

REPORTER

hackers
shutting
down
hash
functions

put that in your pipe
and smoke it

bill
nye

the science guy
calls for change

sushi
on
park
ave

piranha
reviewed



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R·I·T



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October 29, 2008

WITR^{89.7}FM

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EDITOR'S NOTE

CAUSE FOR CONCERN

Change. Experience. Gender. As the economy sours and November 4 draws closer and closer, we wait with bated breath, eyes transfixed on the TV. *Wall Street. Main Street. Bailout.* Even the least media-savvy of us can't escape the maelstrom of buzzwords flying around this political season. *War. Environment. Abortion.* Rising above the fray, however, is one particularly powerful, prevalent buzzword: *Security.*

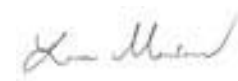
In light of recent events, it makes total sense for us to be so concerned with this on a national level. Still, I was mildly surprised by how prominently security issues cropped up in this week's issue. Whether it concerns our parking lots (see "Grand Theft Auto Brick City," page 8), or our computer networks (see "Put That In Your Pipe and Smoke It: How Hackers are Shutting Down Hash Functions," page 18), security is a big deal.

As Americans, I feel like security is something that we frequently take for granted... until something goes wrong. While there are the lone few who worry about anything and everything, most of us don't trouble ourselves — even when, perhaps, we should. For example, most of us didn't give a thought to how regulated our market should (or should not) be until just recently. Now, everyone's got an opinion. Would we be in this situation if there were more people actively concerning themselves with the security of our market? Likely not.

As college students, I think we're especially susceptible to a false sense of security. We're a fairly insulated community — many of us have barely ventured into downtown Rochester, for goodness sake. Even as we are inundated with news of global crises, most of us don't really feel like it's going to affect us. This is a big problem.

Now, I'm not saying that we there should be widespread panic over every little thing. But if we continue to take our security for granted, we're going to keep running into trouble.

What do you think, RIT? Do you feel secure?



Laura Mandanas
EDITOR IN CHIEF

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Cover photograph by Thomas Liggett.

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TO SEND LETTERS

Email reporter@rit.edu.

Reporter will not print anonymous letters.

CORRECTIONS

October 10

“Kings of Leon: Only By the Night” was reviewed by Alex Pagliaro.

The *Kabluey* DVD was reviewed by John Howard.

DEAR REPORTER,

Thank you for the great article in your September 26 edition recounting Ray Kurzweil’s recent talk at RIT. As a 5th year Bioinformatics student I found him truly inspiring and have referred to his talk so many times that my friends and instructors are getting tired of hearing me. However, while your article was accurate, it neglected to acknowledge the Caroline Werner Gannett Project’s sponsorship of Mr. Kurzweil’s talk. I am currently taking a course based on their speaker series, which allowed myself and a few other students to sit down over lunch for an interview with him. I got to see there is actually remarkable amount of consideration and work behind the scenes that goes into making the annual speaker series happen. Their goals are consistent with RIT’s whole “innovation university” kick and it comes together so well that I thought it would be nice to give them a little credit. Nice job guys!

Thanks,
Aubrey Bailey, Fifth year
Bioinformatics

DEAR REPORTER,

My name is Brian Peterson. I was a photographer for *Reporter* my first year at RIT in 1973, and the photography editor for *Reporter* for 3 years, 1974-1977.

I want to say that it is nice to see that the *Reporter* is still alive and kicking. I have been checking in from time to time to see what is being published. I can tell you that you are putting out an interesting, colorful, and informative issue every week. The online version is what I see, and it is great.

My work at *Reporter* taught me a lot — the weekly deadlines forced me to think, produce, and get the job done. It was about 60 hours a

week, but I loved it. Got paid \$25 a week, and that is pretty much what I lived off of for three years.

Scholastically, I was either on probation (didn’t give a crap about homework) or the Dean’s List (did the homework), but I realized that the hands-on experience I got at *Reporter* was worth more than the “education” I was getting. I graduated with a C, but after four years had a portfolio that the AP and Black Star said was very good for a college graduate. It wasn’t just homework — it was published.

1977 was the year we went to full color every week, which was quite the thing at the time. Actually, it was fall quarter 1977, and the editor at the time fired the Photo Editor so I could get the issue out. He didn’t trust the guy in charge at the time to do the job, so he begged me to do it. I HAD to get out of school that fall — I was running out of money. I told him I would, but I couldn’t make meetings and would work weird hours, (we were required to make editorial meetings and had to be in the office at certain hours) – I HAD to get out of there. He said “OK” and we did it.

I left *Reporter* for the Associated Press in New York, again as a photography editor. I was the first RIT hire they ever had, and somehow as a result an internship was set up for students, if I remember correctly. James Gleason (Photo Journalism instructor) was a friend of Eddie Adams at the time, and that might have had something to do with it. I don’t know if that internship is still extant.

I CAN tell you that the current supervisor of photography at the AP is Susan Plageman, who was a fellow Photo I student. She left after second year to go to the Columbia School of Journalism for Photo J, thence to the Indianapolis Star, where she was a photographer. (I got accepted also, but they would not accept credits from RIT for some reason, so I said

“screw that!” — it was weird... She wound up teaching the basic photo course there after taking it!)

I spent 3 years at the AP, and then moved to Portland, Maine, where I am now. I freelance as an editorial location photographer for a variety of businesses. It’s fun.

You probably know that Anthony Suau was a *Reporter* photographer. He got the Pulitzer in 1984 for the work he did in Ethiopia about the famine there. Also covered the Russian revolution, in Moscow at the White Houe the night it happened. He was a great guy, and I wish I’d seen him since.

Thomas Temin, Diane Snow, Mitch Klaif, and a lot of others are at the Washington Post, Wall St. Journal, and places like that — they all got the “bug” at *Reporter*.

This is getting long. Anyway, keep up the good work. And good luck to you follow your dream — it will take you to it!

Brian Peterson

Reporter Photo Editor 1974-1977

DEAR REPORTER,

We were very offended by last week’s Word on the Street question, “What’s the easiest major at RIT?” First and foremost, by simply asking this question, you’re looking to start problems. How can a student answer this question without offending someone else? And perhaps more importantly, how can a student definitively answer this question when they have not been a part of each and every major? The answer is they cannot, or at least they cannot do so accurately. The student can only guess based on their own stereotypes and perceptions as an outsider. Asking a question that forces an individual to rely on stereotypes is disgraceful.

As photo students, we are personally quite tired of the stereotypes that “photo students

NOTE

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

don’t do work” or “photo students have it easy.” In our major, Biomedical Photographic Communications, a lot is expected of us. In addition to microphotography and/or ophthalmic photography courses, we take numerous art, science and mathematics courses (including classes in digital media, calculus, medical terminology, human biology, web design, and audio visual production, to name a few). We learn to use variety of different programs, such as Photoshop, Flash, Dreamweaver, Illustrator, InDesign, and Final Cut Pro. After graduating, Biomed students

work at institutions such as the National Retina Institute, Colombia University, Fuji, IBM, Canon, Zeiss MiceoImaging and the Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole.

Our professors expect a lot from us in Biomed Photo. To be successful in this major, we have to work very hard. It’s difficult to hear people say otherwise, especially when the majority of the time, they do not even know who we are or what we do.

So before you make judgments on photo majors, packaging science majors, hotel management majors, or any other majors,

for that matter, step back and ask yourself what you are basing your judgments on.

As Benjamin Jilson said in last week’s letter to the editor, “Don’t be stupid enough to judge an activity without actually trying it first.”

Kate Palitsch, 3rd year
Biomedical Photographic Communications
Lynette Serbinski, 4th year
Biomedical Photographic Communications



POPULARITY OF ACADEMIC PARKING LOTS

DELFSNJUTGH

CHANGE IN RESIDENT PARKING PASSES

3018 2008-9
2615 2007-8

Grand Theft Auto

Brick City



by Margaret Barlow | illustration by Robert Modzelewski

FOR the second time this year, a car has been stolen from the RIT campus. According to the media crime report, the incident happened sometime on October 2 while the vehicle was parked in the Perkins Green Apartments. The car was an older Honda Accord, which was the same model as the first stolen car.

Blake DeBerto, the owner of the first targeted car, recently found his vehicle abandoned and stripped down. The car's stereo and tires had been removed, and the inside suffered damages.

"To say the least, it didn't really surprise me," said DeBerto on the condition of his car. In fact, he's decided to donate his car to a police auction.

As the Monroe County Sheriff's Department continues to investigate the car thefts, it should be noted that the two

cases are incredibly similar. "I'm kind of shocked that it was the exact same car," said DeBerto, adding that he thinks the two thefts involved the same person. "The circumstances are way too similar."

Meanwhile, Public Safety has been taking action to deal with the problem. "We always survey the areas where vehicles were stolen or broken into," said Rod Lezette, Assistant Director and Investigator for Public Safety. Public Safety has been conducting lot audits, which involve observing cars to see how likely it is for them to be targeted by a thief. The surveyors will check for things like valuable objects left in plain view. Should a problem be found, Public Safety will "email the owners that we recently surveyed their vehicle [and] found it to be an

easy target," said Lezette.

Lezette also added that security in the areas of the thefts has been increased, and that Public Safety is thinking of putting up more security cameras.

Lezette stressed that the prevention of more auto thefts is a top priority for Public Safety. Students who own vehicles are advised to always lock their doors, roll up windows, remove or stow and lock away valuable objects, and remove their stereo's faceplate if possible. Lezette noted that "people who use these lots can help [them] by reporting suspicious activity."

DeBerto advised, "I'd like people to research if their [types of] cars have a history of being broken into, or are easy to break into, and start taking better security measures." •

RIT FORECAST

compiled by Alecia Crawford

SAT18

SOAPBOX DERBY

The lawn between Buildings 70 and 17. 12 p.m. Cheer on students as they race their creations for bragging rights in this CAB special event. Cost: Free. \$10 faculty/staff, \$7 other.

SUN19

MEN'S SOCCER VS. UTICA

RIT Field. 12 p.m. Come support the Tigers against Utica. Cost: Free.

MON20

OPEN JAM

High Fidelity, 170 East Avenue. 8 p.m. Open jam night hosted by Joe Lana of Uncle Plum. Must be 21+. Cost: Free.

TUE21

ASC PRESENTS: PREPARE AND CONQUER STUDY SKILLS WORKSHOP

Sol Heumann (47-1016). 7 p.m. Learn how to be a better test-taker to make up for that midterm you may have bombed. Cost: Free.

WED22

JOHN WOOD: ON THE EDGE OF CLEAR MEANING

Memorial Art Gallery, 500 University Avenue. 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. See some interesting pieces by John Wood. Cost: \$6 with RIT ID.

THR23

VANTAGE POINT

Ingle Auditorium. 9:30 p.m. Gain some perspective with this installment of CAB's Thursday Night Cinema Series. Cost: Free.

FRI24

MEN'S CLUB HOCKEY GAME VS. CORNELL

Frank Ritter Ice Rink. 9:30 p.m. Watch the Tigers against the Cornell Bears at home. Cost: \$5.

SG UPDATES

compiled by Geoffrey H. Bliss

DISPLAYING "SPIRIT" IN THE NEW STUDENT CENTER

The Alpha Phi Omega Fraternity wishes to give Spirit's pelt a permanent place in the new student center when it opens. Spirit was the original living and breathing tiger mascot of RIT. The tiger was said to be part of their initial investment, as many brothers put forth financial contributions to help acquire him.

Spirit was purchased in 1963 from a zoo in Dallas, Texas and lived in Seneca Park Zoo when he wasn't being featured in RIT athletic events. Fourteen months later, the tiger suffered from pelvic and joint problems and was put to sleep in 1964. His pelt can be seen today in the RIT archives, located on the third floor of the Wallace Library.

Dr. Heath Boice-Pardee, Associate Vice President of Student Affairs and advisor to Student Government (SG), explained, "Spirit would have to kept in a climate-controlled area in order to be stored correctly. Still, there are many on campus who would be opposed to doing this and it could anger many students."

CAB representative Megan Maksymowich added, "Perhaps it would be better to have a framed picture of him hanging instead." Boice-Pardee noted, "This could also be done in a more respectful manner."

ITUNES U

"iTunes U will be up and running by winter quarter," said Gerry Brunelle, Director of Services. iTunesU allows students and faculty to find, download and keep up-to-date with lectures, music, and related videos of universities and cultural institutions throughout the country. For more information, visit www.apple.com/education/itunesu.

YELEHAITI

During the opening session of Speak to the Senate, where students are given the opportunity to voice their opinions to SG, the Caribbean Student Association spoke to the senate about Haiti, which was struck by Hurricane Gustav earlier this year.

"Haiti is in peril," said a representative from the group. "800 Haitians are already dead and 300 are still missing. People's livestock are gone, their crops have failed and there is massive starvation."

The student group is working with YeleHaiti, a grassroots project started by Grammy Award winning musician and producer Wyclef Jean. Their goals are to increase social responsibility on campus by building awareness of international relations, especially in Haiti. The group hopes to have the help of SG and RIT to undertake fundraising efforts and in seeking eventual corporate sponsorship. For more information, visit www.yele.org.

ART SUPPLIES IN CAMPUS CONNECTIONS

SG Public Relations Representative Kari Calenzo addressed that she would like to have art supplies available for sale at the Campus Connections store in the Student Alumni Union. The decision to follow through with this is yet to be determined.

MSOS & RSOS TO HAVE NEW CREATION PROCEDURES

The Senate voted that no new student organizations — both Representative Student Organizations (RSO) and Major Student Associations (MSO) — will be added until SG writes a new version of its bylaws.

REPORTER APPROVED CLASSES

by John Howard | illustrations by Katie Anderson

DEAR RIT STUDENTS,

I am writing you on behalf of the staff at *Reporter* that, as a whole, is very concerned with your well-being. We have heard that you have been stricken by the grim event of an approaching registration and the anxiety that inhabits it. Our hearts go out to all of you facing this stressful time. It is never one that comes easy.

Perhaps your body just needs a change: A new schedule for going about your daily life. The problem may be as simple as filling up those credits to be considered a full-time student. Whatever it is, everyone can always use some sound counsel from time to time.

Hence, we have enclosed a list of classes that may help bring some relief to the strain you are feeling. The list includes a series of classes we have all found beneficial in similar times of struggle. Please consider the list when as you proceed with your recovery, as we have all found the results quite soothing.

We encourage you to remain strong through these tough times and try new classes that appeal to you. The following list is only a guideline to the immense opportunity that awaits.

Good luck and choose wisely and freely. Our heart is with you always.

Sincerely,
REPORTER

WINES OF THE WORLD - 0621-501

"You could take it with me next quarter! What could be better?"

Eric Drummond, Photo Editor

Description: Despite the obvious attraction of drinking during class, this course can offer a lot of beneficial insight if you are planning for a somewhat-executive career. Wines of the World will give you skills and knowledge that won't necessarily get you that job, but will impress your bosses after they take you out to dinner — after being so impressed by your résumé, of course.

Availability: Four sections are available in the 2008-2009 Winter quarter. This one goes fast. There is a \$100 lab fee.

Credits: 2



PROGRAMMING LANGUAGE CONCEPTS - 4003-450

"Computer Science majors are required to take this course; every other computer-related student *should* be required to take it. In the Real World, you'll need a hell of a lot more than the Java you get from the introductory computer programming classes. This course will show you just how ignorant you are of life outside of object-oriented code and will then attempt to correct that ignorance."

Jen Loomis, Copy Editor

Description: A study of the syntax and semantics of a diverse set of high-level programming languages. The languages chosen are compared and contrasted in order to demonstrate general principles of programming language design. This course emphasizes the concepts underpinning modern languages rather than the mastery of particular language details.

Availability: One section is available in the Winter and two in the Spring quarter.

Credits: 4

WRITING THE TECHNICAL MANUAL - 0535-446

"I made a technical manual with my group about recording a song in RIT's sound room. I learned about manual writing and how to use InDesign Software."

Rachel Hart, Sports/Views Editor

Description: This course is an expansion of Technical Writing (0502-444), where you will learn all that goes into writing a technical manual from researching to designing to writing to editing. Students will design and produce their own technical document based on what they learn from the class and their skills in technical writing.

Availability: This class was only offered in Fall quarter, so look out for it next year. Technical Writing and Technical Writing & Editing through the Applied Arts and Sciences school will be offered in the winter.

Credits: 4

MODERN EUROPEAN HISTORY - 0507-302

"...Because everyone should know it."

Chris Zubak-Skees, Online Editor

Description: Ever wonder what was going on in Europe while we were all wrapped up, being depressed in the 1930s or stop to think how WWI and WWII affected countries other than America? If you want to expand your knowledge on these two areas as well everything that happened in Europe in the twentieth century as it crescendoed into the twenty-first, then you may consider this class. It will explore all the events and movements of the 1900s that made Europe what it is today and how those movements have impacted the rest of the world.

Availability: Two sections open in the 2008-2009 Winter quarter.

Credits: 4



PUBLIC SPEAKING - 0535-501

"Great class to improve personal speaking skills, sales presentations, and persuasive writing rolled into one. Counts as an Arts of Expression, too, if you don't want to take a language!"

Kyle O'Neill, Ad Manager

Description: It's public speaking and the theory behind it. This class not only centers on infamous speeches, but also dissects them, highlighting everything from organization to the technology that goes into making a persuasive speech. Though the course is designed as a requirement for communication majors, this class is open to anyone that needs to fill a free elective.

Availability: Available quarterly. Four sections open this Winter quarter.

Credits: 4

CREATIVE WRITING: POETRY - 0502-451

"An awesome way to exercise your poetic soul and earn four credits... Not your average Liberal Arts course."

Andy Rees, News Editor

Description: This class explores both open and closed forms of poetic language and everything in between. You will read poetry and write your own every week, working towards a final portfolio that will reflect the amount of work you put into the class. Don't be fooled by misconceptions. There is a lot of work involved in this class, but if you enjoy poetry or writing in general, it's definitely something to look into.

Availability: One section is available in the 2008-2009 Winter quarter.

Credits: 4



TYPOGRAPHY- 2010-302

"It is good information to know even if you aren't interested in design."

Susie Sobota, Art Director

Description: A lecture/studio-based class where students will get experience in the history, principles, and methods of typography as means of visual communication. Students will apply what they learn from the lecture to the studio in order to create projects aimed to solve communication problems and develop their computer skills.

Availability: Three sections of Typography I available in the 2008-2009 Winter quarter.

Credits: 3



ROCK CLIMBING - 1112-050

"I started rock climbing eight years ago because I wanted to get over my fear of heights. I took the class because I missed it and I needed exercise. I'm still afraid of heights [but I enjoyed the class]."

Madeleine Villavicencio, Features Editor

Description: Get your wellness requirements out of the way with this, a course in indoor rock climbing and the science behind it. From stretching to descent, this class goes over everything you'll need to improve your skills as a rock climber. Though a course fee does apply, it is the only thing that will cost you money, as all the proper equipment is provided.

Availability: There are eight sections of this class open in the Winter quarter, but there's a reason for it. This class is popular and seats will go fast.

Credits: 0

VIKING MYTH AND SAGA - 0504-465

"First, [the professor] Saari is practically a Viking herself. Second, you watch a movie every class on crazy Viking adventures of old (be prepared to learn a lot about boats). Third, the readings are epic sagas! And who knows — you might just discover your concentration. I did!"

Katie Anderson, Illustrator

Description: This is a literature class delving in the subject of the Viking world through readings of myths, sagas, and folktales. The class will explore these texts, not only as powerful narrative works, but also as a definition of a culture that has been a dominant force in the evolution of western culture.

Availability: One section is available this year, but not until Spring quarter.

Credits: 4





Piranha

Sushi on Park Avenue

IN the mood for some sushi one afternoon, I made the trek out to Park Avenue to see what Piranha was all about. I thought I could deal with the construction around the restaurant until my meal and my life almost ended prematurely: A hammer landed just inches from my table.

After the near-death experience, our meal arrived. The four rolls that my party ordered were of a variety of types; Tres Amigos, Spicy Tuna, Philadelphia, and Mistletoe. Even for me — by no means a sushi connoisseur — the preparation seemed subpar.

I am a huge fan of miso soup. Being Japanese, I've been served miso soup at dinner for as long as I can remember. The soup I was served at Piranha was a tease. It had the look of a quality miso soup — it had a dark color-

ing (meaning a stronger miso flavor) and was packed full of shiitake mushrooms and tofu — but lacked taste. Slightly flavored water was what I received as an appetizer to my meal, not something that energized me for what was to come.

Some subtle and some not so subtle twists were hidden in those rolls of rice. The Spicy Tuna roll is traditionally a slice of tuna that is wrapped in rice and nori (Japanese seaweed) with a spicy sauce or wasabi to up the blazing flavor. The roll I received was made with medium quality tuna, and meat was falling away from the adjoining pieces (a tell-tale sign of older fish). It was fused with a basil paste and was lacking any semblance of heat. I found myself dousing the roll with wasabi in order to not only satiate my craving

for spice, but also mask the overpowering basil taste.

The other rolls that we ordered followed the same pattern: Not so fresh fish and awkward seasonings that would leave anyone's palate trying to figure out what the hell they were eating at a price equal to or greater than that of other sushi restaurants around. I didn't try the restaurant's other specialty (tapas dishes) during my first visit, but I may be giving Piranha another chance for those.

You can expect to pay around \$15 a head here for an appetite somewhat satisfied (a moderate price for sushi in Rochester when ordering by rolls). However, the \$20 all-you-can-eat with soup and salad that other restaurants offer seems a much more appetizing alternative, both for your stomach and your wallet.

Piranha is in the mix with cafes and pizza places, between Berkeley and Buckingham on Park Avenue. Owner and Chef Nick Grammatico opened the restaurant this July with a menu blending his previous sushi experience at California Rollin' in Village Gate with authentic Mediterranean tapas dishes.

Located at 682 Park Avenue, the bustling of people going about their day offers a unique atmosphere to enjoy your meal at Piranha. The restaurant features a small sushi bar with both indoor and outdoor tables. However, the limited seating makes for a confined meal and an intimate experience is one thing you certainly won't find; hammers will make sure of that. •

by Jason Brown
photograph by Chris Valites

SPILL IT

by e.

DEAR E,

I'm really crushing on the guy who sits in front of me in class. We tell each other little jokes and say a few things here and there, but nothing major. The problem is that I've been burned by RIT-style creeps in the past, and now I'm too shy to go any further. He seems too shy, too. What should I do?

Hey, quiet guy! Turn around and talk with me, already!

Timid in Golisano

DEAR TIMID,

I think you just need to grow up a little. You're not in high school anymore, and we no longer live in a world where the male is expected to make the first move.

The word "crush" is generally used by girls in grade school and is found to mean puppy love or temporary love of an adolescent. So maybe you're just not ready for college-level relationships. But, if you truly believe you are, keep reading.

If you want someone to talk to you, talk to them first. It's as easy as that. You say you're already telling jokes to each other. What's so hard about asking him out after class? Asking someone out doesn't have to mean a romantic date. Become his friend first and then you can decide if he is a creep or not — although my guess is that he can't be that bad if you're continuing to talk and tell jokes in class.

Stereotyping is something that is often done in our society, but you close a lot of doors by doing it. So, by assuming every guy at RIT is or will be a creep, you're doing yourself a disservice.

It's important to get to know people prior to being in a relationship. Otherwise you'll end up being disappointed. Don't be blinded by this guy's obvious interest in you. It's important to get to know the guy — as well as other guys — better and then decide what to do next.

People often have different attitudes based on where they are. They can be really quiet in class but really obnoxious with their friends. Humans tend to be influenced by their surroundings and by peer pressure. Obviously, though, not everyone is influenced to such extremes.

After you have spent time getting to know him, whether it's hanging out in a large group or having an intimate dinner (or both), you'll have a better idea of their personality and what's important to him. You'll realize that there is more to him than those cute jokes he tells you in class. Then, you can decide if you want to continue to pursue a romantic relationship, or see if he is not what you want in a boyfriend after all.

e.

DEAR E,

I want to start a club but I don't know if anyone would be interested in Polka dancing.

Dorky Dancer

DEAR DANCER,

Well, there is only one way to find out, and that is to start asking!

The best approach would be to start the process of getting your club recognized. According to the Center for Campus Life website (campuslife.rit.edu), this is done by filling out an Intent to Form application. Once you have submitted that and your club has been approved, you can start recruiting members. You will be allowed to create posters and reserve rooms to gain interest in your club. You'll have three months to prove your club will gain enough interest to warrant its existence and finish the application process.

RIT already offers a few different dance-related clubs, including the Ballroom Dance Club, Break Dancing Club, Dance Team, and the Swing Dance Club. It might be a good idea to go and check out some of the clubs and find out if any of their members are interested in learning Polka, too. If that's the case, you'd want to make sure to have your meetings at a different time so they can attend both clubs.

To be considered a club you'll need a full-time RIT employee member to be your advisor. Before you even apply it might be good to approach a few employees as it could take time to find one willing to commit. Once you have that advisor you can complete the Application for RIT Club Recognition.

After that's complete, it's the waiting game to find out if the Club Review Board has approved your Polka club.

e.

Got problems? Put your issues in ours! Send anything you've got to spillit@reportermag.com or by anonymously visiting reportermag.com and using the contact form. •



SONIC CHRONICLES: THE DARK BROTHERHOOD

by Chukwuma Morah

If you were in elementary school during the early '90s you had a tough decision to make: Mario or Sonic the Hedgehog? Sorry, Keanu Reeves, but this was the real "red or blue pill" dilemma. Me? I chose the blue pill, spat it out after a few years, and gladly consumed the red one when *Super Mario 64* came out. Considering that all of the Sonic games released within the last decade did not meet expectations, could this year's *Sonic Chronicles* lure me back to the blue side?

The game has you guide Sonic's ragtag team of talking animals (who all wear gloves for some reason) through several locales as they work together to battle Dr. Eggman's alter-ego. Unlike other Sonic games, *The Dark Brotherhood* is a turn-based role-playing game (RPG), much like the *Final Fantasy* series. What differs from typical RPG is its battle system: You perform attacks by tapping and sliding across the DS's touch screen like in *Elite Beat Agents*. This keeps you involved in every battle and becomes surprisingly addicting.

The enjoyable battle system of *The Dark Brotherhood* almost made me forget how truly mediocre the rest of the game really is. The story is forgettable at best and moves quite slow; it pretty much consists of playing fetch for

a bunch of lazy people. The art, animation, and sound are in need of a good polish as well.

Overall, *The Dark Brotherhood* is a decent title that should tickle any Sonic fan's fancy. If you're looking for a satisfactory handheld RPG to pass some time then this could be your winner. What's awesome is that you can play the game with only one hand, making it a must-have for any (and I mean any) liberal arts class. Just don't come looking for me when you fail your next test.

Sonic Chronicles: *The Dark Brotherhood* (DS)
Developer: BioWare
Publisher: SEGA
Price: \$35

DAMIERA: M(US)IC

by Evan McNamara

Have you ever been listening to a band, banging your head while tapping your foot along with the rhythm, when out of nowhere the time signature changes and you feel like a fool because what once was in rhythm now looks like a ridiculous twitch? If you have had that feeling (and pardon the run-on sentence) and did not care for it much, Damiera is not a band for you.

Damiera plays a very technical brand of upbeat post-hardcore with more time changes than a Swiss clock factory. Taking heavy cues from Washington, DC band Faraquet, the centerpiece of *M(US)IC* (pronounced "Us in music") is an intricately layered structure built by dueling guitar parts. The vocals are the weak point of the album — the singer's high-pitched

voice comes off whiney at times — but are generally tolerable.

Their songs are fast and complicated, but are also catchy as hell. "Ember Eason" stands out as possibly the best of the bunch, as the verse has a freakishly good bassline and simple guitar adornments that string between massive sing-a-long choruses.

It's definitely foot-tap worthy material, but be warned: As soon as you catch up to one time signature, chances are it will change in another few measures, leaving you behind again and looking like a complete fool.



BAD BRAINS: Build a Nation

by Evan McNamara

Some will say that Bad Brains is made up of two different bands: One that is a ferocious and pioneering hardcore punk act, and the other that is a new-wave dub group.

In sound, perhaps this could be true, but this band was and still continues to be beyond influential in many musical circles today.

Build a Nation is the band's first album in years and works to join the two eras of the band. At the forefront is a hardcore aggression that is not only present in the fast portions of the album, but throughout the rest as well. Vocalist H.R. adds a unique element with his reggae-styled vocals, the cherry on top of this punk-rock sundae.

Oddly enough, the best tracks are the dub tracks, with the closer "Peace be Unto Thee" being a standout. "Until Kingdom Comes" is what Matisyahu wishes he could sound like, and "Roll On," possibly one of the best songs, is clearly meant to get high to, all the while praising "Jah."

Some people will only like the punk half of this album and some only the dub half. Truth be told, they will be the ones missing out because what makes Bad Brains Bad Brains is the melding of both styles into one mind-blowing record.

STREAM OF FACTS

The first traffic lights that appeared in London were gas-powered, displaying only the colors red and green. The colors of traffic signals are often thought to provoke emotion: Red for intensity and green for tranquility.

The green fluorescent characteristics of a protein found in Jellyfish, called GFP, enable it to be used within cells as a precise tracking method of the development of cancer.*

Jerome Monroe Smucker, the name we all associate so strongly with glass-jarred strawberry jelly, actually started his days with apples, making cider and apple butter.

Apple MacBook laptop batteries are only covered by AppleCare for up to 300 cycles. After this point, batteries are said to only retain 80 percent of their original power, and none of their replacement value.

The 1980 Olympic games were boycotted by the United States in response to the Soviet Union's invasion of Afghanistan. Other nations that didn't send athletes to the games included Canada, West Germany, Israel, and the People's Republic of China.

On March 4, 1974, the first issue of *People* magazine sold for 35 cents. Featured on the cover of this release was an illustrated portrait of Mia Farrow (*Rosemary's Baby*, 1968), who was recently featured in *Be Kind Rewind* as Miss Falewicz.

Greenwood, Mississippi is home to the largest bible-binding plant in the country, Norris Bookbinding Company. The plant also specializes in binding books, magazines, newspapers, church bulletins, and other custom work.

Sati, a now illegal funeral method in the Hindu culture, was a custom in which a recently widowed woman would voluntarily burn herself along with her husband's corpse, effectively committing suicide.

*Scientists Martin Chalfie, Roger Tsien, and Osamu Shimomura won a Nobel Peace Prize in Chemistry this year for their discovery of the development of this protein.

DIFFICULTY: EASY

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					8		
				2	4	7	5

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CARTOON by Michael Dennerly



OVERSEEN AND OVERHEARD AT RIT

"My roommate had sex on my couch. Do you know how long it takes to clean sex out of a couch?!"
• Student at the RITZ, while enjoying lunch with another student

"Larissa, I need to talk to you. Please call me without wax."
• Confusing note left on a bike outside of Building 70

"I'm going to stick a condom to the bottom of my shoe."
• Female student at Crossroads

QUOTE

"WE ARE ALL TIED TO OUR DESTINY AND THERE IS NO WAY WE CAN LIBERATE OURSELVES."

Rita Hayworth

REPORTER RECOMMENDS

Writing out your course numbers for registration. This one is going out to all you first years that have yet to experience the great joy of registration day. I'll spare you the details of the 6 a.m. stress and frustration that'll be blowing your minds on the morning of October 22 (write that date down, by the way), because

you will all feel it anyway. But from someone who's been there, be forewarned: Plan ahead. Write down all the classes you want to take along with their course numbers in order of their priority in your schedule — that way, you'll be registering for the most important classes first. Have some backups as well,

because, believe it or not, you're not the center of the universe and you may not get into all your first choices. Have your list, alarm, and coffee ready to go the night before. Keep in mind that SIS closes at midnight the night before, so don't plan on looking stuff up after then. Good luck surviving the stampede!



BILL NYE AT BRICK CITY

by Alecia Crawford | photograph by Kate Bubacz

Last Saturday, students, parents, faculty, and alumni alike packed the Gordon Field House to witness an hour long presentation from an eccentric man in a bow tie. The mood outside was gloomy for all those shut out of the sold-out show, but inside the atmosphere was tense with Bill Nye-related anticipation.

After listening to three short introductory speeches (including those by President Bill Destler and Student Government President Ed Wolf), Nye took the stage as this year's Horton Speaker and caused a standing ovation. Seeing him was a throwback to memories of the '90s, yet here he was, still as popular as ever. This was the Science Guy: The man with the catchy theme song; the man who helped me with my third grade science project; my educational entertainment from ages five to nine.

Nye started by stating that we were the "space generation," all the while experiencing technical difficulties with both his portable microphone and on-screen Power Point presentation for his first three minutes of stage time. He stalled and made jokes but then "the guy in blue, Andrew"

(from ITS) came to the rescue and things really got rolling. He talked about his father, Ned Nye, the "Boy Scientist" who really liked sundials — I mean *really* liked sundials.

Ever so naturally, Nye linked this strange family fact to his involvement with Cornell University, where he received his Bachelor's in Mechanical Engineering. One day, he explained, he put a sundial on Mars, an achievement that would allow scientist to keep time on another planet. Nye segued to talking about the different temperatures on the four planets closest to the sun. Compared to the other three planets, Earth has the perfect temperate given our atmosphere. You can probably tell where this one is going.

Conservation was a major point of his lecture. Nye displayed

pictures of the solar panels installed on his roof. The panels themselves obtain about four kilowatts in solar power, making his electric bill about \$7 a month. Or, Nye joked, "\$7.01 when there's 31 days in the month."

Nye then brought up what he referred to as "vampires," and displayed a picture of a fanged vampire bat to underline his point. As it turns out, 8% of our electricity is wasted due to "vampires," otherwise known as unused electrical appliances that are simply left plugged into the wall (such as cell phone chargers and toasters). Nye supported his point with several statistics and stated that everyone could do their part and "possibly change the world."

After he was finished speaking, the audience was allowed to ask questions. Although the Student Government President and Vice President both warned him several times about the time, I was able to get one in.

I asked how Don Herbert (otherwise known as Mr. Wizard, the science guy of our parents' generation) had inspired him to go into science. It just so happens that Mr. Wizard inspired him a tremendous deal. He would watch his reruns, claiming that "he sent us to the moon." Nye even wrote a tribute to Mr. Wizard in the *LA Times* last year following his death.

The hour concluded and everyone went home satisfied with his fill of the Science Guy. With the stress of school upon us — as well as the commencement of our journey as adults and the reality of the real world slowly seeping in — Bill Nye reminded us all of the comfort of our childhood memories and the responsibility that we now hold for the future, all packaged neatly in an hour-long slot and trimmed with a bow tie. •

News Media Transformed: But Who's the Audience?

Traci Bauer,
Managing Editor for Multimedia & Innovation,
Democrat & Chronicle

Peter Iglinski,
Executive Producer of Public Affairs,
WXXI

Stephen Dawe,
News Director,
13WHAM-TV ABC

Andrew Lucyszyn,
Director of Digital Media,
13WHAM-TV ABC

Laura Mandanas,
Editor-in-Chief,
RIT Reporter Magazine

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Webb Auditorium
Bldg 7A (room 1350)

Interpreting services will be provided.

Paul & Louise Miller
LECTURE SERIES

Put That In Your Pipe and Smoke It: How Hackers Are Shutting Down Hash Functions

by Jen Loomis

Meet Alice. She's a workaholic RIT student pulling 20 credit hours while simultaneously holding down a part-time job making Ultimate Tacos and Hard Drive Paninis in the RITz. Seeing the Dow Jones take a nosedive, Alice decides it may be a good time to pick up some cheap stocks. Sitting down in front of her MacBook Pro, she logs onto her Bank of America account and starts a real-time conversation with her banker, Bob. Her request? To transfer \$1000 from her checking account into a market index fund.

But there's trouble afoot! Meet Eve, a hacker intent on thieving over the Internet. With her bitwise operations obsession, her expertise in operating system weaknesses, and her large mug of Mountain Dew, Eve has managed to place herself in the middle of Alice and Bob's conversation. Every message between Alice and Bob must first go through Eve.

Unfortunately for Alice (and for the rest of us!), current hash functions will be useless in the near future. In fact, some are already broken and more will fail within a few years. Without suitable replacements, the already shaky trust that consumers place in the Internet will become questionable, almost quaint in its naiveté.

resistance criterion is accomplished in a variety of ways; the key concept is that one or more steps must be irreversible.

Most functions we encounter in our early education are reversible. Addition is reversible via subtraction, multiplication by division, and so on. For a hash function to work, there must be a step in the algorithm where there is no good means of determining what information was added, deleted, or otherwise modified. A trivial example would be 'delete the first two letters in a word.' This is irreversible because given the output "elves" you would be unable to identify whether the input was "shelves," "twelves," or something else entirely.

Second, hash functions must be quick to compute. Hash functions are employed in many secure modes of network traffic. Therefore, they have to be fast or run the risk of dramatically slowing down communication. A related requirement is that hash functions must have a fixed-length output.

As noted above, hash functions are used to verify data integrity. In doing so, they send extra data over the network. To avoid unnecessary lag, we want this data to be as small as possible. For most current functions, the output length is somewhere between 128-bits and 160-bits. (Recall that computers 'think' in binary, so a bit is a simple 1 or 0.)

Of course, there's a problem with producing a fixed-length output while still allowing a variable-length input. This is simple set theory. If my function hashes to a 128-bit value, the total

"[Hash functions are] taking as input digital data and compressing it into a fixed-size, let's say, a fingerprint... very small, very tiny, very easy to store and manipulate and compare. If we can almost guarantee the uniqueness of that fingerprint, it becomes a very powerful tool."

— Professor Radziszowski

Here is where the danger lies. What's to stop this eavesdropping hacker from replacing Alice's honest request? Instead of transferring \$1000 from Alice's checking account into Alice's index fund, Eve could manipulate the message to request a transfer of \$10,000 from Alice's savings account to Eve's offshore bank account. What's a girl to do?

Enter the hash function. Before Alice sends that transfer request to Bob, her computer hashes it to ensure data integrity – this is a typical and automatic security measure for important communication technologies. The end result is similar to a credit card digit check. When Eve manipulates the message text, Bob will be able to detect that it has been altered and will deny Eve's fraudulent request.

WHAT, EXACTLY, IS A HASH FUNCTION?

Before diving into hash functions, we need to recall the precise mathematical definition of a function. For those not algebraically-oriented, remember the form from your high school days: $f(x) = y$. That is to say: If we feed some input x into a function f , there will be some output y .

For our cryptographic purposes, hash functions must fulfill four other specific criteria. They must be pre-image resistant, quick to compute, producers of fixed-length outputs, and collision-free. We'll take a look at all of these in turn.

First criterion: Hash functions are pre-image resistant, meaning that given output y , it is difficult to derive the input x . The pre-image

THE BIRTHDAY ATTACK

Let's pretend you're sitting in class. Assuming there are 22 other people in your class, what is the probability of two people sharing the same birthday? Seems unlikely, right?

Wrong. The probability is right around 50%. Here's the trick. When thinking about this question, you're not looking for "what are the chances that someone in this room shares my birthday?" This is an incorrect interpretation. What you're really examining is the connection between any two birthdays, which, in this case, gives you the below probability. For $n=23$, this value works out to be about 50.7%.

The birthday paradox is the basis for a hash function-breaking technique called the birthday attack. Say I have a valid message m and a fraudulent message f . In order to defraud someone, I'll need to attach message m 's digital signature to message f . In other words, I need m and f to hash to the same value. I can create two large lists, one containing variations on m and the other containing variations on f . These variations are generated by using synonyms, adding spaces, altering punctuation, etc. The meaning of messages won't be fundamentally changed, but its form will be altered. I can then hash the values in both lists and try to find a

value in one list that equals a value on the other list.

This problem varies slightly from the original birthday problem because we can only compare values from one list to another list. Substitute $2n$ for n in the probability equation to compensate for this difference. Breaking SHA-1 via the birthday attack would take approximately 2^{80} calculations. While that is not a small number, this method could be feasibly performed on personal computers within the next decade. •

$$\bar{p}(n) = 1 \times \left(1 - \frac{1}{365}\right) \times \left(1 - \frac{2}{365}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{n-1}{365}\right) = \frac{365 \times 364 \cdots (365 - n + 1)}{365^n} = \frac{365!}{365^n(365 - n)!}$$

number of possible outputs is then 2^{128} (that's two options for each of the 128 digits). While this is not a small number, it is definitely smaller than infinity, which is the size of our input set. Thus, we are bound to have collisions, two input values that map to the same output value.

The fourth criterion for hash functions, then, is misleading. When we say that a hash function should be collision-free, we mean that collisions should be infeasible but clearly not impossible to detect and compute.

HOW DO HASH FUNCTIONS WORK?

Remember that Alice thwarted Eve by using a hash function to protect her data from manipulation. There are two common venues for this protection to occur in. The simpler of the two deals with authentication. Some web-based applications, such as e-mail clients or social networking sites, use hash functions to protect passwords before sending them over the network.

Say Alice, before doing her banking, wants to check her favorite social networking site. She logs in with her username and password. The program cannot simply send the password unprotected because Eve would be able to grab it and access Alice's account. The program also cannot encrypt the password; it's likely too short to withstand cryptanalysis.

Instead, the program will hash the password before sending it to the server. The result will then be secure enough to withstand cryptanalysis. Moreover, Eve will only know the fixed-length output of the hash function and not its actual length. As the hash function is irreversible, she will be unable to derive the original password.

The more complex yet more useful application for hash functions lies in a concept called a digital signature, which is similar to a real life signature. When you endorse a check, your signature is tied to both yourself and that check. Both bindings ensure that a criminal won't be able to write faulty checks in your name.

Similarly, digital signatures bind to both the sender of a message and the message itself. The process obviously cannot be as simple as appending a hand-written signature, however;

in the digital realm, that signature is easily replicable via scanning technologies. It is not a sufficient means of identification.

Alice's hash function created a digital signature which Bob could use to verify the message's authenticity. Here's how it works:

1. Alice sends a message to Bob, asking him to transfer \$1000 from her checking account to her index fund.
2. The banking application hashes the message, creating a signature document to send along with the message itself. This effectively ties the signature to the message.
3. The banking application encrypts the signature with a key that only Alice and Bob know. By using her private key, this encryption ties the signature to Alice.
4. The message travels through public space from Alice to Bob. Along the way, Eve intercepts it.
5. Bob receives the message and hashes it. He decrypts the signature using Alice's private key, and compares that value to the hashed value. If they match, Bob knows the message is legit. If not, he knows it's a forgery.

This process bars Eve from altering the message. If she changes it, she won't be able to reuse the accompanying signature (because it won't link to the new message) and she won't be able to create a new signature (because it won't link to Alice).

WHY ARE HASH FUNCTIONS BREAKING?

Hash functions are complicated, for sure, but they aren't bullet proof. Truth be told, at least one modern hash function is already broken. According to Professor Stanislaw Radziszowski of the Computer Science department, the widely used MD5 (Message-Digest algorithm 5) standard has been unsafe for years. "There are collisions for MD5. Actually, there is software out there which can find new ones in a matter of seconds."

The first blow to the MD5 algorithm landed in 1995. A team of Chinese researchers — Wang, Yu, and Yin — discovered and published a collision. Using a process called differential probabilistic cryptanalysis, they found two input values that mapped to the same output value. This discovery spelled trouble.

Once a hacker determines how to generate collisions for a given message, it becomes possible for him or her to forge signatures. In our example, if Eve could generate a fraudulent message that happened to hash to the same value as Alice's original message, then it's a done deal. Eve can reuse the signature from Alice's original transmission and could then trick Bob into helping her steal Alice's hard-earned cash.

So, when the original Chinese researchers published their collision, it was game over for MD5. Soon after the find, the standard fell apart. Now there are programs available that will automatically generate collisions on a given message.

Part of the trouble lies in Moore's law, which dictates an exponential growth in computational power. Computers get faster and more powerful each year. As a result, they are capable of performing more calculations at higher speeds. This is a problem for the entire field of computer security. Many encryption schemes and hash functions rely on computational complexity to protect themselves from brute force attacks, brainless attempts to properly guess the concealed value by generating all possible values and looking for a match. Current hash schemes require an impractically large number of calculations before the probability of guessing correctly rises above 50% (see sidebar). As computers grow more powerful, however, these attacks will become more practical — and eventually trivial — to perform.

Alice sends a message to Bob, asking him to transfer \$1000 from her checking account to her index fund.

MD5 is already broken. The other standard, SHA-1 (Secure Hash Algorithm 1), is also in danger of breaking. Per Radziszowski, "As far as I know, there are no [collisions] for SHA-1. However, the expectations are that such a collision could be found pretty soon. That's creating lots of fear in some people because it can have very dramatic consequences...When collisions for SHA-1 are found, then many important security systems become very weak. It is getting dangerous." Though there are no known collisions yet, some people predict that SHA-1 will be compromised by 2010. The walls are crumbling.

WHAT ARE WE DOING ABOUT IT?

We can't leave ourselves defenseless, but how can we combat the Eves of the world if our current shields are breaking? According to the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), we outfit ourselves with tougher armor.

In November 2007, NIST issued a call for a new cryptographic hash function. Very soon, the submission period for the contest will be over. "The first full submission [is due] October 31, and then...well — you know you can't predict, it will be known in a month — but one of the NIST officials [speculated] that we will have 20 submissions of acceptable quality."

The vetting of the new cryptographic function, dubbed SHA-3, will be a public matter. Making the gory details of a security measure open for consumption may initially sound odd; however, we live in the era of key-based cryptography. Most security algorithms are well known, published, and freely available for all to study and implement in code. Although the earliest security algorithms were based on hiding them, today's security is based on the complexity of the result, a number that's directly linked to the fixed-size output. SHA-3 is expected to have an output size of 256 bits, which is twice as big as MD5.

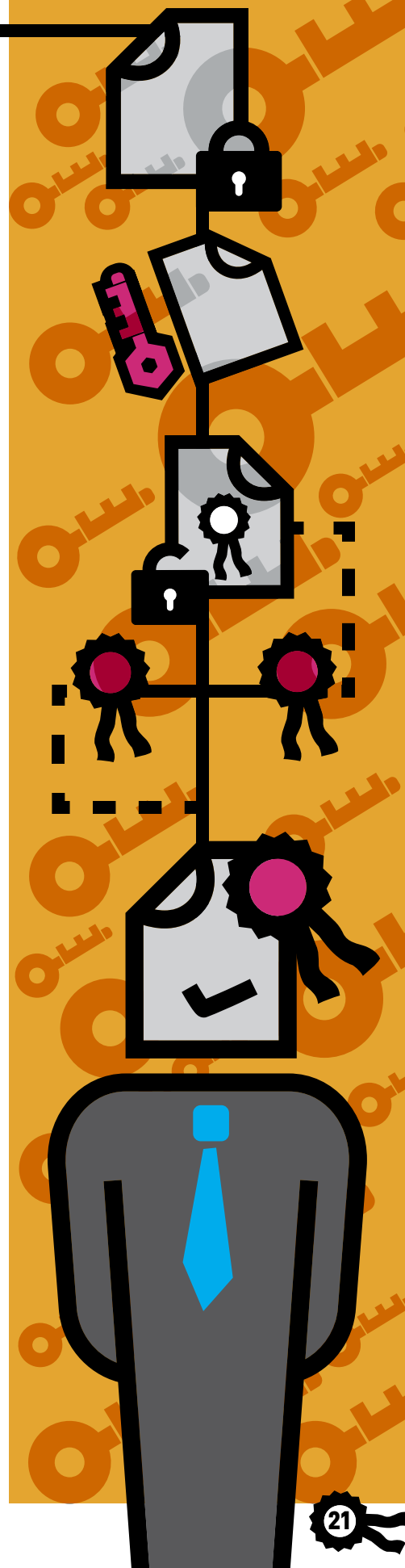
Students and professors will stand to gain a lot from this contest. Since hash functions are so small, they will be easy to study in the classroom. According to Radziszowski, "The nice thing is that these will be very short programs. 100, maybe 150 lines of C code... something you could explain to students in an hour." The public process, then, could aid students in learning the field of cryptography. Graduate work, doctoral theses, and other pedagogical pursuits could be framed around this contest. That work, in turn, will help to whittle down the list of candidates into one prime choice.

THE BOTTOM LINE

We are still several years away from agreeing on a new hashing standard. Meanwhile, our protections against hackers like Eve are slipping away. Says Radziszowski, "Unfortunately, science becomes much like politics... there is a very slow, painful progress. It may take time [to break SHA-1]. Nobody knows, I can't predict, but it may well be that it takes [only] another year or two." We can only hope that the transition to a new standard is smooth. •

The message travels through public space from Alice to Bob. Along the way, Eve intercepts it.

Bob receives the message and hashes it. He decrypts the signature using Alice's private key, and compares that value to the hashed value. If they match, Bob knows the message is legit. If not, he knows it's a forgery.

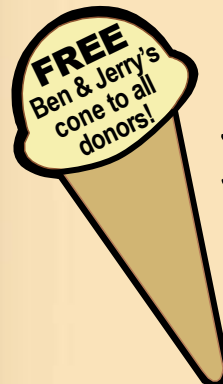


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| Corner Store (10 – 11 p.m.) | SAU-lobby (8 – 10 p.m.) |
| Crossroads (11 a.m. – 2 p.m.) | Shumway Commons (10:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.) |
| Golisano College - the Atrium (11 a.m. – 2 p.m.) | Student Life Center (10:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.) |
| Grace Watson Hall - lobby (4 – 8 p.m.) | Wallace Library - lobby (10:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.) |

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BRICK CITY ALUMNI: HOW RIT HAS CHANGED

by Michael Barbato, Maximiliano Herrera, and Andy Rees



Karen Gates Andrew, a 1971 graduate of the school of Retail and Internal Design, takes a look at a photo of her old college friend, Maria Rainone Lewis, (background) a 1971 graduate of the Food Administration Program on display at Archives Exhibition: Women at RIT. Photograph by Maxwell Citizen Kepler.

JOE BRAIRBACK

Mathematics
Class of '77

WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT OCCUPATION?

I'm a real estate appraiser. (Laughs)

WHAT WAS YOUR MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT AS A STUDENT AT RIT?

It would have to be the State Championship for basketball my senior year. We won, and it was absolutely fantastic: Highlight of my college career!

JOE NOBLE

Printing
Class of '83

WHAT WAS RIT LIKE WHEN YOU WERE HERE?

Bricks, still the bricks (Laughs): 'Brick City.' It was a good campus. I learned a lot. And it helped me for my future career.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

I'm working for Kodak. I manage customer service for the Kodak online photo experience. What I learned here gave me the background in what I needed to manage different situations.

TERY OLSZEWSKI BINKLEY

Chemistry
Class of '58

WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT OCCUPATION?

I am an RAS engineer (Reliability Assurance for Manufacturing Engineer) for IBM.

DO YOU FEEL RIT PREPARED YOU FOR YOUR CAREER?

Yes. Absolutely. I had wonderful professors and many great classes.

YOUR FAVORITE THING ABOUT RIT WHEN YOU WERE A STUDENT?

When I was a student, I lived in Kate Gleason Hall, and we had dances that required that we ask out a date. If we didn't go with a date, we had to pay a penalty. Those were terrific because we always had big name bands for the time.

WHAT WERE THE PENALTIES?

It was never anything official, but everyone in the hall participated. Sometimes, it was a small fine; other times, it was a big dare. I don't even want to say what my friend had to do when she didn't show up at all!

WHAT KEEPS BRINGING YOU BACK TO BRICK CITY?

Well, meeting with all those terrific people from the [Kate Gleason] Hall to remember all those wonderful times and those dances. And I am just absolutely in love with Rochester.



Interior Design alumni Lucy Piper (Class of 2002), left, and Karen Singleton (Class of 2008) speak with Chuck Lewis, the Program Chair and Professor for the Industrial and Interior Design Program at the Interior Design Reunion. Photograph by Jennifer Abraham.

IAN HOWARD

Computer Science
Class of '96

WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT OCCUPATION?

I was working at Microsoft for a while, but it wasn't what I wanted to do with my degree. So I left and I tried to create my own start-up, which never actually started up. Right now, I'm working for small company, and looking to get into a graduate school.

WHAT SCHOOLS ARE YOU CONSIDERING?

RIT is definitely on the list, which is a major reason I decided to come this weekend.

YOUR FAVORITE THING ABOUT RIT WHEN YOU WERE A STUDENT?

During my third year, my room-mates and I had a prank war that lasted almost the entire year. The best prank was when I woke up and I was surrounded by male mannequins. It might sound lame, but I was scared out of my mind when I first woke up to that. I still don't know where they got all those mannequins.

MANNEQUINS?

I didn't get it, either.

JIM MINNO

Marketing
Class of '79

WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT OCCUPATION?

Director of Research at the RIT Development Center
[Editor's note: Jim's memory of the RIT campus is of quite a different place. While at RIT, he remembers launching hang gliders from the top of Ellingson hall and watching Monroe County Sheriffs chase motorcycles through the tunnels during a frat's "Hell's Angels Party."]

WHAT IS YOUR BEST MEMORY OF RIT?

The first day I was in the dorms. It was raining like crazy and my parents ended up leaving. I walked out into the lounge, and within like a minute somebody yelled from the balcony, 'Hey you! Do you drink beer?' I said, "Yeah," and they said, "Get your mug and get up here!"

I went upstairs and probably six of the people I met there I still do stuff with today. I still hang out with them. I was a best man in a lot of their weddings.

MARY-ELLEN COLEMAN

Computer Science
Class of '86

WHAT IS YOUR BEST MEMORY OF RIT?

"I was living in NRH 6, so [one] day I'm having lunch at Gracies, and everyone said, 'Wow wasn't that such a pain, we had that fire alarm last night.'"

I said, "What fire?"

It turns out there was a fire on the other end of NRH 5 and they had to evacuate the whole building. Apparently I slept through the whole thing. I had a loft... The RA looked in the room and didn't see me in the loft and just assumed everyone was evacuated... Obviously, I lived to tell the story and it wasn't that serious of a fire... but when I went to my RA and I said, 'Was there a fire?' She said, 'Please don't tell anyone that I didn't get you out of there' and I said, 'You bet I won't!'"

DAN HILSDORF

Electrical Engineering
Class of '83

WHAT WAS RIT LIKE WHEN YOU WERE HERE?

It was a lot smaller. There are a lot of buildings now where I used to park. There were very few women in the engineering department, as I recall. That has changed significantly. My recollection of what I'm finding very valuable now with my own children is the co-op program. They're making college very affordable [for] the last three years of school, and today I think that is more important than ever to be able to bridge that gap, until graduation. It helps to reduce that debt significantly. As far as career preparation, I've been with the same company for 25 years. I'm the Director of Electrical Engineering at Quality Vision International; we make precision multi-sensor measuring instruments.

Things have changed a lot since I've graduated. Business used to be primarily in North America and that's changed significantly. We've managed to survive by going global. If we had just stayed in North America, we probably would have gone out of business by now.

HOW HAS RIT CHANGED?

When I was here there was only an Electrical Engineering major. Well, Microelectronic Engineering was new at the time. Now, Computer Engineering and a whole bunch of engineering technologies — more than I can count — are available where it used to be just Electrical Engineering.

**FIRST LOOK @ The 2008
Campus Week of Dialogue**

Join us for a weeklong opportunity to learn more about the diversity within the Deaf Culture. The *Campus Week of Dialogue* is one of the flagship events for the President's Commission on Pluralism and Inclusion. It shines a spotlight on the richness of the communities that make up the whole of RIT and NTID as well as the many important conversations taking place as these communities grow. This year's keynote presenter is a longtime educator, author and advocate:

Dr. Martina (MJ) Bienvenu
Gallaudet University
Monday, October 27, 10 - 11:30 a.m.
Ingle Auditorium
RIT Student Alumni Union



The workshops throughout the week include:

Student Panel: Organizational Communication and the Deaf Employee

Tuesday, October 28, 9 - 10 a.m.
NTID, Student Development Center, Rm. 1310

A Panel Discussion: Diversity within the Deaf Community and Deaf Culture

Moderator: Professor Patricia Durr
Tuesday, October 28, Noon - 1:30 p.m.
NTID, Student Development Center, Rm. 55-1310

Video Presentation and Discussion: Audism Unveiled

Moderators: Professors Barbara Ray Holcomb and J. Matt Searls
Wednesday, October 29, 10 - 11:30 a.m.
NTID, Student Development Center, Rm. 55-1300

Signing in Public Spaces

Presenter: Dr. Peter Hauser
Thursday, October 30, Noon - 1:30 p.m.
NTID, Student Development Center, Rm. 55-1310

Training Workshop: Hearing Professors, Deaf Students, Interpreters, Note-Takers and C-Print Staff - Building a Team for Academic Success

Presenter: Dr. Rebecca Edwards
Friday, October 31, 11 a.m. - 12:30 pm
NTID, Student Development Center, Rm. 55-2102

For more information about the President's Commission on Pluralism and Inclusion and to register for the Campus Week of Dialogue visit: diversity.rit.edu/schedule.html

Reading Between the Signs: Connecting Our Communities

"Learning about cultural groups is a lifelong endeavor whose aim is to give other people the same respect that we desire for ourselves."

From the book *Reading Between the Signs* by Anna Mindess & Thomas Holcomb



2008 Campus Week of Dialogue

There are distinct signs in ASL that form the rich and unique language of Deaf Culture. Taken on a broader view, there are distinct 'signs' that symbolize many cultures, ethnicities and communities. Our goal is to recognize the signs of our diverse communities, learn more about them and integrate this learning to better communicate, respect and understand people.

Sponsored by the President's Commission on Pluralism and Inclusion, the Chief Diversity Officer and the National Technical Institute for the Deaf at Rochester Institute of Technology

All workshops are free and open to students, faculty, staff, alumni and administrators of RIT and NTID, friends at neighboring schools and colleges, as well as members of the Greater Rochester community.



Coach Reed comes to RIT from Gettysburg College, and brings a mountain of qualifications. She graduated with a Bachelor's in Physical Education, continued on to earn her Master's degree in Athletic Administration, and was also an assistant coach at Gettysburg College. Beyond this, she was a four year starter on the Marshall University Division I basketball team (the Thundering Herd), and was the captain her senior season. Guard and fourth year Industrial Engineering major Kelly Votolato notes, "Coach Reed was an outstanding player at Marshall, and I am confident that she will combine that experience with great leadership skills to help take our team to the next level." Reed currently plays Harrisburg Lady Horizon of the Women's Eastern Basketball Alliance. She certainly is able to put her money where her mouth is.

In basketball, a good coach can mean the difference between losing every game in the season and a title. A great coach understands that life can be hard for student athletes. Coach Reed believes that "it's important for any coach to be able to put herself in her players' shoes when they are experiencing positive moments or when they are facing struggles on the court, in the classroom, or with life in general." Having been a college player herself, she knows what it's like to study during the bus ride to the next game, wake up at 6:00 in the morning, and take a full course load.

Life outside of the court can severely affect free throws, but that doesn't mean that a basketball coach is a life coach; Reed must be able to balance the two. On the court, Coach Reed states that her goals for RIT are "to be the team that nobody wants to play because of our intensity and physical play, night in and night out, and to be the hardest working team out there." Reed says that, in order to get there, "[herself and the assistant coaches'] job is to get the team physically and mentally ready for the start of the season, and we are going to do just that." Votolato adds, "Coach Reed has been a good resource for our players regarding conditioning and off-season workouts. We have been lifting, running, and playing pickup games since week two to prepare for the start of the season on October 15th."

When asked what she thinks of the team, Reed responded, "I am lucky to have such a great group of young ladies on my team. Each of them has her own unique personality, and it is a lot of fun watching them interact with each other."

The Tigers play their first game in November and have high hopes. This optimism most likely stems from Coach Reed herself, who says her favorite thing about coaching so far has been "without a doubt... the players. They are a great group of young ladies, and I believe they are all after the same thing I'm after: Putting RIT Women's Basketball on the map and bringing home a conference championship." •

ASK DR. DESTLER!

Wednesday, October 29

5-6 pm, WITR 89.7 FM

internet stream at witr.rit.edu

request line at 585-475-2271

RIT FINDS NEW WOMEN'S BASKETBALL COACH

by Maximiliano Herrera | photograph by Ben Liddle

After a falling out last year, the women's basketball team was left without a coach. The team, however, was resilient. This is basketball, and if you spend your time looking at the past, you'll get left in the dust. With the problems of the past behind them, RIT is now getting to know their new women's head basketball coach, Amy Reed.

Word on the street

photographs by Ben Liddle

if you had one night to spend with bill nye, what would you do?

"I'm going to ask him why inertia is a property of matter."

Floyd LaVancha
Engineering Exploration
First Year



"I'd take him to Dinosaur Barbecue."

Katie Lewis
Engineering Exploration
First Year



"I'd tell him to make me the most scientifically crazy alcoholic drink ever."

Simon Shin
Computer Engineering
First Year



"I'd go climb up the legal wall with a grappling hook and shoot shit out of a potato gun."

Noelle Evans
Film
Second Year



"I'd go on a camping trip with him just cuz he knows so much."

Sarah Kaiser
New Media Design
Second Year



"Make a love potion."

Michael Ostertag
Electrical Engineering
Third Year



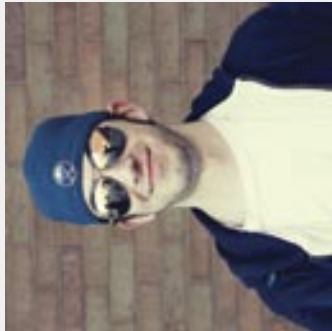
"I'm going to sing his theme song... all night... under the stars. That's creepy though."

Rebecca Grant
Photography
Second Year



"I'd talk to him about the LHC all night long."

Andrew Foley
Criminal Justice
Third Year



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For details about Army ROTC, contact CPT Monique Barnhart, (585) 475-5547 or email armyrotc@rit.edu

RIT RINGS

585.672.4840

compiled by Neil DeMoney

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

TUESDAY, 11:04 A.M.

My RA likes this dude that, like, totally needs to bone him right now, except he's not getting the message. So if this guy reads RIT Rings and realizes that he's the guy we're talking about, he needs to bone my RA right now. Thank you!

MONDAY, 9:22 P.M.

I just wanted to let you know that I take joy in a few things in life. Monday nights when Heroes is on, Sushi Tuesday's at Grace Watson, and every Friday when a new issue of the **Reporter** comes out. Thanks for giving me something to look forward to.

SATURDAY, 9:48 P.M.

Hey Reporter, how come you told me that late night bingo was five dollars and then my friends went and it was really free? What's the deal?

SATURDAY 1:30 A.M.

HEY RINGS, I CALL YOU SO MUCH AND YOU CALL ME SO LITTLE. MAKES ME FEEL BAD.

SUNDAY 4:41 P.M.

Hey, calling a third time! Wanted to let you know the purpose of the second phone call was to say that it's a beautiful day. I'm drunk off this beautiful day.

MONDAY, 1:41 P.M.

THERE IS CONSTRUCTION GOING ON OUTSIDE MY WINDOW AND ALL I WANT TO DO IS SLEEP. I REALIZE THAT IT'S, LIKE, 2:00 IN THE AFTERNOON, BUT I'M SO TIRED. MAKE IT STOP.

SATURDAY, 4:40 P.M.

I think it's a beautiful [effin] day outside I really wish I had my camera. I mean seriously I'm a photo major and I didn't bring my camera. Ok, so I thought it was going to be a [number 2] day outside, but it's a really beautiful day.

SATURDAY 1:31 A.M.

Um, I forgot what I was going to say. But this is the sixth time I've called you tonight and you never answer your phone. It's over between us.

SATURDAY 1:27 A.M.

Yo RIT Rings, I love you so much. It is Friday night and I am loving life right now. Anyways, get back to me soon because I love you. Bye, Rings.

SATURDAY, 1:28 A.M.

I just came out of RITChies and there was a guy on a Segway from Public Safety, and he told somebody else to get off a bike. [WTF] is up with that. He's on wheels anyway. Public Safety are such hypocrites.

INTOLERANCE

by Christopher Tosswill | illustration by Sara Wick



W

e do not want government to run religion, nor do we want the church to run government. Now more than ever, the wall our founding fathers built between church and state is crumbling:

A wall created to allow religious tolerance and freedom in the states. Religious views are interspersed throughout law books in the United States. An example would be sodomy laws, which were created to outlaw any sex acts that couldn't lead to reproduction. Citing Leviticus, "If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination." More than a dozen states would punish such acts with six months or more in jail. Some, like Idaho or Louisiana, had a penalty of over five years in jail. The only thing more shocking than these harsh laws is the fact that many states still had them on the books until 2003, the year the Supreme Court ruled that they were unconstitutional.

The fact that it took us until the Twenty-first Century to figure out that law based on the Old Testament had no place in our first world nation is condemnable. Even most people who identify themselves as Christian look to the New Testament for God's will, not the Old Testament. However, in an attempt to stop acts of homosexuality, such laws were created. Simply put, a religious majority attempted to use laws to enforce what they thought was God's will.

Laws that outright oppose abortion are another example of religious intolerance. The arguments against abortion are all 'moral' ones. This is not to say that they don't have meaning, but that they don't have the same meaning for everyone. Regardless of the point at which life begins, attempting to force others to follow your belief system is simply wrong. Practicing what you preach and teaching your kids to do the same is fine. However, at the point at which the legal system is used to enforce religious morality, you are profaning whatever religion you claim to practice. You are also spitting in the face of those who gave us this nation and allowed you the freedoms you enjoy.

The restriction on gay marriage is the last stronghold of faith-based legislation. Like the previous religious laws, there is no factual argument against same-sex marriage, only a 'moral' one. This legal reasoning traces back to Leviticus, same as the sodomy laws. It's not a question of tradition or morality, it's the manifestation of a thousand years of intolerance. To those who would invoke the 'tradition' of marriage, I ask: What does more damage to the sanctity of marriage – what two adults do in the privacy of their bedroom or Britney Spears' 55-hour-long 'just for fun' marriage?

Perhaps more terrifying is the new wave of activist religious figures, those who preach to their congregations on politics. To use a place of worship to condemn a presidential candidate seems ridiculous, and yet, across this country, it's occurring. Jesus cleared the temple of those who wished to use it as a marketplace. What would he say to those who wish to turn it into a political platform?

It's not government's job to regulate morality. Cases such as *Roe vs. Wade* and *Lawrence vs. Texas* are attempts to do just that. Religion should exist as a personal moral compass and not a dividing force in politics. It brings hope to the hopeless and inspires people to think that there is something greater than themselves. However, at its worst, religion breeds hatred and intolerance. It is our job as citizens to ensure that religion is used for the former and not the latter. •

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Photo by Kim Loeper

