

REPORTER

VALENTINES *INSIDE*

je veux vous enseigner comment
faire la pirouette

02 13 09 | reportermag.com

SPEED DATING

can you find true love
in three minutes?

SAINT VALENTINE

the saint behind
the ceremony

JAYTHREEOH

"the slow flow show"
dj hangs up the mic



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EDITOR'S NOTE

EXTRACURRICULARS

For every one person that calls in each day, he estimates that there are a couple hundred more listening who feel the same way. Over the thirteen and a half years that he has been involved with WITR, hip hop DJ Jaythreeoh has developed a strong following and community of supporters. Still, it is time for a change; after years of professing his love of fat chicks on the show, Jaythreeoh is marrying one of his own in July (see “Jaythreeoh Hangs Up the Mic,” page 13).

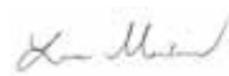
Though his show is now coming to an end, I'd say that this is one of the most compelling RIT success stories that I've heard in some time. We rationalize that money we spend on college will be able to get a job once we're through, but that's not exactly what we're going to take away from the place. Certainly, the academics are important, but what is it that students get most passionate about? Usually not piles of homework.

From organized activities such as track (see “RIT Track and Field: Through Perseverance, Progress, page 29”) and Djing at WITR to other, shall we say, “nontraditional” activities (see “Salvia on Campus, page 9”), extracurricular activities are some of the most important things at RIT. They're what make RIT bearable. They're make students feel connected. They're what *might* eventually get us to donate money to the institute once we've graduated. (Well, track and field-like activities, anyway. Extracurricular hallucination consumption, perhaps not so much. But to each their own.)

The most successful students are the ones that find these niches of people with interests similar to their own, and it's no wonder. The amount of support found in these small groups is undeniable. As Jaythreeoh explained on the air during his last show, “That's what we're here for: to hold our family members down and be here for our loved ones. That's what I'm gonna do. That's what I have to do.”

Over the past several years I've seen RIT try to replicate these supportive networks through programs such as FYE and learning communities. Making room for supportive networks of students to form is definitely worth striving for, but attempts to institutionalize them may be in vain. Part of the magic of these groups is that the supportive relationships between members have evolved naturally.

We're coming up to budget season at RIT, and while there are plenty of cuts that will need to be made, I hope that funding for student clubs and organizations will remain largely unaffected. If anything, this is an area that RIT should be pouring their resources into. Getting students to care about a small number of individuals in these groups is the first step in developing real the missing school spirit that everyone is so worried about.



Laura Mandanas
EDITOR IN CHIEF

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Above photograph by Jeffrey Porter.

Sophomores Sarah Priestap and Elijah

Hoffman skip class to go cross country skiing

across the frozen Genesee River.

Cover illustration by Jamie Douglas.

CORRECTIONS

In the February 6 issue of Reporter

// Both Jeffrey Porter and Steve Pfof took

photographs for “The Inaguration.”

// SG Update was written by Andy Rees, not

Alecia Crawfoed.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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.

Editor's Note: The "Worker Rights Consortium" article appearing in the January 30 issue of Reporter was written by Leah Andrews before reading James Fisher's letter to the editor (January 23 issue). Andrews requested that the article be pulled so that she had more time to look into Barnes & Noble's policies, but due to a miscommunication, the article was published anyway. Reporter regrets the mistake and apologizes to all parties involved. The following article is an update on Andrews' original article.

Fair Labor Association: No Sweat?
by Leah Andrews

After learning that Barnes & Noble (B&N) College Booksellers has pending affiliation with the Fair Labor Association (FLA) and in 1998 adopted the White House Apparel Industry Partnership "Workplace Code of Conduct," I wondered if the goal to make RIT a sweat-free campus had already been realized. After a little bit of digging, I learned that we still have quite a way to go.

The garment industry is designed to put enormous pressure on suppliers to produce as much as quickly and as cheaply as possible. To keep up with global competition, suppliers as

a rule sacrifice the environment and the rights of workers to get contracts. Under this kind of pressure to produce, it is not surprising that sweatshops are standard, and yet when unfair labor practices come into the public eye, suppliers tend to take the heat, even though they are simply trying to keep up with demand. The FLA, in part governed by representatives from the very companies that put so much downward pressure on the lower levels of supply chains, is inextricably linked to this system. According to Eric Dirnbach of BehindTheLabel.org, fair labor enforcement is improving, but weak. That's hardly surprising, with such a blatant conflict of interest within the FLA.

Questions of enforcement aside, the B&N and FLA Codes of Conduct are completely inadequate. Here's my favorite part, the section dealing with wages and benefits: "Employers recognize that wages are essential to meeting employees' basic needs. Employers shall pay employees, as a floor, at least the minimum wage required by local law or the prevailing industry wage, whichever is higher, and shall provide legally

mandated benefits." To put this in perspective, the prevailing industry wage usually isn't enough for a worker to live on, much less support their families. Legally mandated benefits and minimum wage? These factories are in countries that are so desperate for foreign investment that they can't afford to do something as damaging as mandate a wage much higher than the "industry standard." With all the talk the FLA and B&N do to promote their high standards, one would hope for something a little less rock bottom. Compare this with the Worker Rights Consortium's (WRC) Code of Conduct, which goes on to define how to determine a living wage, requiring that workers receive no less than a salary that covers basic needs.

Freedom of association and collective bargaining are also essential elements of a good code of conduct, but all the FLA has to say is that employers shall recognize the right of workers to associate and collectively bargain. Garment workers throughout the industry are harassed, threatened or fired if the word "union" is so much as whispered, and, in

that kind of environment, much stronger language is necessary to make collective bargaining possible. The WRC takes care of any ambiguity: "Licensees shall not cooperate with governmental agencies and other organizations that use the power of the State to prevent workers from organizing a union of their choice. Licensees shall allow union organizers free access to employees. Licensees shall recognize the union of the employees' choice."

The decision to use B&N as RIT's bookstore was carefully made, B&N demonstrating business practices superior to other companies in the area. If these weak codes of conduct are the best option, I maintain that it's time for RIT to take action by directly affiliating with the WRC and adopting our own code of conduct to be enforced from outside the industry that first and foremost perpetuates a system of inequity.

Compare these codes yourself at the FLA and WRC websites.
<http://fairlabor.org>
<http://workersrights.org>

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TO SEND LETTERS

Email reporter@rit.edu.

Reporter will not print anonymous letters.



sit in at university of rochester

by Maximiliano Herrera | photographs by Robert Carr

On February 6, the University of Rochester (UR) chapter of the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) held a protest on the UR campus to support peace in Gaza. Members of RIT's Campus Antiwar Network attended to show their support. The protesters planned on occupying the building until their demands were met. According to SDS's press release, their demands included having UR adopt a "peaceful investment policy to the university's endowment which includes divestment from corporations that manufacture weapons and profit from war," humanitarian aid to Gaza, academic aid to Gaza University and scholarships to Palestinian Students.

RJ Bean, an RIT graduate student of Computer Science, said, "This is important because the atrocities that occurred over Christmas break resulted in the deaths of thousands of Palestinians, and, coupled with the longstanding siege and occupation of Gaza, have led to

untold amount of misery in the region."

Adriano Contreras, a fourth year multidisciplinary major, stated, "The goal is not only to have the demands met, but to set a precedent for other colleges in the US." This is one of the first occupations of a university for Gaza, whereas, in England, there have been close to twenty. "The media presents an almost completely one sided picture of the situation in America, which is the problem. We're trying to challenge that," continued Contreras.

But not everybody was in favor of the protest, such as a group calling themselves "Students for the Peaceful-ish Takeover of Iceland." The group was mocking the protester's demands that UR should fund anything in Gaza by demanding funds for an invasion of Iceland.

Ryan Acuff, a UR graduate Psychology major, and head organizer for the Gaza protest, said, "The demands are fully compliant with the policies the



UR and RIT students voice their opinions at a sit in at the UR campus, February 6.

university already has in place. For example, the university does not invest in companies profiting from the humanitarian crisis in Darfur. We're just trying to get that policy to apply to all crises." This would be a topic of discussion in the negotiations later during the night.

When the time came to actually meet with the administration to discuss the demands in depth, it became clear to the protesters that UR would be punishing students who stayed after the building closed at midnight. So a fifth demand was added: "No retribution for anyone who stays after the official closing of the building." The administration firmly stood against it and negotiations were suspended.

Fifteen minutes before midnight, Acuff led another negotiation with Matthew Burns, the dean of Students Affairs at UR. Ultimately, SDS and the university agreed that all of the demands will require further investigation before they can be fully realized, if they are even possible to achieve. Burns promised that UR

will assist SDS to research and plan out implementation of the demands, and determine whether the demands are feasible. Burns described the situation as "more of a beginning than an end."

At the end of the negotiations, many of the protesters excitedly celebrated. After clearing the building, the protesters went on a victory march to the UR library to continue with a meeting about the protest and to propose future courses of actions. "While there were some problems with how this was approached by students, it is good to see that they were sticking up for their beliefs in a peaceful manner. While the politics of the whole situation is nothing I want to take sides in, I view the suffering in Gaza as a terrible situation. I want to help the students with their goals like I said I would," said Burns. •



RJ Bean and Jake Allen protest in front of UR's library.

SG UPDATE

compiled by Alecia Crawford

SG SUPER BOWL PARTY ADS REPRIMANDED

The advertisements for the Student Government Super Bowl party received backlash from the administration for not including "with proper ID" when mentioning the alcohol present at the event. Carol Reed, associate director of the Center for Campus Life, came to the senate meeting to try and clear up any confusion on this issue.

FITNESS CLUB APPROVED

Kiersten Shinrock, director of Organizational Recognition, reported to the Senate that the Fitness Club has been approved.

NICK SWARDSON CANCELLED

The CAB representative reported to the Senate that Nick Swardson cancelled his February 6 performance due to being sick. Swardson's MySpace blog states, "I had to cancel the shows. Woke up sick Monday. Fought it off. Got worse and worse. Spent afternoon at doctor's and he recommended I not fly. I have a lot of [work] for my new movie next week and couldn't risk getting worse... Hopefully the schools will let me reschedule." Swardson also cancelled his show at the University of Connecticut.

OCASA PIZZA BOMB SUCCESS

Jacqueline Robinson, OCASA representative, reported that the attendance at the Pizza Bomb, which promoted OCASA through free pizza, wings, soda and games on February 5, reached 450 people, the largest number of attendees so far for the event.

GRAD STUDENTS TO HAVE BUSINESS CARDS

Fabiana Kotoriy, graduate senator, reported that the office of Graduate Studies have approved the business cards for their students. Kotoriy gives credit to Ashok Rao, dean of the College of Business, and David Koster, COB senator, for pressuring the graduate office to get this accomplished. The party that will be covering the cost for the business cards is still unclear at this time.

NEW YORK STUDENT AID ALLIANCE

Dr. Heath Boice-Pardee, Student Government advisor, briefly touched upon the New York Student Aid Alliance fan page on Facebook. The state of New York is trying to get rid of the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) for many students. For more information visit <http://nystudentaidalliance.org>. •

RIT FORECAST

compiled by Alecia Crawford

SAT 14

VALENTINE'S DAY

Wherever there's love. Time to prove your love for your significant other through the finer things in life. Like material things. Cost: Depends on devotion.

VALENTINE'S DAY DANCE

SDC rooms 1300 and 1310. 8 - 11 p.m. Take advantage of the tunnels and samba over to this event. There might be punch! Singles: \$2 Couples: \$3.

SUN 15

MEN'S BASKETBALL VS. HARTWICK

Clark Gym. 2 - 4 p.m. Now that Sunday afternoon football is hibernating until the fall, watch the Tigers play some B-ball against Hartwick. Cost: Free.

MON 16

PERCUSSION EXPLOSION

The Club at Water Street, 204 North Water St. 9 p.m. Work that week 10 aggression out on percussion instruments, or just watch other people play. 18+ with ID. Cost: \$5 to drum, free to watch.

TUE 17

STRING THEORY

Johnny's Irish Pub, 1382 Culver Road 7 p.m. Find out an Irish approach to "string theory" at this pub's weekly live music show. Cost: Free.

WED 18

ARGENTINE TANGO DANCE

Nasty D Bar & Grill, 140 Alexander St. 7 p.m. Learn the Argentine tango from Jan Bares. Cost: \$4.

THU 19

THURSDAY NIGHT CINEMA: PINEAPPLE EXPRESS

Ingle Auditorium. 10 p.m. CAB starts off the weekend with another entertaining movie, the funny and action-filled *Pineapple Express*, starring Seth Rogen and James Franco. Cost: Free.

FRI 20

12TH ANNUAL SNOWBALL SEMI-FORMAL

SAU Cafeteria. 8 p.m. Otherwise known as "the last chance you get to dance with that cute chick before she goes and gets crazy with someone else on spring break." Cost at the door: Singles: \$9, Couples: \$17.

The Ombuds Office

Got Problems?

...we're here to help

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salvia on campus

by Leanne Cushing | photograph by Matt Kelly and Eddie Rodriguez



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RIT

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designer
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 junior or sophomore
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Also referred to as "Magic Mint" and "Sally D", salvia is a hallucinogenic plant that has been smoked for religious purposes by the Mazatec Indians for centuries. Legal in most states, relatively cheap and easy to get, it has become increasingly popular with high school and college students over the past few years. Though there are mixed reports as to whether the substance is addictive, long term effects and consequences of the drug can be serious.

Last year, one student was hospitalized at RIT due to an incident involving salvia. The student was intoxicated, but acting unusual even for a weekend evening. After someone reported

the incident, Public Safety picked up the student, who was coatless, shoeless, and unaware that he was outside. The student was taken to a hospital and monitored over night. He was released, but was charged with underage drinking and endangering behavior.

Dawn Soufleris, assistant vice president for Student Affairs, expressed her concerns with salvia. "My biggest fears are that someone will wander into the nature preserve and won't be found until it's too late." Students under the influence of drugs or alcohol have also been known to wander out onto Jefferson Road or be found lying down in the roads on campus, noted Soufleris. One other fear she has is that someone might fall

out of one of the windows in the dorms because they imagine that they can fly.

Considering that "magic mint" is still legal, RIT has few options for disciplinary action when students are in possession of salvia. If salvia is found on a student, he or she will be referred to an educational program about the substance. If they are caught using it, they will be held accountable for "endangering behavior." According to Soufleris, it is generally difficult to pinpoint salvia usage and popularity among students at this time. There have been many rumors and reports of its growing popularity on campus, specifically in Park Point.

There hasn't been much research done on salvia and its effects. There have been reports on a variety of interactions with alcohol, prescriptions or illegal drugs. Hallucinations can range from pleasant visions to horrific nightmares. So far 13 states have laws prohibiting its sale or possession. There is a bill to ban salvia in New York State that is currently under review, but it has been pushed off the priority list due to the state of the economy and other government issues. Soufleris fears that salvia will have to be a cause of death or serious injury in New York before it is dealt with. "It's really like playing with fire — you're going to get burned." •

WOOING FOR WEIRDOS



by Leanne Cushing | photographs by Christopher Valites

Beautiful people in romance movies may fall in love in clichéd ways, but eccentric folk have bizarre, yet just as passionate, techniques. After all, there are crazy things people will do for true love. But I urge you not to judge, dear reader! You, too, may find yourself in Cupid's clutches someday with similar antics.

UNREQUITED LOVE

Erotomania is the delusion of a romantic relationship with a stranger who is usually of higher social status than them. This insanity can be illustrated well in an entertaining tale about David Letterman's stalker, Margaret Mary Ray. She stole Letterman's Porsche, claimed she was his wife and that her son was their only child. She left cookies and an empty whiskey bottle in his home in Connecticut, and left books and letters in his driveway. After all of her efforts, she failed to woo Letterman and ended up serving ten months in prison for harassment.

MY TRACTOR IS RED, MY FLANNEL SHIRT'S BLUE, MURDER IS SWEET, AND SO WERE YOU

There was a farmer in the United Kingdom that ran over his wife with a tractor to gather the insurance money to fly off to the Maldives with his mistress. To his misfortune, his children found a Christmas card from another woman in his room, which caused the case to be reopened. A Queen's Counsel prosecutor reflected, "Despite being experienced on the farm, his wife somehow contrived to fall under the front wheels of the tractor and the defendant somehow managed not to see her."

A TALE OF A MAGE AND A WARRIOR

On the well-known massively multiplayer online game, *World of Warcraft*, two star-crossed players fell in love. In determination to meet his love in real life, the warrior, a 17-year-old boy, tried running away to Australia. To his dismay, authorities seized him at the Raleigh-Durham International Airport and brought him back home to his parents. Determined, the love-sick 31-year-old woman decided to fly to her love by taking a flight to the United States and meeting up with him. When she arrived, the authorities seized her and held her on child abduction charges.

UNDERWATER LOVE

Many couples get engaged or married underwater, at a variety of different locations. There have been engagements from the Georgia Aquarium to marriages in the Andaman Sea near Thailand. What says "I love you" like scuba gear and sea water?

2D LOVE

Many people believe you don't choose love — it chooses you. A man in Japan, Taichi Takashita, petitioned to be allowed to marry the love of his life, a cartoon character. "I am no longer interested in three dimensions. I would even like to become a resident in the two-dimensional world," he wrote on his online petition. The object of his affections, Mikuru Asahina, is a high school junior in the *Haruhi Suzumiya* manga. Although his petition has collected over a thousand signatures, Japan will still not allow a two-dimensional marriage.

I NOW PRONOUNCE YOU DOLPHIN AND WIFE

A British millionaire named Sharon Tandler married the love of her life, a dolphin named Cindy, in 2005. She claimed to have fallen in love with him fifteen years earlier when visiting a dolphin reef in Israel. An Israeli news site reported, "Cindy, escorted by his fellow bestmen dolphins, swam over to Tandler and she hugged him, whispered sweet nothings in his ear and kissed him in front of the cheering crowd." Even though the ceremony had no legal bearing, she now proudly calls herself a "one-dolphin woman."

A LONG WEDDING IN A GALAXY FAR, FAR AWAY

Another strange kind of a wedding is that of obsessive *Star Wars* fans. The best example of this wedding theme was that of Rebecca D'Madeiras and Bill Duda, whose wedding took place in their backyard in Portland, Oregon. The groom dressed as Admiral Ackbar and the bride as Mon Mothma, while Yoda was the one to perform the ceremony. Flickr has over 12,000 photos of it — just google "Flickr Star Wars wedding."

THE LOL PROPOSAL

A man proposed to his girlfriend in LOLcat pictures featured on the I Can Has Cheezburger? website. The girlfriend, Loretta, responded, "I can haz huzbind? Yes!"

GOING POSTAL

Believing it would make people happier, a 30-year-old from Brooklyn, Jake Bronstein, sent 1,000 strangers love letters. Each letter was uniquely written by himself, his friends and family members. An excerpt from *Times Online* reads,

"Dear You,

If you were cold, I would do my best to warm you up. If you were sad, I'd do that dance you seem to like. If you were broke, I'd give you money. You're worth it because you're awesome (good looking, charming, and fun). Even writing this made me smile. That is so you. Thanks.

-Love, Zoomdogle" •





THE RAIL JAM SHOWCASES RIT'S SNOWBOARD SUPREMOS



TO ME, snow is a lot like trash: it makes campus look unattractive and sometimes appears in shades of yellow. RIT's Snowboarding Team and the College Activities Board (CAB) beg to differ. "In an area like Rochester where it snows a lot, we wanted to host a fun, outdoor activity that brings people together," says CAB event manger Taf Islam, a fourth year Mechanical Engineering major. "That's what the Rail Jam is." And bring people together it did; hundreds of students, wanting to forget a sadistic week eight, decided to stop by throughout the day and enjoy the snow escapades. I guess one man's trash really is another man's treasure.

The event's course itself was quite the setup given the amount of space available on the hill located behind the tiger statue. A picnic table and rail were both staged, hosting sick grinds that could make onlookers in Java Wally's choke

on their coffee. A nearby wooden quarter pipe also housed some inventive slides and tricks. The pièce de résistance was the well-sized ramp that had riders twisting, flying, and front-flipping over the paved path connecting the SAU to the Library.

One of these acrobats was Brittany Lemenager, a second year Graphic Design major, who gets more nervous when she's giving a presentation in class than when she's approaching a ramp at high speed. "What I like most is the environment," she says. "It's what makes snowboarding one of my favorite activities." The freestylers that rose above the rest were awarded prizes, courtesy of the Snowboarding Team.

And the fun didn't stop there. The night concluded at the RITz with three snowboarding movie premieres: Rome's *No Correct Way*, Burton's *It's Always Snowing Somewhere*, and

Red Bull's *That's It, That's All*. Of course, a day of shredding wouldn't be complete without hot chocolate, which was also served.

The Rail Jam raised the interest of those who might want to pick it up as a hobby, myself included. Unfortunately, as the winter quarter comes to an end, so does the chance to register for RIT's ski and snowboarding class, which isn't available in the spring for obvious reasons.

Snowboarding Team's fifth year Industrial & Systems Engineering major, Brian Smits, offered some final tips on what to expect when hitting the slopes for the first time: "Get ready for a beating. You've gotta be dedicated and you're going to be sore at the end of the day, but once you get the hang of it, it's a lot of fun." Lemenager added, "Bring a pillow. Your butt will hurt." •

by Chukwuma Morah | photographs by Evan Witek



JAYTHREEOH HANGS UP THE MIC

by Eric Drummond | photograph by Eric Drummond



Jay wipes his eyes after saying his last line on the air.

"So, like what are you going to do? What do you mean you're not going to have anybody else? You can't just stay on? You've got to figure out something. We need it. I can't be at work and not hear the show. What the hell is wrong with you? Stop playing. You need to quit telling lies on the radio and finish the show... [This listener] called and basically just let me have it," related Jaythreeoh.

After thirteen and a half years, Jaythreeoh, DJ of "The Slow Flow Show" at WITR, hosted his final show last Friday, February 6. Starting as a freshmen in college under the tutelage of DJ Chris G, his show continued on after he graduated, always as a volunteer position — five days a week from 9 to 12 in the morning. But it is now time for Jay to move on. Changes needed to be made, both for himself and for his family.

For the finale, Jaythreeoh brought in Rochester rappers and friends including L.L., Moses, Hassaan Mackey, Geech Lorenz, DJ D1 Imperial, DJ BackSpin, Coach Bill & Destroy and DJ Sight. Going over its scheduled time by an hour and a half, the show included freestyle performances by most of the guest rappers, including a couple rhymes from Jaythreeoh's longtime friend, Flirt, who doesn't normally spit lyrics.

"That was probably the best show I have ever seen," said Michelle Corneau, general manager of WITR. Jay went out with a bang.

For the past two weeks fans and friends have been calling and emailing about him leaving. There is no scheduled hip-hop show anymore at WITR. In Jay's words, "There are some big shoes to fill."

Jaythreeoh ended his final show on an emotional note, saying, "You can't tell me not to cry, man. I don't care what you want to call me. I can't say 'until the next time,' but I'll say it this time for the last time: Fat chicks rule the planet y'all. Peace, love and blub." •

To see video of Jaythreeoh's interview and last show, check out <http://reportermag.com>. To hear audio of the entire last show, visit <http://witr.rit.edu>.



CORALINE

by Alex Rogala

RATING: DIG IT

Childhood memories have always had an irreplaceable role in modern society — everything from books to movies to music trends allude to this time of innocence. Youth only comes once and carefree memories of childhood abound. *Coraline*, based on the Neil Gaiman novel, follows this tradition, documenting the adventures of a young girl who is disappointed

with her detached parents and the monotonous world around her. After entering a mystifying door in her home, Coraline is whisked away to a fantasy world where she meets her “Other Mother” and “Other Father,” cheerful button-eyed counterparts to her real parents. However, after spending time in this world, she slowly begins to realize it’s not the utopia she saw at first glance.

The plot is incredibly rich, packed full of wonderful storytelling and more twists than expected from a family movie. The characters are realistic, allowing them to empathize with Coraline as she faces all the adventures, challenges and dreams of childhood, albeit in a more exaggerated form.

Notably, *Coraline* is a film of many distinctions, including the longest stop-motion film

to date, and the first major instance of stop-motion. The film was shot in a mix of clay animation and CGI, and the resulting product is remarkably well polished, with a wonderful blend of classic stop motion and 3D. Whereas many 3D films go out of their way to present gimmicks, *Coraline* uses the medium surprisingly effectively, preferring to provide an overall 3D illusion, which winds up being more believable in the end.

The PG rating might turn some viewers away, hoping for a more mature film, but it’s no reason to discount this surprisingly dark family film. *Coraline* provides a warm welcome to the refreshing flashbacks of childhood, and will remain one of the best films of 2009. •



LIGHTS THAT FLICKER WILL SURELY FADE PROMISE OF REDEMPTION

by Dan Lovria

RATING: DIG IT

Every once in a great while, an album comes along that changes how you listen to music. Maybe the album opens your ears to a new genre. Perhaps the lyrics are so inspiring and heartfelt, you can literally feel the emotions of the singer pouring through your headphones. Maybe the songs are so catchy, in one week they break into your “Top 25 Most Played” playlist on your iPod. “A diamond in the rough,” “a hidden gem” — whatever you want to call it, *Lights That*

Flicker Will Surely Fade is all of those.

It is the first album released by Promise of Redemption, an acoustic solo project by lead singer Shane Henderson of the not-so-well-known alternative band, Valencia. The word “passionate” does not even begin to describe this album. Henderson pours his very heart and soul into his album, writing emotional songs highlighting the highs and lows of his past relationships. Henderson’s talent is extraordinary and his vocals are incredible, successfully capturing the hearts of his listeners through each and every song on the album.

While vocals and lyrics drive this album, Henderson’s talent with his instrument is profound as well. Henderson opens nearly every song on his album with an original riff that continues throughout the track, most notably the seventh song entitled, “Promise of Redemption.” The level of difficulty involved with his song-

writing is easily recognizable, which makes *Lights That Flicker Will Surely Fade* stand out even more from the crowd. While the majority of the lyrics center on a theme of heartache, Henderson’s music is curiously... happy. Each note delivers such pure and untouched truth, and it is impossible to find yourself not smiling — if not with your lips, then with your heart.

As an amateur artist myself, *Lights That Flicker Will Surely Fade* is the first album that has inspired me to write songs with emotion, teaching me to let my heart guide the pen instead of my hand. If you are someone like me, who listens to be inspired, to learn and to enjoy real, pure music, you owe it to yourself to hear what Shane Henderson has to share. Promise of Redemption is one man and his guitar telling his story to the world. It can’t get much better than this. •

by John Howard

STREAM OF FACTS

In 1987, Hallmark introduced a line titled Mahogany that was geared toward the company’s African-American consumers. From its humble beginnings as a 16-card promotion, the line has grown to a number nearing 1,000 cards catering to its largest markets in Washington, New York and Chicago. The company became a year round brand, offering seasonal and non-seasonal **CARDS** in 1991.

Half of the United States buys **CARDS** as part of their normal Valentine holiday tradition. 191 million Valentine cards are purchased and distributed every year on the 14th. Out of this number, which excludes the crappy *Power Ranger* messages you got glued to lollipops in elementary school, half of them are purchased less than a week before the actual **HOLIDAY**.

If you’re a gardener that produces flowers,

then on this **HOLIDAY** of love, you’re bound to have a smile on your face — particularly if you live in California. In 2005, this west coast state raked in about \$289 million of the \$397 million in sales of domestically produced cut flowers. Among that number, lilies made up \$76.9 million; tulips, \$39.1 million; and **ROSES**, \$39 million.

ROSES are seen as one of the traditional gifts for a woman to receive on Valentine’s Day. However, studies suggest that women are doing a little bit of the purchasing, as well. 27 percent of the people who buy flowers on Valentine’s Day are women and, of that number, 15 percent of US women play the part of their own Valentine, sending themselves goods of **PASSION** every February 14.

Though February 14 may be known for the

PASSION it evokes, the date is also connected to one of the most important medical discoveries in human history. On February 14, 1929, a young bacteriologist by the name Sir Alexander Fleming accidentally came across a mold that produced an antibiotic, now referred to as penicillin. Today, penicillin is used to treat **SEXUALLY**-transmitted diseases as syphilis and gonorrhea.

SEXUALLY speaking, the economy around Valentine’s Day does quite well. According to Trojan, a manufacturer of condoms, along with New Year’s Eve and the Fourth of July, this holiday, which also happens to be National Condom Awareness Day, sees one of the prime peaks in condom sales. (Yet despite this, March has been the highest selling month for at-home pregnancy tests.)

REPORTER RECOMMENDS

<http://theworlds.com/valentine>. For all the culinarily challenged out there (or simply those with no means of baking other than a microwave reeking of burnt popcorn), this is the best way to make a Valentine’s Day cake without actually

making one. It’s a virtual cake, free of charge and personalized to your taste that is sent in the form of an eCard to your special someone(s). Choose to add decorative icing, sprinkles or strawberries.

Change the cake’s shape, icing color and even background from doilies to a white plate with rose petals — all the options you need to help stir up a little romance, and cut some carbs in the meantime on this “chocolatiest” of holidays.

OVERSEEN AND OVERHEARD AT RIT

“Was that the Priceline negotiator guy?”
“No, he’s from Star Wars or something.”
Business students mid-Shatner double take, watching Super Bowl commercials

“Hello, RIT Hotline.
How may I help you?”
Random woman in business suit on a cell phone

QUOTE

“ALL OF US — WHETHER OR NOT WE’RE CELEBRITIES — EVERY ONE OUGHT TO SPEND PART OF THEIR LIFE MAKING SOMEONE ELSE’S LIFE BETTER.”

Jerry Springer

CARTOON by Kory Merritt



To see more of Kory Merritt’s comics, check out

reportermag.com

WORD SCRAMBLE

What many will be feeling the night of the 14th

Unscramble the highlighted letters to solve the puzzle.

UDDLCE _____
ONTEGU _____
RTTSU _____
RNIUEDJ _____
OARECNIVSTVE _____

Answer: _____



HAPPY 7th ANNIVERSARY TO US!

Wahoo! Join us as Ben & Jerry's and RIT celebrate seven years of bliss together on February 13 & 14

50% OFF ANY ICE CREAM

Hurry offer good only on February 13 & 14
RIT Scoop Shop
Student Alumni Union

(BTW that's Valentines Day-- bring your squeeze!)



CANCELED

NICK SWARDSON CALLS OFF RIT SHOW

Hi Everyone,

The College Activities Board would like to apologize for any inconvenience that may have occurred due to the cancellation of the Nick Swardson show. We know that many of you are frustrated, not only because Nick canceled, but also because the same thing happened earlier this year, with the postponement of Nas. The chance of one show being canceled in a single year is very rare and unfortunate let alone two. We assure you that the College Activities Board has done and will do anything to prevent this from happening in the future.

The Gordon Field House Box Office will be offering full refunds for all tickets sold for the show until Friday, March 13. Tickets purchased online and over the phone will be refunded automatically.

CAB will continue to work hard to provide you with diverse and exciting entertainment. Check out our website at cab.rit.edu to see our calendar and to find out more information about our events.

The College Activities Board

UPCOMING CAB EVENTS

Thursday Night Cinema

2/19 PINEAPPLE EXPRESS
ingle, 10PM, free, free hot chocolate!

Friday Night in the Ritz

2/13 BATTLE OF THE SEXES
ritz, 10PM, \$1

Late Night Events & Special Events

2/14 VALENTINE'S DISCO ON ICE
ritter ice arena, 11PM,
\$2/person or \$3/couple

SPRING EVENTS!

4/11 DO STUFF 4 STUFF CHALLENGE

5/8 SPRING FESTIVAL
5/9

5/15 SENIOR NIGHT

5/16 SENIOR WEEK
thru 5/22

paid advertisement





SOME LIKE IT FAST

by Madeleine Villavicencio
illustration by Ben Rubin and Sara Wick

Love is timeless. It has been the subject of plays, novels, poetry and, yes, even playground songs. We're all familiar with: "First comes love, then comes marriage, then comes the baby in the baby carriage." But would you marry someone after seven minutes? I suppose that depends on the person. For me, that's right up there with the idea of "love at first sight," and I'm not a believer.

People spend an infinite amount of time and effort looking for that perfect mate, and, in the process, they experience a whole lot of heartache. They make countless mistakes and oftentimes end up alone while waiting for the next one to come along. It makes you wonder whether they've been going about it the wrong way. At least Rabbi Yaacov Deyo of Aish HaTorah, an organization that promotes Jewish pride, thinks so.

The Need For Speed

With an increasing divorce rate, contemporary dating methods seem less likely to result in a "lasting" relationship. Deyo told Harvard Magazine that he believed "short-term bursts, 'hooking up' — that's what people are looking for and doing now in dating." The dark, smoky and rowdy environment of bars and clubs isn't really conducive to getting to know a person or making a connection. He believes, "Chemistry can't be orchestrated, but you can do things that will bring it out — make a space where it is possible." So, in 1998 at Pete's Café in Beverly Hills, Deyo held a round robin event where single Jewish men and women conversed for seven minutes before moving on to the next person. The goal of these brief "dates" was to help these Jewish singles meet and marry. That day, speed dating was born. In fact, the single word "SpeedDating" is a registered trademark of Aish HaTorah. Soon enough, the idea became popular in the matchmaking industry and, eventually, in pop culture. The practice was depicted in movies such as *The 40-Year-Old Virgin* and *Hitch*. After it made its way to the small screen with *Sex and the City*, it was game over. Today, there are hundreds of

events dedicated to speed dating scattered across cities all over the world. Websites like <http://SpeedDate.com> incorporate the same procedure while using instant messaging and webcam technology. They took it a step further by releasing an iPhone app February 3 of this year.

Matchmaker, Matchmaker

On February 4, *Reporter* expanded its brand name into the dating service business by holding our very own invitation-only speed dating event. For this experiment, 18 hopeful singles piled into room 1829 in the Student Alumni Union (SAU) that evening, looking for a match. The night began with the consumption of snacks and refreshments — the Ritz Bits cheese sandwiches were a favorite — as the music of Tiger Idol finalists drifted through the walls of the neighboring Ingle Auditorium, doubling as entertainment for the night. At the same time, participants registered and left contact information with the assigned staff. In a typical speed dating situation, registration would have occurred beforehand, usually online. In addition, there would have been a fee to ensure commitment, keep the numbers even and, of course, cover costs. Ours, however, was free. After all, you can't put a price on "true love," or the fact that you're using your participants as guinea pigs. Each guest was given a number and a "match sheet" to indicate the prospects he or she would be interested in. The ladies were seated at different tables and the men were lined up to their corresponding pair. "You may now begin," echoed a voice throughout the room and the

men took their seats. The true test commenced: small talk. At the end of three minutes, a Taboo buzzer sounded off (which, in ordinary speed dating situations, is usually a bell or glass clinking), indicating that the men had to move down one table and on to the next prospect. Yes, the men had to do all the work.

In between turns, the participants decided if they had just met someone they would like to get to know better and marked their sheets accordingly. The same procedure was repeated until each male had a chance to interact with each female. Of course, things weren't that simple. In true RIT fashion, there were more guys than girls and this caused some confusion in the beginning. To solve that issue, two guys had to sit out during each round. At the end of the experiment, a survey was distributed. Once finished, everyone turned in their sheets and surveys to be processed. A day later, emails forwarding contact information for "mutual matches" were sent to the participants. Mutual matches occur when both parties express interest in each other by marking "yes" on their sheets. For the sake of simplicity, a blank was counted as an automatic "no." What these mutual matches do with that information is totally up to them. They can choose to make a move or wait around. In that respect, speed dating is actually considered more of a "pre-dating" event than an actual date. Think of it as a turning signal on the road to romance.

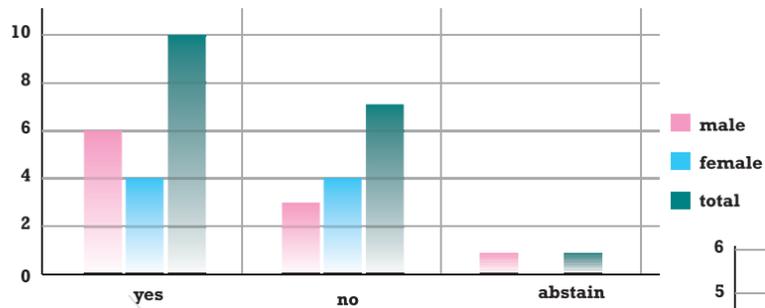
The Good and the Bad

Every system has its pros and cons. The main argument

supporters present is that speed dating provides a quieter atmosphere that regular "pick-up sites" lack. The "heart-to-heart" small talk opportunity is supposed to result in a more meaningful connection. In my experience, it was quieter. Unfortunately, I kept giving in to the temptation of listening to the couple at the next table, especially when my current partner was someone I wasn't interested in.

Another issue was the time limit. If you've ever been on a date with someone and all you could think about was returning home, or if you've ever been to a party where someone you're not interested in is hanging all over you, then you might know what I'm talking about. Speed dating provides you the speedy exit you're looking for. After a certain period of time, you don't have to see them again if you don't want to (ideally). Though, this does go both ways. If you're caught in a dull date, then you're going to have to sit through the awkwardness until time is up. Also, if you seem to really get along with someone, then you'll be forced to leave him or her once the buzzer rings.

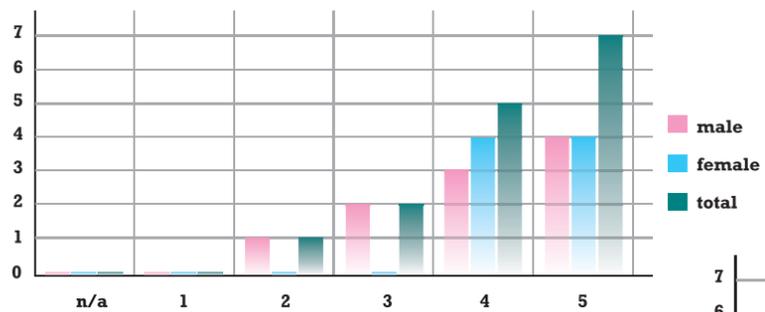
Quite a few argued that three minutes wasn't enough. With the average speed date lasting between three to eight minutes, a number of survey participants suggested that the time limit be extended to five minutes. Personally, for people I had met previously and whose interests I shared, three minutes definitely wasn't enough. For others, three minutes felt like forever. It depends on the chemistry between the two involved. For larger events with more participants, not everyone gets to interact with each other.



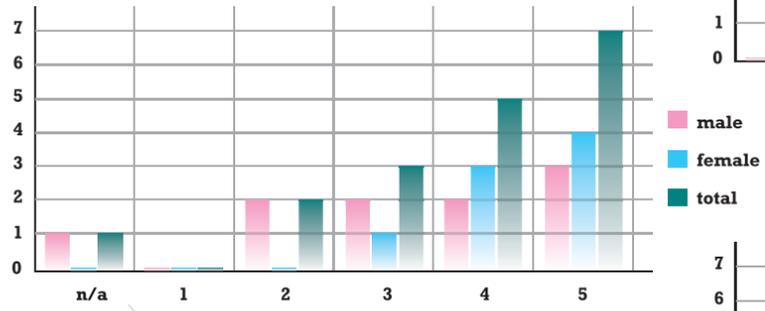
When you are attracted to someone, are you more likely to make the first move?



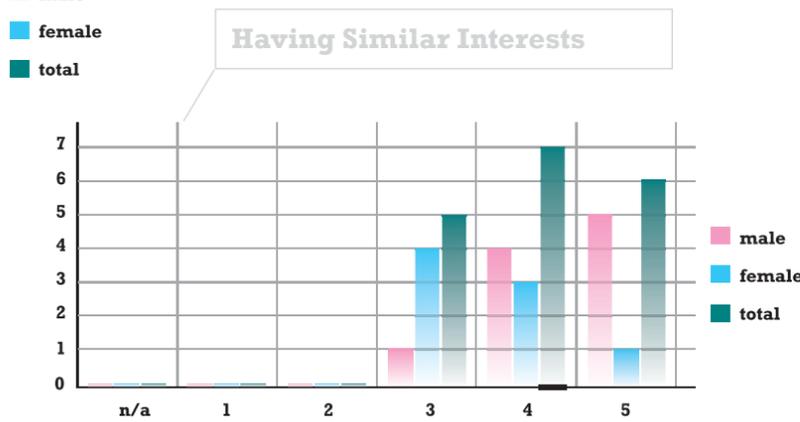
In making your decision, how important were each of the following factors? N/A is the lowest, 5 is the highest.



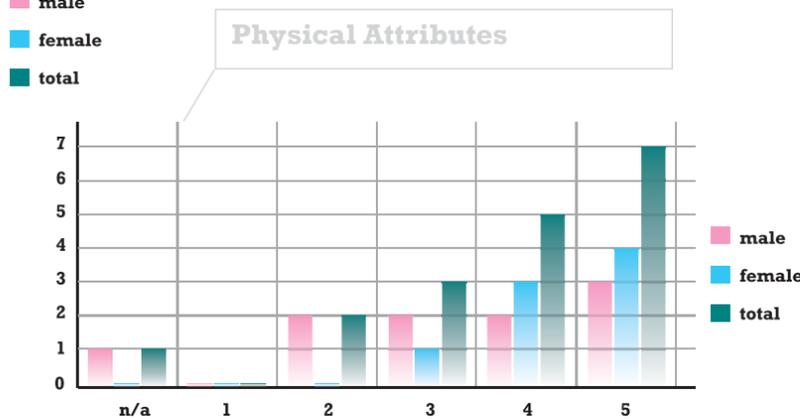
Sense of Humor



Maintaining Eye Contact



Having Similar Interests



Physical Attributes

		M1		M2		M3		M4		M5		M6		M7		M8		M9		M10	
		Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N
F1	Y						X					X									
	N	X			X											X		X	X		
F2	Y																				
	N	N/A			X		X					X				X	X		X		
F3	Y		X		X	X															
	N							X		X			X		X	X		X		X	
F4	Y		X				X														
	N				X			N/A		X		X		X		X		X		X	X
F5	Y					X							X						X		X
	N		X					X		X					X	X					
F6	Y	N/A			X							X									
	N							N/A		N/A				X		X		X		X	X
F7	Y	X				X															
	N									X		X	X			X	X				X
F8	Y					X															
	N		X		X			X		X		X		X		X		X		X	X

Less time would mean the opportunity to meet more people, which means more options.

With speed dating, your options cover a wider range of people. Because of its random nature, you will probably meet at least one person you never would have walked up to at a party. How do you know you don't like something if you don't try it? Of course, this also means that you may be forced to interact with some unusual characters. One anonymous survey participant in our experiment suggested a pre-screening process in order to weed out potential "stalkers."

In addition, if you're the type of person who hates having to introduce themselves repeatedly, imagine doing so with every new round every few minutes. It can get tiresome. It's not like you can hold a deep meaningful conversation regarding the philosophies of life given the time limit. How much can you really cover in a few minutes? The truth is, not a lot, so you better come prepared.

Words of the Wise

When pressed for time, decisions are made rather quickly. What you do in those first few seconds may impact your partner's opinion of you greatly. Some of the major influences listed were the manner one carries oneself, sense of humor, having similar interests, maintaining eye contact and physical attributes, while other factors include the way the person is dressed, the person's major, minor, or concentrations, the person's handshake (if they shook your hand at all), facial expressions and body language. Some survey participants commented on specifics such as fidgeting, what you're doing with your hands (like nervously picking your fingernails) and the importance of a smile.

One major recurring issue that appeared was how well a person could keep the conversation flowing. Things can get really awkward really fast if you're sitting in silence. It's usually

recommended to prepare a list of topics to talk about and questions to ask. Some of the more overused subjects include year and major, the classes you are taking, where you're from, what you do for fun or in your spare time, hobbies and general interests such as music, food, and movies. These are all really safe but they're not going to make you memorable. The best question of the night posed to me: "Imagine you weren't working right now. If you weren't paid to do your job, would you still be speed dating?"

More Than Just Numbers

It isn't just the quantitative data collected that's interesting. If you take a look at the match sheets themselves, you start to notice a few things. More than half of the women's sheets had multiple erasures, meaning they are more likely to change their minds more than once. Men, on the other hand, were more likely to avoid the decision all together

by leaving boxes on their sheets blank. In addition, guys are more likely to vote "yes" while girls are more likely to vote "no." Some marks were darker than others, possibly indicating a greater intensity of like or dislike. Finally, girls are more likely to write notes about the people they meet and draw symbols such as stars and smiley faces to reinforce their decisions.

Final Words

I feel that the experiment was a success and I'm happy with the turnout. Although I don't think I will ever speed date again, I would encourage you to try it. It's a pretty odd experience but once you get the ball rolling, it can be pretty cool. You can learn a lot by just observing and interacting with people. Who knows, maybe, in the end, you'll walk away with five matches just like hottie M3. And in case you were wondering, one of my mutual matches did send me an email back. •

ARTIFACTS

FIND SOMETHING COOL? Slide it under the door of the Reporter office, along with a note about where you found it. We're located in the basement of the SAU, room A-426.

Match Sheet

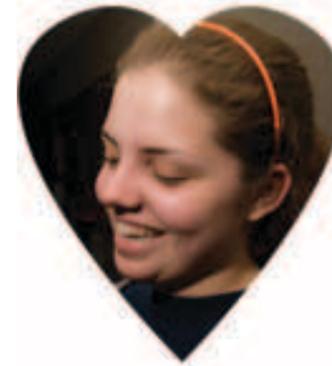
	YES	NO	
1	✓ X ✓	✓ ✓	Yes No
2	X		Yes
3		X	No
4		X	No
5	X	*	Yes
6	X		Yes
7		✓ X	No
8	X ✓ ✓	✓ * ✓	Yes
9	✓ *	✓ ✓ * ✓	No
10	✓ ✓	✓ X	No
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			

A match sheet from Reporter's speed dating experiment. Evidence that women are likely to change their minds more often than men.

WORD ON THE STREET

give me your worst pickup line.

photographs by Jake Hamm



"I wish I was DNA so I could unzip your genes."
Ashley Pastor
Environmental Science
Second year



"You must be a parking ticket because you've got fine written all over you."
James Lord
Computer Science
Fifth year



"Uh... let's go... um... over there..."
Jesse Powers
Environmental Management and Technology
First year



"I'll be sine you be cosine and together we'll be one."
Andy McIyskie
Information Technology
First year



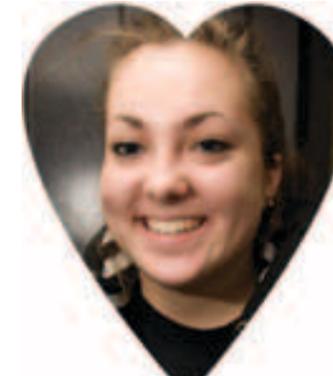
"I'm sorry, did we have sex last night?"
Su Lu
New Media Marketing
First year



"How about we combine our xx and xy cromosomes?"
Sean Kumar
Microeconomics
Second year



"Did you fall from heaven? Cause... I don't know."
Eric Potter
Advertising and Public Relations
First year



"I'm gonna treat you like my homework... slam you on the table and do you all night long."
Renee Johnson
Advertising and Public Relations
First year



"Hey baby, that dress looks good on you... but it would look better on my floor."
Amber Gulley
Biology
Fourth year



12th Annual
Semi-Formal

Snowball Dance

Friday, February 20
8pm to 1am in the SAU Cafeteria

Tickets (presale) \$8 Single / \$15 Couple
Tickets (at the door) \$9 Single / \$17 Couple

Sponsored by Habitat for Humanity
Co-sponsored by RITGA and the
Community Service Center



ATTENTION SENIORS!

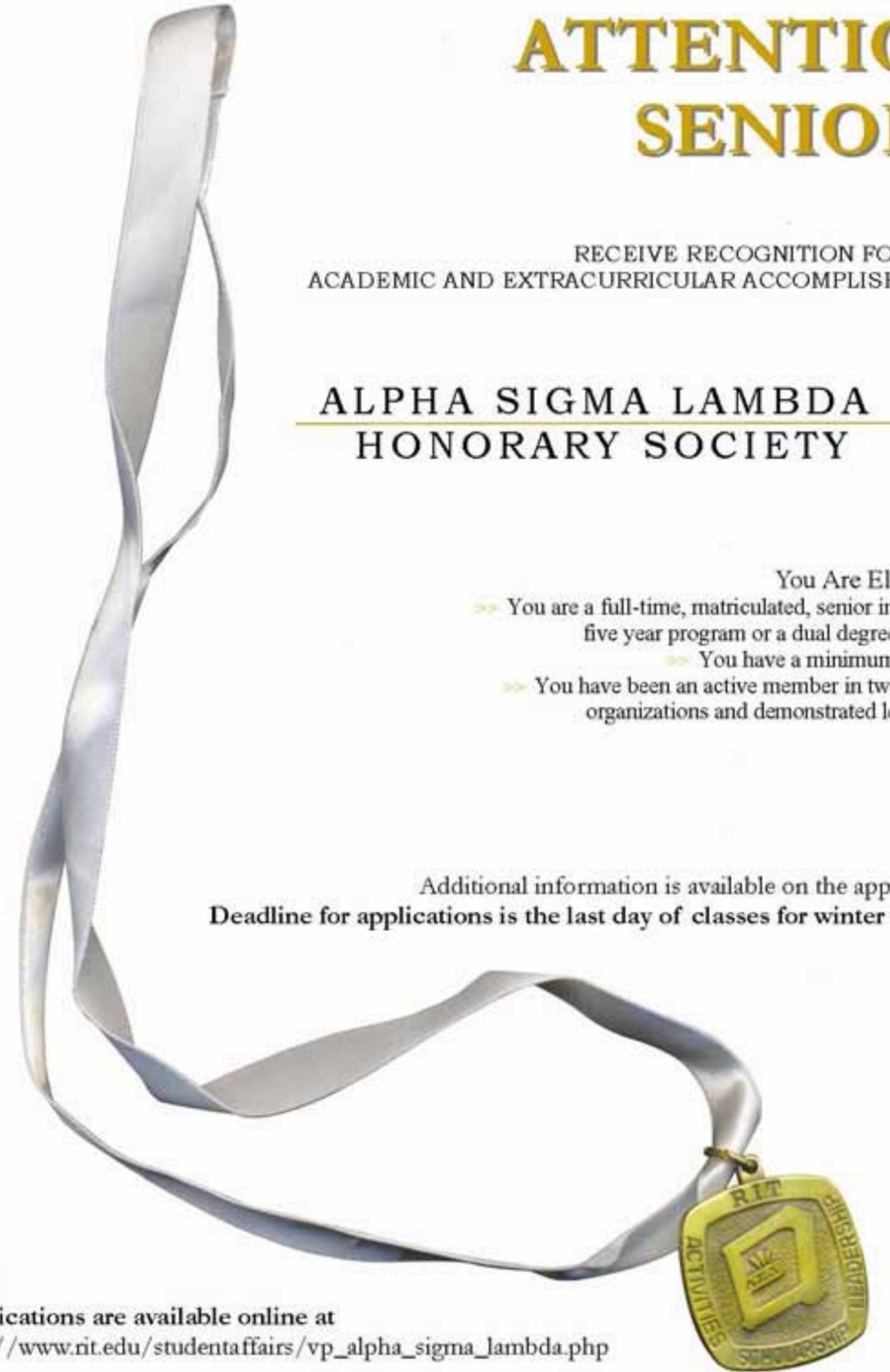
RECEIVE RECOGNITION FOR YOUR
ACADEMIC AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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.php



SAINT VALENTINE

THE SAINT BEHIND THE CEREMONY

by Ilsa Shaw | photograph by Thomas Liggett

AS

our eyes are bombarded with the annual fête of red cardboard, tubby nude cherubs, and giddy smooching nincompoops set on courting a mate, we can't help but think: Why? Is there any reason for this Saint Valentine's Day nonsense? Some call it a "Hallmark holiday" without any historical basis, while others prefer to celebrate it without really knowing the reason why.

In reality, the story is quite complex. The very man after whom this day is named, Saint Valentine, was a Roman priest who may have additionally practiced as a physician. One of his priestly duties was to oversee and conduct marriages, an act that would eventually place him in quite a predicament. The tale gets hazy from this point on, but one story dictates that the war-hungry emperor, Marcus Aurelius Claudius, demanded a large supply of troops, yet was met with a problem: Men would not leave for battle. They were too attached to their wives and families. In response, Claudius banned marriage outright. Valentine, however, continued to preside over them, and was discovered, captured and beheaded on February 14 between 270 and 273 AD.

Although it makes for an interesting story, the event's reality has undoubtedly been obscured and romanticized. This can especially be seen when considering the other Saint Valentine, a bishop who lived just 60 miles north of Rome in Interamna (meaning "between rivers"), home of modern day Terni, Italy. One piece of the folklore puzzle is that this Valentine supposedly oversaw the first marriage between a pagan man and a Christian woman. Christianity was not tolerated in Roman culture at the time, so a marriage between a true-blue Roman and a Christian was accordingly unacceptable. Valentine was scourged, imprisoned and beheaded as per the orders of Placidus, prefect of Interamna. The eerie fact is that this beheading happened around the same time as that of the other Valentine, in around the same area.

Many scholars believe that these were, in fact, the same Saint Valentine. It is suggested that he was a Roman priest who became a bishop in Interamna, but was then sentenced for some unknown blasphemous deed and brought to Rome for his execution. The Bollandists, an association of scholars that have studied the cult of the saints since the early 17th century, assert whole-heartedly that it was the same person, but the official Roman Martyrology (first published in 1583) lists these two similar entries as separate saints entirely. To date, there is only one pile of skeletons bearing

our eyes are bombarded with the annual fête of red cardboard, tubby nude cherubs, and giddy smooching nincompoops set on courting a mate, we can't help but think: Why? Is there any reason for this Saint Valentine's Day nonsense? Some call it a "Hallmark holiday" without any historical

his name, located in a glass-fronted box at the Basilica of St. Praxedes in Rome.

One ancient festival seems to have more to blame for the modern perception of Saint Valentine's Day than the very saint himself: Lupercalia. This Roman festival called for a gathering of worshippers on the Palatine Hill in Rome, where Rome's legendary founders, Romulus and Remus, were believed to be nursed by a wolf called Luperca. Following a few animal sacrifices, the ceremony involved priests running around and striking women with straps of goat skin, an activity thought to assure the women of fertility and an easy delivery. The name for these straps — februa, or "means of purification" — eventually gave the month of February its name, and settled the festival's date on the 15th day of the month Februarius. Another similarity is a particular part of the ceremony where girls' names were put in a box for boys to draw out. In true Valentine fashion, the two were then paired off until the next Lupercalia.

Since there is speculation that Saint Valentine was killed for supporting Christians during a time of severe persecution, some believe that the Roman Catholic Church used his martyrdom to Christianize (and even popularize) Lupercalia. This would explain the association between the "pairing off" of mates and the saint himself, as well as a possible reason for terming it "Saint Valentine's Day."

As the years progressed, the holiday likely became increasingly romantic in nature, which blurred the facts of the actual saint's role. Possibly due to the association between February and fertility, the belief that birds found their mates on the 14th of the month became a commonplace theme of medieval literature. Even so, in 1,700 years, our outlook has changed. No longer do we sacrifice goats for Luperca, slap women with februa, or pair off children for annual matings. We don't even think of the saint behind the ceremony. •

BIZARRE WORLDLY CUSTOMS

UNITED KINGDOM

Girls once forecasted their futures by pinning five bay leaves on a pillow, one in each corner and one in the center. They then brought out a specially prepared hard-boiled egg, whose yolk was removed and replaced with salt. The egg was to be eaten — shell and all — and the girl was not to speak or drink until the next morning. During the night, she would dream of her future husband. Of course, the spell would be broken if she mentioned her dream to anyone within 10 days.

JAPAN

In a complete reversal of American culture, women are expected to give men chocolate. *Giri chocos*, literally "obligation chocolates," are typically given to a woman's boss. *Honmei chocos*, on the other hand, are "true feeling" gifts, only given to those who truly entice the woman. Male reciprocity happens exactly one month later, on March 14 for White Day, when honmei-receiving males have the chance to give women white chocolates or other white-themed gifts.

DENMARK

Men sometimes send a *gaekkebreve* or "joking letter" to their valentine. Here, he composes a two-lined rhyme but does not sign his name. If the receiver can guess the sender's identity, then he is expected to reward her with an Easter egg in the spring.

TRACK AND FIELD THROUGH PERSEVERANCE, PROGRESS

by Carolyn Dunne | photographs by Oscar Durand

1 Runners compete in the men's 5,000-meter race during the 2009 Empire 8 Track and Field Championships held at the Gordon Field House on Sunday, February 1.

2 Members of the RIT Track and Field team celebrate after the RIT win in the 5,000-meter race.



February 1 was a day for the RIT Indoor Track and Field team to continue collecting the dividends of their intense effort.

The men's team earned second place in the Empire 8 Championship Meet, taking a heartbreaking loss to Ithaca College by a single point. "Close losses are always tough. There were some instances where we could have done a little better but there were many areas where the team performed extremely well," professed fifth year Electrical Engineering major, captain and distance runner Derek Bojanowski.

Reduced in numbers and impacted by several injuries, the women's team also took second place to Ithaca. Despite the team results of this particular meet, fifth year Electrical Engineering major and captain Joanna Dobeck is encouraged by the fact that "there is a level of competitiveness that pushes us to run faster, throw and jump farther in practice, which helps to make us even better for the meets." She can't wait for the season to continue into the spring with the startup of outdoor track and field so that she can continue to

improve alongside her teammates. Though the competing team is relatively smaller than usual, third year Electrical Engineering major Lindsey Clark gave voice to the general team motto when she said, "What you put in, you will see the benefits of in the long run."

In addition, several athletes qualified for the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) meet, including fourth year Mechanical Engineering major Michael Hardbarger, fifth year Computer Engineering major Timothy Wesley, third year Laboratory Science Technology major Samantha

Mitchell, third year Biotechnology major Jamie Morey, fourth year Electrical Engineering majors Chris Libera and first year Electrical Engineering Technology major Carol Melice. This was a true testament to the hard work and dedication of athletes and coaching staff alike. RIT also posted several marked improvements in the meet that took place on Super Bowl Sunday, with the 400 meter relays for both the men's and women's team taking first place as well as Clark throwing a personal best in the weight throw event.

Hardbarger, a returning All-American in the mile, was named Outstanding Male Athlete for the meet and chalked up two first place finishes in his events, one of those wins being an Empire 8 meet record. Coach Dave Warth strongly believes that this athlete has a legitimate chance at qualifying for the national NCAA finals, since "everything he has done has been right on schedule for what we want" in preparation for a campaign to become the Division III national champion in the mile run.

Rookies Libera of sprints and

Melice in the pole vault have also proven their potential and heart as they qualified for the ECAC meet, much to the pleasure of Coach Warth. "I feel [that Melice] is only going to improve as she gets more used to the college scene. Libera was a major surprise as this was his first meet of the year, returning from injury." Morey and Wesley have also progressed in the throwing events under the tutelage of Coach Walters.

Head coach Warth and assistant coaches Sonya Walters and Dave Stevens have all been working

individually with the athletes to prepare them for the postseason and keep students healthy throughout their competitive seasons, from cross country to indoor and outdoor track and field. "We meet and work with them daily throughout the whole season," says team captain Morey. Coach Warth has hotly contested that RIT has "one of the best coaching staffs in all of Division III," including Coach Walters, a former World Record holder in throwing, in her first season coaching at RIT.

On the weekend of February

6 and 7, the Tigers competed at both the New Balance Invitational and Syracuse Invitational. The most notable achievement was by Hardbarger, who broke RIT's mile record by three seconds and qualified for the NCAA Championships in March. There are three more meets that will give other Tigers the opportunity to earn times or distances great enough to qualify for this prestigious national meet. •

(GUIDE) LINES OF SEPARATION

by Evan Stark | illustration by Joanna Eberts



At one point or another, you will find yourself in a sticky wicket of a relationship. Though you cannot stand to stay, you don't ever find yourself presented with an easy way out. When you do decide to make the final break, consider the following "do" and "do not's":

DO: Examine the chances of making it work. Before abruptly ending a relationship, let your partner know about the things that may be bothering you. You might find that your relationship improves greatly.

DO NOT: Wait until you know it's done for. If there's no saving anything and you are acutely aware of this, don't just wait for that "opportune moment" when you hope the person says, "So, do you think we should break up?" The longer you drag a doomed relationship on through the mud, the more grimy hurt feelings will cling to it.

DO: Be clear. The worst thing ever is for either party to be unsure whether or not the relationship is still going on. This isn't to say that tact is the enemy, but don't tiptoe around the situation so much that the other person doesn't realize it's over.

DO NOT: Sabotage yourself. Sure, you want to avoid being the "bad guy" in the upcoming confrontation, but accidentally running over your significant other's bike, car, dog, foot or sibling just isn't the answer.

DO NOT: Use electronics. Setting aside the lameness of electronic breakups, problems with communication are likely to arise. No matter how clear you think your email or PowerPoint may be, those graphs can be misinterpreted.

DO: Speak face to face. It's the best way to seem genuine and the least likely to have something go

amiss. Unless they attack you. In extreme cases, watch out for that.

DO NOT: Tell everyone beforehand. Your friends may appreciate the heads up. However, if you tell them too much before the fact you'll be placing them in awkward situations when hanging out with your soon-to-be ex-significant other. Worse is if the now-ex commiserates with their friend and that person says "Oh, I knew that was gonna happen a week ago."

DO: Be honest. True, you can lie to make someone feel better, but it's better to let them know

that stabbing, stealing from, and drugging are not traits of a good boyfriend or girlfriend. By being honest, their next relationship may progress further.

DO NOT: Take it back. No one is happy when a relationship flip-flops past the first flop — not the people involved, and not all the people around them.

And DO: Wait until you are calm. Don't act immediately out of anger during a bad night or out of frustration due to them not answering their phone. Make sure you come across as rational and not as a crazy person.

Keep in mind, there are gray areas as well. Break-up sex can work for couples who need a final physical encounter. Others may find it more destructive. Still others may find it will cause them to violate the aforementioned flip-flop rule. Every relationship is different; there is no surefire advice for every situation. Still, these guidelines will more often than not keep you out of trouble — well, the avoidable part of trouble. •

The opinions expressed in the Views section are solely those of the author.

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, 12:58 P.M.

I would just like to inform you that sushi Tuesday is now changed to sushi Wednesday. Hence, my whole schedule is thrown off and I am now in a bad mood. Have a nice day.

SUNDAY, 11:39 P.M.

This Asian girl who is a friend with benefits called me up last night and wanted pootang but I told her I was busy. Really, though, I was just playing Pokemon. Is that alright?

SUNDAY, 11:16 P.M.

Hey [Margaret Thatcher] in NRH [three], you should let me know if you're single. I'm only two floors up so you should figure it out.

WEDNESDAY, 8:26 P.M.

I just wanted to tell you that *World of Warcraft* is extremely addictive and is interfering with my school work. RIT should make a policy that nobody can ever play it again, but then I would be sad that I couldn't play it. What should I do? Decisions, decisions...

MONDAY, 5:40 A.M.

This goes out to the [elohssa] who hit my car and didn't leave a note. Uh... I hope you know that hit and run is a misdemeanor and that there are cameras in almost every parking lot. So good luck with that.

SATURDAY, 2:59 A.M.

My roommate doesn't know how to clean his refrigerator. When we got back from break he sprayed in air freshener instead of cleaning it out. My friend was in here today and said it smelled like mold, but I can't smell it. He eats stuff out of the refrigerator, so should I be worried?

WEDNESDAY, 6:32 A.M.

Hey Rings, it's me again. Guess what? I'm trying to register for my classes. I've been awake since 5:50 this morning. I didn't get to sleep till 2:00 a.m. because I was working on my senior project. That's right, I'm a senior. So, RIT, what the hell are you doing, RIT, getting rid of the phone system and the VAX. I'm so happy I'm graduating and getting out of this place.

MONDAY, 12:14 A.M.

I was banging my roommate's girlfriend and he walked in. But that's not the [screwed] up part because after he walked in, I didn't stop.

SUNDAY, 11:10 P.M.

I really want to get published in this magazine. So could you tell the girl in NRH, I think her name is [Margaret Thatcher], that she is really cute. Thanks!

SUNDAY, 11:26 A.M.

You know what's hilarious is when somebody at the Commons calls for an order and gives you the wrong address. But then they call you an hour and a half later complaining after you've tried calling them 17 times. I just can't believe this. Haha.

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