

# REPORTER

JANUARY 18, 2008 | WWW.REPORTERMAG.COM

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# EDITOR'S NOTE

## AMERICA'S NEXT TOP PRESIDENT

Don't let the candidates or an overly sensational CNN fool you— Hillary Clinton's win in New Hampshire's primary was not anything even close to a comeback. When you have 15 Iowan delegates to Obama's 16 Iowan delegates, there's just not that much to come back from.

How much of an impact is media hype having on this year's election? Quite a bit, if you look carefully. Consider the disgusting display of media indulgence leading up to the New Hampshire primary. Pre-election polls projected that Obama would beat Clinton by at least five percent. Clinton's from-behind victory sent all sorts of ludicrous panic through the citizenry, linking Obama's defeat to closet racism on the part of New Hampshire voters. To that end, reporters cited an occurrence known as the Bradley Effect, which causes white voters to say that they will vote for the black candidate (in order to appear more progressive), only to renege on that promise in the privacy of the voting booth.

Here's where it gets interesting: Obama's polled percentage and actual percentage of the vote were identical, which means that people who said they would vote for him probably did. Hillary's "extra" votes, statistically speaking, could not have come in droves from Obama's pool.

Furthermore, look where the race stood after Iowa and New Hampshire. Obama had 25 Democratic delegates to Clinton's 24. If anything, the tone in this race should say that they are in a dead heat; instead, newspapers talk about his loss like the wind has left his sails. Talk of unfounded closet racism and crushing defeats make Obama look "unelectable"— that most heinous of words employed by political press teams. Since when did a candidate need "electability" to get votes from his supporters? Isn't the whole point of elections to see whether or not a person is "electable"?

Do not think for a second, however, that the inaccuracies and irresponsibility stop with the Democrats. I invite you to examine how the press is treating Republican candidate Rudy Giuliani's campaign at the moment; I assure you that, until Super Tuesday, no one can really know just how alive his candidacy truly is— after all, his entire strategy revolves around *ignoring* low delegate states (such as Iowa and New Hampshire).

Do the major news providers of the country offer steady-handed political analysis? Most of the time, I think not. That industry is more and more an exercise in quick and easy information— if that info happens to be grossly misinformed, who cares? A new and perhaps even more entertaining version of reality will air on tomorrow's prime time.

Like a great number of my peers, I am following the 2008 election cycle because I find it so wildly entertaining. This feat is due in large part to CNN, Fox News, and all the rest of the major news providers. Watching Fred Thompson dig into Mike Huckabee live on the air is a thrilling moment and a highly repeatable sound bite.

The bid for the presidency is becoming more and more dramatic, tear-filled, and exciting to the basest of senses. This isn't informed democracy; this is the thinking man's reality television, and every week, a candidate's picture in the paper won't be good enough for him to continue on in the hopes of becoming America's Next Top President.



Jen Loomis

**EDITOR IN CHIEF**

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Cover photograph by Tom Schirmacher

Gun photograph by Tom Liggett

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# COLLEGE DEMOCRATS ENERGIZED BY PRIMARY SEASON

by Sam Griff | illustration by Bryan Williams

**T**HIS NOVEMBER, the elections occur at a pivotal time. The candidates will duke it out over issues like the war in Iraq, healthcare reform, and a potentially shaky economy. But before anyone knows who either candidate will be, one group of RIT students is preparing to take an active role in the process.

Frank Sciremammano, President of the RIT Democrats club, describes the club: "A small group of students trying to expand knowledge of politics in general." The club accomplishes this by hosting and supporting a number of events. "We've hosted movie nights and shown political movies. We've hosted speakers on campus, such as Eric Massa, who is a candidate for Congress in 2008." As the election draws closer and the local candidates are selected, the club will be hosting many more events for Massa and other area candidates. "Especially next fall, because that's really going to be the big push," says Sciremammano.

The club is actively following the presidential debates, caucuses, and primaries. On the night of a primary, the club has been hosting a "returns party," open to all, in which they watch the tally of the results. They are also planning ways to promote February 5, better known as Super Tuesday. Super Tuesday is the day in which 24 states, New York included, host presidential primaries or caucuses. Sciremammano said, "We're in the process of organizing a big party to watch the returns." When asked whether he had chosen a candidate, Sciremammano announced, "The club has publicly supported Barack Obama."

This spring, the club is planning voter drives to register students to vote for the 2008 elections. "We haven't done so much now," says Sciremammano, "because the voter deadlines have passed to vote in the primaries, and we don't want to

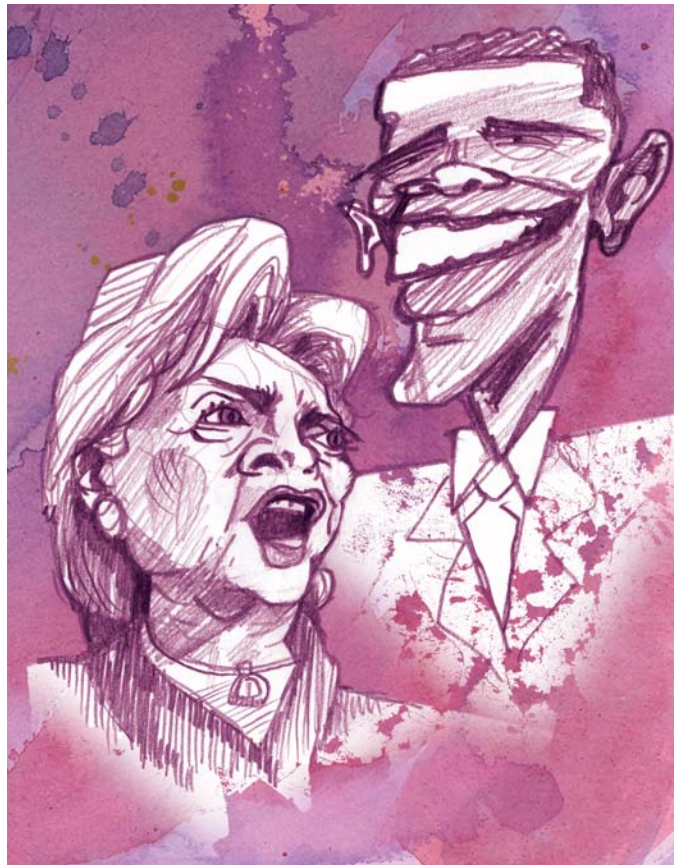
mislead people by registering them now and then they'll think that they can [vote] in the primary, but they can't."

RIT students may register to vote in New York or in their home state, as long as they are only registered in one place. Voter registration forms can be downloaded at [http://www.monroecounty.gov/Image/voteform\(2\).pdf](http://www.monroecounty.gov/Image/voteform(2).pdf) or one can call (585)753-1550 to request a form which will be sent by mail. According to the Monroe County Board of Elections website, "If you want to vote in an election, you must mail or deliver your completed registration form to the Board of Elections no later than 25 days before the election in which you want to vote. Your eligibility to vote will be based on the date you file this form, and the county board will notify you of such."

The club also supports and has events for any movement or ideal in line with the Democratic platform. "We've been in contact with the RIT Gay Alliance and the environmental clubs on campus. We're open to co-sponsoring any event on campus with any other group or helping their movement," said Sciremammano.

At present, there is no Republican club on campus. However, students can still follow and get involved in politics. With only the Iowa, Wyoming, and New Hampshire contests completed, there are 47 more national events for Republicans, including The Nevada Caucus and Republican South Carolina Primary on January 19, the Florida Primary on January 29, and Super Tuesday on February 5. •

The RIT Democrats club has a Facebook group and mailing list ([rit.dems@gmail.com](mailto:rit.dems@gmail.com)) and hosts meetings every Wednesday at 8:00 p.m. in Clark B.





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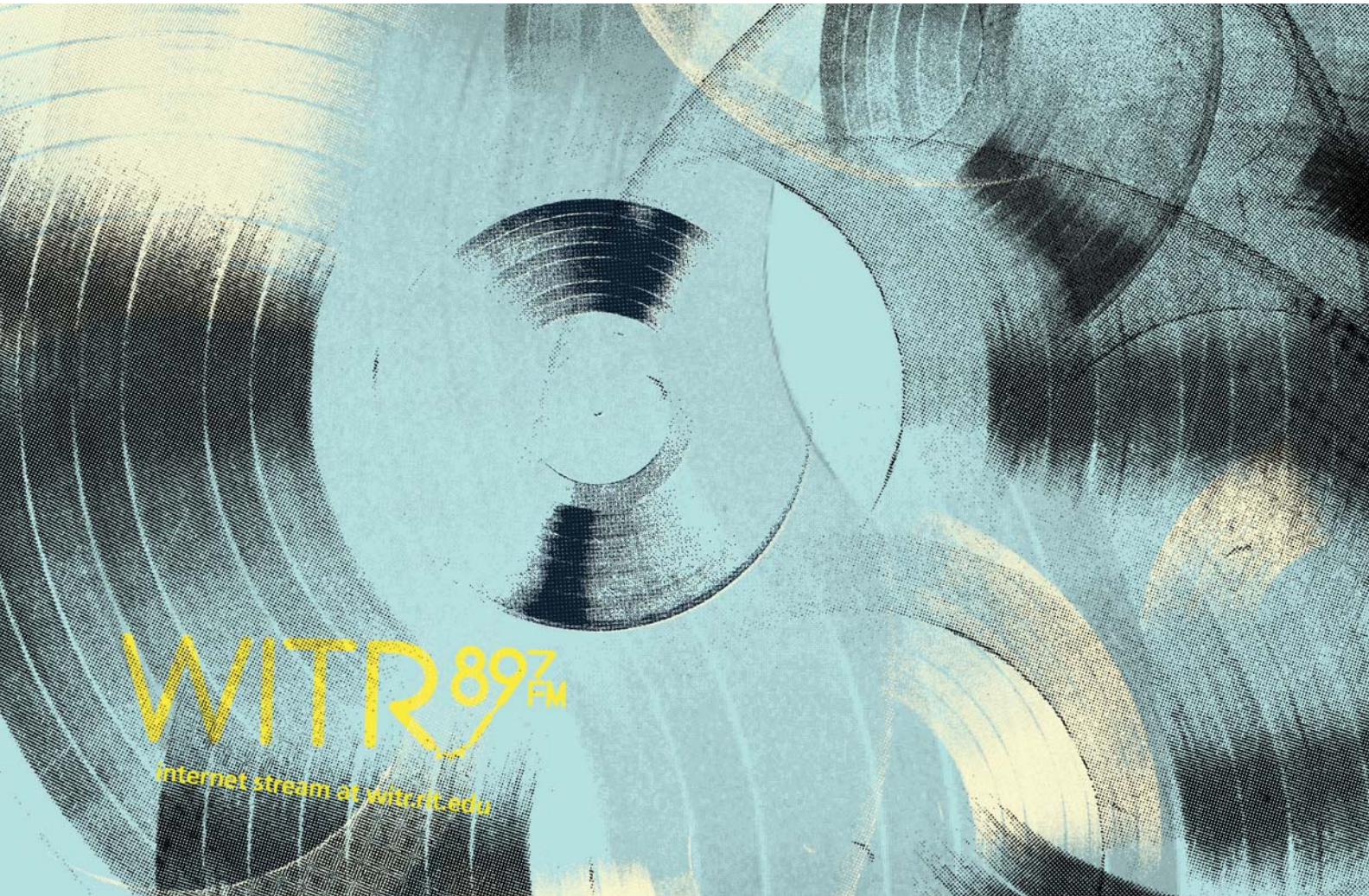
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# BRICKBEAT | 1.18.08

## FROM THE ARCHIVES: '72 RIT MEN'S BASKETBALL GAME ENDS IN STABBING

by Adam Botzenhart

It was a Tuesday night home game against Geneseo— February 28, 1972— that ended in the stabbing and subsequent hospitalization of then second year printing major and men's hockey player Gerald Hace, as well as the beating of three other RIT students.

The incident began when a group of four Geneseo students attempted to enter the game without presenting tickets. About ten minutes later, another group of ten Geneseo students also tried to gain admittance without presenting tickets. According to the '72 Reporter article, "Upon being refused admittance they barged to the other side of the gym and in another door."

Inside the gym, the group of Geneseo students continued their disruptive behavior during the game, harassing the RIT cheerleaders. At one point, Athletic Director Louis Alexander asked a group of varsity athletes to sit between the Geneseo students and the cheerleaders, temporarily remedying the situation.

The real trouble began when two RIT students, Eugene Mattiaccio and Jim Blaise (who had been working as ticket collectors) were confronted by approximately 20 Geneseo students "who had belts, bottles and chains in their hands" after exiting the game, which RIT had lost. One Geneseo student reportedly stepped out of the group and swung a belt, hitting Blaise in the face. Hace came over to help Blaise and "while fighting one black student, Hace felt what he later described as a sharp kick in the back." Hace soon realized he had been stabbed and the attackers fled the scene, boarding the buses back to Geneseo.

RIT Protective Services (now Public Safety) stopped the buses from leaving and detained one student wearing a jacket with the word "west" on it, based on information from witnesses. At the hospital, Hace was unable to positively identify his attacker. However, RIT student witnesses were reportedly unwilling to testify for fear of retaliation. The suspect was released and no arrests were made.

Protective Services then investigated a possible connection with an incident earlier that week, where a "black student driving a black Mustang" verbally harassed an RIT student walking along Andrews Memorial Dr. After the RIT student yelled back, the driver apparently got out of the car and hit the student in the back with "something he later described as being sharp." The student did not sustain serious injuries.

Hace went on to graduate in 1974. In 1999, he was awarded the Printing Executive of the Year Award from the Printing and Imaging Association of Buffalo. He is currently president of Gooding Co. Inc. in Lockport, NY. •

## DESTLER OFFERS ORANGE HAIR FOR STUDENT SUPPORT

by Neil DeMoney

President Destler put RIT's basketball teams in the spotlight when he sent an e-mail on January 7, challenging students to fill the Clark Gymnasium bleachers for the women's and men's games on January 19 at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m., respectively. If students meet the challenge, Destler claims he will dye his hair orange. Destler hopes to raise student interest and create more support for RIT's competitive athletic teams.

The idea for this challenge came from Destler himself, who decided that this year's basketball teams had been playing competitively and deserved more student support. This year's men's team is particularly young, with only three starting seniors, giving many freshmen the opportunity to see more playing time. As of January 12, 2008, the men's and women's teams each had a 7-6 record. There will need to be about 1,800 attendees to each of the two games to accomplish the task the President has set, according to men's basketball coach Robert McVean. Tickets for these games are free to both students and the public, as they have been in the past.

The men's basketball team, headed by McVean and Assistant Coaches Neil Kromer, Gabe Marshall, and Corky McMullen, are quite appreciative of Destler's interest in raising student support. Freshmen basketball player Shawn Roe said, "It's great knowing you have the support of the President," and that it is inspiring getting to "see him right next to the bench every week in his sweatshirt," giving his support to the team. McVean clarified, "Dr. Destler is a big basketball fan, attending a lot of games and giving a lot of support," and noted that Destler was able to recognize the need for more student support. McVean said, "[I am] appreciative of all of Dr. Destler's support."

### SELECTED ANNUAL GROCERY LIST FOR RIT DINING SERVICES

Bread (variety)	12,663 loaves
Dinner Rolls	156,000
Hot Dog Rolls	60,000
Hamburger Rolls	108,000
Milk	27,000 gallons
Ice Cream	3,500 gallons
Eggs	102,000
Hamburger	55,725 pounds
Chicken	112,852 pounds
Turkey	29,000 pounds
Ham	20,000 pounds
Cheese	77,889 pounds
French Fries	132,000 pounds
Ketchup	12,048 pounds
Apples	20,000 pounds
Bananas	27,200 pounds
Oranges	9,100 pounds
Broccoli (fresh)	10,544 pounds
Carrots	15,763 pounds
Celery	9,935 pounds
Lettuce	129,390 pounds

NUMBER OF STUDENTS ON MEAL PLANS: 5,049  
ANNUAL FOOD EXPENDITURE: \$7.3 MILLION



# RIT FORECAST

compiled by Sarai Oviedo

## 19 SATURDAY

### WOMEN'S AND MEN'S BASKETBALL VS. ITHACA

Clark Gym, 2 p.m. - 6 p.m. Dust off your school spirit and root for the home team. Will Destler really dye his hair orange? Cost: Free.

### MEN'S HOCKEY VS. SACRED HEART

Ritter Arena, 7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Do the wave! Scream your lungs out! Root for the guys! Cost: \$4 Students, \$6 Faculty/Staff, \$8 others.

## 20 SUNDAY

### ORIENTATION ASSISTANT - INFO SESSION

Gleason A055, 7 p.m. - 8 p.m. Find out what you need to know about working the Orientation experience as an assistant. Cost: Free.

## 21 MONDAY

### ARTSOR BASICS

Wallace Library 2nd floor, VIA Lab, 12 noon - 1 p.m. Learn the basic searching techniques of the new 500,000 image database ARTsor. Cost: Free.

## 22 TUESDAY

### SOCIAL 2.0 WEEK: RSS

Wallace Library, 3rd Floor, Bib Lab, 12 noon - 1 p.m. Learn how Really Simple Syndication can make web browsing easier. Cost: Free.

## 23 WEDNESDAY

### FEDERAL AND PUBLIC SERVICE CAREER FAIR

Fireside Lounge, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Meet representatives and find a dream job in government. Cost: Free.

## 24 THURSDAY

### A RAISIN IN THE SUN

LBJ 1510, 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. A drama based on Langston Hughes' famous play! Performed in ASL and spoken English. Cost: Free to the first 70 people.

## 25 FRIDAY

### WOMEN'S HOCKEY VS. SACRED HEART

Ritter Arena, 7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Excitement and ice! Root for the lady Tigers! Cost: Free.

### ON THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

Ingle Auditorium, 8 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. A tale of drama, theater, and love... In song. Cost: \$5 Students, \$8 Faculty/Staff, \$8 Others.

### CAB'S MAJOR EVENTS PRESENTS: PABLO FRANCISCO

Clark Gym, 8 p.m. - 11 p.m. College Activities Board presents Pablo Francisco, whose major talents include impersonations and beatboxing. Cost: \$10 Students, \$15 Faculty/Staff, \$20 Others.

# STUDENT GOVERNMENT WEEKLY UPDATE

by Geoffrey H. Bliss

## SCHOOL SPIRIT

Much of this week's meeting focused on new plans to energize Brick City with school spirit again. The first suggestion, brought to the Senate by the Student Athletic Advisory Committee (SAAC), was the Tiger Den Project, a new campus-wide initiative to raise student awareness and campus pride. This project, presented by David Burke, Anna Kolnitz, and Jenna Mausolf, will rally students and faculty alike in future RIT sporting events by offering incentives for students to attend. The idea is simple: Students who attend a sporting event will receive a Tiger Den T-Shirt. Then, at future events, these t-shirt-wearing fans will receive rewards for having school spirit, like free food or a discounted ticket. The Tiger Den Project will kick off on January 19 during the RIT Orange Hair Challenge (see page 8), where SAAC will be handing out 1000-1500 orange shirts. A member of SAAC indicated that this program will initially be for sporting events only, but they hope to expand it to all RIT events in the future.

This year's spiRIT week will be held from January 25 to February 3. SG will be holding events on campus all week, including a Super Bowl party. A grinning President Ed Wolf indicated that beer would be available to the of-age fans at the Super Bowl party this year.

The Senate also gave the floor to Marisa Psailia, Director of the Fund for RIT and James Macchiano, the Assistant Director of the fund. The pair reported that 2007's ROAR Day, the annual on-campus fundraising drive, was more successful than the previous year, resulting in an increase in alumni and student donations. 765 members of the campus community made a gift on ROAR day 2007. Of those, 471 (62% of donors on that day) were students. A total of \$22,542 was raised, representing a 12% increase over last year's event. Sixty nine percent of all donors directed their gift to the Student Club Space Renovation, and 11% of total gifts (\$2,441) went to general allocation.

## PARKING PROBLEMS

Zachary Panitzke, a graduate student, spoke to the Senate about a meeting he had with Paula Benway, Associate Director of Parking & Transportation Services, regarding the increased number of reserved parking spaces in U Lot. Benway, in response, explained the somewhat intricate mathematical process that the Parking office uses to allocate reserved parking spaces. Benway has now asked Panitzke to gather student questions and deliver them to her office for answers. A follow-up report from Panitzke is expected in the coming weeks. Stay tuned.

# PABLO FRANCISCO

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 25TH  
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# ROMANCE, CIGARETTES, AND THE UNRELIABILITY OF AIRLINES

by Casey Dehlinger



Following the freakish heat wave earlier in January, the only snow to be found last Friday and Saturday was at the former mountain peaks in the back of parking lots, now reduced to hardly enough for a score of snowballs. Stranded in New York City, actor-turned-director John Turturro was not so fortunate. With the promise of his arrival, the Dryden Theatre sold out for its Friday night showing of *Romance and Cigarettes* and decided to add a Saturday matinee.

However, guests were greeted by his tiny voice, over a phone conference speaker placed on the front podium. With apologies, he insisted, "I'm there in spirit...represented by my sound," before introducing his film as "a representation of who I am." Although I did not get to meet John Turturro, I can only gather that he must be a very strange person.

*Romance and Cigarettes* is secretly a musical, and even more secretly making fun of musicals. The first number, Engelbert Humperdinck's "A Man Without Love" is sung imperfectly by James Gandolfini, whose wife (played by Susan Sarandon) has stopped talking to him on account of an affair with a lingerie saleswoman

Although I did not get to meet John Turturro, I can only gather that he must be a very strange person.

(Kate Winslet). As he walks the street of his neighborhood, garbage men and construction workers join him in song and awkward dance. And when Uncle Bo (Christopher Walken) retells, through a song and dance rendition of Tom Jones' "Delilah", the story of him stabbing his girlfriend and getting arrested. Oh, boy.

The film is filthy, sexy, and absurd. It's about men's inability to express themselves through words and how they don't do much better in the singing and dancing department. Plus, it has a talented cast with talentless vocal chords: Gandolfini, Sarandon, Winslet, and Walken are joined by Steve Buscemi, Mary-Louise Parker, Eddie Izzard, Amy Sedaris, and Mandy Moore (hey, they can't all be winners).

It's a musical for people who hate musicals. But the laughs end about 75% into the film, when things get a little preachy. The movie you finish isn't the movie you started, which has rubbed many critics the wrong way, but any film with a musical number during a circumcision operation is okay in my book. I only wish that Turturro were there in person so that I could thank him. •

## MUSICALS FOR PEOPLE WHO HATE MUSICALS (And Like Cannibalism)

**Sweeney Todd:** Most people exiting this film have two things to say: "I didn't know that was going to be a musical," and "That was amazing!" The film is a good old melodrama based on the stage musical based on the play based on the novels based on the fictitious London serial killer. In this context, melodrama means "everyone gets what they deserve" which, more often than not, is a razor to the neck, one after another, sometimes to the brooding chorus of a love song sung by Johnny Depp.

**Cannibal: The Musical:** Before Trey Parker and Matt Stone's *South Park* signed up with Comedy Central, they were out west, filming their absurd horror/comedy/musical for Troma Entertainment (who, in the same vein, is releasing a horror/comedy/musical called *Poultrygeist*). The film centers around real-life legend Alferd Packer, the first man to be convicted of cannibalism in the US after he and several other men got lost in the Colorado mountains. It's absurd, with numbers such as "Hang the Bastard," "Let's Build a Snowman," and "On Top of You" (A love song to Alferd's horse).

**Delicatessen:** Not a musical in any traditional sense of the word, but the intricate audio design and use of music and rhythm make it worthy of the list. A couple has sex on the top floor, the rhythm of their bed springs setting a tempo for the rest of the building, causing people knitting, painting, and drilling to accelerate in a wordless, noteless musical number. Helmed by *Amelie* auteur Jean-Pierre Jeunet and collaborator Marc Caro, this post-apocalyptic film revolves around an apartment building that lures in new tenants so that they can make it on the menu. The latest tenant, a former clown, has a penchant for playing the musical saw. It's filled with virtually no gore and lots of laughs, creating an environment reminiscent of Terry Gilliam's *Brazil*.



# STUDENT COMEDIANS TAKE THE STAGE

By Susan Cook | photography by Eric Drummond

Mechanical Engineering Technology Major Joe Pilato of the RIT Sketch Comedy Troupe performs stand up comedy.



It is well known that most famous comedians who visit RIT like to try livening up their acts by spouting off something sexual and staring at the interpreter while expecting to get a laugh out of nothing more than a word like “vagina.” But the novelty has worn off, and we’re looking for something new. What better place to find something fresh than from the students themselves?

Inside the RITz, host Alex Tanzilli, fourth year Electrical Engineering major, took the stage and started off RIT’s version of Last Comic Standing. Students quieted in anticipation as second year Biotechnology student Joe Wong took the stage. The crowd laughed as he moved through a variety of topics, ranging from Hispanic stereotypes to a former *Reporter* editor loving the way he ate pizza. Already, the audience was warmed up and ready for more.

Once a lighting problem was solved, Tanzilli presented Stephen Brzoska, third year Fine Art Photography major, whose act consisted mostly of joking about Rochester. Smiling, he reminded everyone of how people from warmer climates think it’s hilarious how cold it is here.

To which he responded, “Fuck you, Grandma!” Ending his act, he told of how he once awoke to a single high heel in his hand and wondered, “Did I eat a hooker?”

Kyle Swiger, fourth year ANSA major, took the mic next, and told a story that everyone usually tells: A roommate story. Surveying the crowd, he asked how many had used a power drill before. Nearly all hands went up. “So you know, there’s sometimes sparks.” He proceeded to tell how his roommate burned down their garage and surrounding buildings by drilling into a gas tank to empty it.

Niraj Shah, a fourth year New Media major, was next to the stage and immediately began with stereotype jokes about his Indian heritage. “I had an uncle who was a convenience store owner, and a cousin who was a doctor, and a cousin who was a doctor, and another cousin who was a doctor...” Proudly, he told how he used to have a shirt that stated “Anti-crombie” with the “A” as an anarchy sign. What better way to stick it to capitalism than to buy a \$15 shirt from Hot Topic, the national chain store?

Next up was freshman Game Design major Darren Neaverth. While his act mainly consisted of nerd jokes, the crowd related easily, since that’s what a majority of us RIT students are considered. Giggles filled the room as he reassured us all that our inner nerd should be embraced, since that is easier than trying to change it.

Another act that benefited from the nerd talk came from long-haired, third year Mechanical Engineering Technology major Joe Pilato. After comparing his previous party college, St. Lawrence University, he explained how much of a

## What better way to stick it to capitalism than to buy a \$15 shirt from Hot Topic, the national chain store?

complete polar opposite RIT is. Hearing nerd talk, instead of drunken ramblings, while passing the dorms made him realize just what kind of world he had stepped into. He even went on to talk about the confusion caused by the androgynous students and some people’s poor ability to distinguish gender.

Under the alias of Rufus B. Mellow, Jon Berman, third year Biology major, came next. With quick quips and almost no time to stop and breathe in between, he spouted off jokes, one after another. Even after the show, most people’s favorite joke was about how people can occasionally be too truthful when asked how they are. For example, “I’m menstruating,” followed by, “Do you want a Kleenex?” which he asked the non-existent girl. Shortly afterwards, he told her that she could make it into a little airplane with wings.

Finally, Justin Dressler, a freshman in Micro-electronic Engineering, talked about living in a small town. Starting with stories about the Amish giving people the finger from their horse and buggy, he recalled drunkenly trying to urinate in the corner of a friend’s house. After they got him outside, the mother went back inside, insulted by the fact that he had told her, “This is how I roll, motherfucker!”

The show’s top three winners of the night were Joe Pilato, Niraj Shah, and Rufus B. Mellow. They will compete again immediately following Pablo Francisco on Friday, January 25. This will be the final round of the Last Comic Standing competition, so go and show support for your favorites and experience comedy that hits closer to home. •





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# REVIEWS



## TEAM FORTRESS 2

by Ben Dekle

The timeline leading up to the release of Team Fortress 2 was a long and winding road. The game was first announced around the same time as its predecessor, Team Fortress Classic, which was released in 1998. A couple of screen shots were made available, after which the development cycle went into some kind of hideous torpor in the bowels of Valve's dungeons. About a year ago, a trailer for the game was released for the first time ever— almost completely without warning. And like a new butterfly bursting forth from its swollen chrysalis, the game we were shown looked absolutely nothing like the

pudgy Half-Life 1 engine caterpillar we had watched going in.

The game has been out for a few months at this point, so I'm sure that most of the people who would have heard of it through the normal channels have already done so. For the handful left, the basics are simple: Team Fortress 2 is a team-based first person shooter game, where each team is competing to win at goals such as capture the flag or territory control. To accomplish this, you can choose from any of the nine supremely unique classes, from the turbo-charged double-jumping Scout to the ponderous chain gun-toting Heavy Weapons guy.

The good news for newcomers is that everything about Team Fortress 2 has been streamlined so well from its somewhat clunky older brother that should you try it, you will be able to easily pick up what's going on. Elite cabals of nerds were rather upset at the many subtractions and simplifications made to the game, but each change made has only served to distinguish the classes more strongly from

one another, as well as fix issues so out of whack in the original that many had just accepted them as how things were supposed to be.

Not only has Team Fortress 2 achieved the highest quality of team-based shootery, it has also wrapped it all up in a visual package that is nothing short of outstanding. The colors and textures are all soft and simplistic, yet in contrast, each character has been painstakingly modeled and animated. It gives the feeling of playing some kind of twisted interactive Pixar movie with flying Looney Tunes body parts and gouts of ketchup blood spraying everywhere.

The bottom line about TF2 seems to be a veneer of simplicity applied to a solid and fun gaming premise. It provides a unique and inviting take on the idea of a team-based first person shooter, and it has a large and angry Russian yelling at the top of his lungs while mowing things down with a machine gun. What more could one ask? •



Paint It Black  
New Lexicon  
Record Station Warsaw

## PAINT IT BLACK

– New Lexicon –  
by Evan McNamara

We all get pissed off, but by the sounds of it, the three guys in Paint It Black get pissed off

a lot. That's the only way to explain what fuels their endless stream of aggression from start to finish on their latest album, *New Lexicon*. Paint It Black has a loud sound that draws as much from the Washington D.C. hardcore scene of the 1980s as it does from old-school Bay Area thrash metal and the discordance of modern hardcore bands like Botch. And if you listen carefully, you can hear a slight classic rock swagger that gives *New Lexicon* a great attitude. The songs are short and to the point, with lyrics that touch base on everything from poverty-stricken youth to religious missionaries and drug abuse. Paint

It Black delivers punk rock gold with this disk, blending memorable guitar riffs, meaningful lyrics, and an unrelenting, good ol' fashioned punk rock attitude. •



## VAMPIRE WEEKEND

– Vampire Weekend –  
by Evan McNamara

Somewhere along the line, unbeknownst to the parties involved in its conception, The Beatles and Gang Of Four had a love child. Its name is Vampire Weekend. Blending the pop structure and knack for melody of the former, plus the creative punk edge of the latter, Vampire Weekend makes for a truly in-

teresting listen. The band comes across like a deliciously flavored toothbrush; they're just sweet enough to not give you a cavity, and just aggressive enough to not cut your gums. They make your mouth tingle and please your taste buds. An unexpected influence emerges halfway through the album when island-style guitar is met with African-style drumming much akin to the solo work of Paul Simon. The second half of this album is a ménage à trois of the three primary influences of the band. The end result: A handful of unforgettable melodies and utter disbelief that anyone could ever make music that could be described as a candy toothbrush. Trust me, it's true! Vampire Weekend is proof. •



Members of Vampire Weekend



## QUIZ:

- During the 1800s, Rochester was once the largest producer of \_\_\_ in the world.
  - Corn
  - Flour
  - Printing supplies
  - Salt
- In 1894, this building, later known as the Eastman Annex, was constructed as the first official building erected by RIT. The building was known as the...
  - College of Industrial Arts
  - Manual Training Building
  - Domestic Science and Arts Building
  - Gibson Building
- What was the Rochester Museum & Science Center originally called?
  - Rochester Center for Discovery
  - Rochester Museum of Natural History
  - Rochester Municipal Museum
  - Rochester Scientific Museum
- In 1999, RIT's Computer Science House received an award from Yahoo!. Which award did the CSH win?
  - America's "Most Wired Dorm"
  - America's "Best IT College Facilities"
  - New York's "Best Quality of Life"
  - America's "Most Involved CS College Community"
- True or false: Wegmans was once known as the Rochester Fruit and Vegetable Company.
  - True
  - False

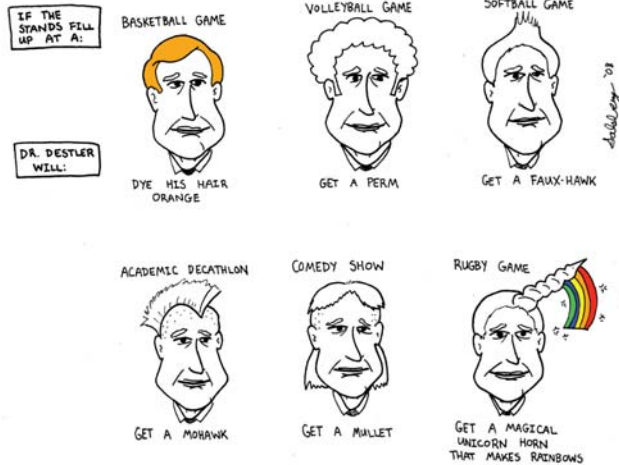
ANSWERS: 1) b 2) b 3) c 4) a 5) a

## QUOTE

"There is precious little in civilization to appeal to a Yeti."

— The late Sir Edmund Hillary

## DR. DESTLER'S HAIR CHALLENGES...



## REPORTER RECOMMENDS:

NOTCOT.org. It's like woot.com for art freaks. The website showcases a seemingly endless supply of dazzlingly interesting objects, whether they be art, architecture, film, or inventive gadgets. It runs via user suggestions and is updated extremely frequently, usually at least once per hour. After two years of severe NOTCOT addiction, I've never once been bored by it and always find at least one fascinating and thought provoking submission. My browser's once-neglected "Home" icon finally has a use.

## DIFFICULTY RATING: HARD

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

## SIGN OF THE WEEK: I WANT PIZZA





*A first person view of what it's like to look down the barrel of a rifle. Here Bruno Winterman, age twelve, is testing out his .22 caliber rifle at the Genesee Conservation League.*



# THIS IS MY RIFLE, THIS IS MY GUN

by Casey Dehlinger | photographs by Ryan Randolph

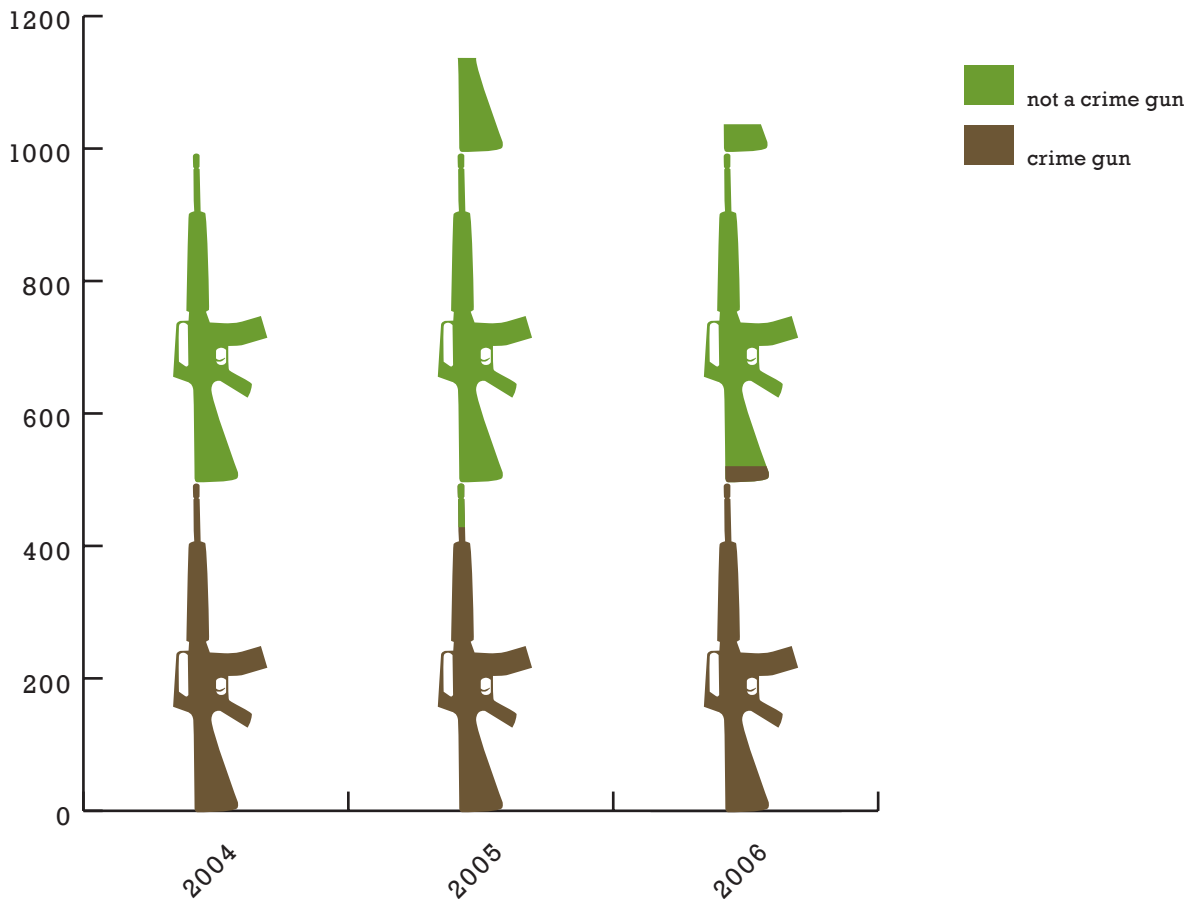


**a** gun, like any other object, means little without a context. When it is fired, a bullet defines the gun and its owner. Whether that bullet is bound for a bull's-eye, a deer, another human, or your own jaw makes a huge difference to the reputation of both the gun and the owner. Other bullets have even loftier goals in mind. Some leave the barrel of a gun ready for their close-ups. Others are waiting to sing for the hidden microphones spread across six square miles of Rochester, a city with a been given both a light and dark reputation from the guns that inhabit it.

## ■ ■ ■ SHOTS IN THE DARK

"I don't have any kind of social comment on guns, but I do have a comment on guns in general, and that's that they make a challenging subject for photography," says Dr. Andrew Davidhazy, sitting at his office desk. Posted on the wall behind him, as if it were balanced atop his head, is a photograph of a tomato exploding from the impact of a bullet.

## crime and non-crime guns by year



A bullet escapes the muzzle of a rifle at anywhere from 1000 to 2000 feet per second. School of Photographic Arts and Sciences Professor Davidhazy mentions, “The challenge associated with ballistics and photography is visualizing things that are invisible because they happen so quick.”

And how many tomatoes does Davidhazy turn to pasta sauce to get that picture-perfect photo? “One,” he proudly reveals.

In order to stop a speeding bullet, the exposure time needs to be at one millionth of a second: 100 times too fast for traditional camera shutters to blink. The trick is turning off the lights, leaving the shutter open, and setting off a spark gap (a type of flash) at the right moment. This one-millionth of a second flash leads to the clear image.

The other half is synchronizing that flash to the impact: Finding that perfect millionth of a second. In the past, the military accomplished ballistics photography by placing a wire in front of the subject, so that when the bullet hits the wire, the flash is activated. Now, devices known as synchronizers are used.

Hit Discovery Channel show *Mythbusters* called Davidhazy up for a segment on bulletproof vests, but because Davidhazy hasn’t “jumped through the hoops” to be able to use a .45 or 9mm handgun, he feared that what he was able to provide wasn’t up to Adam and Jamie’s high-caliber needs.

Davidhazy uses single-fire bolt-action .22 caliber rifles for both safety and accuracy. He refuses to photograph metallic objects or anything potentially dangerous. “Getting sprayed with a little apple juice or tomato juice is not too bad, but you don’t want to have springs or sharp plastic parts flying around.” But his class did shoot a fish on one occasion. “Potatoes tend to fragment and cause little pieces to fly around. They demonstrate the power of a bullet quite well.”

Davidhazy gets called up by more than just popular cable programs, though. Remington is developing a new bullet that fragments upon impact. “Police don’t want this bullet to open up when it hits glass or metal. They *do* want it to open up when it hits flesh,” says Davidhazy. “I didn’t think too much about the moral issues associated with it, but the fact that they came to the high speed lab here, I think, indicates that we provide something kind of special.”

“Many years ago, I used to hunt. But I started to feel sorry for the animals, so I don’t do that anymore,” adds Davidhazy.

Davidhazy praises the ability of his lab to give students hands-on experience. “I could just tell the students, ‘Read it in a book.’ That would be really safe, but the amount of learning and attention would be so much less.”

### ■ ■ ■ THIS IS MY RIFLE...

**d**r. John Klofas shows me a map. It looks like a rainstorm surrounding Rochester in a partial halo. And, like on weather radar, the edges of the mass over the city are





green and the center is red, with various shades of orange and yellow in between. This is not a weather map, though. It is a distribution map of homicides. It circles around the city's inner loop, more or less, and has come to be known as The Crescent. "It's a label that I actually had something to do with," admits Klofas, the Head of the Department of Criminal Justice at RIT, "I used it in a presentation I did for the mayor, then the mayor started using it." It's an area consisting of roughly one third of Rochester's population, but over 80% of the homicides occur there.

"We average about 50 homicides a year, more or less, for [the past] 15 years or so," informs Klofas, "Seventy percent of the homicides we have are gun-related. Sixty percent of them are handguns... Those guns are almost always illegally owned."

Annually, The Rochester Police Department (RPD) confiscates approximately 1000 firearms. "There's a whole room full of them at RPD," says Klofas, "It's absurd. Shelf after shelf of taken guns."

Most of these guns were involved in crimes. Others had the potential to be involved in them. In domestic abuse cases, firearms are confiscated as a preventative measure. Sometimes the RPD takes guns at the request of concerned individuals. "If a mother says 'My son has guns and he's acting weird, would you come and take them?' [the police will] hold the guns." These guns are later returned.

Klofas is still skeptical of the ability of confiscation to deter gun crime. After all, it's estimated that there are 60,000 guns in Rochester. Comments Klofas, "So the idea of taking 1000 guns off the street when you're looking at 60,000 guns, it won't help you get over the problem." This means that police only confiscate 1.67% of Rochester's guns, annually. Granted, not all 60,000 guns need to be carted off and destroyed. There is a bit of hope in the prospect that the owners of the other 98% of the guns have been responsible enough not to have them confiscated.

"Of course, all guns start out [being] legal. They are manufactured legally, most are sold at least once, legally. Then there are straw sales. Your girlfriend buys you a gun because you have a felony charge [and can't purchase one yourself]," describes Klofas. Straw sales and robberies are key to moving guns from the legal market to the illegal market.

Officers also try to take guns on friendlier terms during gun buybacks. According to Klofas, "Gun buybacks usually get granny's guns. The old grandpa died and left the gun on the top shelf, and the kids don't know what to do with it, so they hear there's a gun buyback and they turn in the

gun. [The RPD] tends not to get crime guns this way, so a lot of people question the value of the gun buybacks."

■ ■ ■ **...THIS IS MY GUN...**  
“I’m 20 (over 18) so I can go to a gun dealer and buy a shotgun or rifle. They’ll background check me in a federal database,”

Dave Jakubiec tells me at a table in Java Wally’s. “[To buy] pistols, I need to be 21, and I need to apply for a permit. Even then, I can’t carry that pistol wherever I want. I need a permit to carry.” Jakubiec is a second year Criminal Justice major and member of ROTC.

He explains that guns will not be sold to anyone who has committed a felony or been treated for mental illness. According to a 2004 study by the CDC, 10% of women and 4% of men in the United States are taking antidepressants. This does not account for people who have had antidepressants prescribed in the past, or adults with other mental illnesses.

“Is it easy to buy a rifle? Well, it’s easy in the sense that you walk in the store and buy it, but it’s not like [anyone] can just walk in there and buy it,” Jakubiec elaborates. A license to conceal a handgun in New York states is usually reserved for people who carry a gun as part of their job.

Having grown up around rifles, Jakubiec enjoys hunting and target practice. “Hunting is very safe. The numbers prove it,” says Jakubiec, “We’re not going to assault the deer and spray fire into the woods.”

Although he maintains that target practice is also safe, Jakubiec relates potential dangers for someone firing a gun. “I’ve never seen anyone get shot. I’ve seen malfunctions, like the stock or barrel breaking, or bad ammunition,” mentions Jakubiec. “One of the members of my club back home has a .45 pistol, and [there was a malfunction] called a slam fire. It happens when you have bad ammunition or your pistol’s malfunctioning. Usually, when you pull the trigger, you’ll hear, ‘bang, bang, bang,’ but when this happens, the slide motion will make it go full auto on accident, and that’s a big problem because you’re not ready for it, so you’re like this,” says Jakubiec, holding both hands out in front of him, pointing an imaginary index finger pistol at me, “and this happens because it kicks up on you so fast,” he continues, folding his elbows, bringing his imaginary .45 up,



pointing first at the painting on the wall behind me, then at the point where the wall and ceiling meet, then straight up at the ceiling. “The gun made it up to here,” he says, his index fingers mere centimeters from pointing at his own chin, “then he ran out of ammo. He could have shot himself in the face, but that wasn’t his fault.”

### ■ ■ ■ ...THIS IS FOR FIGHTING...

hunched over Dr. Klofas’ computer, I’m listening to a 15-second clip of what sounds like a pan of Jiffy Pop on the stove. “That was a gun fight that happened last summer, on Joseph Avenue,” says Klofas, He’s demonstrating Shot Spotter, a technology introduced to cities with rampant gun homicides. With Monroe county having the sixth highest homicide numbers in the state (behind only Kings, Bronx, New York, Queens, and Erie), Rochester turned out to be a prime location for the system.

Six square miles of buildings in The Crescent are adorned with rooftop microphones. If you fire a gun from any point in these six square miles, at least three microphones will hear the shot, recognize the audio pattern as a shot, and triangulate the signal to accurately determine the location of the shot. The location is then reported to police dispatchers, cutting down on the time it takes for a witness to call 911, and the guesswork involved with only being told, “I heard a shot somewhere north of my home.”

Klofas feels that Shot Spotter’s potential in Rochester has yet to be realized. “There are some departments out there that don’t even respond to Shot Spotter, because the cops are busy doing other things. In most Shot Spotter cases, you go there and there’s no evidence of anything. There might be some shell casings, but there are no witnesses... You arrive there, and whatever has happened has happened.” The 64 sensors covering Rochester cost over \$300,000, money that was secured from the federal government by Representative Louise Slaughter. Klofas explains, “The major thing going on in the city of Rochester today is spending a lot of money to try to find ways to convince people not to carry their guns on the street.”

Klofas adds, “It’s an interesting means of collecting data, but we don’t have parallel data from before. All we used to have to go on are shots reported to 911. The usefulness will be trend data, but that will take several years,” says Klofas. However, it may be possible to use Shot Spotter data to determine the percentage of gunshots that are actually reported versus those that actually occur.

The implementation of Shot Spotter yielded no change in the amount of guns confiscated by the RPD in 2006 (the year the system was installed), but the system was only up for the last half of the year, and is still building its credibility.

With most of the nuts and bolts of Rochester gun crime under my belt, I ask about Klofas’ own feelings on firearms. “I’m not philosophically opposed to guns, but I think we probably have far more than we need,” muses Klofas, “Extreme clip size doesn’t make a whole lot of sense to me for protection purposes. Assault rifles. Fetish stuff. There’s no reason for the population to have it.”

“I’ve never felt the need to have a gun for protection,” mentions Klofas, “but if I lived somewhere else, I might feel different.”

### ■ ■ ■ ...THIS IS FOR FUN

On April 17, 2007, police entered the RIT Inn room of student Jonathan Hackenburg and found two unloaded AR-15 style rifles. Media and administrators responded with fear, and luck was not on Hackenburg’s side, with the Virginia Tech shootings having occurred the day before. “[Hackenburg] feels that he’s being unfairly categorized because of the Virginia Tech shootings,” said James Ko, Hackenburg’s friend and fellow resident of the RIT Inn. “[Matt’s] a really nice person. Never said anything bad about anyone. He’s just a really nice guy. It’s hard to believe that this happened to him.”

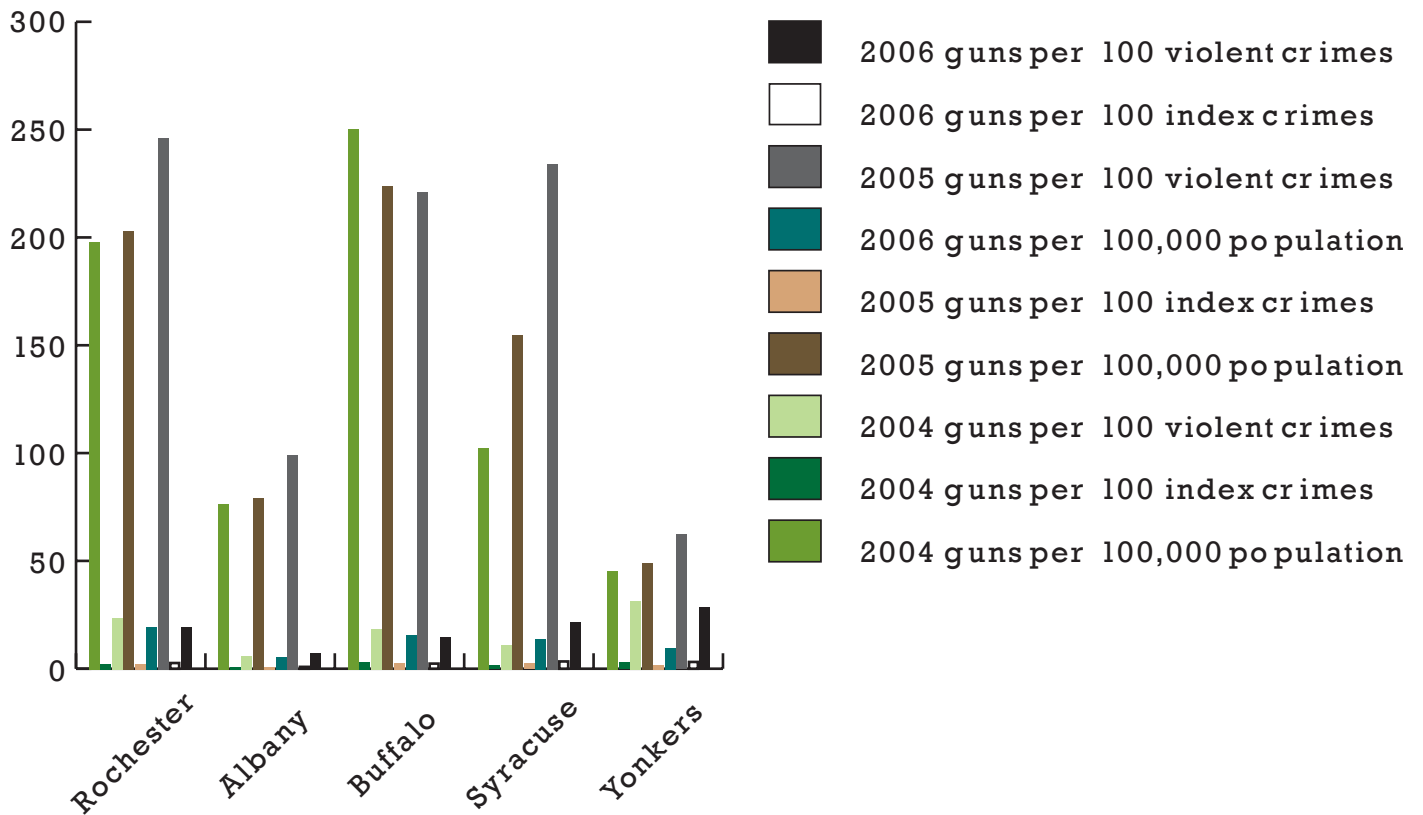
Although Hackenburg owned a federal permit that made the guns legal in his hometown in New Jersey, all AR-15 style rifles are illegal to possess in New York, and the RIT Code of Conduct unambiguously states that guns are not allowed on school property.

A Facebook group of his supporters formed, citing his second amendment rights. Former RIT President Al Simone sent an e-mail to the RIT community. Part of it read, “As I stated earlier this week regarding the tragic events at Virginia Tech, regrettably such horrific acts can happen anywhere at anytime. At RIT, we will continue to work hard to ensure a safe and secure environment for our students, faculty and staff.”

“Al Simone doesn’t know Matt Hackenburg, so he really isn’t in a position to judge whether he is a threat or not,” said Ko at the time. After a long,



## crime guns by city (normed)



tense wait, it was reported on June 28 that a grand jury refused to indict Hackenburg. Gun hobbyists have long lamented the stigma that gun crime has given their interest.

“I grew up around firearms,” says Jakubiec, “I got my first shotgun when I was about 12. I would consider a gun a tool.”

“A gun doesn’t imply that there will be a shooting. There’s a stigma on guns, which is unfortunate,” Jakubiec states in response to Hackenburg’s arrest.

“My family owns six rifles,” he mentions. “In the military, it’s not a gun. It’s a rifle. It’s a weapon. To call it a gun, sounds...well, I don’t know...,” says Jakubiec. He then agrees that it’s the equivalent of calling a film a movie, an animation a cartoon, a photograph a picture.

“It’s a gun. It’s dangerous. A lot of things are dangerous. It’s all about how you’re using it. Are you using it responsibly, or are you not? Firearm safety is paramount,” Jakubiec clarifies, “I think it’s embarrassing. The people who don’t follow safety add to the stigma. It’s horrible. It happens. The press doesn’t help at all, either,” laments Jakubiec, “The gun community as a whole is very safe and responsible, because you have to be. I believe firmly in the second amendment right.”

I ask him how Dick Cheney fits into that stigma. “When you pull the trigger, you’re responsible,” responds Jakubiec, “One of his buddies walked into his line of fire. That doesn’t justify shooting, it’s just a mistake. Does that justify the statement that guns are unsafe? No.”

*No matter how hard an individual tries to steer and control their own opinion of guns, it’s the bullets that decide. The subject will always be swayed by where the bullets stop, regardless of whether they fired those shots or not. Jakubiec’s bullets find tin cans, targets, and deer. He is pursuing a career in the military and a continued responsible relationship with guns (despite the stigma associated with them). Klofas’ bullets find the bodies of 70% of Rochester’s homicide victims, leading him to continually immerse himself in the sea of haunting data that Rochester provides. Davidhazy’s bullets find potatoes, apples, and other produce. And as Dr. Davidhazy said, he has no social comment about guns. Perhaps the rest of us should be as lucky. •*

*(Pictured to the left) Dave Jenkins, certified personal defense instructor, teaches a class at the Genesee Conservation League how to properly defend themselves with a firearm. Here the class awaits target practice while Dave runs over some final thoughts.*

# DUEL TO THE DEATH

by Madeleine Villavicencio | photograph by Ross Thompson

# “M

ost fencers practice for years before picking up a weapon. Good luck!” Benjamin Danziger, former president of the Fencing Club, warns before handing me the sabre. Behind my mask, concern flashes across my face. Somehow, I found myself dueling against Harold Goodwill, one of the instructors for the sabre Introduction to Fencing class. Trying to recall all the information they had just crammed into my head, I attempt to adjust my glasses through my mask. Before I know it, I hear, “On guard! Ready? Fence!”

## I'M AN ENGLISHMAN IN NEW YORK...

During the Medieval period, “fence” was short for defense. When first established, the sport was practiced by noblemen using a foil, a very light weapon with a flexible blade used to slash or stab. “[While using a foil, one is free to] hit anywhere within the chest area. The problem was that too many noblemen were killing each other by puncturing vital organs,” explained Danziger. To counterbalance the casualties of such a dangerous weapon, the *épée* was created.

The *épée*, when first conceived in France, resembled a small sword without a sharp-ended point. Instead, the blade ended with a three-pronged device that snagged on



clothing without lacerating the opponent. Fencers were free to hit any part of the body because no target areas were set. According to Danziger, “One could just prick a finger and it would increase the nobleman’s chance of survival in a match.” Still unsatisfied, fencers sought to improve the weapon again.

“The Germans figured out how to do it best with

the sabre,” expressed Danziger. Stiffer and more resistant, the sabre also improves the design of the bell of the weapon which is used to protect the fencer’s hands and fingers. “The sabre’s bell is much larger, and it curves from the top of your hand to the bottom to protect your fingers better,” elaborated Danziger. The target region considered in this style of fencing is any area above the waist except for the hands and the





back of the head. This is because it was designed for cavalry.

Through time, much of the original style, methods, and weapons have virtually remained intact, but we have come a long way. Modern fencing is much safer now. “[Blades have] little tips that press down. There are blades that are flat on the end and

rounded-off so that they do not harm anybody” stated Danziger. In addition, the uniforms are designed for safety as well as flexibility. “There are multiple parts of the equipment for safety. There is an underarm protector called a plas-tron that is used to protect the shoulder area and underneath the arm. That is where one is hit the most,” observed Danziger. A glove on the fencing hand and a mask with a bib to protect

the neck are standard and required. Jackets and fencing knickers are also available for flexibility and padding.

When in competition, fencing requires a give-and-take relationship. “Basically, [the fencers] usually continuously attack and parry, or block, until someone gets through for the point...The first to five points wins,” explained Danziger.



“SURPRISINGLY, KENDO BEARS LITTLE RESEMBLANCE TO ITS PREDECESSORS, THE FEUDAL SWORD WIELDING SAMURAI WARRIORS. IT IS EVEN MUCH DIFFERENT THAN WHAT IS DEPICTED IN THE MOVIES AND ON TELEVISION.”

### I THINK I'M TURNING JAPANESE...

Kendo could be loosely termed as Japanese fencing. Roughly translated to “way of the sword,” Kendo is a method of sparring using swords. “It came from actual swordsmanship but it eventually grew and developed into a [hybrid] of a sport and martial art” explained Justin Kwong, the current president of the Kendo Club. Surprisingly, kendo bears little resemblance to its predecessors, the feudal sword wielding samurai warriors. It is even much different than what is depicted in the movies and on television. Those who practice this martial art are called *kendōka* or, as a few RIT anime lovers may know, *kenshi*.

The mainly used weapons are the *shinai* and the *bokken*. According to Kwong, “[Kendōka] used to practice with wooden swords to avoid the danger of breaking bones and injuring themselves. Eventually, someone decided to invent the *shinai*, which is made from bamboo.” Composed of four strips of wood, the *shinai* is secured by string and bound together at the handle, the tip and in the midsection. The *bokken*, on the other hand, is a solid wooden sword made of hardwood.

In competitions, kendo follows a point system. “There are three main target areas. [One] aims for the head, the wrists, and the sides of the stomach to get a point,” said Kwong. In Japanese, these areas are called the *men*, *kote* and *do*, respectively. In addition, some may target the *tsuki*, or throat. All hits count for only one point. “Depending on the tournament, rules may be different; but for those I have attended, to win, one must score the best out of three. The winner is the first person to reach two points, and if overtime occurs, the first person to score wins,” explained Kwong.

Like any other martial art, Kendo has different levels of experience. “Kyu levels are the equivalent to the levels before a black belt,” mentioned Kwong. The kendo equivalent for the different degrees of black belts are the dan levels. In order to advance to a new level, one must pass a test held by the United States Kendo Federation. “Unfortunately, although there are levels, we do not have anything like belts to show for them,” added Kwong. Regardless, the enthusiasm of the practicing *kendōka* is always evident. When battling, the *kendōka* tend to use a shout or *kiai* in order to express their spirit. In addition to the foot stamp that accompanies a *kendōka*'s strike or cut and the almost incessant clapping of *shinai* against *shinai*, this makes kendo quite a noisy sport.

Interestingly enough, Kwong mentioned, “Swords were outlawed in Japan and at some point, kendo was too.” It was during the Meiji Restoration the samurai class was abolished and public possession of a sword was prohibited. Fortunately, interest in kendo once again peaked when revolts against the government presented the need to train police officers. Now, however, the sport is as strong as ever and slowly gaining more practitioners every day.

### AN EPIC BATTLE BETWEEN EAST AND WEST?

With two extremely different methods of sword fighting and the rise of movies such as “Freddy vs. Jason” and “Alien vs. Predator,” one may wonder what would happen if the best of both worlds were unleashed upon each other. If one could set a *kendōka* against a fencer, who would win? It may depend on which rules one uses to judge. “[Kendo and Fencing] are similar in that they have swords, but they are about as different as soccer and basketball. They both have balls and both have nets, but the way you go about it is very different,” said Deven Neel, an advanced Kendo club member.

One can imagine that the *shinai* would deliver a pretty painful blow to the fencer's head, while the foil or sabre would probably poke the *kendōka*'s eye out through the significantly bigger holes in his mask. It may be your Asian roots or your European blood that leans you toward one of the two. As for me, I'll stick to my pen. •

The Fencing Club meets every Saturday from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Student Life Center's Mini Gym. The Kendo Club meets every Tuesday from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the Student Life Center's Mini Gym. Both clubs have membership fees of \$20 per quarter or \$50 for the whole year to cover expenses such as equipment.



HE'S ON

FIRE!



**WHO:**

Dr. Destler with orange hair!

**WHAT:**

Men's and Women's basketball games

**WHEN:**

January 19th, 2 p.m. & 4 p.m.

**WHY:**

Fill the bleachers, cheer for RIT, and see Banjo Bill's new do!

**REPORTER**

# RIT <sup>L</sup> PASSAGE



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# THAT GIRL

by Ilsa Shaw | photograph by Tom Shirmacher

## YOUR NAME, MAJOR, YEAR?

Gretchen Schulze, third year Illustration major.

## TELL ME ABOUT YOUR STYLE.

No jeans and sneakers, black is good (a problem with the cat, though), whatever I can find that is comfortable and interesting. Summer clothes are preferable, but the cold weather causes problems with that.

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

Sometimes, people say they like my hair.

## HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOURSELF?

Klutzy, stressed by school, and odd.

## DESCRIBE YOUR TYPICAL DAY.

I hit the fitness center at 6 a.m. each day and then usually rush off to class. Then usually I work on my homework for the remainder of the day. Really not all that exciting, but there is always hope for the weekend (if I get my work done).

## DREAM JOB AFTER GRADUATION?

Card designer (maybe) in a warm, beach-and-palm-tree climate.

## WHAT'S ON YOUR IPOD?

La Bouche, The Cranberries, Red Hot Chili Peppers, Aly & AJ, Madonna, a lot of miscellaneous one-hit wonders, and various other things with a good beat.

## WHAT IS YOUR IDEAL DATE?

A trip to a park.

## IF YOU COULD MEET SOMEONE FAMOUS, WHO WOULD IT BE?

Keira Knightley.

## WHAT WEBSITES DO YOU FREQUENT?

*weather.com, shape.com, and slick-deals.net.*

## DO YOU HAVE ANY BAD HABITS?

Spending money and eating late at night.

## WHAT IS THE ONE THING THAT WILL NEVER GROW OLD?

Talking to my fish.

## WHAT IS YOUR GREATEST STRENGTH AND WEAKNESS?

Being creative, staying focused.

## DO YOU HAVE A FAVORITE SAYING?

"Oh, crap!"

## WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU HAD A LOT OF FUN?

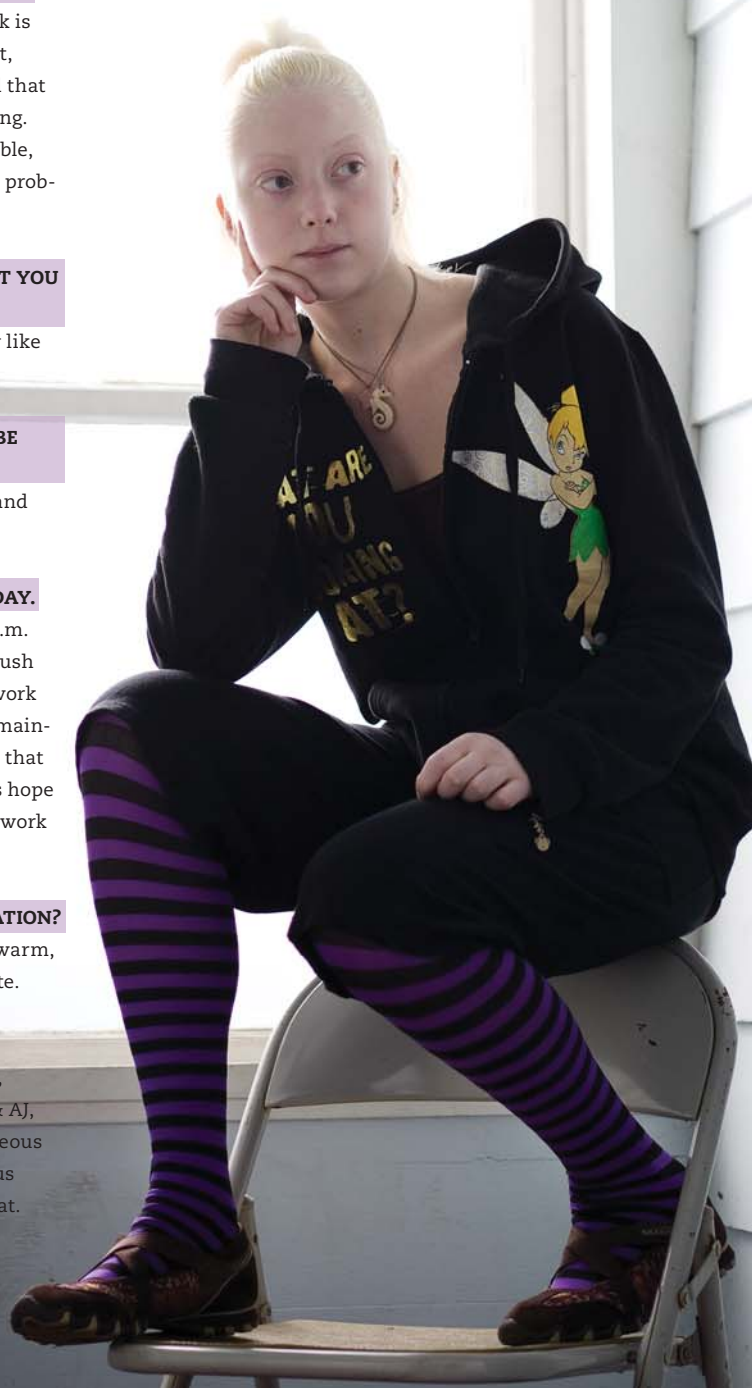
Oh, to have fun! Two summers ago, I helped my sister move from Albuquerque, New Mexico to Penn State, Pennsylvania. We drove and "detoured" through Disneyland and various other cool sites.

## WHAT IS YOUR HIDDEN TALENT?

Making sticker magnets.

## ARE YOU PERCEIVED WRONGLY?

Most people say I'm quiet, which is true, but I don't really know how others perceive me.





**DRIVING THE LANE:  
RIT MEN'S BASKETBALL  
FACES AND OVERCOMES  
DIFFICULTIES**

by Carolyn Dunne | photographs by Dave Londres

Freshman Nate Korinchak sinks a shot during the first half of the tiger's victory over Stevens Tech January 4.



The RIT men's basketball team has talent. With more than eight players earning more than 10 minutes per game and several others earning a decent amount of play time as well, Head Coach Bob McVean definitely has a deep bench from which to pull from. They're currently shooting about 46% from the field, 40% from beyond the 3-point arc, and 61% on free throws, free throws being the only RIT average that is slightly below that of their opponents. For those not well versed in college basketball, teams strive to maintain 40% or higher from regular game play, (also called from "the field,") throughout the season. For three point shots, 30% or higher is good, but 40% as a team is fairly rare. On foul shots, a team's goal tends to be about 70% or so, making RIT a solid shooting team.

All of the team averages indicate an outstanding season, a team with the potential to win most of their games. Yet they are currently .400 and sixth in the conference standings, just 7-6 overall. Junior Mark Carson, who has completely exploded this year as an all-around threat on the court, averaging 9.8 rebounds, 16.2 points, and 1.5 blocks per game, attributes the record that doesn't reflect the team's ability of "...Inconsistency, both on a game-to-game basis as well as during the course of a single game." Using the game against Roberts Wesleyan as an example, Carson noted that the team had been winning by several points with only a few minutes left in the game, finally needing the buzzer beating lay up from Senior Captain Colin Roy to end on a victorious note.

But when the team is playing well, they are solid NCAA contenders. Stevens Institute of Technology, ranked first in the Empire 8 league, has its only conference loss at the hands of RIT, in which RIT's shooting range and successful foul shots secured the win. After a difficult loss to the University of Rochester, the team stayed competitive with the team that is currently ranked first in the nation for Division III and received 18 first place bids in the NCAA Coaches Poll.

Some may immediately look to the number of freshmen on the team as the reason for this inconsistency since they comprise more than

one third of the team, but all of them seem to be working extremely hard in practice. Each of them is working to improve, both as an individual and, cohesively, as a team. Carson agrees, noting how Nate Korinchak has been doing an excellent job at the point guard position despite not having much collegiate experience and having to work to keep the team running smoothly together, a task that is not always easy to do. Junior Rick Whitwood was another player viewed as a real asset to the team, "bringing energy when he comes in" and "getting key assists and rebounds," said Carson. Senior Captain Kenny Getters has been contributing a great deal as well, averaging almost 14 points and eight rebounds per game and leading the team in steals. Fellow Senior Barrett Zeinfeld has also been averaging more than 11 points per game.

With just a little more consistency, RIT basketball clearly has a legitimate shot at a strong postseason this year. Behind a Head Coach who has been with RIT for 25 years, led the team to postseason play since the early 1990s, and knows how great his team's potential is, the men's team will be the underdog team to watch.



The mens team comes together to cheer before the start of their game with Stevens Tech.

# RIT RINGS 585.672.4840

compiled by Karl Voelker

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

**SATURDAY, 1:27 A.M.**

Hi, this is an on-the-street reporter. I just wanted to let you guys know about a cool new sport hitting the streets. It's a spectator sport. It's called "watching people slip and fall on the ice patches." What you do is find an ice patch, and go out there and find a vantage point to watch that ice patch, and see how many people you can watch slip and fall on that ice patch. It's quite entertaining. The best place I've found is the second floor of Building 70, on the end closest to Crossroads. There's a nice ice patch, and people just slip and fall a lot. It's a great time. Try it till you buy it. Bye-bye!

**SATURDAY, 9:36 P.M.**

**Hi RIT Rings! Yeah, I just wanted to tell you that I watched the production of Faust and I almost disemboweled myself with a plastic spoon from Ben & Jerry's. I don't know if you can turn that into an ad for Ben & Jerry's, but you might want to give them a ring. Bye.**

**TUESDAY, 11:27 P.M.**

## MY [BODY PART] IS HUGE, ROCHESTER, HUGE!

**SATURDAY, 3:08 A.M.**

*Rings, I totally forgot to mention: [expletive] snow, alright? I'm not walking through that to get my car! I'm not walking across campus for [a good time] when it's like [expletive] three feet of snow. So I'm saying: [expletive] winter. That's why people are cranky, because we're not having [a good time]. Goodnight.*

**SATURDAY, 4:09 P.M.**

Hey Rings, I have a confession to make: I think I'm in love. It's someone really special. It's that crazy lady at Gracies. You know that one with the reddish brown hair? She's just crazy, and I'm crazy about her. Not only does she give me great food at Gracies, there's just something about her. Yeah, what a great lady. Don't tell anyone. It'll be our little secret.

**SUNDAY, 10:12 P.M.**

OH, RINGS, I WANT TO THANK WHOEVER TOLD THE RAs THAT WE COULD COME AT 10:00 IN THE MORNING, BECAUSE I JUST SPENT TWO WEEKS WITH MY PARENTS, AND I REALLY APPRECIATE THOSE EXTRA TWO HOURS I GOT TO SPEND WITH THEM BECAUSE THE DORMS DIDN'T OPEN UNTIL 12:00.

**WEDNESDAY, 5:29 P.M.**

**CAN SOMEONE PLEASE EXPLAIN TO ME WHAT HTTP/1.1 503 SERVICE UNAVAILABLE MEANS? BECAUSE I JUST WANT TO CHECK MY [EXPLETIVE] E-MAIL.**

**MONDAY, 9:11 P.M.**

RIT Rings! Well, there's a whole bunch of cockroaches on my floor. Well, there are two. You've heard about this already. They're in the shower stall. I told my mom, and now she wants me to come home! She's making me move out of RIT because you're filthy, and there are cockroaches. It's ridiculous. Okay, bye.

**MONDAY, 12:54 A.M.**

RIT Rings, this is a ridiculous day back. We are in a special interest house in the dorms, and we found two cockroaches in one of our shower stalls. Now, all the girls on floor heard about a cockroach crawling into a woman's ear, because they like warm, moist places, so we're afraid of getting cockroaches. We just don't know what to do. We don't know who to call. It's not really maintenance, and there's no place for cleanliness. What if we found a rat? And well, we did find two cockroaches. So we decided to call you, because we didn't know who else to call. The end.

**SUNDAY, 12:20 A.M.**

**HEY, RIT RINGS? DO YOU ACCEPT TTY CALLS, AND IF YOU DON'T, ISN'T THAT A BAD THING, SINCE OUR SCHOOL HAS 1200 DEAF AND HARD-OF-HEARING STUDENTS? THANK YOU. GOODBYE.**





# THE CRUCIBLE:

STARRING BRIAN MCNAMEE, ROGER CLEMENS, AND THE MITCHELL PANEL

by Geoff Shearer | illustration by Greg Gaggiano

**ROGER CLEMENS**, the legendary pitcher who made his comeback appearance for the Yankees last season, baseball powerhouse down on their luck, was reportedly injected with steroids, according to a statement from Clemens' long-time trainer Brian McNamee to U.S. Senator George Mitchell. Clemens denies McNamee's statements, stating that the injections were painkillers and vitamins.

Clemens' attorney, Rusty Hardin, in the wake of disgraced Olympic gold medalist Marion Jones' sentencing, is reluctant to have Clemens testify under oath in front of Congress at a hearing on steroid accusations. By not giving a deposition, Clemens does not face the possibility of perjuring himself, should facts come out that he did indeed use performance enhancing drugs.

Clemens has begun litigation against McNamee, citing defamation for McNamee's statements in the Mitchell Report. In turn, this could shelter Clemens from testifying under

oath before Congress, so as to not interfere with the pending litigation. McNamee may also back out from testifying if he is not granted immunity for distributing steroids, even though McNamee was already granted immunity in a limited capacity when speaking openly to the Mitchell panel.

McNamee, Clemens, second baseman Chuck Knoblauch, and pitcher Andy Pettitte are all being sought out for next month's hearing on the use of performance enhancing drugs. Pettitte has already admitted to doping through the use of steroids.

In the recent style of telling the truth after long bouts of denial, last fall, legendary sprinter Marion Jones was stripped of her three gold medals and two bronze medals after she admitted lying to federal investigators as part of the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency's efforts to eliminate the use of performance enhancing drugs.

Jones lied to federal investigators in November 2003 regarding her own personal use of performance enhancing drugs. She also pleaded guilty to a second count of lying to federal investigators regarding a check fraud case, which aimed to use fraudulent forged checks in a scheme to earn millions. As of this date, Jones is the biggest name to be brought down in the Bay Area Laboratory Co-operative scandal, whose alleged clients include Mr. Asterisk himself, Barry Bonds. Jones, as of last Friday, now faces a six-month federal prison sentence as a result.

Bonds, in testimony before a grand jury in 2003, stated that he had never knowingly taken performance enhancing drugs, but that he had taken a clear substance and a cream based on the direction of his trainer. Bonds believed the items to be flaxseed oil and arthritis balm. Nevertheless, Bonds himself is facing perjury charges.

What does this amount to? Are athletes really propogating a culture of cheating, or is the recent focus in the media on doping merely the result of a heightened awareness to steroid use, whether coming from Congress, the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency, or WWE wrestler Chris Benoit's fall into maniacal rage?

In any case, the limelight is on and the lens of speculation in terms of doping is far from focused. All asterisks aside, without proof, ledgers, honest testimony, or statements of an athlete past the threshold of questioning, these efforts to root out the problem of doping in professional sports are becoming little more than a glorified Salem witch hunt with federal investigators acting as the primary accusers.

Perhaps Abigail Williams, Joseph McCarthy, and Brian McNamee all knew something we don't. Or maybe Abby was the commie, Joey was the doper, and Brian is a witch. In any case, Clemens was, is, and (in my opinion) will forever be remembered as **ONE HELL OF A PITCHER.** •

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Book and Lyrics by  
**BETTY COMDEN AND ADOLPH GREEN**



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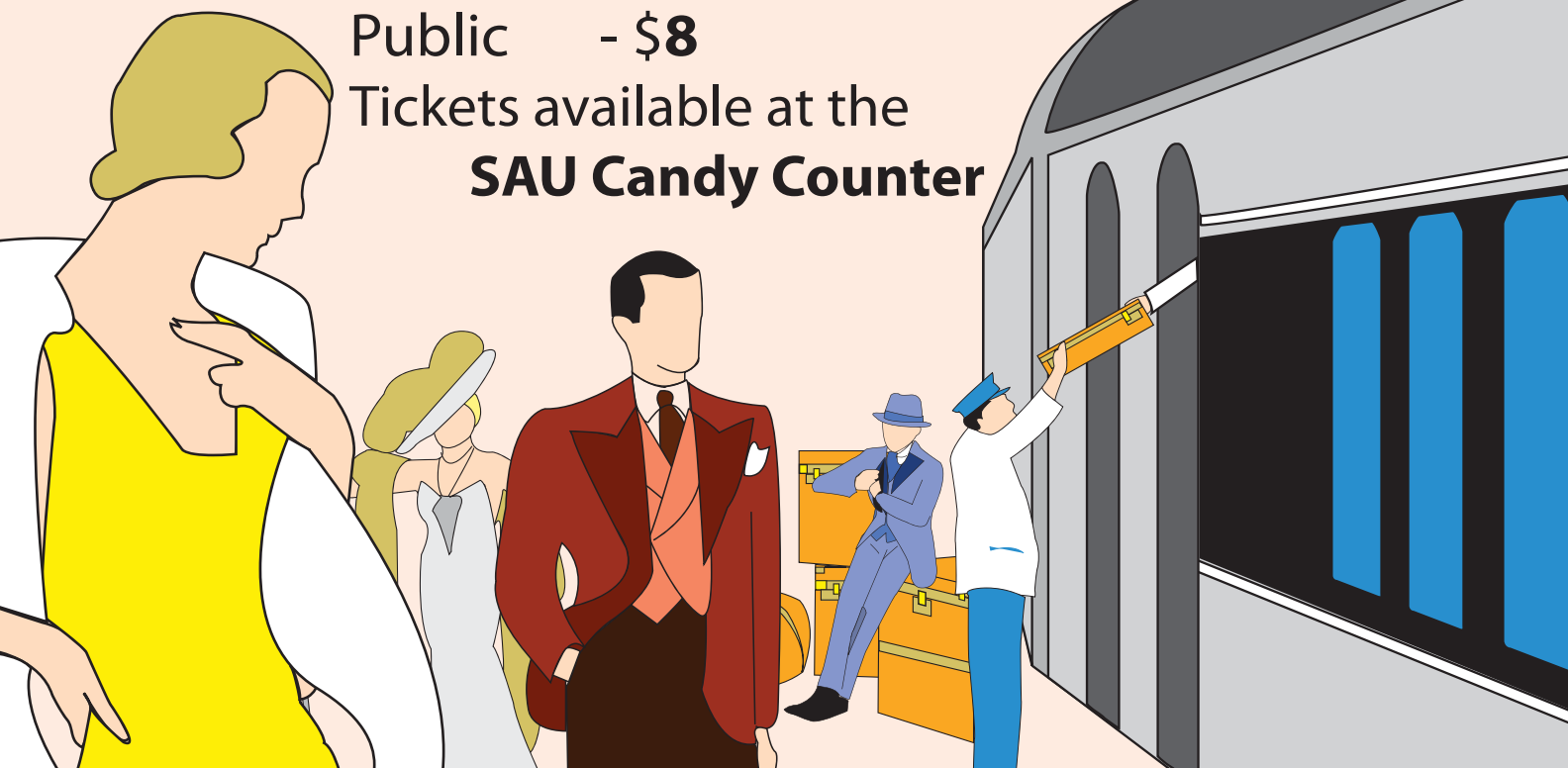
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