

# REPORTER



NOVEMBER 02, 2007 | WWW.REPORTERMAG.COM

**OUTSOURCING**  
HOW THE ECONOMY  
IS BEING AFFECTED

**FLEXCAR**  
NEED A RIDE?

**THAT GIRL**  
IS SHE WHO YOU  
THINK SHE IS?

# REPORTER

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# EDITOR'S NOTE

## THE CENTER FOR STUDENT PROBLEMS

When I arrived at Ingle Auditorium for the Student Affairs and Student Government Open Discussion last Monday evening (page 8), I was immediately impressed with the setup. On stage were four large chairs, equipped with speech-level microphones. Two more microphones were positioned immediately in front of the stage, one for each of the center aisles. Index cards were also available for shy students to write down their concerns, which were read aloud by microphone-wielding Student Government representatives throughout the evening.

That setup sent one very clear message: Student Government and Student Affairs absolutely meant business at this forum. They were practically *begging* for student input. And the turnout from departments around campus was just astounding. Dawn Soufleris (Director of the Office of Student Conduct), Lou Spiotti (Director of Intercollegiate Athletics), and Mike D'Arcangelo (Director of the Center for Campus Life) were just a few of the many administrators present. Each of these directors were on hand to answer questions about their various departments, right on the spot.

At first, I was delighted and inspired by the entire affair. How could I not have been? About 40 students were voicing opinions, while administrators were actively listening and offering input of their own. I am now days removed from the event, and I'm slightly skeptical of the concept. I feel like Vice President Cooper and President Wolf were trying to create yet *another* center (page 31) for students: the Center for Student Problems. Was this forum really empowering students to achieve? Or was it yet more hand holding?

Take, for example, the discussion on the RIT Honors program. In particular, one student from the College of Imaging Arts and Sciences expressed disappointment with the GPA-focused admissions process of CIAS Honors students. Considering how portfolio-based the art majors of CIAS are, I believe that her concern is valid. My skepticism has nothing to do with the content of her questions, and everything to do with the context. Why not go directly to David Mathiason, the Director of the Honors Program?

This is a timeless problem, because there have always been two ways to deal with administrative complaints. The first is to march right into the chief's office and demand a corrective course of action. This is the equivalent of knocking on Dr. Destler's door and complaining about the price of Lucky Charms in the Corner Store. The second avenue? Talk to the manager of the Corner Store yourself. If he proves to be unresponsive, then work your way up the chain of command. You may eventually find yourself on the seventh floor of Building 7, but the process does not begin in that banjo-filled office. Start at the bottom, because Dr. Destler is perhaps the most removed and thus the least educated person when it comes to breakfast foods on campus.

I'm torn. I absolutely adore the idea of students and faculty assembling and voicing ideas to build a better community for future scholars. But I question the lessons learned. Becoming an activist in one's community needs to include becoming educated on the avenues of communication. If Wolf and Cooper take over that burden for us, then what are we taking away from the experience?



Jen Loomis  
**EDITOR IN CHIEF**

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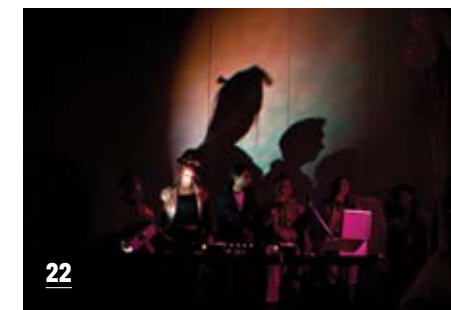
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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## DEAR REPORTER,

Where is the logic in comparing World of Warcraft and hamburgers to smoking? To claim that socially inept WoW players and large, zit-plagued students who venture to eat the hamburgers at RIT are in worse condition than smokers is laughable. Hah! You say that they miss opportunities and waste time because of their vices, but isn't smoking just as bad? A five-minute smoke break every couple of hours adds up at the end of a day. Yes, we are fed anti-smoking propaganda from youth, but that is to protect us from the well-known diseases that result from smoking. I also find it hard to grasp how you could use a word like "discriminate" to describe smokers. They don't have separate bathrooms or separate water fountains. It's just that the general population has learned the dangers of first and second hand smoking.

That being said, I do not concede to RIT's petition for a "Smoke-Free RIT." Everyone has the right to kill themselves however they choose. Although I would like to see designated areas where smokers could tar-up their lungs without disturbing everyone else.

Smokers, you do have the right to smoke. However, please keep in mind that not everyone smokes; be courteous to those who don't. As for a "Smoke-Free RIT," to that I say: That's bananas, and not in a good way.

JULIO RIVERA

Fourth year Biology

## DEAR REPORTER,

This is in response to the article in the October 5th issue titled "We don't have that in our country" by Geoff Shearer. Before getting started, I would like to say that no fan of Mr. Ahmadinejad am I. However, I did find fault with some of the points raised in the article. The author seems to assume as true what needs to be proven. In the first paragraph, he accuses Mr. Ahmadinejad of (personally) persecuting Jews and homosexuals, and denying journalists their freedom of speech and press. With all that persecuting and freedom denying, I wonder when he finds time to work on Iran's nuclear weapons programs. The author probably meant to say that the Government of Iran, of which Mr. Ahmadinejad is only nominally the head, engages in the aforemen-

tioned activities. These are serious accusations to make, but I was surprised to find not a single news article, press release— or any reference of any kind, in fact— to back up the charges. This is not to deny that documentation of discrimination against religious and other minorities exists. But we should also note that today, there are 11 synagogues in Tehran, a Jewish library, and a Jewish newspaper. There is a Jewish member of parliament that represents the 20,000-35,000 Jews in Iran. As for Ahmadinejad seeking to "wipe" Israel off the map, what he said, what he meant, and what was translated has long been a point of controversy.

The author goes on to call Ahmadinejad a tyrant. Mr. Ahmadinejad is the duly elected President of Iran, elected in free and fair elections by universal adult suffrage. He is a) constitutional officer of the Republic of Iran, meaning he is limited in his authority as per the constitution of Iran, and b) is not the supreme leader of Iran (that honor goes to the man holding the office of "Supreme Leader," Grand Ayatollah Ali Khameni). In no sense is Ahmadinejad the absolute ruler of Iran. In fact, it has long been a goal of reformers in and outside of Iran to give the democratically elected President of Iran more authority.

Finally, the author goes on to say: "If we are going to prohibit President Ahmadinejad from being allowed to speak in an academic forum, then we, as Americans, have a duty to seek knowledge of the reasons why our troops risk life and limb". This argument does not follow. I do not select who gets to speak at Columbia University, and Ahmadinejad speaking there or not has no bearing on whether I should know why our troops are risking lives and limbs. That burden of responsibility has always rested with us, whenever we have decided to go to war.

ARNOB L. ALAM

Department of Microelectronics Engineering

## DEAR REPORTER,

I must say, I'm disappointed. This Editor's Note seems like it's specifically designed to create a controversy, while ignoring the real issue.

Let me take a step back, and say that I do agree with your conclusions. I don't want RIT holding my hand any more than you claim to. Sure,

if you eat a lot of fatty food, maybe you'll get fat. And hey, World of Warcraft just might not be the best way to spend your free time. Unfortunately, neither of those are really valid comparisons to smoking. When I'm walking along and some random person blows out a nice, big cloud of smoke in front of me, they're not just hurting themselves; they're hurting everyone around them as well. Smokers violate my right to breathe clean air.

I don't consider myself prejudiced or discriminative of smokers. They have their right to do whatever they want. But let me offer an appropriate analogy: Provided you're of legal age, anyone can drink as much alcohol as they want. Just like the other comparisons, drinking in excess can hurt your physical or social well being, even kill you easier than any of those others. But get behind the wheel of a car, and suddenly that's illegal. Why are we so prejudiced and discriminative of drunk drivers? Because a drunk driver isn't just hurting themselves, they have the potential to kill any random person that happens to be on the road with them.

I personally support a "Smoke-Free RIT" for purely selfish reasons— I like my lungs, and would like to continue using them as long as possible. New York state law bans smoking in public places for that very reason, to protect the rights of non-smokers, and I see no reason why RIT should be an exception. Having the right to smoke doesn't give you the right to trample on other people's rights. If you want to smoke, do it in private.

ADAM NABINGER

**TO SEND LETTERS** Email: reporter@rit.edu. Reporter will not print anonymous letters.

**NOTE** Opinions expressed in Letters to the Editor are solely those of the author. Reporter reserves the right to edit submissions on the basis of content, length, grammar, spelling, and style. Letters are not guaranteed publication. Submissions may be printed and reprinted in any medium. Reporter will not run responses to letters that are responding to a letter.

# THE RISE OF FLEXCAR

by Ilsa Shaw | photograph by Eric Drummond

As banners begin to sprout from various locations on campus, FlexCar seems to be making its way into the public eye as an affordable alternate form of transportation. "There's a mindset in Rochester that you have to have a car," says RIT's Transportation Services Manager, Rick LaClair, whose goal is to introduce the concept of car sharing to the campus. After all, sharing a car means less cost per person, less strain on the environment, and less frantic searches for parking spaces in the inevitable discomfort of a crammed RIT parking lot.

Unlike traditional rental car agencies, even those under the age of 21 can register and use a FlexCar. However, there are certain restrictions: One must have at least two years of driving experience, a clean driving record, and a copy of the declarations page of one's current auto policy. There are currently eight vehicles available on campus, including a pick-up truck, mini van, and several economically friendly hybrid cars. The cars are located around the campus at three central locations: the Nathaniel Rochester Hall parking lot, Crossroads, and J lot. "If the demand is higher, we may add more cars to the program. Eight is just the starting point," remarks Paula Benway, Associate Director of RIT's Parking and Transportation Services.

FlexCar offers a variety of different plans, for standard to frequent users, although there is an across-the-board annual membership fee of \$35. "The program is primarily geared for students who don't have alternative options to



get out to other venues in our community," says Benway. That being said, it might be a bit dim-witted to spend an entire weekend on your own at the standard daily rate of \$9 per hour or \$60 per day. It is more suitable and cost effective to share a FlexCar for trips that won't absorb more than a night's worth of time. "It gives a little more freedom and flexibility, as far as just being able to get up and go," states LaClair.

Due to necessary background checks, it takes about a week to receive a FlexCar membership card and be able to make reservations, either online or by phone. This membership card will be powered by Radio-Frequency Identification (RFID) technology and can be scanned by an area on the dashboard of the FlexCar. It will then grant the user access to the car, its keys, and an in-car cell phone. If the need for fuel arises, the car also contains a fuel card, equivalent to a FlexCar-designated credit card, which one can use, send in the receipt, and be credited in full for both gas and time spent loitering about the station as the tank fills. Members also have the advantage of using FlexCar nationally, as the program boasts an impressive list of metropolitan cities, including San Francisco, Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, and Seattle.

FlexCar, for the most part, operates independently of RIT and seems to contribute solely in terms of its service. "The only thing RIT is doing is providing the parking spots. We're not benefiting from the program whatsoever. It's here as an additional means of transportation for the students, faculty, or staff," says LaClair. The project is estimated to be readily available to the RIT community within the next month. With the advertisements that are bound to spring up around this time, it would be quite difficult to overlook. •

Those interested in signing up or learning more about FlexCar at RIT should visit [www.FlexCar.com](http://www.FlexCar.com).

# ARUN GANDHI VISITS RIT

by Jean-Jacques DeLisle | photograph by Dave Londres

For the Tenth Annual Campus Week of Dialogue, The Commission for Promoting Pluralism brought many different speakers from a variety of disciplines to speak at RIT. This entire week is designed to promote awareness, innovation, and action through diversity. The Keynote address this year was presented by Arun Gandhi, the grandson of the famous non-violence pioneer, Mahatma Gandhi.

Arun Gandhi has a long history of speaking on non-violence. He attributes his inspiration to promote non-violence to his grandfather, whom he was able to visit extensively during his lifetime. Gandhi has recently moved the M. K. Gandhi Institute for Non-Violence from Memphis, Tennessee to the University of Rochester's River Campus.

Gandhi is by no means a tall or domineering man, but the Fireside Lounge was unusually quiet, perhaps humbled by the presence of such an auspicious guest. Amidst the quiet murmur, several people from the crowd walked forward to speak to Gandhi, who replied to their questions and comments with a characteristic calm and sincerity. Among those who conversed with him was President Destler, who also opened for the Annual Campus Week of Dialogue.

Thomas Warfield, Chairperson of the Commission for Promoting Pluralism at RIT, presented the Keynote speaker, Gandhi, who then spoke about how his grandfather's peaceful teachings inspired him to promote non-violence, even after experiencing a childhood of suffering under South Africa's Apartheid. Gandhi also spoke of how Mahatma Gandhi's experiences of the immense hate and prejudice in South Africa led him to question the right of mankind to call itself civilized, when it can harbor such devastating prejudices.

The dialogue included a few anecdotal stories of Arun Gandhi's memories of Mahatma Gandhi, as well as Mahatma Gandhi's own past. One such story was about when Arun Gandhi threw away a well-worn pencil. Mahatma Gandhi in-



sisted Arun Gandhi find his discarded pencil in the dark of night, because that type of ignorant waste leads to violence across the world. All of these stories were used as an introduction to many of the more important aspects of non-violence.

One of these lesson was on the topic of passive violence, which Gandhi says is caused by the overproduction and overuse of natural resources by the privileged few. This leads to inadequacies in the lives of others, which leads to physical violence. Furthermore, the overproduction of goods leads to violence against nature, and over-consumption deprives other people of resources, which again leads to violence against humanity.

When asked what he believed the root cause of violence was, Gandhi explained that discrimination is taught by families and by society. This

discrimination fills people with the negative thoughts required to be violent. He also explained that if this behavior can be taught, it can also be *untaught*, and the same energy of anger can be used as positive energy to practice non-violence. One attendee asked how non-violence could help to stop genocide, such as in Uganda and Darfur. Gandhi responded that there was little non-violence could do with such a massive crisis, but if those involved had originally utilized proactive non-violence, the crises could have been minimized.

The Commission for Promoting Pluralism offered many more educational dialogues throughout the week. For additional information, contact information, or video clips of the dialogues, visit <http://www.diversity.rit.edu>.



Rod Blumenau and Eastman pianist Dariusz Terefenko will play in the style of over 15 great jazz pianists, backed up by Jeff Campbell (bass) and Brad Paxton (drums).

Special guest pianist in a cameo appearance:  
President Emeritus,

## Al Simone!

Friday, November 2, 2007 at 8PM  
Ingle Auditorium  
Rochester Institute of Technology

Unreserved seating: \$6 Students; \$14 Faculty/Staff/Alumni; \$20 General Public. Tickets may be purchased at the SAU Candy Counter or at the door on performance night, if available. For VISA/MC, call the field house box office at (585) 475-4121.

Performing Artists Concert Series fund-raiser:  
\$50 tickets for special seating and a private after-concert reception in the Fireside Lounge.

Annual

## Faculty & Staff Winter Craft Sale

Wednesday,  
December 5th 2007  
10AM-4PM

SAU Lobby &  
Fireside Lounge

Faculty and Staff may get more information by visiting:  
[HTTP://Campuslife.rit.edu/main/specialevents/craftsale](http://Campuslife.rit.edu/main/specialevents/craftsale)



# BRICKBEAT 11.02.07

## RIT ALERT SYSTEM UPDATE

by Madeleine Villavicencio

In September, RIT successfully tested a new emergency broadcast system for contacting students, purchased from the National Notification Network. Although Public Safety is primarily responsible for initiating alerts, this system is the responsibility of the Business Continuity Department.

According to Lynn Daley, Director of the Office of Business Continuity and Project Manager for RIT Alerts, “The system will be sending messages to over 15,000 people, using up to six contact paths: It will send the messages in this order: Instant Message, Text to Mobile Device, Business Phone, Voice to Mobile Phone, Home Phone, and E-mail.” The system is programmed to cycle through each communication method twice, or until the delivery is confirmed by the recipient. If a contact method is unavailable or not provided, the system will skip it.

RIT will provide the system as a free service. No registration fee is necessary, but text messages require the receiver to cover the expense. Explains Daley, “It is standard protocol for cell phone carriers to charge the recipient of the text message.” This system is intended only for crisis communications, and Daley believes that only about eight messages per year will be sent for testing and actual emergencies.

Participation in the system is voluntary. Those who wish to opt out may change their “Emergency Notification” preferences via the Student Information System’s “Address Information” tab. This is also where a user may verify contact information registered within the

system. If you choose not to participate, other means of notification (such as the Message Center) will still be available.

## PBS HEALTH CARE EVENT AT RIT

by Rachel Hart

On a rainy October Saturday, 95 people from the Rochester community assembled to discuss the state of the U.S. health care system and possible improvements. Named “By the People,” this conference has been held at RIT for the past five years. It has covered topics ranging from terrorism to K-12 education. The event is part of a national program by PBS titled “Dialogues in Democracy: Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness.”

RIT President Emeritus Al Simone moderated the event, summing up the two largest issues that plague the health care system today: “Affordability and accessibility.” Dr. Lisa Harris, a physician from Rochester, describes these issues as having created “A very fractured health care system.”

Community members were chosen at random to participate in the event. There were two group breakout sessions, followed by a nine person panel discussion. Per Simone, the random selection helps to “...Bring as many people as possible into the dialogue.” The breakout groups (of about ten participants each) discussed the role of government in providing health care and the concern of rising costs. Each group prepared questions that were later posed to a panel of health care professionals, academics, and CEOs.

Many were concerned that current health care organization favored the upper class. Tim Engstrom, an RIT Philosophy Professor and

co-editor of *Health Care Reform: Ethics and Politics*, called health care a fundamental good. The right to health care was compared to the right to services in the fire department, education, and even public safety. One sentiment at the panel discussion considered availability of health care to all as a human right.

Some looked to a universal health care system as a solution, such as the systems used in Canada or the UK. This type of arrangement would be very similar to that of Social Security, with everyone contributing to receive some form of health care. A twenty year old student from MCC, Che Hagins argued, “We pay for financial assistance. We pay for wars. Why can’t we come together and pay for health insurance?” On the other hand, Michael Warfield argued that it would only work if we were to “wipe a clean slate.” In other words, the system is beyond repair.

RIT Chief Communications Officer Bob Finnerty described the problem as a “pocket book issue” and opined that students should “keep an eye on it.”

The event was held as a partnership between WXXI-TV, RIT, the *Democrat and Chronicle*, WHAM-13, and WDKX 103.9. The dialogue will be part of a national PBS broadcast later this fall. WXXI aired their taping of the event on October 26.

## OPEN DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS STUDENT CONCERNS

by Tiffany Mason

An “Open Discussion” involving students and faculty took place in the Ingle Auditorium on Monday, October 22 at 7 p.m. The four panelists fielding questions from the audience included Vice Presi-

dent and Associate Vice President of Student Affairs, Drs. Mary-Beth Cooper and Heath Boice-Pardee, and Ed Wolf and Sasha Malinchoc, President and Vice President of Student Government.

Cooper introduced the talk as a means of improving student life and announced, “We don’t have the answers to everything, but we are willing to hear what everyone has to say.” One person asked why Public Safety recently expanded staff. Apparently, the decision was made due to the large number of calls being received and the increase in car break-ins.

The next question involved OCASA, the Off Campus and Apartment Student Association, and what would happen to their office when Student Government moved out of the RITreat. Boice-Pardee said that SG will move into the old pool area across the Clark gym, and that many other student organizations like OCASA will also move. Cooper said that draft layouts of this space will be available soon.

One of the more heated debates revolved around Honors and NTID early registration. One student felt that, to be fair, registration should take place at the same time for all students. Another student countered this by saying that the Honors program requires a more rigorous schedule that merits early registration. Another student indicated that NTID students register early to ease the process of assigning interpreters to the necessary classes.

Students can view all questions on the Student Government forums at [sg.rit.edu](http://sg.rit.edu). When responses to those questions have been gathered, they will also be published in the forums. •

# RIT FORECAST

compiled by Sarai Oviedo

## 03 SATURDAY MACBETH

Panara Theatre, 7:30 p.m.–10 p.m. A performance directed by Bonnie Meath-Lang. The play will be performed in ASL and spoken English. Cost: Students–\$5, Faculty/Staff–\$7, Others–\$7.

## 04 SUNDAY MACBETH

See Saturday.

## 05 MONDAY AUDITIONS “A RAISIN IN THE SUN”

LBJ 1510, 6:30 p.m.–9:30 p.m. Open tryouts for the drama based on the Langston Hughes poem. Directed by Luane Davis Haggerty. Cost: Free.

## 06 TUESDAY SERVING THE BROAD RANGE OF TECHNOLOGY USERS

Golisano Auditorium, 10 a.m.–12 p.m. A discussion with Dr. John Horrigan about the recent report by the Pew group titled *A Typology of Information and Communication Technology Users*. Cost: Free.

**MEET THE AUTHOR: COLETTE SHAW** Wallace Library, 1st Floor. 4 p.m.–5 p.m. Meet Colette Shaw, FYE Instructor and Advisor to SG, as she presents her book *Won’t Get Fooled Again*. Cost: Free.

## 07 WEDNESDAY POLITICAL AWARENESS

Kate Gleason Hall: A055, 9 p.m.–10 p.m. An interactive program with useful facts about voting and registration. Sponsored by the Center for Residence Life. Cost: Free.

## 08 THURSDAY THE RIT DIGITAL MEDIA LIBRARY

Second Floor of the Wallace Library, 11 a.m.–12 p.m. Learn about highlighting and sharing your work! Cost: Free.

## PREPARING FOR/TAKING EXAMS

01-2358, 12 p.m. – 1 p.m. A Lunch ‘n’ Learning Workshop. Develop good strategies for preparing for and taking objective, essay, and problem-solving tests. Cost: Free. Bring your lunch.

## TECHNOLOGY AND HATE: HOW COMPUTERS CAN BE MISUSED

76-1125, 4 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Part of the Hale Lecture Series. Brian Marcus, Director of Internet Monitoring for the Anti-Defamation League, examines online hate activity, extremist-created video games, and cyber-bullying, as well as what can be done to fight online anti-Semitism.

## THURSDAY NIGHT CINEMA: SPIDERMAN 3

Ingle Auditorium, 10 p.m.–12:30 a.m. And you thought he was emo in the second one. Free Cotton Candy after the movie. *Sweet!* Cost: Free.

## 09 FRIDAY INAUGURATION DAY: DR. DESTLER

Gordon Field House, 3 p.m.–6 p.m. Dr. Destler officially takes office as RIT’s ninth president. Ceremony is to be followed by a reception. Cost: Free.

# STUDENT GOVERNMENT WEEKLY UPDATE

## REGISTRATION DISCUSSION

Student Government President Ed Wolf reported that the registration system failed on freshman registration day from 6:00 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. No complaints were placed during this time. Wolf believes that freshmen, having never registered before, might not have realized that the system was broken.

CAST Senator Dan Martin asked why the system malfunctioned. Wolf replied that the SIS interface ran out of memory, preventing any further requests for going through. Students who tried to register via phone or VAX were unaffected.

Wolf then asked if registration should continue to occur at 6 a.m., or if the time should be adjusted to a more agreeable (later) hour. GCCIS Senator Paul Solt liked the 6 a.m. slot, stating that he felt that it allowed motivated students to edge out unmotivated students for classes. Adam Weissman, the College of Engineering Senator, said that this debate had occurred last year, and that the Senate had overwhelmingly voted to keep registration at 6 a.m.

Many senators expressed their concerns that SIS is a broken system. Solt wanted the system to produce more meaningful error messages. Alvin Roberts, President of ACA, complained that the system often ‘boots’ people when under load, which forces them to wait in line to get back into the system. Weissman also commented that ITS is looking to rewrite the entire SIS system, but that the task is set to a low priority.

## HEALTHIER VENDING IN CIAS

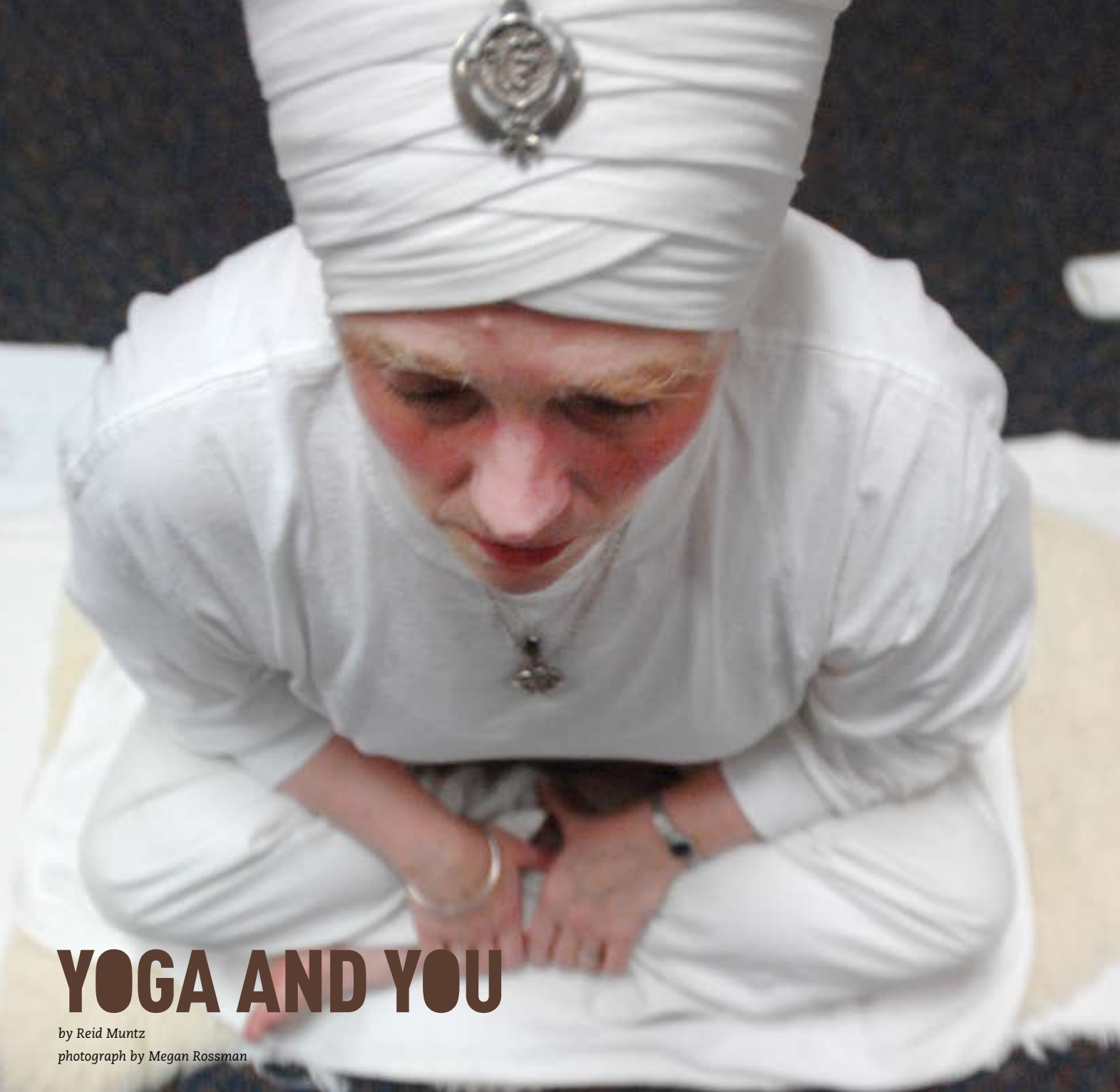
CIAS Senator Caitlin Yarsky reported that starting on November 2, a couple of healthy foods vending machines will be available in the College of Imaging Arts and Sciences. These machines will carry items such as Special K Bars, Power Bars, and baked chips. She also mentioned that Craig Neal, Director of Residential Dining Services, was very helpful and also open to the installation of healthy food vending machines for other buildings on campus.

## MISCELLANEOUS

COLA Senator Stephanie Lenhardt said that the ASL minor could appear as early as the end of Winter Quarter. She expressed confidence that at the very least, this minor would be available before the end of the academic year.

RHA President John Connelly said that Staff Council and Academic Senate are interested in collaborating with Student Government on the smoking issue. College of Business Senator Carlos Carnejo, the head of the Smoking Committee, said he would be sure to include members from both of those governing bodies in the dialogue.

Scott Bailey, the NTID Senator, said that the forum with RTS spokespersons concerning alleged discrimination by RTS staff was postponed. More information as to when that forum will be held will be forthcoming.



# YOGA AND YOU

by Reid Muntz

photograph by Megan Rossman

If you're like most students, you'll probably leave studying to some late-night cramming. After a few of these sleepless and stress-filled evenings, you'll be close to wetting yourself every time the elevator dings. And you still haven't called Aunt Sue back. It's no time and all stress until finals are done. Maybe an excellent way to relax is through Kundalini Yoga?

Yes, RIT has a yoga class, and yes, it counts

towards your wellness credit. Run by Baldev Kaur Khalsa, the student class meets on Thursday evenings and the faculty class on Tuesday evenings. I had the opportunity to participate in one such class, and I certainly found it to be enjoyable. It began easily enough, with a few simple stretches. We then moved into the more characteristic and advanced movements (interestingly, I had trouble with a few of the advanced techniques, while the faculty seemed

to dispel any myths of increased stiffness with age). The course certainly seems to work for everyone. The class ended with a final relaxation technique to ambient music, which lasted for ten minutes. This was so relaxing that the music nearly became subliminal.

Baldev Kaur Khalsa became a yoga instructor after being repeatedly told that she "looked like a yoga instructor." (I suppose I'm not

an expert on how a yoga instructor should look, but Khalsa certainly meets my expectations). She eventually took teacher training courses, more out of curiosity than anything else, before going on to become a level three yoga instructor. Khalsa has taught at RIT for ten years, and intends to continue. She credits her husband with being a major motivation in her studies.

Khalsa teaches Kundalini Yoga, which focuses on proper breathing techniques. These techniques alone can be used to calm down before a test or wake up for a lecture. Yet any form of yoga, according to Khalsa, has several benefits over other stress busters. Yoga's spiritual benefits put things into perspective. If you get into an argument and then hit the treadmill, you'll just spend the time brooding. After a little yoga, however, the fight seems moot. Yoga essentially balances the mental self with the emotional self.

Yoga is becoming particularly important to its practitioners as we enter what is known as the Age of Aquarius. Yoga practitioners believe that as information is now available to everyone, the questions that people ask will concern spiritual matters more than worldly ones. In this astrological age, it will become a matter of doing what is right, now that we know how.

Faculty reactions to the class have been enthusiastic. Kerry Hughes, Assistant Director of the Orientation Program, enjoys the program immensely. With a mixture of exuberant gesticulation and vivacious wordage, she compares the course to calm waters in a storm. She notes that much of the course can be done at leisure, as Khalsa uses myCourses to assign homework. Many students have appreciated the flexibility of the course in both its open availability and its relation to time management. Barry McVay, a retired school psychologist and longtime yoga student, takes the program through the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Athenedum. McVay started yoga when he was a college student. After spending decades as a yoga practitioner, he wholeheartedly recommends Khalsa's program.

Students are also impressed. Nitin Nampalli, a third year Microelectronics Engineering major, mentions feeling much more relaxed. With a background in the martial arts,

Nampalli is certainly qualified to recommend yoga for "balancing your own internal energy." Luisa Ortiz, a second year Photojournalism major, has taken the yoga course twice. She says that she is unwilling to miss a class, despite its flexibility, simply because she enjoys it so much. Interestingly, students can make up classes at the faculty classes, and vice versa. The class is not physically demanding. Nampalli even hits the gym immediately after class.

While the class is already full in winter, the spring class will have forty available spaces. Student classes

run on Thursday evenings, and students are required to do eight sessions. There is an additional activity fee of \$50. Check it out on SIS: course number 1109-340. •

(pictured) Instructor Baldev Kaur Khalsa demonstrates a position during her Kundalini Yoga class for RIT faculty & staff.

## HOW TO COPE WITH STRESS OUTSIDE OF YOGA CLASS

by Casey Dehlinger

illustrations by Erin Wengrovius

If you are in need of instant stress relief and yoga class is full, don't fret. Here are three simple yoga procedures that you can use to get through your day.



### WAKING UP

If you use your snooze button like a punching bag every morning and find yourself oversleeping, try holding the boat pose as long as you can when you first wake up. You don't even need to put a foot on the floor, but it will get a little blood flowing, get your balance working, and even do a little work on developing those abs you've always wanted. Once you roll out of bed, do any old series of stretches. A lot of people merely bring themselves to consciousness and completely forget that they have an entire physical body to awaken.

### GETTING THROUGH THE DAY

It's exactly like scuba diving: just keep breathing. I know, I know, people say, "Take

a deep breath and relax" so often that its become cliché, but they misuse the treatment. It's not a wonder pill, a drug, or a placebo. Breathing isn't take-two-and-call-me-in-the-morning. Sit down for 15 minutes and actually breathe. This is worthless if you cannot clear your mind, which, admittedly, isn't easy when you're stressed. To accomplish this, just concentrate on the breathing. Actually think to yourself, "Breathing in...breathing out. Breathing in...breathing out" so that negative thoughts cannot seep in. And do it slowly. If your thoughts and breathing are going fast enough to resemble Machine Head by Bush, you're screwing it up.

### SLEEPING

So you finished your test after downing enough Red Bull to make you cry taurine (which is synthetic bull bile, FYI) and you can finally get that coveted sleep, but you can't stop tossing and turning in bed. It's time for the coolest pose in all of yoga: the corpse. Start those deep breaths. Just like waking up your body, you need to get it back down again. When you breathe in, tense your toes. Breath out and relax them. Breath in, tense your legs. Breathe out, relax them. Part by part, work your way up to your scalp. Don't proceed to the next one until the previous part is so relaxed that you can barely feel it. Then tense up your whole body and relax it. Continue the breathing as per the previous section, and you'll wonder why anyone ever thought counting sheep was reasonable. •



# FILMING UNDERWATER

by Ben Dekle | photograph by Ryan Randolph



The weather was gray and windy as I drove down the narrow gravel road leading to Aquatic Acres. The old quarry consisted of a small hill, barren except for a tiny one-room shack, jutting out into a pond which looped around it in a horseshoe shape. It was here that the new “Underwater Cinematography” course was about to take place. The cloud cover couldn’t quite make up its mind whether to rain or not, and had settled on spraying the occasional drizzle every five to ten minutes. I couldn’t help but feel that remaining above water during the upcoming dive session may have been a bad decision.

I had arrived at the quarry a few minutes earlier than everyone else, and as I got out of my car, I was greeted by an already suited-up Rene Picarreto, Master Scuba Trainer and co-founder of the course. He introduced himself and led me inside the hut, where he gave me a short tour of the quarry. He pointed out a group of about five white buoys spread out and bobbing languidly in the middle of the lake. “That one on the far right’s a car,” he told me. “There’s also a platform with a computer monitor down there, as well as a set of parallel bars”. Each buoy (read: floating white Clorox bottle) marked a different object resting blissfully at the bottom of the quarry for use in practicing scuba and underwater film techniques.

Picarreto came up with the idea for the course last year, while taking an editing class at film school. He got in touch with Malcolm Spaul, the Administrative Chair of the School of Film and Animation at RIT. Spaul was already interested in the idea of scuba diving, so he and Picarreto began working on creating the course. “He [Spaul] and I basically spent February, March, April, and May putting together the syllabus and all of the support for the course, that sort of thing. I sort of facilitated the whole process along with Joe Plano and Diane Vloch from the Rochester Aquatic Center.”

At the beginning of June, Spaul sent an e-mail to potentially interested students in the Film and Animation program, expecting a lackluster response. Instead, he received replies from 25 different scuba-diving hopefuls in the span of 24 hours. Due to equipment and instructor limitations, they had to limit the course to just eight senior students within the film program. “I always wanted to try scuba diving before, but I never got the opportunity [until now]... the combination between scuba diving and my major made this an irresistible chance,” said Jen Purington.

“I’ve wanted to do the other extreme of diving, and so when this course turned up, I jumped at the opportunity. I think it’s great”.

Picarreto describes the goals of the course as twofold. The first goal is to prepare students for their scuba diving certification test. In order to accomplish that goal, the first half of the course took place at the Aquatic Center, where the students learned diving safety and practiced diving in a 15-foot pool.

This diving practice culminated in a gauntlet weekend of scuba diving tests so that the students could receive their certifications. Picarreto describes, “We went out to the quarry and did two dives on Saturday and two dives on Sunday. Those dives are all about demonstrating your knowledge of the fundamental skills of diving.”

The second goal of the course was to train the students for future job opportunities such as projects that will hire them for their experience in underwater filming. Adds Spaul, “The first four weeks were intense, working on getting our certifications. Now, it’s a little more laid back. We’re learning to be better divers, but we’re also using cameras.”

It’s not long before the other divers arrive and park their cars in a neat row along the edge of the hill. Almost in synchronization, brightly colored towels are spread out behind each of them and pounds of scuba equipment are piled on top, as everyone begins pulling on wetsuits. As I observe, Doug Brantner smiles and quips

to me, “Normally, we listen to the Life Aquatic theme, but I forgot my iPod today.” Before they get fully equipped, everyone piles into the tiny hut for a pre-dive briefing.

Here, Rene discusses how everyone did during last week’s dive, and mentions a few general tips. “Your [air consumption] rate will go down if you’re relaxed. A formation flying buddy actually taught me an exercise. He told me you can’t be tensed up if you’re wiggling your toes.” He then passes out a list of shots he wants each team of three to get during this dive. There’s a noticeable sense of relief as people start leaving the now hot and cramped room.

Hoods are tugged on and tanks are shouldered. With weight belts buckled and regulators checked, a goofy-looking procession starts down to the water’s edge. The effect is multiplied as people start taking seats in waist deep water in order to get used to the temperature, giving the impression that they’re having a scuba-suited picnic. They soon set off underneath the water. My regret of not going with them returns as I realize it’s become a waiting game for me.

About 45 minutes later, the first of the divers emerges from the water, and is soon followed by the rest of his teammates. The process of stripping off weights and equipment begins. “This is 600 times better than last week,” Jesse Spielman tells me, “because when you pulled your gloves off, the wind just whipped all the heat off them, same with your hood. We were all freaking freezing.”

As they de-suit, I ask them if they have anything to say to someone thinking about taking the course. “I can’t recommend it enough,” says Bryan Stone. “I’ve actually recommended the recreational scuba diving course to all my non-film major friends. I’ve had a blast.” Ryan Suits adds: “I think it’s the single greatest course I’ve ever taken at RIT. I’m not kidding.”

“I’m an adrenaline junkie! One of the first things I did when I turned 18 was jump out of an airplane,” Purington tells me. “I’ve wanted to do the other extreme of diving, and so when this course turned up, I jumped at the opportunity. I think it’s great!”

Advice for prospective scuba students? Brantner answers sagely, “Always pee before you put your wetsuit on.” •



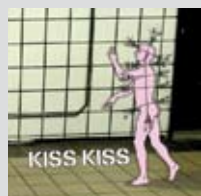
# REVIEWS



**CHEERLEADERS USA**  
by Ben Dekle and Jen Loomis  
photograph by Eric Drummond

The first thing you notice as you walk into Cheerleaders USA is that last shred of dignity just melting away. The second thing you notice is that the 50 separate TVs scattered around the place are all tuned to the same channel. Mostly the dignity part though.

Cheerleaders USA occupies what was once a Hooters, but not much has changed. Replace the orange with red, white, and blue, exchange the characteristic owl for pom-poms, and most of the differences between the two are covered.



**KISS KISS – EP**  
by Evan McNamara

If you've ever been a part of a high school garage band, there was always one of your friends who should have been left out. This made practice impossible, since little talentless Bobby couldn't pat his head and rub his stomach at the same time, let alone play an instrument or sing in key. So the question arose, what to do with Bobby? Do we make him the manager? No. He'd squander the band's fortune on pixie sticks. So you suck it up, stick a tambourine in his hand, and deal until your little garage experiment implodes.

I'm sure Kiss Kiss had a similar problem when they first started. They had a drummer, guitar player, and vocalist. What to do with that extra lingering friend? Well, that friend just so happened to be in Orchestra, and was pretty kick-ass at violin. So the band practiced, and

Since one of us is a nerd who barely leaves his room and the other is a girl-crazy lesbian, this restaurant ought to have been catered to our "special" needs. The combination was brilliant: Hot wings, cold beer, and a curvaceous atmosphere. How could things go wrong?

Very easily.

We knew we were in trouble as soon as the waitress started rattling off the tap list. Coors, Coors Light, Bud, Bud Light, Miller Light, and Genny were the first six she mentioned. We might be a little spoiled by our usual watering hole (MacGregor's), but a restaurant that proudly proclaims that it has Genny on tap might as well pack up and go home.

Their mixed drink list was also a little off. Entries of note included Pears Hilton, Tropical Screw, and the X Boyfriend. These names frightened and confused us. We can't picture the type of person who orders a drink called "X Boyfriend" and frequents an establishment like Cheerleaders USA.

Food-wise, hamburgers are safe. Anything else is highly discouraged, as the quality

practiced, and eventually caught the attention of the indie label Eyeball records, best known for being the first home of now mega-band My Chemical Romance.

Driven by upbeat drums, loud guitars, and quirky vocals, what sets Kiss Kiss apart from most bands is that girl and her dang violin. Otherwise bland rock songs are made infinitely more interesting by the interplay between the violin and the rest of the band. The songs on this EP give the feeling that they were not merely written, but *orchestrated*.

"Says My Doctor" kicks off the EP in boisterous fashion, with verses sounding like eccentric sea-shanties, and choruses that are reminiscent of early Smashing Pumpkins. "Thought You Spoke" is a sinister number that seems to be pulled from a terrible sci-fi movie, and I mean that in the best way possible. Halfway through the tune, however, it erupts into a triumphant and shimmering indie-pop song. Not many bands could pull off such a move

ranges from "tasteless" to "Oh my God, they threw a live chicken into a deep frier and all I got was the beak!" Only two of our party ordered hamburgers, so the rest were saddled with \$10 plates of disappointment. At an American restaurant, a certain amount of laziness is to be expected, but the lack of care was just uncalled for.

Speaking of lack of care, let's talk about the chicks. In their defense, perhaps Monday night is simply not the best time to get some decent \*ahem\* servicing. Waitresses at other restaurants will, at the very least, make a little eye contact during the course of the meal. No such luck at Cheerleaders. For a restaurant of the Hooters genre, we expected a little more flirt and a little less shame. Of course, given that the average age of the waitstaff appeared to be sixteen, we were thankful for the cold shoulder.

By the end of the night, as the two of us sipped the last of our X Boyfriends, we decided that the best advice we could give in regards to Cheerleaders USA was this: Don't bother. •

so flawlessly, but the song is so well written that the two sounds juxtapose together wonderfully. "College Film" is a lively song that exploits the singer's bipolar vocal style, while the band lays down some of the catchiest melodies this side of the Mississippi.

"Killing The Son" closes off the EP on a lackluster note. This song is the weakest of the bunch, as it seems to drag on for too long. Even charming use of a glockenspiel couldn't save Kiss Kiss from writing themselves one song short of the perfect EP. The gradual build-up has been seen before on the disc, and nothing new is really brought to the table to send the album off on its final farewell.

Kiss Kiss hit the garage band jackpot. They were lucky enough to find a great combination of unique sounds to set them apart from the slew of bands trying to stay afloat in the music scene today. With their debut EP, Kiss Kiss show that the best is yet to come. •

# 11.02.07

## TRIVIA

1. RIT's preliminary operating budget for 2008 expects \$210,837,881 from tuition and fees. How much of the total revenue will be made up of tuition and fees?

- a. 15.4%
- b. 25.6%
- c. 47.6%
- d. 77.7%

2. What is RIT's motto?

- a. "The making of a living, and the living of a life."
- b. "First in technology, first in excellence."
- c. "Where minds converge and innovation thrives."
- d. "Job placement."

3. The Princeton Review's quality of life ratings rank campuses across the U.S. Which of the following four lists is RIT included in?

- a. Least Happy Students
- b. Is it Food?
- c. Dorms Like Dungeons
- d. Campus is Tiny, Unsignificantly, or Both

4. What makes a white hot a white hot?

- a. The brand name Zweigle's.
- b. Uncured, unsmoked pork.
- c. The use of light-colored sausage casings.
- d. The use of turkey and/or chicken instead of pork and/or beef.

5. Rochester Mayor Robert Duffy graduated from all of the following schools except ...?

- a. Rochester Institute of Technology
- b. University of Rochester
- c. Syracuse University
- d. Aquinas Institute

ANSWERS: 1.C 2.A 3.D 4.B 5.B

# AT YOUR LEISURE

## CARTOON | BY ALEX SALSBERG



## QUOTE:

"Sleep is the best meditation."

– Tenzin Gyatso, Dalai Lama

## DIFFICULTY RATING: HARD

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

## REPORTER RECOMMENDS:

The quote. Listen to the Dalai Lama. If you don't trust him, take it from a guy with a personal record of 96 hours of consciousness. Pulling that third all-nighter in a row for the calculus final may teach you everything about integrals, but it won't be worth anything when your burned-out brain forgets how to use a pen, or when you start believing that the real world is a malicious dream trying to consume you. It's a bad place to be.





illustration by Robert Modzelewski

## OUTSOURCING in america

American jobs are moving overseas—that much is certain. What is less certain is exactly how many jobs are leaving, where they're going, and what this means for the American economy. Reporter investigates outsourcing and its impact, current and potential, on the United States.

Newspapers and magazines are filled with portraits of the victims of outsourcing: Billy Johnson, 44, of Altamonte Spring, Florida, was a programmer for WorldCom when the company was turned on its head due to its now infamous accounting scandal. In the turmoil that followed, Johnson lost his job, and for the next six months, he searched in vain for another. He is now convinced that his life-long professional function has been outsourced to India. "I spent \$5,000 of my own money to become an Oracle developer," Johnson told *Time*. "Nobody's hiring Oracle developers." Unlike the blue-collar outsourcing of the '80s, Johnson's story is part of a more recent and troubling trend: The outsourcing of solid middle class, high-skill, high-tech jobs.

Vince Kosmac, of Orlando, Florida, worked as a programmer for nearly 20 years before losing his job to cheaper Indian labor. "The conventional wisdom was, 'Nobody can take your education away from you,'" says Kosmac. "Guess what? They took my education away." Sab Maglione, 47, of New Jersey,

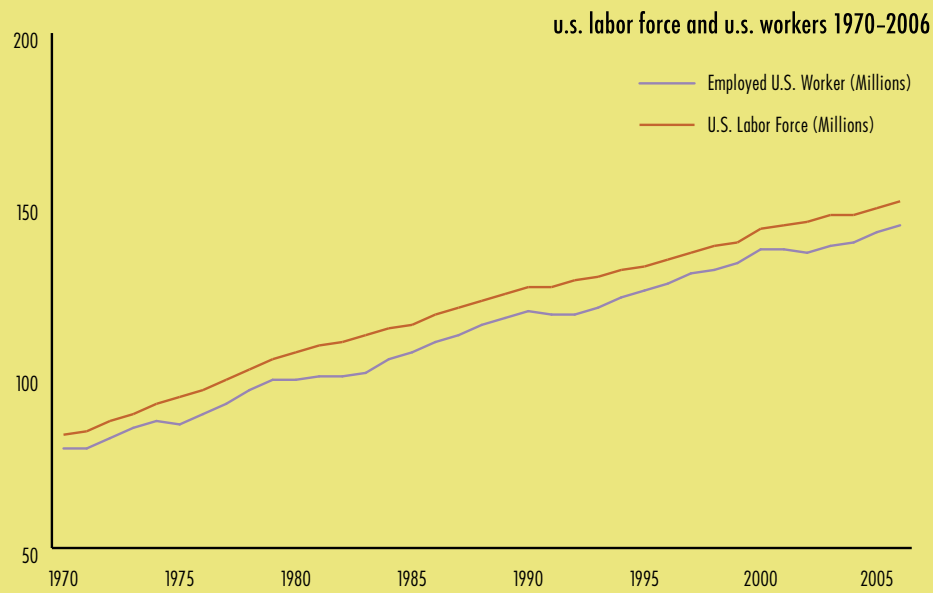
used to work for an insurance firm as a software developer. In mid-2001, his company began a relationship with Tata Consultancy Services, India's largest software company. About 120 Tata employees were brought on, and Maglione was tasked with training and managing a team of five. By the end of 2002, 70% of Maglione's project was shifted to India, and Maglione, along with many of his U.S. coworkers, was laid off. Now, Maglione paints houses—something that can't be done from overseas.

### the issue

Outsourcing, or more appropriately, offshoring, is the movement of American jobs overseas. In the '80s, the concern *du jour* was the erosion and shipment of U.S. manufacturing jobs. More recently, the service industry and now high-tech sectors have begun to feel the effects of outsourcing. Customers of Dell, for example, will relate to the frustrating experience of receiving technical support from halfway around the world. With the rise of telecommunications technology, the world has gotten smaller, and jobs which used to be local are moving farther away. In 2003, Forrester Research released an oft-quoted estimate that by 2015, U.S. companies are expected to send 3.3 million jobs overseas. For some, this statistic foretells a gloomy future for the American economy, filled with higher unemployment and decreasing wages. For others, however, the whole debate about outsourcing is simply much ado about nothing, small bumps on the larger economic road to newer, better jobs and a higher standard of living.

Regardless of its aggregate and long-term impact, outsourcing remains a very real threat for many Americans. It became a central issue in the 2004 elections, perhaps reaching its peak with failed presidential candidate John Kerry's comment that those engaged in outsourcing were "Benedict Arnold CEOs." And then, after the election, it stopped. Sort of.

Since 2004, the issue has receded from the political spotlight, eclipsed by the latest and greatest in national crises like a warming globe and a broken



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

health care system. Still, says Dr. Ron Hira, RIT Professor of Public Policy, the outsourcing of U.S. jobs continues, and it's picking up speed.

"It's a crisis in the sense that it's (sort of) the boiling frog scenario," says Hira. "There's not this one focusing event where 300,000 people are laid off all of a sudden, but it's this drip and drab, drip and drab, and there's a concerted shift over time, where people aren't noticing what's going on... But IBM, for example, will have 100,000 people in India by 2010 while, at the same time, they're laying off in the U.S."

Involved with the Information Technology sector for most of his professional life, it was in 2003 that Hira seriously began to look into the issue of outsourcing. He has since testified twice before Congress, appeared on shows such as *Moneyline* with Lou Dobbs and *Now* with Bill Moyer, and has been quoted in publications including the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Time*, and *Newsweek*. In 2005, Hira co-authored *Outsourcing America: What's Behind Our National Crisis and How We Can Reclaim American Jobs*, which examines America's most recent round of outsourcing, while addressing potential solutions and political remedies.

But where did outsourcing come from? Cost savings for business is, of course, the primary motivation. "You can hire the equivalent of a certified public accountant in India for about \$5,000," explains Hira. "Here, one would cost you \$60,000. Now, you've got additional coordination costs, travel, additional overhead for

working with an employee in a different country, as well as the question of quality— even still, organizations claim you can save up to 70-80%. Others say the savings are 20-25%. But if you think about it, even if you're only going to save 5%, you're still probably going to do it."

And some companies have, as they strive to reduce costs, undercut competition, and increase profits. Low-cost telecommunications have made much of this possible. With the rise of the Internet, not only can you upload a video on YouTube for the entire world to see within seconds, you can reroute that customer service phone call across the globe. A project manager in the U.S. can instantly pull up lines of code, keyed in by a software developer just minutes ago in another country.

Still, it's not all technology and profit. Hira believes a unique change in culture has also contributed to the current trend— a breakdown in the relationship between the executive and the employee. "You've had the rise of essentially one stakeholder, which is the shareholder. The executives don't view workers as stakeholders anymore. If you look at this in terms of just basic things, such as compensation, CEOs are not compensated by how many American workers they have; they're compensated by how their share price is doing and their earnings. They're just acting rationally."

"The problem isn't that they're 'evil CEOs,'" Hira explains, "It's a systems problem. It's a problem with the way that the incentives

structure is set up. There's the question: Does it make sense that the only stakeholder should be the shareholder? Or, do corporations have larger obligations? Should workers have a say in this process?"

No longer tied directly to their employees, many companies have looked to low cost, relatively skilled labor in developing economies to help their bottom line. While India has been what Hira calls a "first mover" in attracting new jobs, other countries such as Mexico, China, Latin America, and Eastern Europe all hope to follow suit. This, some argue, means that outsourcing isn't just a passing fad, but a viable corporate strategy that's here to stay. "It's going on and it's going to be a fairly large phenomenon in certain sectors," Hira says. "The cat's out of the bag. Companies are going to be aggressively pursuing it as much as they can."

### pro and contra

The potential negative effects of outsourcing extend beyond the unemployment rate. Not only does outsourcing result in the displacement of workers, it can put downward pressure on wages. "Even if you're not displaced, and you're working in a particular sector— for instance, software— the threat of outsourcing means that you've lost bargaining power, so there's a major shift in bargaining power away from workers and towards employers," Hira explains.

On a macro scale, outsourcing also means the shifting of the U.S. knowledge base. Technologies traditionally created and implemented by companies within our borders will now be distributed across the globe. The fear is that these technologies might then be appropriated by others in foreign countries. Given enough time, it may no longer be the U.S. who is setting technical standards and specifications and developing the next generation of innovation, but foreign nations. Finally, outsourcing may have adverse effects when it comes to new job creation and innovation. Many entrepreneurs, Hira says, start off as the software engineers and developers who are currently losing their jobs. By outsourcing that work to the labor force in other countries, we lose what has been a stepping stone for many technical innovators.

But outsourcing isn't all bad. Indeed, its primary justification is cost saving, which, in theo-

ry, should lead to lower prices for consumers. In an effort to keep down health care costs, for example, some doctors have outsourced the analysis of medical tests and X-rays overseas. An overseas worker is often willing to examine an X-ray for one-fifth the salary of an American worker, and those savings are often passed onto the patient. Similarly, Dell is able to keep the prices of its PCs low and in our homes for less, precisely because it has found workers abroad who are willing to take jobs for less than their U.S. counterparts.

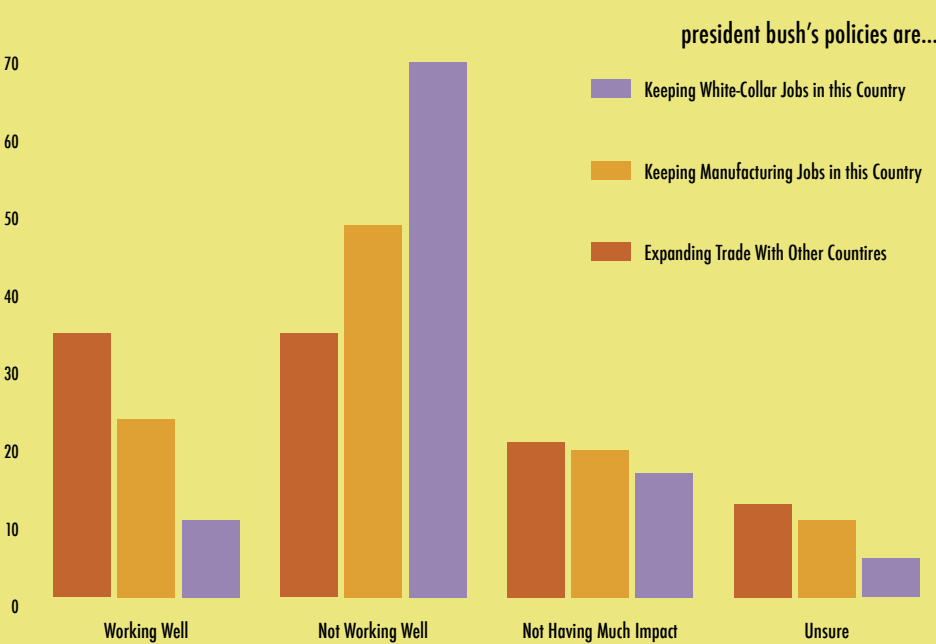
Others claim that outsourcing is part of the necessary and ongoing evolution of the economy— creative destruction. Yes, jobs are being lost, but that only leaves room for more labor to fill newer jobs where there is higher market demand. For example, many free-market proponents point out that in 1870, agriculture accounted for 47.6 percent of total U.S. employment. In 2002, that figure is at a mere 1.7 percent. Yet the U.S. is much better off, economically. The economy simply changes with time.

Finally, there are larger claims of social justice. It is difficult to argue that outsourcing hasn't helped developing nations, providing those abroad living far under the U.S. poverty line with respectable jobs paying higher than the workers would receive otherwise. Hira notes, "I think it's great that my cousins in India are experiencing an economic boom they've never experienced before, and I'm very happy about that." While the U.S. is losing some jobs, some argue that the outsourcing of these jobs is just redistribution of wealth and opportunity on a global scale.

### what's an rit student to do?

The threat of outsourcing is often far more real for a middle-career worker than a straight out of college new-hire with a lower starting salary and more up-to-date skills. As our generation ages, there is no reason to believe that we'll be immune to the possibility of changing employers, even careers, multiple times. To minimize the possibility of facing undesired unemployment, Hira recommends that students and employees focus on two things: Durability and resilience.

Employees need to be durable in focusing on ways to prevent being laid off, building up skills that ensure that they are competitive and bringing value to their company. A large part of building durability is continuing education



Source: NBC News/Wall Street Journal Poll Conducted: May 12-16, 2005

even after you've been hired and are on the job. Resilience addresses the fact that employees, no matter how durable, are laid off— in some cases, it cannot be avoided. In the event that they lose their jobs, employees should be thinking about what kinds of resources and types of abilities they'll need to get back up and re-enter the job market. Sound and responsible financial planning is key, yet too often neglected in today's negative savings rate climate.

"I think the bottom line is, at least at this stage, the government isn't here to help you. And, in fact, it could harm you, in certain ways... and so you're kind of on your own," Hira outlines. "For some people, that's pretty liberating. For others, it's not." •

### our serious competitors

	CURRENTLY	WILL BE	WILL NEVER BE	UNSURE
JAPAN	71%	19%	7%	3%
CHINA	61%	30%	5%	4%
THE EUROPEAN UNION	39%	35%	15%	11%
INDIA	23%	37%	32%	8%
MEXICO	17%	27%	51%	5%
RUSSIA	12%	40%	42%	6%
SOUTH & LATIN AMERICA	9%	38%	44%	9%
AFRICA	3%	20%	68%	9%

Source: NBC News/Wall Street Journal Poll Conducted: May 12-16, 2005

# is there reverse discrimination at rit?

by Veena Chatti  
illustration by Caitlin Yarsky



“Man, I can think of so many girls who shouldn’t be here,” says a frustrated Johnny Ray. He is walking down the Quarter Mile with Billy Sue and Fishy Bob after yet another day of classes, feeling especially irritable because of a rough week of end-of-the-quarter tests.

“What do you mean!?” demands Fishy Bob, absolutely aghast at the statement. He hadn’t managed to get a date in two years— could Johnny Ray actually be implying that the situation ought to be worse than it already was?

“I mean, think about it...They’ve got to be trying to get girls to come here. They’ll probably accept any girl with any SAT score and any GPA, just to improve the ratio.”

“Shut up, Johnny Ray. You know, some of us want to see more girls, we don’t care how they got here as long as they did.” Fishy Bob was now so panicky at the prospect of fewer girls on campus, purplish splotches began to form on his already pale face. He launched into his own misgivings: “I think it’s totally all the internationals they let in with lower scores we should be keeping out...”

Neither boy had noticed Billy Sue, silently fuming at her friends’ lack of sensitivity. “Well, if you’re both quite done being stupid, I think I’ll buzz off now, since I don’t seem to be wanted here in the first place!” She stomped off, clearly in a huff, and did a rapid mental calculation as to what time it was in her hometown. At that moment, she wanted nothing more than to call and rant about the all the ridiculous American friends she now had.

“Dude, what’s up with her?”  
“I don’t know, man...Girls, sometimes...”  
“SEE? I told you! We don’t need them!”  
...

Fictitious though they may be, Johnny Ray, Billy Sue, and Fishy Bob just enacted what has been thought or voiced by quite a few on this very campus. Some choose not to care (we’re all here, now, so does it really matter how we got here?) but most of us have probably overheard or participated in a conversation of this nature, however jokingly or seriously it may have been said. Is there, in fact, reverse discrimination at RIT?

## females

Given the fact that there are only 4,974 females enrolled as compared to 10,583 males, simply being in such an imbalanced environment can make members of either group uncomfortable. From there it follows that RIT encourages a more balanced student population. Specifically, initiatives such as The Women’s Center, the Lighting the Way Ceremony, and Women’s Career Achievement Dinner are meant to create a more hospitable environment for women. Donna Rubin, Director of the Women’s Center, explains: “We have not received specific complaints about discrimination. But women have expressed discomfort with some posters, tee-shirts, and attitudes among their peers which are offensive, because they represent women in demeaning and inappropriate ways. This can create a climate which can feel uncomfortable and disrespectful to women.”

She notes, “That there are some programs which specifically support women that could be misunderstood as some type of favoritism. But given that women represent only 30% of our overall student population, programs to recognize women and support their success encourages an equitable environment, which benefits all members of our community.”

## international students

Another group of minorities on this campus are international students. Like any major university, RIT has made it a goal to cultivate a more diverse student body. Presently, there are 1,348 international students at RIT. Deidre S. Serrano, International Student Advisor at International Student Services (ISS), says, “We have students from almost 100 countries. Countries with at least 30 or more students enrolled include China, India, Canada, South Korea, Taiwan, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, and the Dominican Republic.”

Says Marion Nicoletti, Senior Associate Director of Undergraduate Admissions, “I do not know why people feel there is reverse discrimination practiced here in regards to international versus domestic students. It benefits everyone to learn about different cultures from students who live in other areas of the world.” When asked if RIT favored international students, Nicoletti said, “I truly believe that RIT is equitable in how international students are reviewed for admission, in that they have to meet the same standards as domestic candidates.”

## admissions procedures

Females and males always have the same admissions procedure, but it is slightly different for an international student, who must prove proficiency in English language via the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). Jeffrey Cox, Director of the ISS, leads a team that has been serving the needs of the international student population since 1980. Says Cox, “I can say that international students are neither given special consideration nor are they admitted with any kind of quota in mind. In fact, one could argue that they have to meet a higher standard than US citizens, as they need to show proof of sufficiently high English language skills, and they also need to prove they have the financial means to afford the costs of studying and living at RIT, [which is] a U.S. immigration requirement.”

As for his thoughts on reverse discrimination, Cox says, “Not everyone is as skilled as they are capable of becoming with respect to cross-cultural communication and/or expressing their appreciation for the diversity of countries and cultures that exist at RIT.” He continues, “However, I do believe that many people here appreciate and benefit from the opportunities to study and work with a multinational group of colleagues, if for no other reason than it provides the best kind of preparation for the working environment that awaits those who wish to be fully engaged in the global economy.”

Rubin concludes on a similar note about having women at RIT: “I see it as a distinct advantage to be in school with smart, ambitious, and very capable women.” •

# ON CULTURE & CAULDRONS

by Ilsa Shaw | photograph by Michelle Christiance

## I made my way up the Quarter Mile,

my long sleeves clinging to me in the chill, all the while being battered by wind-blown leaves and the pounding, promising sound of a party in the distance. Content to shed my coat, I snuggled my way into the Clark Gym, only to be greeted by the traditional wand of a security officer and a Sharpie-ed cross on my hand.

The entrance was drenched with red intestinal streaming banners, and had a miniature zombie in what appeared to be a paper-crafted birdcage decked out to its right. I pressed my way through along the line, tagging behind a man dressed in a knightly costume composed entirely of FedEx packages. Andy LaRosa later revealed, "I'm a package dressed in armor, so the moral of the story is to use protection."

Rows of balloons were scattered throughout the gym, each bushel weighed down by tiny plastic cauldrons, some sporting skeleton heads as a design, and all of which seethed with the frayed ends of curling ribbon. To the left of the gym was yet another cauldron, this time tipped over and oozing with wrapped chocolate for the masses. There was also perhaps the largest congregation of pizza boxes I've ever seen, all stacked up in tower-

ing pillars atop a weary table. Most of the crowd members were either mingling around this area or seated comfortably towards the sidelines at the time.

With a sudden push for energy, however, the DJ urged everyone to the center of the floor to partake in the cha-cha. It was nothing short of fascinating to watch the crowd of people form into a massive dance squadron, somehow still synchronized in all their spastic shambles. It was like watching a communal game of DDR. Eventually, DJ Keo (who also doubles as an RIT student) laughingly said, "Okay, we've got to stop now, you guys." Afterwards, everyone enjoyed a Halloween-appropriate classic, Michael Jackson's *Thriller*, which featured a line of people dancing as if they were puppets on a string, confident in their mimicry of Jackson.

This Halloween party marked the first of its kind, co-hosted by the AALANA Collegiate Association (ACA) and the Global Union. Alvin Roberts, President of ACA, remarked, "[Global Union] came to me with the idea of putting forth a collaborative effort... We thought it would be a good idea to throw a Halloween event."

It took over four hours to set up the entire gym for the party, decked out with a graveyard theme. Much needed help came from other on-campus organizations, including International House and Unity House.

Keeping in touch with each organization's roots, it was decided



that this party would be a cultural "funky costume dance party" (as its banners clearly boasted) open to everyone. A \$300 prize was given to whoever had the best cultural costume, and a \$150 prize went to whoever had the best general costume.

The \$300 prize was won by Ashlee Alexander, a second year Business Major major, and Stephen Oyarijivbie, a third year Game Design and Development major, who dressed as Nefertiti and her bodyguard. LaRosa won the \$150 prize.

"The idea is to be both fun and have part of your own culture and tradition to show at this event," said Global Union President Aditya Manjrekar. Toting around his *V for Vendetta* mask and sleek black cloak, Manjrekar laughs, "I'm the odd one out." •

One of the many funky costume dance party attendees. Pictured above: Adnan Adbas, first year Telecommunications.

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# THAT GIRL

YSANYA MARIE PÉREZ

by Ilsa Shaw | photograph by Mr. Belvedere

## TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF.

My name is Ysanya Marie Pérez and I'm a third year Advertising Photo student.

## HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOURSELF?

Really loud, very funny and outgoing.

## WHAT IS YOUR DREAM JOB?

I'd like to be a fashion photographer (even though that's so typical) and open up my own studio in New York or something.

## WHAT'S ON YOUR IPOD?

Chromeo. I was just listening to that, along with Prefuse 73. Also, oh God, I'm ridiculous, I forgot Justice. I just saw them last weekend, in New York.

## WHAT'S YOUR DREAM DATE?

This is lame, but I enjoy just staying at home and watching TV and listening to music. I like hanging out on the couch.

## WHAT BLOGS DO YOU READ?

Superficial.com. I read that religiously. I also live through Facebook.

## DO YOU HAVE ANY BAD HABITS?

Cursing when I'm in public. People are always like, "Calm down," but I'm just talking normally.

## WHAT IS THE COMPLIMENT YOU GET MOST FROM PEOPLE?

I get two that I hear all of the time. Probably because I guess I'm weird, mostly guys will say, "Oh, you're one of a kind, Ysanya." What does that mean? Other than that, I get, "You look like Penelope Cruz."

## IF YOU WERE ANOTHER PERSON, WOULD YOU BE FRIENDS WITH YOU?

Absolutely not. I'd probably find myself really annoying. If I met someone like myself, I'd reject them.

## IF YOU COULD CHANGE ONE THING ABOUT YOURSELF,

## WHAT WOULD IT BE?

My teeth. I got in an accident when I was little and chipped them.

## WHAT IS THE MOST

## IMPORTANT LESSON YOU'VE LEARNED FROM LIFE?

Don't talk to Photo boys. Last year was my first year at RIT, because I was a freshman at SUNY Buffalo before that. Obviously, the campus is dramatically different from here. SUNY Buffalo has more typical college kids, but here, the boys are quite different. They often don't know how to talk to girls. I talk to them, and it's like they just can't talk back to me. I often think, "How old is everyone? Just talk to me normally." •



# INVESTING 201: DIVERSIFYING YOUR INVESTMENTS

by Michael Percia | President, RIT Financial Management Association

After reading the past *Investing 101* article, I'm sure some of you were tempted to cash in your textbooks and visit your neighborhood pawn shop. Why the rush? To gather a few bucks to invest in the next Nintendo! Surely, doing your homework and finding that one stock that will make you a millionaire is a dream we all have.

Putting all of your eggs in one basket and buying just a couple of stocks, however, is quite dangerous. Even the biggest and most profitable companies in the world are not immune to downturns or bankruptcy. Consider Enron, which was worth over \$60 billion in 2000. Many employees and investors considered the energy giant to be a safe and stable mainstay of their retirement portfolios. Massive fraud brought the company into bankruptcy, and the consequences of holding such large stakes in Enron resulted in severe losses to investors.

One option is to invest in a pool of stocks, and the best way to do this is with Mutual Funds or Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs).

For example, if you are interested in technology stocks and cannot afford to buy shares of Google, Microsoft, and Apple, you can buy shares in funds that invest in these, in addition to many other tech companies. There is less chance of loss, because even if one company in the group fares badly or goes bankrupt, another company will usually make up for it.

Diversifying with funds sounds great, but there are a couple of things to consider. First, the more you diversify your investment portfolio, the less opportunity you will have for extraordinary returns. By investing in many stocks, you will essentially be earning the average rate of return of all the stocks within the selected fund. You can't sell the poor performers within the fund that are dragging down your returns. Any such moves are at the fund manager's discretion.

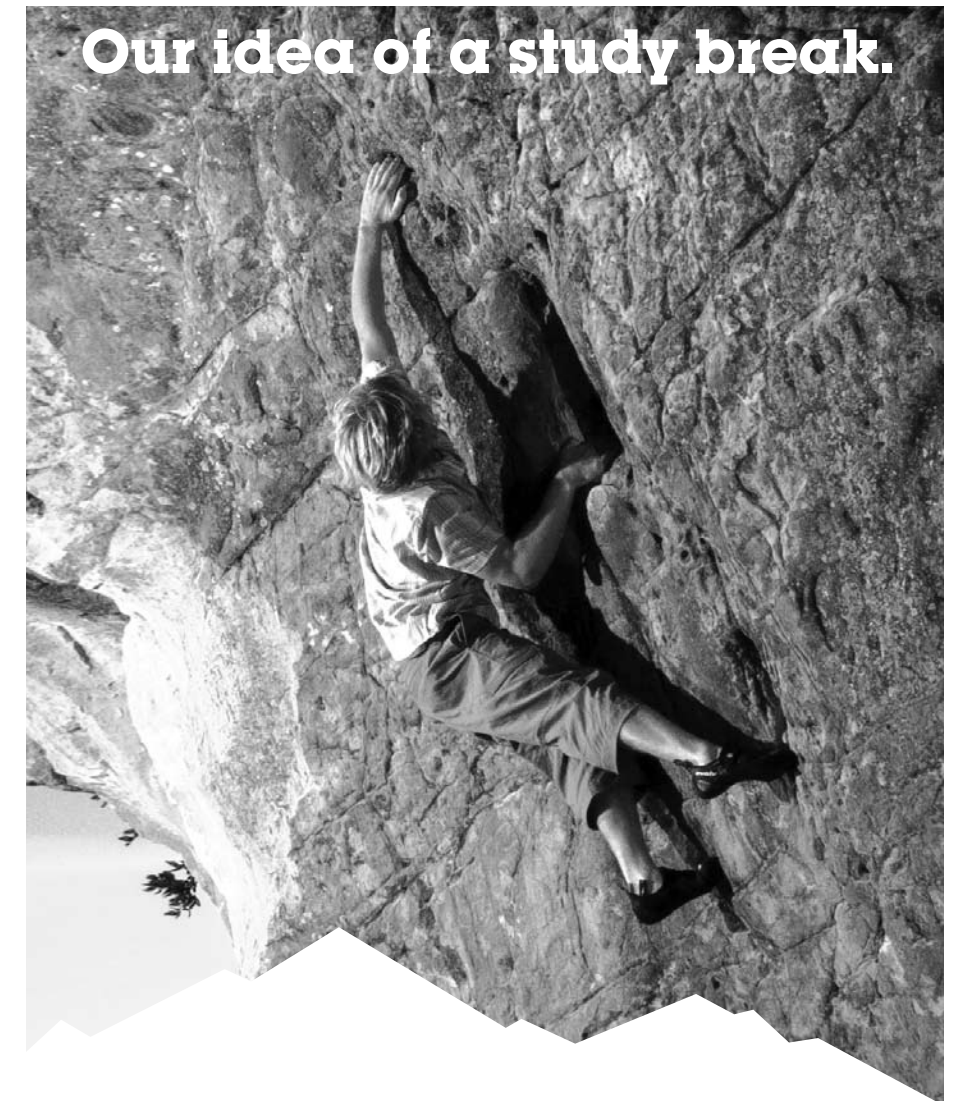
This leads to the second caveat: when you buy funds, you are giving up control. You cannot individually manage each stock within the fund. All you can do is buy or sell the fund.

Finally, there is one more thing to consider. Mu-

tual Funds and ETFs charge expense ratios to provide you with diversification and management. The average stock mutual fund charges between 1.3-1.5% in fees per year. ETFs (on average) charge around .40% per year in fees. The substantial difference in fees between mutual funds and ETFs is largely because Mutual Funds are actively managed, whereas ETFs are not. With Mutual Funds, the fund management is actively buying and selling certain positions.

Alternatively, ETFs usually track an established index, and are therefore passively managed. They are just trying to mirror the performance of the index.

Despite the caveats, funds are a great tool for investors to use in achieving diversification. If you are interested in learning more about Mutual Funds or ETFs, a great place to start your research is Morningstar.com. •



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## Pittsford

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**Eastern Mountain Sports**  
EASTERN MOUNTAIN SPORTS



First year Graphic Design major Rebecca Laymon rows in the stroke seat during practice on Friday, October 26.

photograph by Dave Londres



ABOVE: Hannah Westall

- RIT Women's Team head back to their trailer after a healthy day of competition.

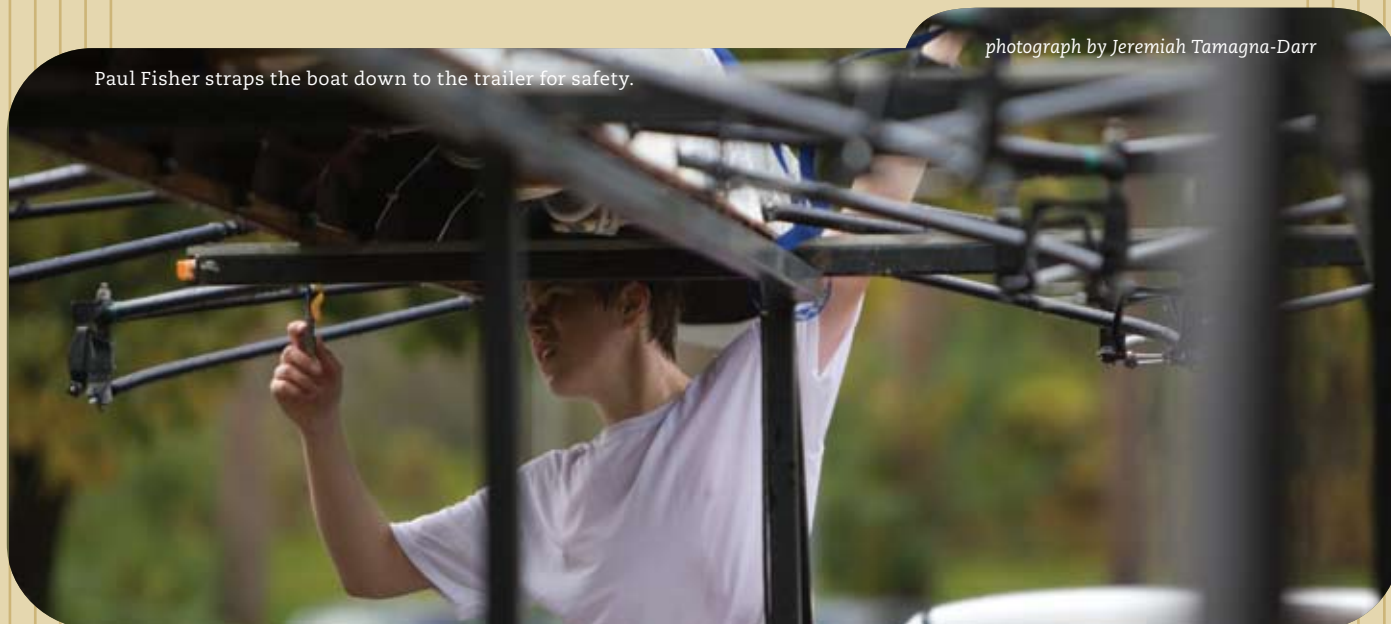
LEFT: Maresa McCollum, Liz Jarashow, Hannah Westall, Caty Carter

- RIT Men's Team, seen here in this picture, giving thier all.

BOTTOM: David Morgenstern, Chris Guerra, Bobby Lakins, Dan Knorr.

photographs by Jeremiah Tamagna-Darr

# SPORTSDESK



Paul Fisher straps the boat down to the trailer for safety.

photograph by Jeremiah Tamagna-Darr



# RIT HOCKEY: THE ROLLER VARIETY



RIT Roller Hockey forward Paul Marzello defends as defenseman Tim Dion carries the puck down the rink during a practice on October 25, 2007.

by Geoff Shearer | photograph by Megan Rossman



Who's got the heart? Without a doubt, RIT's Men's Ice Hockey team has dominated its division nearly since it hit DI, but there's a fledgling yet relentless hockey team on campus that most people will never know (and they pay their way themselves).

Yes, my dear ice-fanatics, turn your attention to the non-frigid realm of roller hockey. The Division I club team made it to the final four last year at the Nationals in St. Louis, Missouri, where they ultimately fell to Lindenwood University in the semi-finals. Lindenwood went on to take the title, but RIT found itself with a second place ranking after it all, better than their pre-season ranking of third. This season, however, many of the powerhouse players of the days of yore (last year) have graduated, leaving the team searching for players and wins. With a regular season record of 2-4, the roller hockey team needs to find the answer to remedy their season, but there's more to the story than what seems to be a mere lack of participation.

Let's digress for just a moment. In case you are unfamiliar with roller hockey, the rules are much like that of ice hockey, with the following few variations: it's 4 on 4 instead of 5 on 5, there is no icing penalty, no offsides, and no open "ice" checking. The equipment is essentially the same, except that there are no shoulder pads, no socks over shin pads (as it is substantially warmer in the rink as opposed to being on the ice), rollerblades instead of hockey skates (obviously), and a roller puck, which has balls around the outside that allows the puck to glide along the SportCourt, a specially de-

signed floor that mimics the effects of a typical ice rink. Brett Campbell, fourth year Marketing major, spells out the appeal of this game over its icy cousin, "There's a lot more scoring. It's more about finesse than sheer grit, and it helps to highlight more skilled players who are smaller and quicker than tougher and grittier players."

RIT gave the team roughly \$1,394 toward its budget this year. Dues to play in the league total \$5,400. The die-hard roller hockey players have ended up paying the additional \$4,000 difference. On top of that, the cost of food, transportation, hotels, and tolls breaks down to about a \$1,000 out-of-pocket investment from each player on the team. The team takes their own vehicles, because RIT's vans can only be taken within 100 miles of campus, and a charter bus is out of their price range.

Other schools in RIT's conference, like Maryland, can afford to pay for coaches that cost \$20,000-30,000 per year, which comes out of their approximately \$80,000 yearly budget. By contrast, RIT's coach (a recent alumnus) is a volunteer head coach, as the team does not have the funding to pay him. Paul Marzello, Tim Dion, and Brett Campbell are the three leading seniors on the team this year, running the practices themselves since their coach can't drive up from his New Jersey residence twice a week for every practice. Their volunteer coach does make it to every game, however, dressed to the nines in a suit and tie. Again, this head coach is a volunteer alumnus, stress on both *volunteer* and *alumnus*.

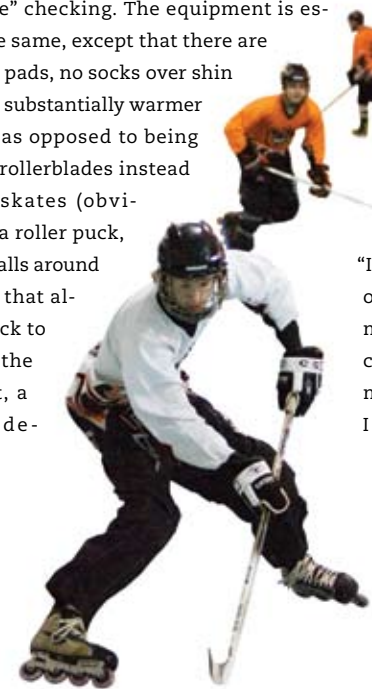
"I don't think this will be NCAA for at least another ten years," Campbell optimistically remarks. He continues, "It's just disappointing, because I go to meetings where people declare how much money they are getting from their schools. I see what other teams such as Penn State, Dela-

ware, Pitt, Cornell... Basically any of the other schools [are receiving], all of them get at least \$15,000. We proposed a budget of about \$22,000 of how much we actually have to spend during the year... And they gave us \$1,394." Campbell continued to allude to the unfortunate circumstances of charging \$1,000 dues per player, stating that ultimately, the team suffers. He claims that there are a lot of people who want to play (most of the current team has a background in ice hockey) but cannot afford it. Campbell goes on to explain that this budgetary headache costs the team valuable players and, to some degree, leads to a less talented team.

**"...We proposed a budget of about \$22,000 of how much we actually have to spend during the year... And they gave us \$1,394."**

The team raised between \$5,000 and \$6,000 last year primarily through alumni donations, which greatly alleviates the stress on their wallets. They used to host a "Meltdown" fundraiser game, between the Ice Hockey team and themselves, but that ended about three years ago.

If you'd like to see a game, you'll have to drive, at the very least, to Pittsburgh, because RIT doesn't have the facilities and chose not to incorporate a SportCourt in past developments. To check the current standings and follow the team by proxy, you can check out Ecrha.net for the latest news and developments. •



# RIT RINGS 585.672.4840

compiled by Ryan Metzler

## STOP CALLING OUR OLD NUMBER. SERIOUSLY.

### FYI

All calls subject to editing and truncation. Not all calls will be run. Reporter reserves the right to publish all calls in any format.

### FRIDAY 10:51 A.M.

Yo RIT Rings, everybody's calling in, bragging about how much they party and s[o forth] and you know what? What time is it? It's eleven in the morning and I am smoking meth in the library. I am straight up blazing rocks in a cubicle on the third floor right now. I do drugs!

### FRIDAY 9:18 P.M.

Hey RIT Rings, I really want you to put this in there: My friend just changed my alarm clock to military time, and in my attempt to change it, I changed the language to Spanish, and now I have no idea how to change it back. So, now I have no way to wake up tomorrow morning for work, and it really sucks.

### FRIDAY 9:30 P.M.

Hey, I just want to know why our campus is so backwards. They practically pass out condoms for free, but we can't play with Nerf guns in the hallways. It's kind of ridiculous.

### SATURDAY 12:28 A.M.

Hey, I just called to say that I really want to have sex with you. I really don't care where it is, but just not the handicapped bathroom. Well, maybe the handicapped bathroom. There are all kinds of bars and railings, and hell, that showerhead can be moved wherever we want. *Wherever*. So how about it?

### SATURDAY 12:43 A.M.

Hey, listen, I am with my roommates and we were discussing how awesome it would be if we could shoot laser beams from our nipples. My roommates

are insisting that I do not share this information with anyone. I love you.

### SATURDAY 2:20 A.M.

Me and a bunch of people on my floor just decided to drive five hours down to Brooklyn and just crash in my brother's dorm. It's going to be pretty awesome, a lot better than the [inadequate] parties on the RIT campus.

## SUNDAY 3:18 A.M.

Hey RIT Rings, I am so drunk right now, I would do you. I don't care what they'd say.

### SATURDAY 7:57 A.M.

So it's eight in the morning, and I am working at catering for some RIT cheer-leading event. I'm running on two hours of sleep, and I am exhausted. This sucks. Rings, save me! Can you call in with some kind of threat or something? I know it's bad, but come on, just this once?

### SATURDAY 6:56 A.M.

RIT Rings, I was thinking today after reading an article about some guy who committed suicide by shooting himself in the face with a flare gun, and if the RIT ratio ever gets bad enough for me, that's how I am going out.

### SATURDAY 11:14 A.M.

Rings, you wouldn't believe it. Somebody stole my sheets. I put them in the

drying machine and now they are not there. Who steals sheets?

### SUNDAY 1:50 A.M.

Hi RIT Rings, I am in a tree right now, and I am little drunk. One of my best friends is laying down right below me, passed out, and I think I might take the moral high ground and piss on him.

### SUNDAY 3:33 A.M.

Public Safety needs to stop putting their officers on Segways. It's degrading. Especially when everyone else around you is walking.

### SUNDAY 3:38 A.M.

I just want to say that it is really annoying that pretty much all the professors are TBA. What is wrong with RIT? I can't even see if I am going to get a good professor or not.

### WEDNESDAY 12:54 A.M.

RIT Rings, some guy was taking a piss outside my window in the woods, and he totally just fell in. I don't know if he's just drunk or what, but he was standing there taking his piss, and then he just rolled into the woods all over his piss.

# A HELL-IOCENTRIC VIEW OF CAMPUS

by Casey Dehlinger | illustration by Greg Caggiano

The center of the Universe is Hell. I learned this in a literature class tucked away in the corner of the College of Business. The professor was explaining why it wasn't so conceited for scientists and religious leaders of centuries past to hypothesize that our meager planet was the center of all of creation. Their logic did not conclude that ours was an important planet, rather the implication was that Heaven lay beyond the infinite expanse, jutting outward from our green lands and blue waters. So far away, that only our souls could reach it.

Hell, on the other hand, was at the

core of the planet, a mere 4,000 miles under our feet. To be on the Earth's crust was to be a quick fall from damnation and an eternal flight from salvation. Our planet's place at the center, if anything, made our ascension all the more futile.

Recently, I've heard many plans on this campus to centralize things. Student Services wants to centralize in a new building next to the GCCIS building. Apparently, all student needs will also fit into the renovated former pool space across the Fireside Lounge in the SAU (the same promises made by the Student Development Center). A student's life could be sustained at Park Point (formerly College Town) indefinitely. Global Village seeks to minimize the entire world into a convenient cluster of apartments that could possibly rival the "It's a Small World" ride at Disney. I've seen enough blueprints in the past month to wonder if I'll recognize a single inch of our campus if I choose to visit it a year

or two after I graduate. Such centralization will, (as the old astronomers observed) lead to Hell.

RIT has a narrow-minded goal of sucking its students into its center. There is miscommunication as to which of the previously mentioned "centers" will be the true center, but the attitude from those interested in these spaces is that there will be no other place for a student to be besides these "centers". There will be no end until a student can walk into one central building, pay her parking fine, appeal her student misconduct case, pay her tuition, and order a coffee without breathing a single lungful of fresh air by leaving the building. Why is this a good thing?

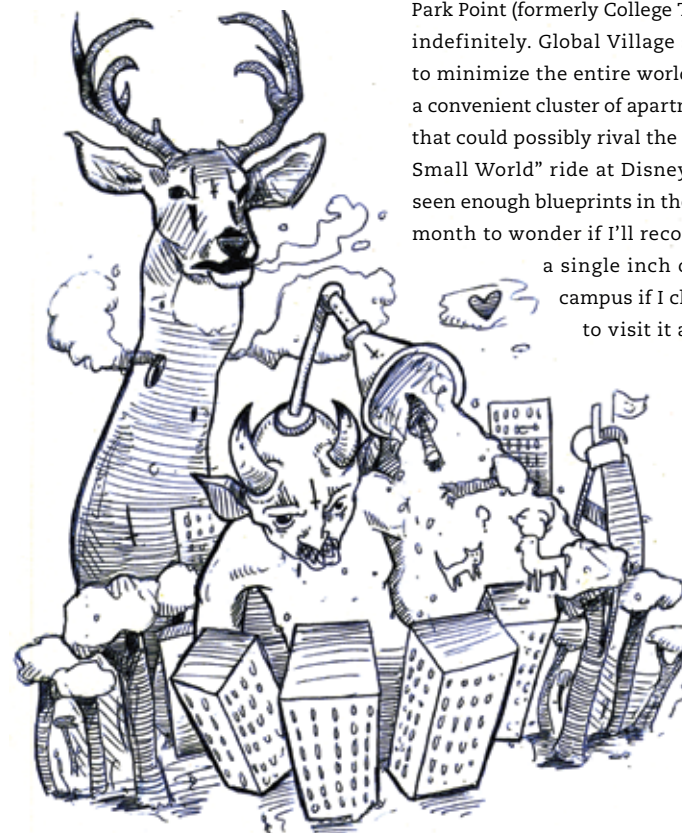
RIT is the third largest private campus in New York. We have land. We have buildings. We have space. After three and a half years, there are still nooks and crannies I haven't discovered. If this planned "centralization" comes to fruition, there will be a very hot, very steamy, very overcrowded building of red stone and mortar, filled with wandering, hapless souls. Welcome to Hell.

I do not want one-stop shopping. This campus doesn't need to become a Super Wal-Mart. The Student Alumni Union is as "centralized" as the campus needs to be. It's a huge sprawling space that addresses perhaps 40% of my brick-based needs. First Year Enrichment doesn't need to share a room with me. Orientation doesn't need cram into the urinal next to the one I'm

using when the one on the residential side isn't taken. If I need to talk to Public Safety, I'd rather take the scenic route. Calling any point a "center" is really just belittling to the eclectic variety of tangential points and disjointed hubs that have rolled along just fine during my stay here.

These minor renovations pale in comparison to RIT's goal of offering "everything" to students on this very campus. I cannot find all I need on any 1,300-acre swamp. Students crave culture and stimulation that RIT's confines cannot offer. You can't serve a garbage plate on campus and argue that it rivals the experience of going downtown— even to some of the shadier establishments— and seeing Rochester in all its shame or beauty. You can't house me in a Japanese-style apartment and tell me it's as good as Japan. You can't sell Park Point as an escape from my classes when Dr. Destler can hit it with a stone from his office window.

The only responsible thing for this campus to do is to offer services that will encourage and allow students to explore not only their academic potential, but also their physical surroundings. The longer I stay here, the more I feel as if a Hellish vortex is being formed, sucking me towards some center I want nothing to do with. Salvation lies far beyond the boundaries of our bricks and the jurisdiction of Public Safety, beyond this dying city, and perhaps even the whole of Upstate New York and the entirety of this country. •





# IMAGINE RIT

## INNOVATION AND CREATIVITY FESTIVAL

# WANTED

# INNOVATORS

# CREATIVE CREATURES

# SHOWOFFS

Exhibits and activities are needed for RIT's inaugural Innovation and Creativity Festival. Extraordinary student work will be displayed to the Rochester community and the world.

A submission form can be found on President Destler's Web site at [www.rit.edu/president](http://www.rit.edu/president). Click on the "Innovation Festival" tab and fill in the form. Submissions to participate in the festival are due December 17. The festival is slated for May 3.

All ideas are welcome.

For more information, contact Barry Culhane, chair of the Imagine RIT Planning Committee, at 475.7202 or [Barry.Culhane@rit.edu](mailto:Barry.Culhane@rit.edu).