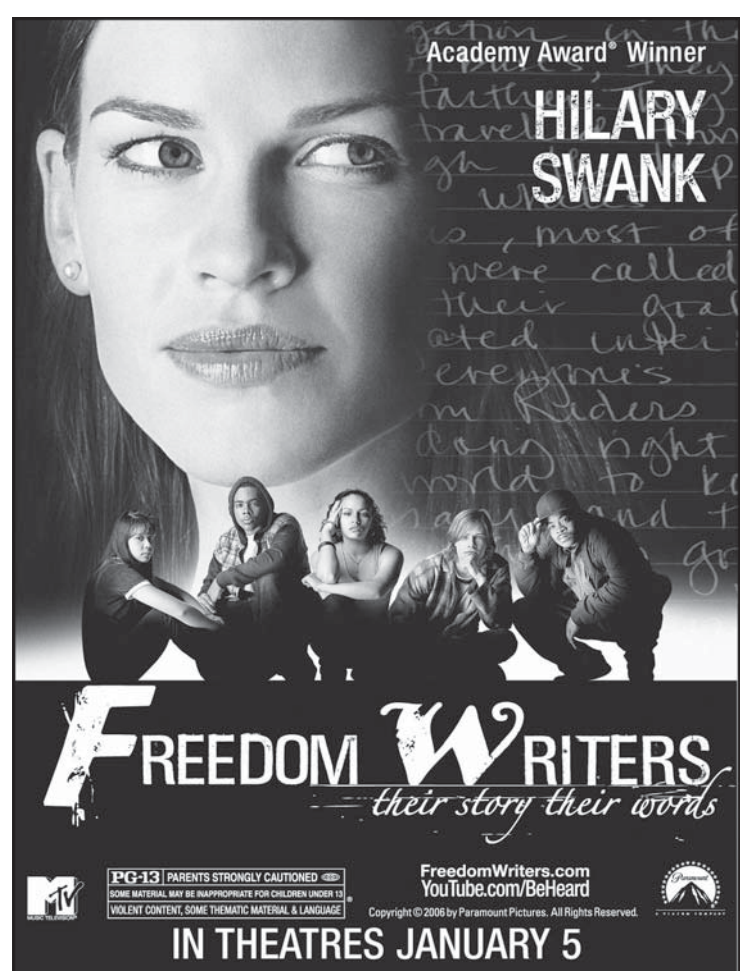
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# RIT RINGS

## 585.475.5633

compiled by Ryan Metzler

*All calls subject to editing and truncation. Not all calls will be run.*

*Reporter reserves the right to publish all calls in any format.*

### **Tuesday 12:34 p.m.**

Hey Chad, I just read your article in this last week's *Reporter* and I have to say you're totally off-base. You may be more of an intellectual, but the average college student wants to read what the drunken people think. Why do you think Crime Watch was the best thing you had until you screwed that up and had to pull it? That's why Gracie's Dinnertime Theatre was always the campus magazine until the President pulled that, too. You're all just trying to make every student a jello mold person. I think you guys need to get a grip; it's just a weekly *Reporter* that not everybody reads.

### **Tuesday 8:16 p.m.**

Yo, I just want to let you know about something: love sucks. Yes, love sucks. I just got dumped by a guy for no reason—no reason. That's not a reason. Love sucks, I just said that, but it's true.

### **Wednesday 8:07 a.m.**

I just want to inform COE students that the COE adjunct faculty do have e-mail addresses; I have two of them. Right now I am just confirming that both of them have rit.edu e-mail accounts, so you know.

### **Wednesday 7:09 p.m.**

Hi *Reporter*, I am calling in response to your little editorial on RIT Rings. While I agree with most points, in that it should be a forum for people to express what they think about the magazine and what they think about the campus, as much as the intellectual aspect of college is important, there is the blatant stupidity of it. It's what makes us laugh and entertains us during the day. It makes our days much better. I hope that you continue to include some of your more hilarious lines from your answering machine, but I do agree.

### **Wednesday 9:58 p.m.**

Hi, I would just like to thank housing operations for making me give up my two cats in order to move back on campus.

### **Thursday 2:32 a.m.**

Hey, what's up *Reporter*? About the whole drunk dial thing, I understand the whole "not wanting to listen to people talk about killing fish" and "choking their roommates" and shit, but do you actually think this line is going to turn into a vocal editorial-type thing? I don't think that's really going to happen. Now every now and then you have a bad week and you want to hear about drunken people and the stupid shit they say. I mean, it's one of those things. I don't think this whole editorial thing is going to work out for you. I just don't get it. It's really suited for one thing and that's drunken dialing. I know people who sit and really only look forward to nothing but the Rings section because they think "hey, I am going to read about my drunk friends and how stupid they sound because they drank themselves stupid." It just is what it is. You guys build it as such and now you're trying to change it? Just keep printing what the drunken people say.

### **Thursday 7:12 p.m.**

Hey *Reporter*, there's a girl here, my girlfriend Alex. Say hi, Alex (Female Voice: Hello). It's weird, ya know? A girl on the RIT campus is actually interested in me. Weird. Funny this doesn't happen more often. I just wanted to brag because I have a hot girlfriend and she's probably about to hurt me.

### **Thursday 9:05 p.m.**

Hi *Reporter*, thanks for giving me the toy back. The toy being Rings. I also want to let you know about a web comic called Bunny. It's very fun and doesn't involve lots of drinking. Despite the fact that it's all Rings is anymore. I hope you enjoy the comic!

### **Saturday 10:15 p.m.**

Hey *Reporter*, I got this week's issue and I thought it was really colorful and interesting so I am going to use it as wrapping paper.

### **Saturday 11:05 p.m.**

Hey *Reporter*, I just wanted to say that your December 15 issue was good and it didn't suck, which is somewhat of a new thing. •



# A PARENT'S RIGHT

by Laura Mandanas

Parents have the right to raise their children in the manner of their choosing. We take it for granted that they will impart their own language, religious beliefs, and cultural traditions to their children, but how much further does that right extend? In a recent study of 190 clinics offering pre-implantation genetic diagnosis, or PGD, it was found that 3% of the clinics had used the diagnosis to purposely select embryos with genetic anomalies such as deafness. Is it also within a parent's right to raise children to share their disability?

## What and Why?

PGD is the genetic screening of embryos used for use in vitro fertilization. It is *not* an alteration of healthy babies; merely, it is the examination of fertilized eggs for genetic defects before implantation and growth. It allows for choice in selecting among the embryos, and can be of huge benefit in the avoidance of disabling genetic conditions—or, I suppose, in helping deaf parents to select them.

For many deaf people, deafness is a source of identity and community. A unique world outlook has developed in the depth and richness of Deaf culture, and it is natural that Deaf parents want to share it with their children. Many also feel that they will be able to form a special bond with a child that shares in their deafness. And now that they have the choice, why would they ever choose to have children that are different from them?

## Deafness: Difference or Disability?

As anyone at NTID will tell you, deafness doesn't prevent anyone from enjoying life, or from becoming a productive member of society. There are many adaptations (such as TTYs, interpreters, and strobe light fire alarms) that can make for a more "normal" life.

Because of those adaptations, some people would argue that deafness is not a disability. This is a mistake. As a wave of political correctness has swept through our society in recent years, it has become popular to recast physical and mental conditions once seen as "disabilities" as "differences." While it is true that there are some positive elements to deafness, the limitations that come with it are too numerous and too pervasive to write the condition off as a mere difference.

Whether it's something as trivial as not being able to hear the latest pop song on the radio or something as significant as the limitation to careers that do not require extensive verbal communication, the impact of such a condition will be felt every day of a person's life. Yes, some of the problem lies with society's attitude towards deafness—there are certainly many things that could be done to make mainstream culture more deaf-friendly. However, the root of the problem is simply that deaf people have the use of only four of the five senses. It's a life-altering disability that takes a great amount of effort to overcome.

If deafness is a disability, it seems inhumane to inflict this handicap on some hapless child. To do so is nothing short of child abuse, the antithesis of good parenting.

## Culture and Choices

Technological advances seem to be outpacing our own abilities to apply moral reasoning... and that is a very scary thing. If parents want to include their children in Deaf culture, that is well within their right. But it is *not* within their right to inflict a disability on their children, however well-intentioned it may be.

These parents need to think of another way to form bonds with their children and teach them about their culture. I see no reason why hearing children can't be a part of Deaf culture; hearing children raised with Deaf culture have the opportunity to get the best of both worlds. And even better than that? They get a choice.

One thing's for sure: our society has a lot of hard decisions to make. There need to be some ethical restrictions placed on the process of embryonic selection and genetic choice. In the next couple decades, *we* are going to be the parents who are confronted with these issues, and dealing with the consequences of what we have decided. Before we can even begin to make informed decisions, we need to have a discussion, hearing from as many different perspectives as possible.

I can think of no better place to start this discussion than here at RIT. •

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