

# REPORTER

JANUARY 25, 2008 | WWW.REPORTERMAG.COM



**DID HE REALLY DO IT?**  
FIND OUT INSIDE

# The Eastman Wind Ensemble

Mark Davis Scatterday, conductor

Friday, February 1, 2008  
8pm Ingle Auditorium

A first ever performance at RIT by  
this internationally famous concert  
band from the Eastman School of Music.

Unreserved seating: \$5 Students; \$10 Faculty/Staff/Alumni; \$15 General Public.  
Tickets: Alumni Union Candy Counter or at the door on performance night, if available.  
For VISA/MC, call the field house box office at (585) 475-4121.

For more information: [www.davidigital.com/concert](http://www.davidigital.com/concert)



RIT



*Performing Artists Concert Series*

Presented by The Center for Campus Life

Inspirational &  
**motivational** speaker

**sheryl swoopes**  
of the wnba houston comets



**clark gym**

**sat. feb 2, 2008**

**9:00 pm**

**tickets**

**\$3** college students, kids under 12  
**\$7** faculty, staff, retirees, public

# “Being true to yourself”

Four-time WNBA Champion Sheryl Swoopes will visit the Rochester Institute of Technology to discuss her career as a three-time Olympic Gold Medalist and WNBA Most Valuable Player Award recipient while balancing her duties as a mother. Known for offensive and defensive prowess, Swoopes has accumulated more than 4,000 points, 1,300 rebounds, 900 assists and 500 steals and is the first WNBA player to have her own shoe – Nike’s Air Swoopes.

**R·I·T**

Center  
for Campus **life**  
Building SPIRIT.

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# EDITOR'S NOTE

## TIGER PRIDE

I wish Dr. Destler would threaten to dye his hair orange more often.

If you weren't at Clark Gym last Saturday, I feel monumentally sorry for you. I don't think that I will ever again see a grown man carrot-top himself for the amusement of a crowd of 1600, many of whom were wearing orange wigs in celebration of the now-famous Orange Hair Challenge.

We ended up losing both games last weekend, but I'm not particularly disappointed. For the first time ever, I felt like I was attending "college"—the gym was full of excited friends and colleagues root-root-rooting for the home team, all looking so incredibly and beautifully happy to be *here*, in the moment. If I'd had a beer in my hand, that moment would have been perfect but, hey, I can't complain too much.

In an almost backward way, Destler really showed us up. RIT is a culture of self-loathing. When we're clubbing in downtown Rochester, we feel the need to apologize for ourselves because our school is "geeky and boring." This is the very definition of shame. Yet there he stood, a new president with suddenly orange hair and a large but slightly embarrassed smile dominating his face. He's been here for only six months now, yet he somehow made orange streaks on an old man seem natural.

No, strike that. He made those colored locks, and by proxy, his pride in our Institute, look *sincere*. Better yet, he made me feel a little pride in RIT as well. That's right! I grew a little school spirit last weekend. I went in with a blue button down and left wearing an RIT Tiger Den t-shirt while waving an orange spiRIT towel and sporting a very orange faux-hawk.

I offer you this stark contrast: spiRIT week is right around the corner, and I don't care at all. Why is that the case? How can I go so quickly from loving Banjo Bill's new 'do to my previous state of school spirit ennui?

Despite Student Government's efforts, orange and brown remain exceptionally hard-to-wear hues. I don't care how many free hockey tickets I can score by participating in Orange and Brown Fridays. I look far better wearing a black collared shirt and a nice purple tie than I will ever look in tiger face paint. Pride-peddling organizations like Student Government and The Fund For RIT only try to paint the campus orange, and thus fail to actually inspire pride. By painting himself, Destler was offering me some substance, some *reason* to care about my alma mater. He tricked me into attending an athletic event, and I had a blast. This is intrinsically different from simply serving me orange-colored hot chocolate on the Quarter Mile.

There remains a bit of good news. Destler only dyed *half* his hair, because the gym was not full for the entirety of both games. This should give you some hope for The Orange Hair Challenge Reprise. And who knows? If this energy keeps up, maybe someday a grown man won't have to dye his hair in order to get our asses in the stands. But that's OK, RIT. We'll take this slow. Tiger Pride is still a new phenomenon to us.

And maybe—just maybe—I'll see you at the next home game.



Jen Loomis  
**EDITOR IN CHIEF**

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### VIEWS

Adam Botzenhart and Geoff Shearer debate the proposed ban on the sale of tobacco products at RIT.

Cover photograph by Tom Schirmacher

Dr. Destler photograph by Eric Drummond

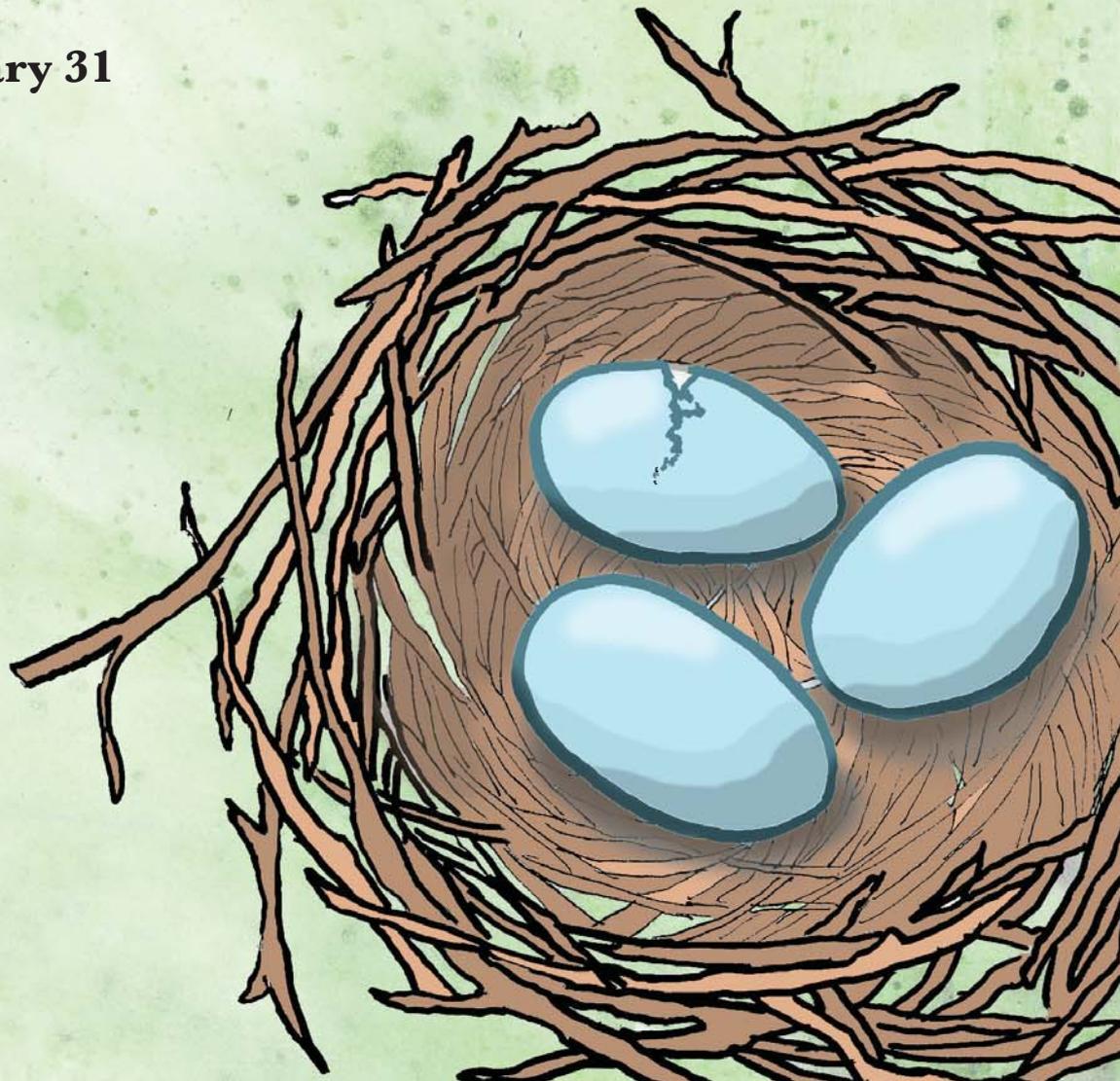
Diving photograph by Jeffery Porter

# Get cracking!

Submit at [signatures.rit.edu](http://signatures.rit.edu)

Signatures still needs your writing and artwork.  
But hurry! Submissions will be closing soon!

**Deadline: January 31**





Fourth year Biology major and RIT Skeptic Jon Berman speaks with individuals after the debate on the existence of God.

# STUDENTS DEBATE THE EXISTENCE OF GOD

by Sarai Oviedo and Andy Rees | photograph by Dave Londres

//////////////////// Does God exist? //////////////////////

**ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 18**, the RIT Skeptics and the InterVarsity Christian Fellowship (IV) held a debate on the existence of God at the Webb Auditorium. It was full beyond fire marshal regulations, with audience members sitting on the stairs, behind the panelists, and even standing by the doors for the entire two hours. Many heckled the debaters, some shook their heads while an answer was given, and a small group continued a 24 hour prayer behind the stage.

**THE RIT SKEPTICS ARE A NEW GROUP** on campus, founded by Jonathan Berman, fourth year Biology student. Berman and the Skeptics contacted the IV, who agreed to the debate. Both parties carefully planned the event for the past three months, says Chelsea DeCapua, a fourth year IT major, "To have an open discussion on campus about spiritual issues [and] to get people talking about things that we think are very important."

**THE DEBATE CENTERED ON** classic arguments between Skepticism and Christianity, such as the separation of body and soul, the basis of knowledge, and the burden of proof. According to the Skeptics, extraordinary claims require extraordinary evidence, taking the point of view that Christians did not provide sufficient evidence for their claim of God's existence.

**HOWEVER, THE REAL IMPACT** of this discussion was not on the participants, rather it was on the audience. A few popular questions that had been circulating were voiced, including, "If God is everywhere and everything, why is she in church and not the brothel, and if she's in brothel, why do I have to go to church?" which an audience member asked of IV.

**THE QUESTION LEFT DEBATER** Daron Ladson, fourth year Interpreting major, dazzled as he figured out what a brothel was. Val Tracy, third year Illustration major, answered the question, "God and Jesus are in the brothel and are in church...No one is saying that you have to go to church to be a Christian. You can go to the brothel. It's your free will...That's the beauty of Christianity, that when we sin and when we do whatever we want, we're always forgiven. We're always taken back."

**ONE QUESTION POSED** to the Skeptics was: "You speak of arriving at a certain level of 'truthiness' through your personal sense experience. Why is it then not valid for a Christian to arrive at a certain level of 'truthiness' with their belief in God from their personal experience?"

**BERMAN REPLIED**, "So you're saying we have a double standard, but I really think we don't. We are saying that extraordinary claims require

extraordinary evidence, and the beliefs we build up about the universe around us we build up through science and observation, direct science and direct observation, so we have good reason to believe anything we believe. We can objectively point to anything that we're saying is a scientific fact and say, 'Okay, here's an experiment, you do it, you can observe it directly with your own sense experience.' Whereas with a religious belief, you can't say: 'Okay let's do an experiment. Jesus, where are you? Come down here. We'll get this cross and we'll kill you, and let's see if you get resurrected.' We'll see how that goes, and I'll watch, and that will be part of my personal sense experience."

**OVER A HUNDRED PEOPLE** remained in the auditorium after the debate, locked in their own discussions about the event and the existence of God. The opinions varied, but the overall consensus was that the debate had settled little.

"**I WAS HOPING FOR SOMETHING** that would make me say, 'Wow, I never thought of that before,' but I didn't come across it," stated David Dziak, third year Bioinformatics major and Skeptic. Dziak was dressed as a pirate in support of Pastafarianism, a parody religion that was founded to point out the flaws its members see in teaching intelligent design in school.

"**I BELIEVE IN GOD**, but I felt the Skeptics had more 'proof'...I guess I just related to it more," remarked Ariana Gomez, second year Digital Media major.

**ONE AUDIENCE MEMBER**, Suwing Ben, second year IT major, commented, "[The Skeptics] were not as serious as InterVarsity. The Christians looked like they were under attack." Meanwhile, Joe Stevens, third year Software Engineer, expressed, "It was good, they [IV] were giving their own answers."

**DURING THE** informal post-debate session, debaters were available for questions, and provided the audience with an opportunity to debrief. While the debate concluded nothing, the topic likely sparked many conversations. Dr. Spencer Meredith, Professor of Political Science and the moderator of the debate, has requested a second debate between two faculty members, to provide a new and mature perspective. •

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*The InterVarsity Christian Fellowship meets weekly in the Webb Auditorium at 7 p.m. on Fridays. The Skeptics meet on Wednesdays at 6 p.m. in building 6, room 3214.*

## SIGNATURES SEEKS STUDENT SUBMISSIONS

by Joe McLaughlin

*Signatures*, RIT's literary magazine, is now accepting student submissions for original art and writing. This year's edition will be released by May 1 to coincide with Imagine RIT.

Said Associate Professor John Roche, advisor to the magazine, "We will be doing something innovative [to print the magazine] again this year." Last year, *Signatures* ran as a boxed collection of postcards, but this year's format is a secret.

Simone Perry, fourth year Psychology major and Literature Editor for *Signatures*, said, "We're looking for your best quality work. Be creative and look at your work through a true creative eye." The full staff votes on which pieces should be included. Perry, who then selects the best works from what the staff votes for, said that a piece would have a better chance of being published if it was "less literal and more interpretative. Just because we're a student magazine doesn't mean 'submit anything.'" Last year, *Signatures* ran 40 pieces of literature, but up to 60 have been printed in years past.

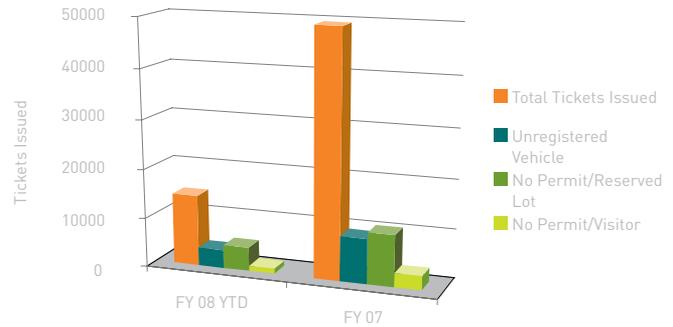
*Signatures* also holds other events throughout the year. The magazine held a poetry slam before Christmas with the College Activities Board and the RIT Student Music Association. They will also host an art exhibition at Gallery R in downtown Rochester from May 14 to 16. *Signatures* also maintains a website featuring works which were not selected for the print edition.

*Signatures* is accepting submissions on its website until January 31. Images can be submitted in JPG or TIFF format. Music (in MP3 format), poetry, and prose can also be submitted online. Perry added that submissions should be less than a page or two, and longer submissions may be published on their website. •

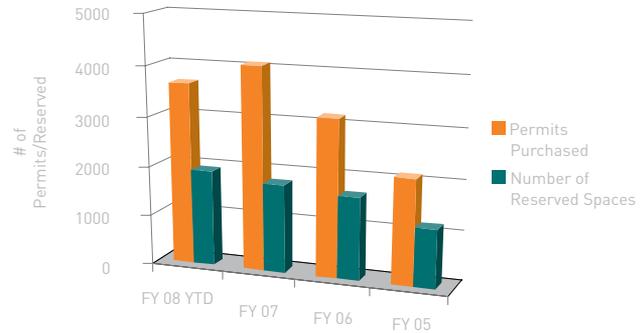
To find out more, visit <http://english.rit.edu/~signatures/>

## RIT PARKING STATISTICS

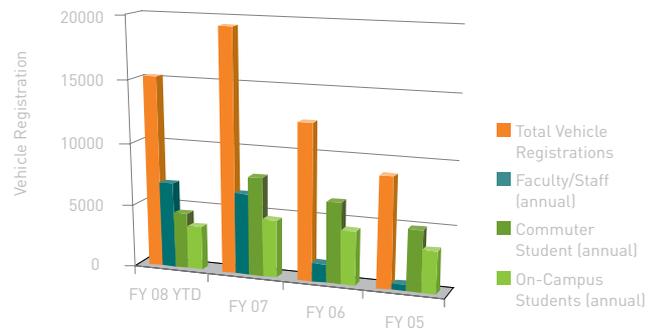
Parking Tickets Issued 2007 - Present



Reserved Permits and Spaces 2005 - Present



RIT Parking Vehicle Registrations 2005 - Present



# ATTENTION SENIORS!

## **Alpha Sigma Lambda Honor Society members:**

- >> are recognized for their outstanding academic achievement and campus leadership involvement
- >> will receive an Alpha Sigma Lambda medal to wear for graduation.
  - >> will be invited to a special dinner at the President's home honoring all recipients.
  - >> invite a mentor from faculty or staff as their guest, to be recognized as having a profound impact on their academic and leadership success.
- >> name will be engraved on a plaque in the Student Alumni Union entrance joining over 400 RIT Alumni already honored.

## ALPHA SIGMA LAMBDA HONORARY SOCIETY

### **You Are Eligible If:**

- >> You are a full-time, matriculated, senior in a four or five year program or a dual degree program
  - >> You have a minimum 3.4 GPA
- >> You have been an active member in two institute organizations and demonstrated leadership.

Additional information is available on the application.

**Deadline for applications is the last day of classes for winter quarter**

**Applications are available online at**

[http://www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/vp\\_alpha\\_sigma\\_lambda.php3](http://www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/vp_alpha_sigma_lambda.php3)





WITR 89.7 FM

*internet stream at  
witr.rit.edu*

## A Night to Explore Gender, Technology, and Violence

## Come to Talk, to Take a Stand, to Break the Silence

Wednesday, Jan 30th, 2008

7:30pm in Golisano Auditorium  
GCCIS Bldg. 70 - Rm 1400



# TAKE BACK THE NET

With invited guest panelists:  
Dr. Elizabeth Lane Lawley, GCCIS  
Dr. Deborah Blizzard, COLA  
Dr. Samuel C. McQuade III, CAST

If you need the services of a sign language interpreter to attend this program, please go to <http://www.ntid.rit.edu/accessservices> to contact NTID Department of Access Services (DAS) at RIT. Interpreters available upon request subject to availability. Request should be made at least a week prior to the date of the program.



# RIT FORECAST

compiled by Sarai Oviedo

## 26 SATURDAY

### WOMEN'S HOCKEY VS. SACRED HEART

Ritter Arena, 2 p.m.- 4:30 p.m. Watch hockey, lady Tigers-style. Cost: Free.

### 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL KATE GLEASON COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING WINTER BALL

SAU: Cafeteria, 8 p.m. - 12 midnight. Enjoy a night of food, prizes, and dancing. A ball sponsored by the Engineering Student Council. Dress code: Semi-formal. Cost: \$8.

## 27 SUNDAY

### THE JAZZ LOUNGE

Fireside Lounge, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. A chance to listen to singing, poetry recitals, and jazz music by the RIT community. Cost: \$2 students, \$5 others.

## 28 MONDAY

spiRIT week kicks off today. Student Government and various other student organizations have shenanigans occurring all week long. Check out [events.rit.edu](http://events.rit.edu) for a full listing.

## 29 TUESDAY

### EFFECTIVE TEXT READING AND STUDY

Building 1-2358, 12 noon - 1 p.m. A Lunch 'n' Learning workshop to help you develop textbook-studying skills. Cost: Free. Bring your own lunch.

## 30 WEDNESDAY

### WOMEN'S HOCKEY VS. HAMILTON

Ritter Arena, 7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. A midweek hockey game! Let's hear it for the lady Tigers! Cost: Free.

### TAKE BACK THE NET

Golisano Auditorium, 7:30 p.m. - 10 p.m. A panel discussion sponsored by the Women's Center addressing gender, representations of both women and men, violence, and technology. Cost: Free.

## 31 THURSDAY

### ALPHA PHI OMEGA BLOOD DRIVE

Fireside Lounge, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Donate blood to the Red Cross.

### THURSDAY NIGHT CINEMA SERIES: KNOCKED UP

Ingle Auditorium, 10 p.m. - 12 midnight. What happens when a one-night stand doesn't necessarily stay as such? Babies. Free hot chocolate, cupcakes, and for one lucky winner, the movie poster. Cost: Free.

## 1 FRIDAY

### RIT INDOOR TRACK MEET

Gordon Field House, 3 p.m. - 9 p.m. Watch RIT run. Cost: Free.

### MEN'S HOCKEY VS. AIC

Ritter Arena, 7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Cost: \$4 students, \$6 faculty/staff, \$8 others.

# STUDENT GOVERNMENT WEEKLY UPDATE

by Geoffrey H. Bliss

## WI-FI COVERAGE TO INCREASE

In conjunction with ITS and Facilities Management Services (FMS), The Institute Technology Committee has proposed an initiative to increase wireless coverage to include all academic buildings. The largest concentrations of classrooms will be covered first, maximizing student impact. Users will receive full support once a building's wireless coverage is complete. There will be no more dead zones or areas of unintentional/unsupported coverage. This upgrade is said to extend to apartments as well, including UC, Perkins, and eventually, Global Village. Students will begin to see improvement on the academic side of campus soon, but it was said that the apartments will not be completely wireless-ready for approximately six years. Students would like to see wireless coverage in all of the residential side, but Gerry Brunelle, Chair of the Institute Technology Committee says, "Seeing as much of the residence side is older, using outdated Internet technology, updating [it] would prove very expensive." Brunelle also noted that the steel and concrete composition of the dormitory buildings makes wireless signal broadcasting difficult.

## CIGARETTE SALES ON CAMPUS

President Ed Wolf mentioned a proposal by Dr. Jim Watters, Senior Vice President of Finance and Administration, to ban the sale of cigarettes at the Candy Counter in the SAU. The ensuing debate allowed senators to opine on the pros and cons. There was some concern with the "business problem." COB Senator Carlos Cornejo said, "Most students don't know that cigarette sales account for about 60% of profits annually for the Candy Counter." Many of the senators remarked that removing this convenience to smokers on campus could create anger towards the university and cause further inconvenience in having to go off campus to acquire them. The Senate voted almost unanimously not to support Watters' cigarette ban.

## INCREASED SG REPRESENTATION

There was talk of granting members of the athletic and graduate student communities their own senators so that these two distinct groups on campus could be better represented in government. Several senators felt that SG should grant recognized club status to the Student Athletic Advisory Committee, which has over 500 members, with the intent of eventually granting them a representative at the Senate meetings. Graduate student enrollment is increasing, and according to KGCOE Senator Adam Weissman, SG could eventually model other universities who represent these students by allowing them to form their own student government. He added that such a change would be drastic and would require a much larger graduate population than currently exists at RIT. He further commented that the creation of a graduate student senator would be a good first step for that community. Added Global Union Representative Aditya Manjrekar, "There are 300 new graduate students each year, many of [whom] are international students who could have representation." Nonetheless, the proposal is in its very beginning stages, and may not take place for some time.

# THE FOUR DAYS OF NIGHT OVER MAYBERRY, TEXAS

fiction series

by Sam Cole

illustrations by Sara Wick

## DAY ONE

**O**n the first day of night, Charles woke up to feed the chickens just like he always did. He woke up before the sun, anyway, so he didn't really notice anything strange until around 7 a.m., when he realized the sun should really have been up by now. Charles didn't worry much about things like this, and so he just shrugged and got back to work.

It had been twelve years since his wife had died, and since then he just sort of stopped caring enough to worry. Now, when he looked in the mirror it seemed obvious to him that he was becoming an old man, and worrying was the pursuit of young men.

After he finished the morning chores, at around 3 p.m., he took a much deserved nap. The darkness helped him sleep.

Toby was a cop. In fact, in Mayberry, he was the only cop on duty that day. So that meant, of course, when God did something, like not turn on the lights, it was his job to answer the phone, which was ringing off the hook. It started to become a little annoying after the seventh call, but he had to keep picking up, just in case someone had a real complaint.

The third complaint that Toby had was from Mrs. Friedman. She was complaining about her dishwasher. She wanted him to arrest Mr. Larksin, the handy man around town, for not fixing it properly. Toby wondered for the five minutes and thirty six seconds it took him to get rid of her (that was much better than his last time) if he was just going crazy, and if to everyone else the sun was in the sky like it was supposed to be, but then he received another call.



“No, sir, you can’t sue anyone based on acts of God.”

“No, ma’am, I can’t help your begonias.”

Julia was cheating on her husband. She would wake up an hour before her husband’s alarm went off and pretend to be sleeping while she waited for things to seem less surreal. Of course, they never did. Then her husband would wake up and take a shower and eat breakfast, and then when she finally heard his car pull out of the driveway she would wake up, go through all her routines, get into her car, and drive to her lover’s house. Her lover did most of his work from home.

She could not remember how she fell out of love with her husband. In fact, she wasn’t even sure that she wasn’t in love with her husband anymore. It was just that this new man, her lover, was different. She had met him at church. Truth be told, that’s where half the world’s affairs are started. He was a deacon.

But today, the sun didn’t rise, and Julia’s husband’s alarm didn’t go off either. She pretended to sleep for a couple more hours while she was trying to decide what to do. She ended up deciding to “accidentally” wake him. •

He could never quite figure out how his wife could read the same few books over and over again, so a couple years ago he decided to try it. There wasn't much else to do, anyway.

white-now-turned-a-shade-of-pale-gray briefs. He went back inside to get some pants.

Charles would sometimes read his wife's favorite book, *The Picture of Dorian Gray*. He could never quite figure out how his wife could read the same few books over and over again, so a couple years ago, he decided to try it. There wasn't much else to do, anyway.

He was at the beginning again, and the first sentences he read on page 29 were: "How sad it is! I shall grow old, and horrible, and dreadful. But this picture will remain always young." He stopped for a second, and then he kept reading.

The chicken was still marching when Charles had lunch. Everyday since his wife had died, he had made exactly the same lunch: a tuna fish sandwich neatly cut in half diagonally. Charles looked at the chicken for a while. Then he shrugged and turned away.

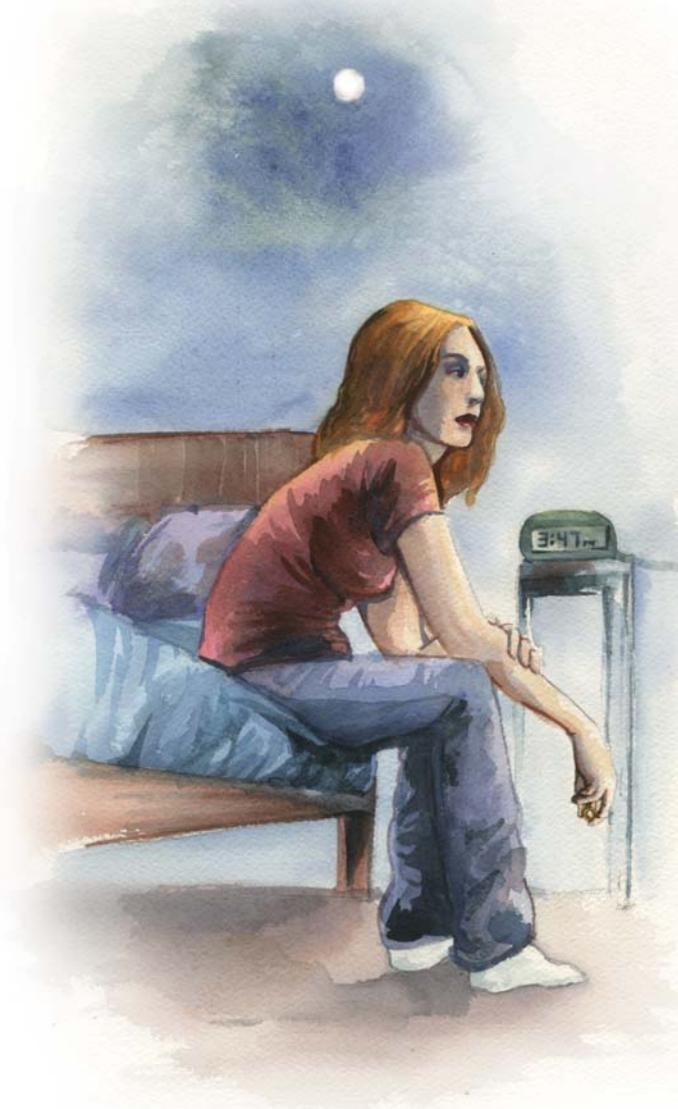
Julia's husband had decided to go to work today. He loved work. It didn't matter much that the sun hadn't come up for him. Julia wasn't sure he saw that much sun. As long as he had that damned computer.

This meant that Julia was able to go to the deacon's house today. She had to park her car around the block in the Pizza Hut parking lot so that none of their church friends would suspect anything more than a strange affinity to the lunchtime pizza buffet.

Julia found the deacon in a state of shock. He had turned on every light in the house, and was nervously pacing up and down in the living room. Julia walked over to him and put her arms around his waist.

When they made love, they did it slowly and carefully in the bright, fluorescent artificial light.

A light bulb burned out somewhere in the house. •



## DAY TWO

**T**oby opened his eyes slowly. No light was coming in from his window. He rolled over to look at his alarm clock. It blinked in patient red, "5:31." Toby couldn't remember when the sun was supposed to come up, but he imagined it was probably after 5:30. He closed his eyes again. It wasn't his shift at the station today. He couldn't fall back asleep. He kept his eyes closed for another hour. 6:27. No sun yet. He closed his eyes again. When he opened them again, it was eight. It was still pitch black in his room. He waited some more.

The sun still wasn't up at 10.

"Well, shit."

When Charles woke up, he did the first thing he did every morning: checked on his chickens. This time he had to grab a flashlight. His favorite chicken, Charles Two, was restless. It was marching around the yard. For a second, as Charles was standing there watching it, it almost seemed human. Charles smiled to himself. He suddenly realized that he was only wearing his

# REVIEWS



## CLOVERFIELD

by Adam Botzenhart

1/18/08 finally arrived. At 11:59 p.m. on Thursday, January 17, a couple-hundred twenty-something, more often than not unshaven J.J. Abrams fanboys and no more than three girls filled the Tinseltown Theatre for the opening night of Cloverfield— producer Abrams', writer Drew Goddard's, and director Matt Reeves' answer to Godzilla.

Shot in the shaky, first person, hand-held camera style of Blair Witch, the film follows a group of friends as they move about New

York City following the attack of a spider/whale-like creature from the sea. Within the first twenty-minutes, theatre-goers are given a short course in recent American national tragedy. Reeves quickly moves from images almost identical to photographs from 9/11 to a bridge collapse reminiscent of this past summer's bridge in Minneapolis to looting straight out of post-Katrina. The entire 86-minute experience is an assault on your senses— non-stop cinematic shock and awe. The film is gritty, raw, and tiring, while, at the same time, oddly clean and not quite genuine. Watching the film, one can almost hear Reeves just off camera, yelling "More fog!" "Send in the crazed mob now!" "Troops running! More troops running!"

The special effects are, of course, impeccable, and the acting is more or less believable. But the moment that got the most reaction

from the audience was not any scene from the movie, rather the collective geekgasm that occurred during the teaser for Abrams' upcoming Star Trek.

There is nothing in the film that disappoints—I'm certain everyone in that theatre left satisfied. And yet, after reaching the car in the parking lot, one can't help but feel the strange aftertaste of disappointment. After the shock and awe has subsided, you can't help but wish that you could go back and see the *real* movie now— the one with an actual plot and some answers to where this creature came from and how they planned to stop it. For those looking for a Friday night movie, Cloverfield will no doubt do the trick. For those who have followed Abrams from *Alias* to *Lost* looking for a deep, cryptic story... well, maybe there'll be a sequel and they'll make the real movie after all. •



## THE HELIOCENTRICS

• Out There •

Good

Reviews by Evan McNamara

The Heliocentrics, better known as the backing band for DJ Shadow, are making moves to step into the

limelight. *Out There* is an instrumental hip hop album which showcases the band's ability to take grooves from drummer Malcom Catto and morph them through the lenses of jazz, funk, breakbeat, and even downtempo electronica. And they do so with breathtaking results. The only downside is the distribution of pointless electronic noodling between many songs. Once the groove starts, prepare for a unique treat. Live guitar, bass, and samples give this record a refreshingly authentic sound in a hip hop scene that is all too often guilty of relying on fruity-loops for canned beats. •



## LITE

• Filmlets •

Better

the pioneering math-driven intensity of Don Caballero with the arpeggiated style of Tristeza and the force of Pelican. What's scary is that in many ways, they do it better. Clean guitars dance around on epic melodies while the bass and drums push the songs forward and prevent them from going stale. Lite's songs are simultaneously coldly calculated and emotionally driven. Filmlets is an album that will stay in your CD player for weeks on repeat and never get old. •

This Japanese instrumental band must take great notes whenever they listen to music. Lite blends



## THEY MIGHT BE GIANTS

• The Else •

Best

Clever wordplay, interesting song topics, and melody, melody, melody are the centerpiece of this newest album from They Might Be Giants. Recorded with a full band, TMBG has departed from their older style of quirky electronic songs in favor of a more straightforward format. TMBG brought in The Dust Brothers (Beastie Boys) to produce the record, and their presence is felt in the fuzz-laden bass and crunchy guitars. The shining point of *The Else* is its melodies. Ringleaders John Flansburg and John Linnell craft hooks that will be stuck in your cranium for days on end. The result is a record that is just plain fun to listen to, from start to finish. I mean, you just can't go wrong with lyrics like this:

*"We're the Mesopotamians/Sargon, Hammurabi, Ashurbanipal, and Gilgamesh/This is my last stick of gum/I'm going to cut it up so everybody else gets some/Except for Ashurbanipal who says my haircut makes me look like a Mohenjo-daroan."* •

## QUIZ:

1. Popularly known as *Unleashed*, these Chicago-style long-form improvisational theatrics are performed every Friday at Rochester's very own...

- a. Little Theatre
- b. Wilmot Recital Hall
- c. Eastman Theatre
- d. Shipping Dock Theatre

2. For the past 3 years, RIT has hosted "Build and Defend your Digital Fortress," which merits students with the most skillfully designed defense system. Which company gives out the awards?

- a. Norton
- b. Barracuda
- c. McAfee
- d. Gateway

3. At the end of each year, this organization awards several people and organizations who have made a significant, demonstrable contribution to the growth and well being of the greater Rochester cultural community.

- a. Greater Rochester Center of Diversity
- b. Greater Rochester Arts & Cultural Council
- c. Rochester Museum of the Arts
- d. Olney Arts & Cultural Council

4. After having celebrated the opening in Rochester of yet another plant, the chairman of this ever-growing pasta company cheerfully remarked that he "celebrates gastronomy."

- a. Barilla
- b. Prego
- c. Stouffer's
- d. Prince

5. RIT's Quarter Mile was once referred to as the "Henrietta wind tunnel" by Rochester's *Democrat & Chronicle*.

- a. True
- b. False

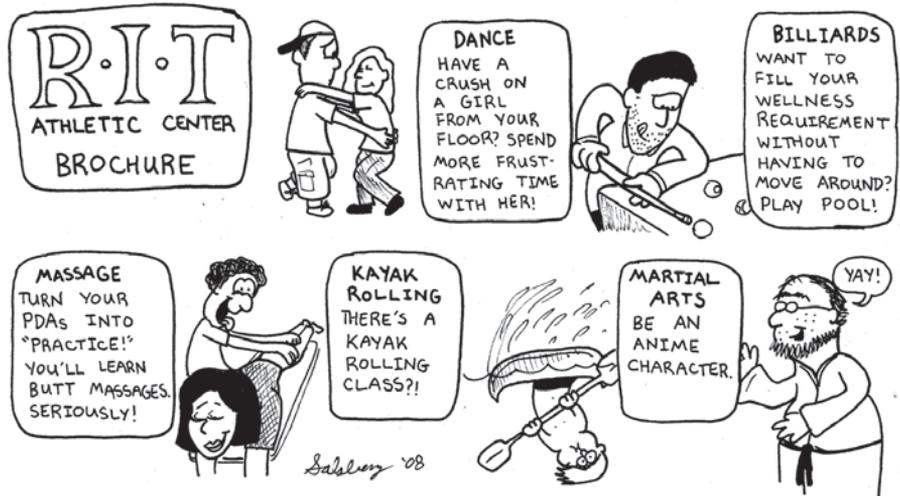
ANSWERS: 1)d 2)c 3)b 4)a 5)b

## QUOTE

"Life is the art of drawing without an eraser."

— John W. Gardner

LOOKING FOR CLASSES TO TAKE NEXT QUARTER? HERE'S THE...



## REPORTER RECOMMENDS:

Learning to play the crwth. If you even know what one is, give yourself a pat on the back. If you haven't heard of it, go ahead and give the pronunciation a go (hint: it rhymes with "sleuth"). A stringed instrument, the crwth hails from the Wales area and is played with a bow, very much like a violin. Not only does it rhyme with "sleuth," it also lacks vowels. Once you've mastered the crwth, why not get an oud?

## DIFFICULTY RATING: HARD

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## SIGN OF THE WEEK: WHAT'S YOUR MAJOR?





The First 15 Weeks:

# Dr. Destler

by Casey Dehlinger

photograph by Tom Schirmacher

It took Destler's hair six months to turn orange, but his heart changed its tint long ago. After his first 15 academic weeks atop the Eastman Kodak building, Banjo Bill talks about his transition into Rochester, the current state of RIT, and what we can look forward to in the future.



Reporter Magazine | What do you miss most about Maryland?

**Dr. William Destler** | Not a whole lot. I guess I miss all the students coming out to basketball games and that sort of stuff, because that's a big-time sports school and it's a lot of fun going to those events. I go to basketball games here, but there aren't very many students.

*Hence Dr. Destler's ultimatum to the student body: fill the bleachers at the January 19 men's and women's basketball games and witness him dye his snowy mane flaming orange during halftime of the men's game.*

**RM** | In these first six months, what's been your proudest accomplishment?

**WD** | Doing as little harm as possible. I've been trying to support all the good things that are already happening here and then open the doors for opportunities that I think exist here to enhance the institution. So far, the campus has been very receptive to those ideas. So far so good.

**RM** | What have you gravitated towards in your spare time, both yourself and your wife Rebecca?

**WD** | Until winter came, we were biking every weekend and discovering all the trails and parks in the area. And I've been working on my elec-

tric scooters and things like that, tinkering around with those. And of course, I still collect antique banjos. So what free time we have is pretty much filled up.

*In his office, mounted on the wall behind me, are ten banjos. Several others rest on bookshelves and counters throughout his office.*

**RM** | In your letter to RIT faculty and staff, you compared RIT to a meteor, as opposed to the "glacier" of other universities. What is it like, riding that meteor?

**WD** | Exhilarating. For example, I came in last July and sometime around August, I suggested that we needed to [create] an innovation center on campus that might serve as a submission space for that creativity and also support student groups that are working on creative projects. We will break ground for that in the spring. That is an extraordinarily fast track for that kind of activity. At my previous institution, moving something along like that would be a decade-long process, and this is what we're talking about...

*He pulls from his desk the designs for the center. I can't help but notice two things about it. First, there is not a single brick in the thing. Second, its white, circular design, when butted against the long walkway leading up to it, is quite reminiscent of a banjo.*

**WD** | ...I think it's impressive the way that this institute can move quickly.

**RM** | One of the other goals on your list involves the retention rate. Besides alums not giving back in as great of numbers as other institutions, our own students don't stay here long enough to graduate.

**WD** | That's correct. Second year retention went from 87% to 89% this fall, and my goal was to hit 92%, because that's a good predictor for graduation rates, so we're getting there. I think [if] we provide a somewhat wider range of academic options for our students, [and] if they change their minds when they get here, they don't necessarily have to leave to get something else.

**RM** | You've adopted many of Dr. Simone's soundbytes, including his "category of one" university label. How does your vision for RIT's future differ from his?



*Destler has half of his hair dyed orange by Dr. Mary-Beth Cooper.*

photographs by Eric Drummond



*Destler makes his first public appearance with orange hair.*

**WD** | I think it's trying to, to some extent, [apply] more specifics. What is the category of one? As you know, I've been pushing hard on the notion that we really have the potential to be a center for innovation and creativity, because we have that program mix. Here we are, a category of one, because we have this odd group of right brain and left brain programs, and I think that could be the defining characteristic that goes along with this category of one notion. I really see my ideas as mostly building on previous ideas.

**RM** | To what lengths are you willing to go to increase minority and female presence amongst the student population?

**WD** | I think we need to make that a high priority. People are going to have to look at our financial aid picture and invest more. Many of those populations are quite talented coming in, but they come from disadvantaged economic backgrounds that make it a little intimidating even to go to college. The same thing can be said for women. We have to look at our program inventory and make sure we're offering programs that are of interest to those kinds of groups, especially for women. For example, we don't offer bioengineering or chemical engineering. Those are the two disciplines in engineering that attract the most women. So if we want to add more women, maybe we need to think about adding those disciplines, and we're already talking about just that.

**RM** | Who are you most nervous about appearing before with a head of bright orange?

**WD** | Well, I'm hoping I won't have to do this, of course, but what I'm actually nervous about is not the event, where I'll be happy to strut around with orange hair if I have to. It's that it will probably take a couple weeks to wash out, and the very next week, I have several very public events downtown, so I could be showing up at those events with orange hair, or at least orange-tinted hair. I guess I'm sort of a little nervous about that, but it's all part of the fun. We all shouldn't take ourselves that seriously. One of the things I'm trying to communicate is that we're here to do serious work, but we're also here to have a little fun.

*Nervously, Destler describes the dye as a goop, pulling it out from a drawer of his desk, stating that it should wash out, but that the packaging warns that people with very light hair may have to bear the color*

*longer than others. "Streakers!" he announces, "instant liquid hair color! So you can tell everyone that I'm ready."*

**RM** | During your candidacy, the RIT community had many expectations of you, just as you must have had expectations of RIT. In what ways has RIT fallen short of your expectations and in what ways has it exceeded those expectations?

**WD** | It hasn't really fallen short in any area that I can think. I studied the situation pretty carefully before I decided to come. I thought alumni engagement was a problem. I knew that coming in, so I wasn't disappointed. I'm also very pleased by the progress we're making... I think that the RIT community is a warmer and more closely knit community than the one I left. It's not just because RIT is a smaller community, it's actually a pretty big one. It's partly because Rochester is not the Baltimore/Washington Complex. There's much more of a sense of community and shared commitment and

**"...I'll be happy to strut around with orange hair if I have to..."**

responsibility.

**RM** | There is a quote of yours that has certainly seen some ink on *Reporter's* pages before, and I want to know how well you feel you have kept to it. You said that the days of *in loco parentis* are over. And since Latin isn't offered at RIT, could you expound on that?

**WD** | That means that the days in which campuses acted like surrogate parents and watched over their students' every activity are over. [It's not our job to] look out for their safety and ensure that they aren't imbibing alcohol. That doesn't mean that we don't have some responsibility to ensure that our students live and work in a safe community. We're not going to hover over our students, like the days when we had curfews. Women would have to be in by nine or something like that! Nowadays, you can go out and come back whenever you want. We can't completely protect you from everything that could possibly happen to you.

**RM** | There's been a big push recently for banning the sale of cigarettes on campus. From what I understand, this comes from the word of mouth of Dr. Watters' office.

Now Student Government is considering it.

**WD** | I actually suggested that we propose that to the various governance groups including the Student Government and the Staff Council and the [Academic] Senate. We are pushing to initiate a campus-wide wellness program for our students, faculty, and staff to encourage healthy living habits. It does strike me as being a little inconsistent with that kind of push for us to be selling cigarettes out of our convenience stores. It's an inconvenience for some people, and I'm fully aware that this is an addictive habit. Nevertheless, I think we at least need to be willing to ask ourselves: is this consistent with the kind of message that we're trying to send to our community?

**RM** | How long has it taken for Rochester to more or less become your home?

**WD** | Well, we went back to Maryland for more than a week over the holidays, partly to see my son graduate from the University of Maryland, and we couldn't even live in our own home! One of my sons and his friend are living in it, so we had to find another place to stay, and after a few days— it was nice to see old friends and so forth— but Rebecca and I commented to each other that we were ready to go back. This is where we live now. This is where we've made friends. This is where we will pursue our future.

**RM** | And what do we have to look forward to? In the next year? In the next six months?

**WD** | I think a lot of it will be more of the same. I'm not a believer in that "initiative of the month" philosophy. What you need to do is establish a consistent theme for the institution, so that people can get to work on it and see, over time, the fruits of their labor. You don't just want to change your colors all the time, like a chameleon. Of course, we'll continue to reevaluate what we're doing...If some of the programs aren't making the progress we want, we'll have to change them, but the goal itself won't change.

**RM** | I heard a rumor— nothing bad— that a student saw you sitting on a bench outside this building [the George Eastman Building] late one night, and you were just sitting there, stargazing...

**WD** | Well, I don't know. I suppose it could be true. •

# Ed & Sasha in Progress

by Ilsa Shaw | photograph by Ryan Randolph



**L**iving in a cramped converted triple, Ed Wolf had reason to complain. As he and his friends talked about what *could* and *should* be done in regards to certain RIT issues, the thought suddenly dawned on him: “I finally got to the point where I was like, ‘You know, I could just sit down and keep complaining, or I could actually shut up and do something about it,’” explains Wolf.

It was then that Wolf decided to run for an office in Student Government, albeit he still needed a partner to fill the role of Vice President. He decided he needed someone with a better understanding of the residence side of RIT, and thus decided to call Sasha Malinchoc, two-time RA. “It sounded like something that I would really want to be involved in,” recalls Malinchoc.

Running against three other noteworthy candidates, the pair won, and have since been committed to a campus that is less program-oriented and more student-oriented. From the get-go, the duo arranged what they both refer to as a “strategic plan,” a packet that lists their goals and plans as officers. An Excel document tracks their progress, representing each goal as either in progress, finished, or still in need of attendance. “The whole point of having a strategic plan was to have a benchmark of ourselves to see where we were,” says Wolf.

They also do their best to represent and serve the needs of college senators, whose goals are included in the same documents. “Too often, you think of Student Government as President or Vice President, but SG is really so much bigger. Their goals have really been in alignment with our goals,” remarks Malinchoc.

Around campus, you may have noticed more healthy food options— the 100 calorie packs, healthier sides, and so on— this is also due to the team. They still admit that there is always room for improvement. “People are still looking for more. We can say, ‘We have worked on that,’ but there still may be more we can do,” notes Malinchoc.

However, the team has been working hard to meet the needs of campus organizations, clubs, and students in general. Recently, they rewrote the club guidelines, making it easier for clubs to form, and abolishing the rule that no clubs of the same type could exist. They also created

what Wolf refers to as a “good samaritan policy,” which would not punish people trying to do the right thing in bad situations. “When Sasha and I started to run, we saw that our campus’ policies weren’t rewarding enough to people who do the right thing,” says Wolf. He describes a situation in which an intoxicated student witnesses sexual assault on campus, but does not call the authorities for fear of the repercussions of being intoxicated. “Instead, they need to feel secure in making the call and stopping the situation,” says Malinchoc.

They’ve also become quite involved in the upcoming SAU renovation. “Ed and I happen to be in a different year. We got a new president. This project that has been talked about since the early 2000s happened during our year...It was in the works a long time before Ed and I, but we have had a lot of say in the project,” notes Malinchoc. The pair even managed to convince other governing bodies to abandon the idea of placing the Academic Support Center on the top floor of the SAU. “We advocated strongly for Academic Support not to be in this space because we knew going in to this project that we needed a space that was going to be centered and focused on student clubs, organizations, and activity. Having that academic component in that space didn’t help too much,” says Wolf.

One goal that regrettably hasn’t been met is the creation of common spaces in the dorms and the creation of more housing opportunities in general, which is still a constant complaint at RIT. “The goals of the institution are to increase enrollment and to increase the amount of students applying to RIT. With that, there is going to be a housing crunch. Park Point is being constructed because of the demand for housing close to campus or on campus itself. It’s very difficult to open up space and convince the university to open up those spaces when the fiscal gain is not there. Obviously, we need to balance the budget and some part of the housing fees go to offset the cost of the dormitories, but we haven’t really had an opportunity to get into the dorms and progress on improving those common areas,” explains Wolf. “In our

defense, we’re only halfway done. We still have another quarter and a half to go.”

After having lived in a cramped converted triple, Wolf understands the situation, but finds that many goals have been met with difficulty. “One of the biggest challenges this year has been the lack of communication from the upper administration,” says Wolf. “As governing groups, we try our best to be impartial to specific issues until we gather as a group and make a conscious decision,” Wolf explains, and notes that many times he has turned to these groups for answers, only to be met with the realization that they don’t have an answer for him. “The ambiguity of certain issues on campus has really hurt us as governing groups, because we don’t know the answers for our constituents when they come and ask us,” says Wolf. Fortunately, this has caused better communication between SG and other governmental groups of the same level.

The pair does have plans for the next part of their term, including the creation of more resources for clubs (notably a club leadership packet and quarterly training meetings for newly elected officers), the addition of more senators for students who are not represented, and the creation of another Major Student Organization.

“I think our greatest accomplishment this year has been moving SG in a new direction. We really took a step back from programming. We do our signature events (such as spiRIT week, Tiger Idol, the Superbowl Party) but we’ve

**“One of the biggest challenges this year has been the lack of communication from the upper administration”**

really been trying to focus on student issues and governance. In focusing on student issues, I think that may be a better method of increasing school spirit,” says Malinchoc. Wolf adds, “It’s our slogan, too, to empower and achieve. We want to empower other student groups to achieve a sense of school spirit and achieve a sense of accomplishment.” •

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# THAT GUY

by Isa Shaw | photograph by Tom Shirmacher

## YOUR NAME, MAJOR, YEAR?

Jason Listman, first year grad student enrolled in the Master of Science Program in Secondary Education. I received my Bachelor's degree in Psychology from RIT as well.

## HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOURSELF?

I would describe myself as sophisticated. I can be very classy, selective, passionate, and romantic.

## DREAM JOB AFTER GRADUATION?

I'd like to become a model. I have a fascination with school, but I also have a fascination and interest in modeling and acting.

## WHAT'S ON YOUR IPOD?

I like a variety of things— pop is what I listen to mostly. I like Jewel, Rihanna, and Paula Cole.

## TELL ME ABOUT YOUR STYLE.

I like to dress very nicely. I try to be fashionable— that's my goal. I try. My boyfriend says I have bad taste in shoes.

## DESCRIBE YOUR TYPICAL DAY.

I get up in the morning and drink iced coffee— that's my favorite drink. Not a lot of people drink that. I always go to Crossroads and order iced coffee and they ask me, "What do you want? You want an iced coffee?" Then, after that, I go to the Deaf Studies Lab. I'm a researcher's assistant, so I do some work there, take care of the logistics for the research lab, then go to my classes, come home, get some take-out, eat, and watch a movie with friends.

## DO YOU HAVE ANY BAD HABITS?

Smoking. I'm trying to quit since New Year's Eve (it was my resolution), but it's tough, you know? But I'm getting there. I'm handling it. My friends always hate it when I smoke.

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

They say I'm good-looking, I'm a really good person to talk with, and that I'm a good listener. Obviously, I have an interest in psychology, so I'm an observer of human behavior and how the mind works. So, they always say that I have the ability to explain why they behave in specific ways.

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

I would say when I went camping in Mexico during spring break last year. That was the best. It was the best night ever. Me and my family went to California for spring break and there was a deaf pro surfer who took us to Mexico. We went to a campsite and camped there. There were fireworks, and we drank margaritas and it was the best. It was a lot of fun.

## WHAT IS YOUR HIDDEN TALENT?

I've been thinking about that question for the past hour (I was looking through the old magazines). I'm very open about everything with my friends, so I'm trying to think of something that's hidden. I think improv would be an example of something. I sometimes come up with ASL poetry. Things will come to me when I'm in the shower— different languages, different emotions come out.



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L SCORE  
85



## SPORTSDESK

photographs by Jeffery Porter

- 1 RIT diver Evan Wendt (freshman) flips through the air as Geneseo divers watch.
- 2 Geneseo divers practice on the high dive as men get ready for their next heat at the pool during Saturday's swim meet.
- 3 An RIT swimmer competes in the Women's 200 yard Medley Relay. The medley team was comprised of Stephanie Davis, Coleen Davis, Missy Wilbert, and Deb Howell.





2



3



# MEN'S HOCKEY TAKES TWO OVER SACRED HEART

by Rachel Hart | photographs by Josh Lehrer

1// At RIT on January 18, Sean Murphy (27) makes an attempt to score against Scott Marchesi of Sacred Heart (28).

2// Sophomore Brent Alexin (14) maneuvers past Sacred Heart defenseman Corey Laurysen (10).

3// Sacred Heart goalie Stefan Drew (1) and Scott Marchesi (28) confront RIT freshman Andrew Favot (28) at the net.

**P**ass. Shoot. Score. The RIT Men's Hockey team took these three fundamentals to new levels, beating Sacred Heart 4-2 in both Friday's and Saturday's sold-out games. The Tigers now sit at first place in Atlantic Hockey. When asked how it felt to be number one, right wing Anton Kharin responded, "It's something we have been trying to reach all year."

The most valuable player did not shoot or score; however, he made a lot of saves. Goaltender Louis Menard was not only a crowd favorite but a team staple, making thirty-seven saves in the first game of the series alone. Left wing Simon Lambert and Kharin both named Menard as a major force, commenting, "Louis played great," and, "He definitely played well for us [on] both nights." By the end of Friday night's game, much of the crowd behind RIT's goal had taken to bowing to Louis as he saved shot after shot in an intense and heated final period.

Lambert, another crowd favorite, helped to lead RIT to victory. He broke the 2-2 tie during the

third period of the first game in a spectacular game-winning goal. His efforts continued with an empty-net goal in the final seconds of game, sealing the fate of Sacred Heart and prompting much of the crowd to take out their keys and chant, "Start the bus."

Left wing Brennan Sarazin also had an impressive game, assisting two goals on Saturday night. "Sarazin played so well, he played his body out and blocked shots," remarked Lambert.

Beyond individual performance, Kharin attributes the wins to a team effort. Talent alone would not be enough to defeat a tough Sacred Heart defense: perseverance was key. Lambert notes that skating hard and constant movement were major parts of the winning formula.

In the second game of the series, RIT trailed Sacred Heart 2-1 in the second period. An exciting third period yielded three goals and a win for RIT, proving who really wanted the number one spot more. Coach Wayne Wilson comment-

ed on the games, saying, "These are the close games we have to win, especially in front of a sell-out crowd like we had tonight. Described right wing Darrell Draper, "The win will give us [a] great advantage, going into the playoffs." He is already looking ahead to post-season.

The games were physical, with both teams willing to do whatever it took to get the puck. Sacred Heart's Ferraro went down in the first and was taken off in a stretcher—which was probably only a precaution, since he waved to the crowd as he left the ice. Penalties were numerous and players were lost to the penalty box often. Both teams proved their ability to capitalize on opportunities with a power play goal for each team in the first game.

The men's team travels to the University of Connecticut next to play the Huskies. Even though UConn is closer to the bottom of the pack in rankings, RIT Hockey is not taking any chances. "You have to show up and expect that they are going to play hard," says Lambert. •

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compiled by Geoff Shearer

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 1:10 P.M.**

Hello, Rings. So we're sitting here in Beanz and we're starting to wonder about Gracies' most amazing drink offering from the drink dispensers. What is a loganberry? Why is it so delicious, and why does Gracie not answer me when I ask? I even looked it up on Wikipedia. Wikipedia failed me. Do you know how sad that is, Rings? It's real sad. So solve my problem and tell me what the heck a loganberry is.

**FRIDAY 2:43 A.M.**

## HEY LADY, CAN I BUY YOU A FISH SANDWICH?

**FRIDAY 3:49 A.M.**

It's 3:49 and I'm watching a Dell commercial and I think I need some personal support 365/24/7, because I don't think my Dell is going to break that much but it might. Yeah, see ya.

**SUNDAY 1:40 A.M.**

**Hi Rings, I've discovered something. You know why this [stuff] sucks? It's by design. Fat and happy people do nothing; unhappy and miserable people change the world. So go ahead and embrace it, RIT, because it's not getting any better.**

**FRIDAY 3:11 A.M.**

Holy [Saint]! We just saw "Cloverfield," that [motha] was the [motha-lovin] bomb! Don't tell anyone, but the monster [...] Captain Crunch. He is pissed off and crunch-itizing everything in New York. Don't tell anyone, but go see it.

**FRIDAY 2:30 P.M.**

Hi, I'm Ron Paul, and I plan on living out my presidency alone in a cave, prescribing homeopathic medicine as it's every man's natural right. Also, I can fit my entire fist in my mouth. If you vote for me, you either have stupid ideas about independence from government, or spend too much time learning about politics on the Internet. Ron Paul, the people's choice.

**FRIDAY 12:33 P.M.**

**You know what? Our relationship is over! We're through. You never put me in your magazine, and I'm fed up. You're cheating on me with other guys, girls. Screw you, Rings.**

**FRIDAY 2:35 P.M.**

Hi. I think that in the Commons' dining area, they should expand the mini patio over the parking lot to provide an outdoor eatery for its loyal students. Thank you.

**THURSDAY 10:59 P.M.**

**I just wanted to let you know that someone stole a full load of underwear from me. Who does that? Underwear? ... Really?**

**SATURDAY 2:04 A.M.**

Hey Rings, I just wanted to let you know that I am a typical RIT student, and I am sitting in front of my computer on a Friday night thinking of all the pretty, pretty art girls who are in my class. Bye.

**FRIDAY 11:53 P.M.**

AS THE FOREMOST MEMBER OF THE ROCHESTER AREA BUCKET LIST BRIGADE, I AM BOTH MANJOYED AND PHYSICALLY PREPARED TO SEE "THE BUCKET LIST." THE BUCKET LIST! AM I RIGHT, FELLAS? [INDECIPHERABLE SCREAMING IN MANJOYMENT].

**SATURDAY 2:36 A.M.**

Hello Rings, I am a student. I am from Boston, Massachusetts, and I just want to say that Tom Brady is one of the cutest quarterbacks in the NFL. I hope they win this weekend and I hope you put this in, because Tom Brady gets me kind of excited. Bye.

**SATURDAY 2:33 A.M.**

**Hey RIT Rings, I just wanted to say I finally had a chance with a girl from RIT, and guess what? She [screwed] me over. She bleeped me over just like most RIT girls. She literally asterisk, asterisk, [F\*\*#ing ] ampersand me over. Bye!**

**FRIDAY 2:36 P.M.**

**THE GIRL WHO JUST CALLED WITH THE PATIO IDEA FOR THE COMMONS...WORST IDEA EVER! DON'T PUT IT IN THE REPORTER; IT'S THE STUPIDEST THING I'VE EVER HEARD.**

# DEBATING THE BAN ON TOBACCO PEDDLING

Recently, Wegmans announced that it would no longer be selling tobacco products in its food outlets. In light of this announcement, Dr. Watters has proposed to Student Government that RIT follow suit and stop the sale of tobacco on campus. Geoff Shearer and Adam Botzenhart fight it out.



## AGAINST by Geoff Shearer

RIT should continue the sale of tobacco products on campus. RIT's sale of tobacco products is not influencing students to start smoking. The vast majority of students purchasing these products have existing habits of tobacco consumption and RIT is offering the sale of these products as a convenience to these tuition-paying students.

As there are students without cars on campus, the sale of these products comes as a convenience that contributes to a welcoming environment for these dedicated pedestrians. This proposal only propagates a negative social stigma of smokers, a stigma that RIT has regularly contributed to in the past by banning smoking on the residential side and, as proposed, on the academic side as well. Believe it or not, smokers *are* human, and *do* realize that it is an unhealthy habit which should not be imposed on fellow students who do not smoke.

I honestly believe that the incorporation of the smoking cessation wellness credit this year was the best step RIT made on behalf of its smoking community. It made me believe that RIT had turned a new leaf by recognizing a wellness problem and addressing it without alienating a portion of its student body. The problem is that they are now fostering a discriminatory environment towards smokers, an environment that is embodied in students' mindsets and is reflected, among other places, in administrative policy. This is an institute that supposedly celebrates diversity. Why, then, are smokers yet again the target of unnecessary proposals that further segregate them from being welcome students at RIT? At a school already entrenched in a never-ending battle against retention problems, it would seem that alienating a portion of the student body would be the last thing they should aim to do.

The RITz sells alcohol products on a campus with existing overzealous alcohol policies. Nearly every eatery on campus has a deep fryer for fatties to reinforce their poor diets. The Student Health Center and campus stores sell condoms so that sex addicts and student-harlots can at least protect their victims. It is thus unfair to ban the sale of tobacco products when RIT currently sends mixed messages regarding so many other health concerns of the student body.

## FOR by Adam Botzenhart

RIT should stop the sale of tobacco products on campus. First, it should be recognized that RIT has complete and total legitimate authority to determine what goods and services are offered on campus. Second, RIT's decision to offer a particular product is not necessarily a statement regarding the use of that product.

For example, I love fresh donuts, and yet they are not offered on campus. This does not necessarily mean that RIT is discouraging donut consumption, rather that I am free to purchase and consume as many donuts as I wish, though I can't easily pick one up on the way to class. Similarly, RIT's decision to stop the sale of tobacco products is not necessarily a statement regarding the use of tobacco products. No one is questioning the smoker's right to smoke. No longer offering cigarettes for sale does not in any way imply that students will not be able to smoke on campus—it simply adds this particular product to the long list of others that RIT does not choose to vend to its students.

But even if RIT's banning the sale of tobacco products *does* make a statement regarding use, it's making the *right* statement. It's not necessary to review the hard and proven harmful effects that cigarettes have on those who smoke and even those in the vicinity of those who smoke. The impacts of smoking are not strictly private but completely public, affecting public health through second hand smoke and, regrettably, often contributing to litter on campus as smokers casually treat RIT as though it were one, giant, quarter mile-long brick trashcan. Not only do smokers now demand that RIT permit them to smoke, but that it acts as supplier and active accomplice in this self-destructive behavior.

The real question, I believe, is why, in light of Wegmans' decision, RIT *wouldn't* stop the sale of tobacco products. When the region's most prominent grocer makes it clear that it no longer wants to play a role, despite profits, in providing these products to citizens, what special circumstance exists that suggests RIT should continue as a supplier? What interest does RIT have, especially, in ensuring that these products are, in fact, easy to access in the heart of the RIT campus? If not Wegmans, why, then, RIT? To these questions, I believe there are no good answers.



# SPiRiT



# WEEK

## 25JAN - 3FEB

### 25

**SHOW SPIRIT WEAR ORANGE & BROWN**

**NSC Pulse Happy Hour**  
4pm - 6pm, SDC

**CAB Pablo Francisco**  
7pm, Clark Gym

**RIT PLAYERS On the Twentieth Century**  
8pm, Ingle

**CAB Country Night**  
9:30pm, RitZ

### 26

**SAAC Women's Hockey Spirit BBQ**  
2pm - 3pm, Breezeway

**Women's Hockey Game**  
3pm, Ritter Arena

**RIT PLAYERS On the Twentieth Century**  
8pm, Ingle

### 27

**RHA + SG PIZZA & Meet the Freshman Senator**  
7pm - 8pm, NRH 1250

**RIT PLAYERS On the Twentieth Century**  
2pm, Ingle

### 28

**SHOW SPIRIT DRESS LIKE A "GEEK"**

**NSC Peanut Butter & Jelly Jam**  
5pm - 10pm, SAU Cafe

**RHA Bingo**  
5pm - 10pm, SAU Cafe

### 29

**SHOW SPIRIT WEAR YOUR COLLEGE COLORS**

**NSC Orange Breakfast**  
7:30am - 8pm, Breezeway

**STUDENT GOVERNMENT Open Discussion**  
7pm - 9pm, Ingle

### 30

**SHOW SPIRIT PAINT YOUR FACE ORANGE & BROWN**

**GREEK COUNCIL Spirit T-Shirt Making**  
3pm - 5pm, SAU Cafe

**CARPOEIRA MANDINGA Performance**  
6:30 pm, SAU Cafe

### 31

**SHOW SPIRIT WEAR CAMO ATTIRE**

**OCASA Game Night in the RitTreat**  
7pm - 9:30pm, SAU RitTreat

**CAB Cinema Series: "Knocked Up"**  
9:30 pm, Ingle

### 1

**SHOW SPIRIT WEAR ORANGE & BROWN**

**SPORTSZONE Tailgating Party**  
5pm, RitZ

**UNITED WAY Hockey Stick Raffle**  
7 pm, Ritter Arena

**NSC Hot in Here: Dance**  
8pm - 12 am, SAU Cafe

**CAB Guitar Hero**  
9 pm, RitZ

### 2

**SHOW SPIRIT DRESS INTERNATIONAL**

**UNITED WAY Hockey Stick Raffle**  
7 pm, Ritter Arena

**ACA Fashion Show**  
7 pm, SAU Cafe

**GLOBAL UNION Unification**  
7 pm - 9pm, Ingle

### 3

**SHOW SPIRIT BALL TEAM SPIRIT**

**STUDENT GOVERNMENT SUPERBOWL PARTY**  
5 pm, Clark Gym

## MON

## TUE

## WED

## THU

## FRI

## SAT

## SUN



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