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REPORTER

03.16.12 reportermag.com



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WRITING IN WHITE INK

While catching up on some news this past weekend, I stumbled upon a University News release touting RIT's partnership with Cell Phone Smart. A project designed to teach children the importance of responsible cellphone use, the campaign emphasizes three main points: think before you act, stay focused on other activities, and save important conversations for face-to-face.

I was taken aback by the campaign. Instead of the target audience of 8 to 11-year-olds, I could see many of my peers benefiting from a refresher on these lessons, especially the latter. It got me thinking not only face-to-face conversation, but also about critique.

I know — it's one hell of a non-sequitur. But stick with me.

I understand critique is difficult. Receiving the toughest specimens requires one hell of a thick skin and a certain degree of humility. As a new writer, I was frequently intimidated by the concept, especially with harsh critique. I remember sitting in the Ellingson Hall (MEH, 50A) laundry room three and a half years ago, just after my first **REPORTER** article ran. I noticed a student nearby reading it. In my mind, I began to prepare myself for the great laundromat revolution I *knew* was bound to unfold. He would stand up, throwing his magazine to the ground with reckless abandon as he loudly yelled, "Who the hell wrote this shit?" While I braced myself for conflict, it never arose.

In my experience, critique is rarely as bad as I fear. Eventually, I've come to realize it's not only beneficial, but also necessary. Am I perfect? Far from it. Confronted with criticism over the years, I've reacted pretty poorly. In some cases, I still do. However, each time I've learned from the experience, growing and changing in the process.

At its core, critique can be an immensely valuable tool; you can leverage it to improve not only yourself, but also your environment. Take this week's feature, for example. Karen Pelc hopes to make RIT's campus smoke-free. On each side of the debate, there's room for a pretty strong emotional argument. If you support the proposal, lend her your support. If you disapprove, let her know. It's a decision that affects you — why leave it exclusively in someone else's hands?

The same goes for **REPORTER**. We publish letters to the editor and student-submitted views pieces. Or, if you're shy, there's always *Rings*, which was initially conceived as anonymous vehicle for student complaint. Better yet, join us. If you're discontent with the way we run, involving yourself in the magazine is the best way to change the organization. If you don't communicate to us how you feel, we have no way of knowing.

Especially in the information age, expressing — and, more importantly, knowing — what we feel is more important than ever. In an increasingly digital world, it's far too easy to avoid physical conversation. Coddled by social media and instant messaging, we've become a shy, uncomfortable generation. This holds especially true for difficult conversations. I've seen one too many friends experience a breakup via text message.

On the whole we neglect it, yet this physical connection is critical to clear communication. According to a 2007 Bloomberg Businessweek article, words account for only 7 percent of communication. About 55 percent is visual and the remaining 38 percent is vocal. If you're not talking in person, you're missing most of the message.

This face-to-face element is startlingly absent in today's criticism. It's too easy to repost a Youtube video or to change your profile picture for a cause. And while I don't disparage those who do — it's certainly a fine start — the greatest protests require sacrifice, not convenience.

I don't mean to advocate dissent for dissent's sake. I'm convinced there's a special circle in hell for media outlets that promote fear mongering and the general, "If it bleeds, it leads," mentality. At the risk of sounding cynical, happiness is often as effective at enacting change as is trying to catch fish with a toaster oven. As French dramatist Henry de Montherlant famously stated, "Happiness writes in white ink on a white page." Ultimately, it's a destination; discontent is the fuel to help you get there.

So, I leave you with a challenge. Turn off your computer. Find something you care about. Learn as much as you can about it. Attend a meeting. Go to a rally. Initiate a discussion with your friends. If no one cares, scream into the void. Even if there's no response, you might discover something you never realized was missing: your voice.

Alex Rogala

EDITOR IN CHIEF

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Mark Cornacchia, a fourth year Finance major, celebrates fourth year Marketing major Cameron Burt's game winning, double overtime goal Saturday, March 12. The Men's Hockey team hosted Bentley for the second of three games for the Atlantic Hockey playoff series at Ritter Arena. RIT prevailed 5-4. | photograph by Joshua Kuckens

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cover photograph by Marcus Elliott

SPONSORS DROP RUSH LIMBAUGH AFTER DISPARAGING REMARKS

Sponsors are leaving in droves after popular conservative talk-radio host Rush Limbaugh called third year Georgetown Law student Sandra Fluke a “slut” and “prostitute” for “[speaking] out in favor of contraception coverage,” reports the Huffington Post.

Fluke testified before a committee convened by Congressional Democrats to “[advocate] for a woman’s right to contraceptives as a part of health insurance coverage,” according to the Chicago Tribune. Following her Thursday, February 23 testimony, a media firestorm ensued over the issue of employers — faith and non-faith-based — providing contraception for women employees.

Over the course of three days, Limbaugh repeatedly disparaged Fluke on his show, and even added, “So Miss Fluke, and the rest of you ‘feminazis,’ here’s the deal: If we are going to pay for your contraceptives, and thus pay for you to have sex, we want something for it. We want you to post the videos online so we can all watch.”

Limbaugh would later apologize for his comments. However, about 27 of his sponsors, including AOL, Polycom, Bare Escentuals, ProFlowers and LegalZoom, pulled their spots from his show, spurning his retraction.

MULTIPLE WINNERS ON SUPER TUESDAY

As the Republican presidential nomination race rolls on, candidates Mitt Romney, Rick Santorum, Ron Paul and Newt Gingrich readied for Super Tuesday. On March 6, 10 states held their primaries or caucuses, and voters in those states converged on polling places to make their voices heard. The Republican nominees were canvassing for votes in their quest to reach the 1,144 delegates needed to secure the Republican party nomination later this summer.

The biggest Super Tuesday winner — presumptive party nominee Mitt Romney — won six states, including Alaska, Idaho, Massachusetts, Virginia, Vermont and key battleground state Ohio. Former Pennsylvania Senator Rick Santorum claimed North Dakota, Oklahoma and Tennessee. Newt Gingrich, Speaker of the House during the Clinton administration, claimed his home state of Georgia, and Texas congressman Ron Paul won zero states.

When all was said and done, Romney gained 212 delegates, bumping his total to 415. Santorum won about 86, ending the night with about 178. Gingrich won 74 with his Georgia victory, moving his count to 107. Paul won 21, ending with 46. Though he is some 729 delegates shy of the 1,144 delegates needed to secure the nomination, Romney’s lead is building, suggesting to many that his nomination is all but inevitable.



GOVERNMENT, SCHOOLS TO REQUIRE FACEBOOK ACCESS

On Tuesday, March 6, MSNBC reported that some government departments and colleges are requiring applicants to provide access to their personal Facebook accounts. For instance, Maryland’s Department of Corrections is requesting “applicants to let an interviewer watch as they log into their Facebook account, as well as some colleges that require athletes to accept friend requests from coaches,” according to Huffington Post Tech.

At the University of North Carolina, “a recent revision in the [athletic] handbook” reads: “Each team must identify at least one coach or administrator who is responsible for having access to and regularly monitoring the content of team members’ social networking sites and postings.” Critics believe such policies may expose participating colleges and governmental agencies to legal challenges and other liabilities on First Amendment grounds. **R**

SG UPDATE 2.24.12 by Amanda Imperial

OCASA SPLITS

During the last Student Government (SG) meeting of winter quarter, the Off-Campus and Apartment Student Association (OCASA) approached SG with a proposal to divide itself into two forces: on- and off-campus representation. If approved, on-campus representation would be developed during spring quarter.

The on-campus division would be staffed by the current executive board, along with an advisor from the Center for Campus Life; the off-campus division would be run by Senior Director of the Center for Campus Life Karey Pine, one or more chief members from SG, the club graduate assistant Kristy Carpenter and the club computer assistant.

“We want to see commuter students represent a group directed solely at them,” said OCASA Communications Director Dan English, a third year Advertising and Public Relations major. The proposal was overwhelmingly accepted, with an amendment of OCASA’s progress timeline. **R**

WEDNESDAY 1 | *Mark Ellingson Hall (MEH, 50A). 4:21 p.m.*

Unknown person(s) stole a zip tied wireless unit from a ceiling. The investigation continues.

SATURDAY 4 | *University Commons Suites (UCS, 300-330). Between 12:30 and 9:40 a.m.*

Unknown person(s) stole tires off a vehicle. The case is closed, pending new information or leads.

SUNDAY 5 | *M Lot. 1:09 a.m.*

A student was arrested for disorderly conduct against a Monroe County Sheriff. The case is closed.

Grace Watson Hall (GWH, 25). 5:30 p.m.

A student attempted to steal property from the Grace Watson Dining Hall. The case was referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

SATURDAY 11 | *Colony Manor Apartments (CMA, 97). Between 3 and 11 a.m.*

Unknown person(s) stole an apartment window. The case is closed, pending new information or leads.

TUESDAY 14 | *Residence Hall B (RHB, 30).*

A student reported being harassed by others on his floor. The case has been turned over to Judicial Affairs.

THURSDAY 16 | *Lewis P. Ross Hall (ROS, 10). Between 2 and 7 a.m.*

Unknown person(s) tampered with Ethernet cables in a residential facility. The investigation continues.

SATURDAY 25 | *7:27 p.m.*

Unknown person(s) unsuccessfully tried to compromise the RIT computer systems. The investigation continues.

SUNDAY 26 | *University Commons Suites (UCS, 300-330). 1:27 p.m.*

Several students refused to leave the building during an evacuation alarm. This incident was closed by the Center for Student Conduct.

WEDNESDAY 29 | *Grace Watson Hall (GWH, 25). 12 a.m.*

Parking and Transportation received a harassing message on its answering machine. The investigation was turned over to Judicial Affairs.

11:39 p.m.

A banned non-member was arrested for trespassing. The case is closed.

*During February, there were three days with no reported criminal activity. **R***

16
FRIDAY

PERFORMING ARTIST SERIES PRESENTS: ROD BLUMENAU'S "JAZZOGRAPHY" TOUR

Ingle Auditorium, Student Alumni Union (SAU, 04). 8 – 10 p.m.

Come see Rod Blumenau perform music and talk about how jazz varies by region within the U.S. and abroad.

Cost: Students: \$5, Faculty: \$15, Others: \$20.

17
SATURDAY

ST. BALDRICK'S FOUNDATION FUNDRAISER

The Fireside Lounge, Campus Center (CPC, 03). 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

The Sigma Nu fraternity is holding RIT's first drive for St. Baldrick's Foundation, an organization supporting and funding childhood cancer research. Help by having your head shaved for charity, or by sponsoring someone else who does. *Cost: Free.*

18
SUNDAY

BEACH DAY BARBECUE

Greek Lawn. 2 – 5 p.m.

The Pi Kappa Phi brothers will be hosting beach games and cooking free food, as well as distributing information to help you learn more about their fraternity. *Cost: Free.*

19
MONDAY

GAME NITE IN FIRESIDE LOUNGE

The Fireside Lounge, Campus Center (CPC, 03). 7 – 9 p.m.

The brothers of Sigma Chi fraternity are hosting a game night to help students get better acquainted with the fraternity and its RIT chapter, and to play assorted board, video and card games. *Cost: Free.*

20
TUESDAY

THE TOURNÉES FRENCH FILM FESTIVAL: "HADEWIJCH"

Golisano Auditorium, Golisano Hall (GOL, 70). 6:30 – 9:30 p.m.

COLA is hosting the Tournées French Film Festival, showing Bruno Dumont's award-winning film "Hadewijch," which explores religious fanaticism across different religions and cultures. *Cost: Free.*

21
WEDNESDAY

NAURYZ SWEETS AND SOUVENIRS SALE

SAU Lobby, Student Alumni Union (SAU, 04). 11:15 a.m. – 1:45p.m.

The Kazakh Student Association is selling Central Asian sweets and Kazakh souvenirs to celebrate Nauryz, the Iranian New Year. *Cost: \$1.*

22
THURSDAY

CAB THURSDAY NIGHT CINEMA AND RIT LGBTQA PRESENT: "SAVED!"

Ingle Auditorium, Student Alumni Union (SAU, 04). 10 p.m. – 12 a.m.

RIT LGBTQA is celebrating Rainbow Week by watching "Saved!," a film about a teenage girl attending a Christian high school. *Cost: Free. **R***

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AT YOUR LEISURE

by Evan Williams

WORD OF THE DAY

CAINOTOPHOBIA

n. - Fear of change.

Perhaps the reason James most feared graduation was his cainotophobia in regards to moving out of his dope-ass bachelor pad.

QUOTE

"Originality is the fine art of remembering what you hear but forgetting where you heard it."

- Laurence J. Peter

HAIKU

*Want Spring Break beach trip,
Other schools are still in class.
Mom's basement it is.*

COMIC by Amber Gartung



MIXTAPE THERAPY

Hey. We all make mistakes. This time yours just happens to be bad. Really bad. You're looking at the slammer, and you don't know when you're getting out. Jail is serious business; a place where good people are turned into bad people and bad people are turned into animals. It's a culture where the strong get stronger and the weak get eaten. You've only got a few more hours of freedom, and you need to get yourself mentally and physically prepared for the hard road ahead. Start practicing your shank-sharpening skills.

The Distillers - "Sing Sing Death House." Hopefully you didn't screw up bad enough to land yourself in the most notorious prison in the most imprisoned nation on Earth, but if you did, this one should facilitate your descent into becoming a soulless and violent product of the system.

Thin Lizzy - "Jailbreak." Most known for the song "The Boys are Back in Town," the fine gents of Ireland's Thin Lizzy also accounted for what steps to take when the boys get locked up.

Death Grips - "Klink." Real talk. Fuck cops. With a sample of Black Flag's hardcore anthem "Rise Above," experimental hip-hop duo Death Grips knows just how you feel when the 5-0 won't stop jocking you. Pigs.

Sam Cooke - "Chain Gang" The most charming song about state-sanctioned slave labor of all time.

DMX - "Party Up." Very few rappers know more about prison, or more about being bat-shit insane, than DMX. The entire track is a threat. The chorus could have been replaced with "Y'all gon' make me pull my shank up in here, up in here."

REPORTER RECOMMENDS

Well-Executed XXX Parodies

We are taught that there is a point in our journey to adulthood, that we must put away our childish things and succumb to the docile hopelessness of adulthood. Cartoons and sci-fi shows, with their loud noises, bright colors and over-the-top acting are tossed aside and replaced with bloody dramas and cynical sitcoms. But what if there was a way to combine your love of childhood shows with more ... mature entertainment?

The last few years have seen a unique theme emerging in the adult entertainment industry. It's a sort of self-aware, almost "meta" ideology that recognizes the rampant use of atrocious plots and terrible performances that adult films have become infamous for. So a novel idea was spawned: Instead of unbelievable stories about pizza boys or plumbers, why not replace them with established franchises, characters and — wait for it — decent comedic performances. While parodies in porn are as old as pop culture itself, this new crop of franchises actually pays attention to the tones and identities of the shows they mimic, instead of just cashing in on a name.

"Spider Man," "Family Guy," old-school "Batman" and even "Scooby Doo" have received down and dirty reboots, with particular attention paid to not only how the characters look and sound, but to the nuances in the humor of the shows that gave each their identity. They are intentionally campy, but charmingly detailed. So grab some boxed wine and a group of friends that you're really, *really* comfortable with and have yourself a laugh. Some may call it a corruption of adolescence, but it might be better to look at it as a slightly inappropriate grown-up hug with your childhood. **R**

REVIEWS

“Tripper” by Fruit Bats

Album | Folk Rock | 40:07



DIG IT!

For fans of: The Beatles, Dr. Dog, The Shins

by William Hirsh

The Fruit Bats' fifth full-length album, "Tripper" is a folk rock journey like no other. Released in late 2011, "Tripper"'s key strength is its subtle use of a multitude of instruments throughout the album.

Acoustic hooks backed by electric guitar are brought front and center during the first song, "Tony the Tripper," establishing the album's signature electric sound. Continuing through the album, "Too Long" is the first to deviate from this formula; instead, this song is led by a mythical-sounding harp. Coupled with lead singer Eric D. Johnson's eerie vocals, it's a unique stylistic break from the album's other, acoustic-heavy songs. "Tangie and Ray" reverts back to "Tripper"'s root sound, but excels beyond it with easygoing lyrics and a light but catchy blues rock accompaniment.

The hit single off of the album, "You're Too Weird," slips into the scene with a mellow chord progression and some thoughtful lyrics on relationships gone awry. In contrast, its follow up "Heart Like An Orange" has sonic guitars that roar like airplanes and tell the story of an old hometown through smooth melody and light percussion. The next song, "Dolly," is propelled by a rock organ before exploding into some light electric guitar.

The album shifts when "The Banishment Song" starts off with a soft acoustic opening before evolving into a vocal and piano heavy piece. The ending of "The Banishment Song" leads from an excellent cross fade into the angelic instrumental "The Fen," and then into the contemplative piano of "Wild Honey." The album's finale, "Picture of a Bird," is an enjoyable closer with the album's best acoustic guitar coupled with some piano reminiscent of the Beatles' "A Day In the Life."

All in all, this is an enjoyable listening experience that has as much heart as it does experimentation. **R**

“Reign of Terror” by Sleigh Bells

Album | Noise Pop | 36:24



DIG IT!

For fans of: Silversun Pickups, Crystal Castles, Black Moth Super Rainbow

by Nick Bovee

Oftentimes, we forget to cover the big names in favor of this week's new indie band. For example, Sleigh Bells is a fairly well-known band by this point. A duo consisting of Edward Miller and Alexis Krauss, it's been nearly two years since their debut studio album "Treats" made #39 on the U.S. overall charts.

On this new album, Sleigh Bells has taken a small step back from their fuzzy vocals in the songs "Born to Lose" and "Road to Hell." These tunes retain much of their debut's roughness, but with some actual degree of lyrical coherence. While it holds less grit, it's a good move, allowing for a lot more flexibility in Krauss's singing. And by leaving room for some understandable vocals, the album becomes far catchier.

Speaking generally, the album follows a similar pattern. There's marginally less fuzz and noise and much more understandable lyrics, but the album has also changed the tone that it sends across. "Road to Hell" ends with the sounds of crickets, and though it's a small touch, it belies that this album is less on-edge and more laid back than earlier efforts. Part of this is a result of the guitar being featured much more prominently than on "Treats," keeping the album restricted to an even pace. As a whole, the album is stylistically similar to the song "Rill Rill" from their debut.

If you found the first album enjoyable, then the only real flaw here is length. The solace is that there are no songs that feel like throwaways made as album filler. At less than 40 minutes, and with only a single song longer than four minutes, it's really only a drop in the bucket for fans wanting more. **R**

“Kingdom Hearts of Amalur: Reckoning”

Game | MMORPG | \$59.99



DIG IT!

For Fans of: “Skyrim,” “Fable,” “World of Warcraft”

by Adam Watts

“Up All Night” (US Yearbook Edition) by One Direction

Album | Pop-Rock | 45:27



DIG IT!

For fans of: Allstar Weekend, The Wanted, Jonas Brothers

by Nilan Lovelace

Whether you like “Kingdoms of Amalur: Reckoning” or not depends entirely on whether good combat gameplay and an interesting plot can make up for dull and repetitive quests and annoyingly simplified role-playing game (RPG) elements. The game bills itself as a hack-and-slash RPG, and while it does the fighting part of that very well, it stumbles a bit on the RPG end of things.

The game starts with your character’s dead body being dumped into a mass grave. Fortunately, you don’t stay dead for long and are resurrected by a gnome professor and his experimental resurrection magic. From there, you must fight your way through an impressively expansive and detailed world to defeat the insane Tuatha, who prophecy has said will never be beaten. Unfortunately for prophecy, you (being dead) don’t seem to have a fate written in stone, and can thus change the way things are supposed to end up.

It’s a creative tale that breaks from traditional fantasy clichés in some interesting ways. The game itself, however, has some irritating problems. The quests are repetitive and linear, with choices you make not mattering at all afterwards. The sheer variety of enemies and locations is a plus, but after the initial wonder wears off, you end up doing the same thing in every area, with minor variations.

If you can stand the repetition and don’t get frustrated when the ten-thousand-year history of the world you’re in doesn’t actually affect game play much, “Amalur” is a very solid game. The combat is especially beautiful and might make up for the game’s other shortcomings by itself. There are moments of brilliance hidden like diamonds in the rough — solid mechanics and good writing that are buried in the rest of the game. One can’t help but feel that it should have been tightened up quite a bit to make those shining gems more prevalent, but if you have the patience to find them, “Amalur” is definitely worth playing. **R**

With the recent resurgence of boy bands, the British singing competition “The X Factor” brought One Direction to notoriety. The pop band finished third during the seventh series, and their debut album, “Up All Night,” was soon released in the U.K. during November 2011. In light of their major success across the pond, One Direction has released a U.S. edition of the album, which includes a remixed version of one of the original album’s hits and two deluxe add-ons.

The U.S. Yearbook Edition of “Up All Night” carries the usual characteristics that once made boy bands appealing. Songs like “Taken” are pulled together as if performed by a single solo artist. They bring all five guys — who, alone, aren’t the best vocalists — together to create a compelling sound that surprisingly blends into one voice. During “One Thing” and “Everything About You,” there are moments when the chorus is more chanting than singing and the harmony between the group is a bit lacking. Though, the two songs have more of a dance-pop feel versus the relatively complete pop-rock vibe that flows through the album. However, the album suffers from similar instrumentals every other song or so: Even the dance-pop tracks are in danger of sound-alikes with their more subtle album-mates.

It’s obvious in the album’s first single, “What Makes You Beautiful,” that One Direction is making music that can be enjoyed while laying on your couch, throwing a party with a few friends or a hanging out with a large crowd on the beach. The U.S. version of the second single, “Gotta Be You,” sounds majorly auto-tuned and is by far the worst of the 15 tracks, though it remains a pretty good party play. All in all, “Up All Night” is a universal album for those who enjoy any pop, R&B or classic rock. **R**

Spring

Craft Sale



Friday, March 23rd
SAU Lobby
10 am - 4 pm

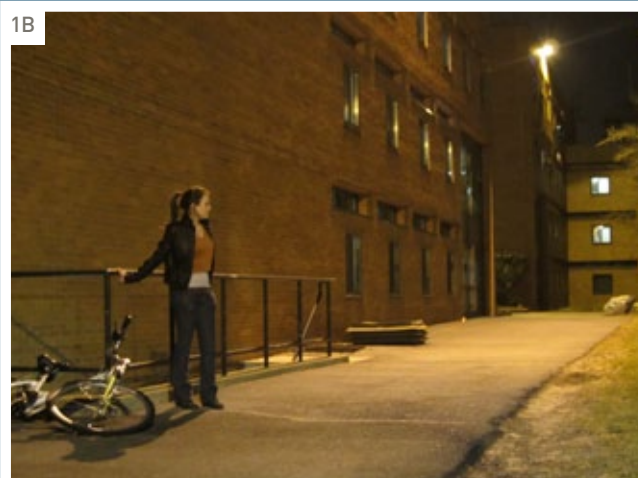
GOOD PHOTOS

— with —

BAD CAMERAS

story and photographs by Cadence Schwartz

Let's face it — cameras are expensive. But those who can't afford a better quality camera, even if they are not a photography major, can still do a lot to increase the quality of their photos. As part of an experiment, several photos were taken across campus with a cheap digital camera — first without any outside input, and then again after a critique by Douglas Rea, a professor in RIT's School of Photographic Arts and Sciences.



The initial concept for these pictures was formed from a mix of creative processes, from sketching out ideas to exploring different locations on campus. The decision to photograph at night was mainly for the use of sodium vapor street lamps as lighting. Once at the site, the initial ideas became less rigid, but were used as a jumping off point to try different angles and positions. The results of one specific photo follow below.

The Experiment

In the initial photo of a girl standing outside of the dorms, it seemed that the location was the most important factor; however, Rea corrected that notion. According to Rea, when you take a photograph you need to consider “where your eyes go first, and [they] usually go towards the individual.” The figure, therefore, was more important than previously thought. To emphasize the figure's importance, the frame was brought in closer in.

Rea also criticized the initial photo as being “too concentric, as the subject is right in the middle of the photograph.” A good way of fixing this problem is to follow the *rule of thirds*, a mathematical concept often used by photographers. “Think about it as a big tic-tac-toe board,” he explained. First, you need to divide the frame into a 3 x 3 grid and then place the subject of the photo onto the lines of the grid. In this case, the figure in the post-critique photo was placed to the left-middle of the frame.


The relationship of the subject to the space is another problem. When there is a figure in a photograph, who they are and what they are doing must be considered. In the first photograph, the subject seems to be “hanging out” and has very little personality or relationship to the space. To fix this, the subject was dressed up in tough clothes, including a leather jacket, a high ponytail and dark eyeliner to give her some personality. She was also positioned in a more active way, as though she is watching someone of on the right side of the screen and is about to walk over to them.

Professor Rea also noted that it's important not to take a photograph from eye-height, mentioning that a photographer should, “get down, stand up [or] climb on top of something to create a better angle.” Unfortunately, neither of these pictures explored the many different possible angles which could have made them much more interesting and successful.

Lighting and color is also an issue in these pictures. The first photo has a good variation in lighting with light and dark patches as well as gradient areas. It also has an interesting color mix with the orange light and the green and blues of the ground. Sadly, the lighting and color are lacking in its successor. The light is mostly monotone with the only major changes being the shadow of the figure and the bright light in the upper right. The color is also washed out and appears orange as opposed to the nice mix of colors in the first photo.

The Verdict

While few are able to afford expensive cameras, it is still possible to take better photos with some knowledge of lighting, location, composition and mood. Even just a little practice and experimentation can go a long way towards producing a more successful photograph.

To view more photos from the experiment, visit Reporter Online at <http://reportermag.com>. 

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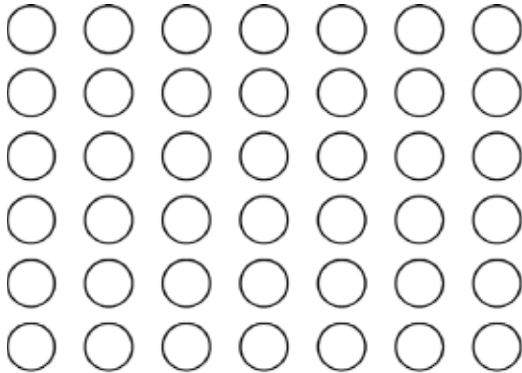
* BIGWORDS lowest price vs. average lowest price from each online store.
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BW82

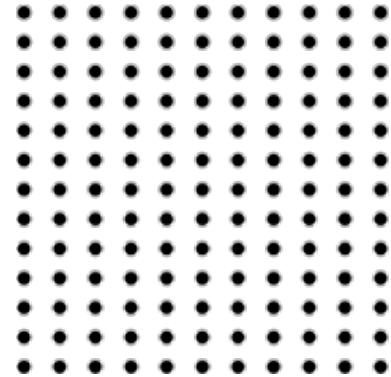
Puzzles

by Matthew Ferragamo



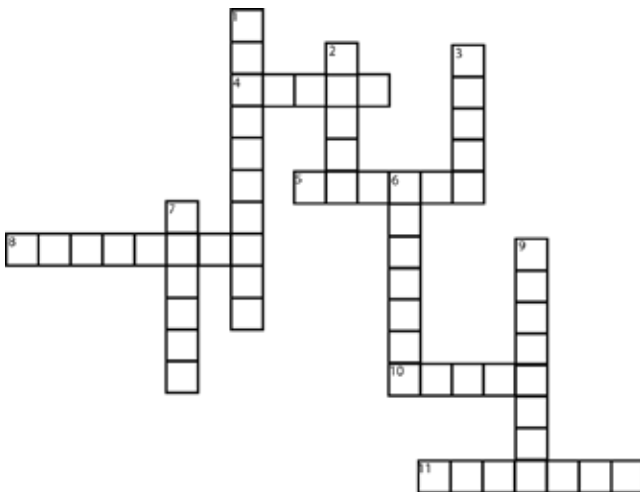
RULES (2 Players)

Players take turns writing their first initial in the lowest open spot in any column. Play continues until one player gets four spots in a row, or until there are no available spots left. Four spots in a row may be made vertically, horizontally or diagonally.



RULES (2 Players)

Players take turns drawing one horizontal or vertical line from one dot to an adjacent dot. The player who completely encircles an area with his turn captures that square and writes his initial in it. Once there are no more available moves, the player with the most captured area wins.



Across

- 4 A monastery
- 5 To spay
- 8 Person concerned with morality
- 10 To keep away
- 11 A sudden change

Down

- 1 Broken in pieces
- 2 Narrow projecting ridge
- 3 To cut or clip hair
- 6 Comes after lightning
- 7 A small boat
- 9 Dealer of precious stones

I T W I D B H P E U B T E S S I
 A Q A N T O N R E D O M R O E R
 U N E S M R B L R O R I P L R O
 O E R T T A C N G I R A T H N H
 T P O I E M O I T N O L C I B C
 L I T T L E C L G I W H O N U A
 W E T U D E X H U D T S H P I O
 S I P T O E H T R Q A P P T C R
 H A L I R Q O W E H B W T E S P
 T N I O P S T O T N E I O W P P
 N C G N T E U R R O S A M E O A
 B I T R S H I G W R O I A M B C
 R D G P W T P E L E E A O N D S
 T H U I T A L I M S O R U N G N
 S E Q T P R N T A O T U R O P O
 O R O T W Q U A R T E R O T U R

Word List

- GROWTH
- MODERN
- EXTENSION
- POINT
- APPROACH
- UPSET

- QUARTER
- BORROW
- LITTLE
- INSTITUTION

Words can be forward, backward, vertical and diagonal.



LIGHTS OUT:

THE PROPOSAL FOR A SMOKE-FREE CAMPUS

by Alex Rogala | illustrations by Justyn Iannucci

Posters cover the walls of Karen Pelc's office. A "quit" magnet on the side of a metal filing cabinet. On the desk, a nicotine-stained jar contains the tar collected from cigarette butts soaked in water.

As RIT's Health Education Coordinator and a New York State certified substance and alcohol abuse counselor, Pelc works to help students battle serious drug and alcohol addictions. She's currently focused on a threat that is both campus-legal and, in her eyes, deadly: tobacco.

Pelc is part of a group spearheading a proposal that could potentially ban or limit on-campus smoking at RIT. The pitch comes as a group of Rochester-area colleges and universities consider similar measures, part of a national trend towards rising tobacco prices and increasing smoking restrictions. While the ban has numerous health and financial benefits, it also raises questions of policy enforcement and students' rights.

HEALTH FOR THE MASSES

RIT implemented its current smoking policy in 1984, and it has since undergone a series of changes. In 1999, the policy was amended to ban smoking in all on-campus eateries. The most

recent update — passed in October 2003 — banned smoking in all indoor residential areas, including apartments and residence halls. In order to reduce secondhand smoke inhalation, it also prohibits smoking within 25 feet of residence halls.

Ideally, Pelc would like the campus to be completely smoke-free. However, she is comfortable with a compromise relegating it to an area off the main part of campus. The task force has drafted a rough proposal, and they have made various administrators, including President Destler and Senior Vice President for Student Affairs Dr. Mary-Beth Cooper, aware of their intentions.

The idea for the proposal is nothing new; the task force has been studying the possibility of going smoke-free for nearly half a decade. "We've gone through and talked with the students and done surveys for the past five years," says Pelc. "This didn't just spring up." The task force conducted several large-scale surveys from 2008 to 2010, as well as a smaller, mini-survey of 125 students in 2011. Pelc says that, in more recent surveys, a majority of students surveyed supported the idea of a ban.

Pelc hopes the ban will help decrease exposure to secondhand smoke. She says that the current proposal

was spurred on by student, staff and faculty complaints about the ubiquity of cigarette smoke around campus. Although RIT's current smoking policy forbids smoking within 25 feet of residential buildings, she says resident advisors have faced trouble enforcing the policy. In academic areas of campus, where there is no such policy, professors have complained about smoke entering doors or vents near their offices. "Some of them have even made their own signs," says Pelc.

This secondhand smoke has significant health consequences. "Tobacco is a cancer-causing agent," says Mark Cronin, a local representative from the American Cancer Society. He has worked with RIT and other local colleges considering smoke-free initiatives. "Whether you're talking about a college campus or other public places, limiting exposure to tobacco is an important way of limiting cancer risk in the general population."

Both Pelc and Cronin also see public smoking as an issue of tact. Pelc points out that there are few outlets for people to avoid smoke on the Quarter Mile. "You can't go anywhere if someone's having a cigarette in front of you," she says. She also notes that there is a used cigarette receptacle between the Student Health Center and the Student Life Center. "If you've got people with asthma or cardiac [issues], that could trigger [an attack]," she says.

Cronin emphasizes the idea of bans as an anti-smoking effort, not an anti-smoker effort. He cites his experience with other colleges that have implemented bans, saying, "This is a habit they recognize some people are choosing to engage ... that we'd like to be engaged in a way that is minimally disruptive and impactful to others — because it does have an impact."

A CULTURAL CHANGE

While the ban does aim to reduce harm to non-smokers, the task force also hopes it will make smokers consider their own actions. Pelc feels college is a crucial time to form healthy habits, and says many smokers begin in college. She cites a 1981 Phillip Morris internal memorandum that states, "Today's teenager is tomorrow's potential regular customer, and the overwhelming majority of smokers begin to smoke while still in their teens."

Pelc feels many students underestimate the risk of smoking, especially with social smoking. She says that having a few cigarettes while drinking can eventually lead to a habit and its consequences. "You've got someone who's 19 or

20 years old that can't walk up three flights of stairs," she says. By restricting access, the task force hopes to change the culture of smoking on campus. In turn, they hope fewer students will be encouraged to begin smoking.

Pelc also believes smoking bans help prepare students for the workplace. Due to increased health care and insurance costs, she states many companies don't allow smoking on their corporate campuses. "When it comes down to a dollar value, companies don't want to pay for that when they're hiring someone that's got a risk factor," she says. In the smoking cessation



wellness course she teaches, the majority of students are third or fourth years who, discovering that no one smokes at their co-op, feel uncomfortable hiding their habit. "They're in a place where nobody smokes, and if they do, everybody's closeted," she says.

There are also financial benefits to becoming a smoke-free campus. Pelc says the Student Health Center has been aiming to get grant money to further enhance their programs. However, some of the federal grants she has been looking to gain include a stipulation that, in order to be eligible,

schools cannot be currently receiving money from tobacco companies. As RIT received research funding from Phillip Morris in the recent past, Pelc states that they were denied the last time they applied. She has no knowledge as to whether such research is ongoing, though RAPID, RIT's internal research management database, shows a project studying diseased lung models. The project, which ran from September 2004 to December 2010, received \$239,441 in grants from Phillip Morris' Research Management group.

The task force hopes to introduce the ban as part of RIT's new wellness initiative, a recent plan designed to encompass various forms of student wellness, including physical, spiritual and emotional health. However, Pelc is quick to remind, that the proposal is a draft, and that it is currently being revised. "We're waiting right now for administration guidance on which way to go," she says.

MOVEMENT IN THE CITY

The potential for an Institute ban on smoking comes on the heels of similar movements nationwide. According to Pelc, there are approximately 600 smoke-free colleges and universities around the US, including many New York state school locations.

Alongside the University of Rochester and Nazareth College, RIT is a member of a band of local colleges considering smoking bans. Starting in October of last year, the group has had two meetings, and plans to host a third at RIT in March. SUNY Brockport, which went smoke-free last August, has also attended the meetings as a major source of guidance.

"It's really the way things are headed," Pelc says. "And there's momentum in the city."

A CHALLENGING ROAD

On Friday, February 3, Pelc presented a draft of her plan to Student Government (SG). While SG supported her efforts to promote smoke-free living, it officially declined to support her proposal, citing concerns of student rights. In response, Pelc claims she was unaware there was to be a vote. "I was just there to give

information,” she says, “so I was taken a little aback.”

With regard to claims of smokers’ rights, Pelc feels students focus too much on the concept of a ban, rather than its benefits, saying, “I think students get hung up on saying, ‘Oh, a right is being taken away.’” She stresses that the task force intends the policy in good faith, saying, “We don’t want to ostracize any smoker, but it’s really done with respect.”

Pelc admits enforcement presents a difficulty for any potential policy. “It’s not like [Public Safety] is going to be able to go out and write people tickets,” she says. “There’s not the manpower for those kinds of things.” Instead, she feels the plan would have to focus on marketing and education. She envisions a system involving peer educators who would hand out educational information to policy violators, informing them of the ban and the reasons for it.

Seven months into SUNY Brockport’s ban, Student Health Center Nurse Donna Kennison reports that not all students have complied with the ban. In a Friday, March 9, email


“This isn’t about trying to throw people who smoke off the campus or say you’re a bad person”

interview, she states that while most smokers have respected the policy — and many have quit — the center still receives complaints about on-campus smoking. While they have established a student conduct process for dealing with smoking violations, they haven’t used it yet.

Like SUNY Brockport, RIT’s task force hopes to use a delayed implementation to help ease the transition. Under this system, there would be six months to a year after the proposal passed before it was enforced. Pelc feels that the transition would give the campus time to adjust to the ban, as well as time for smokers to seek cessation help. She points out that there are numerous smoking cessation programs on campus, including a wellness course and one-on-one counseling.

Cronin feels that success of a smoke-free policy depends on its specifics. He says some of the more successful policies he’s seen encourage input from students, including smokers. “This isn’t about trying to throw people who smoke off the campus or say you’re a bad person,” he says. “It’s, ‘How do we do this in a way that’s most respectful to the campus community and minimize cancer risk?’”

Pelc acknowledges that if a full-force smoke-free policy went through, the Student Health Center would have to help ensure certain services could keep up with demand. “We would not leave people without that support,” she says.

As the policy is still a draft, it has quite some time until it sees completion. Even then, it would need to go through RIT’s governance groups before passing. Regardless, Pelc is eager to discuss the policy and get the word out. Whether through a smoke-free proposal or her current smoking cessation initiatives, she hopes to encourage students to make healthier choices. “We just do what we’ve got to do,” she says. “We want to help educate folks.” 

RIT SMOKING POLICY THROUGHOUT THE YEARS

1965: RIT removes cigarette machines from campus without input from students. In response, Student Senate presents a petition with 1,806 signatures — over 60 percent of the student body — to RIT President Dr. Mark Ellingson. On Friday, January 28, 1966, Ellingson agrees to reverse the ban.

1984: RIT issues the first revision of its current smoking policy.

1998: In order to comply with stringent new Monroe County laws, the Institute bans smoking in on-campus eateries.

2003: In order to reduce the number of student smokers — estimated by a 2002 Bader Grant Task Force survey at 17 percent of RIT’s student body — the Institute bans smoking in on-campus apartments and residence halls. To minimize secondhand smoke, the policy forbids smoking within 25 feet of residential buildings.

2009: During the move from the Candy Counter to Bytes on the Run, RIT phases out on-campus tobacco sales.

SMOKE-FREE POLICIES AT A GLANCE

Both Pelc and Cronin state that SUNY Brockport has been at the forefront of local tobacco-free initiative. How does RIT’s current proposal stack up to Brockport’s smoke-free policy?

RIT

IMPLEMENTED: Fall 2013 (*at earliest*)

DESIGNATED SMOKING AREAS: To be determined, if any.

ENFORCEMENT: Student Education Program, Marketing Campaign, Student Mentors.

SUNY BROCKPORT

IMPLEMENTED: August 1, 2011

DESIGNATED SMOKING AREAS: Private Vehicles, Two designated areas at campus periphery.

ENFORCEMENT: Student Education Program, Signage, Supervisors (*faculty*), Student Conduct Process.

Sources: RIT Health Education Coordinator Karen Pelc, SUNY Brockport Student Health Center Nurse Donna Kennison.



ILLUSTRATION BY SHIN WAKABAYASHI

THE LOCKDOWN:

SECURING STUDENT INFORMATION

During August and September 2008, multiple laptops with confidential and unprotected information, including names, birthdates and Social Security Numbers (SSN) were stolen from RIT. The September leak affected roughly 1,000 students. However, that August the records for nearly 12,700 NTID students and applicants were taken off a single laptop. While the majority of this data was not compromised, RIT gave students whose information was at risk a year's trial on a credit monitoring service. More pressingly, the situation made RIT much more aware of the risks associated with portable devices, and in a press release, the Institute promised a reevaluation of the security processes.

Information theft is a rare, but not unfamiliar occurrence at RIT. While attempts at stealing information occur daily, few are successful, due in part

to ever-mounting efforts from RIT's Information Security Office (ISO).

Prior to the use of the internet for secure transactions, keeping one's SSN and other personal information secret wasn't such a big concern. Through the 1980s, identity theft depended on criminals rooting through trash for things like bank statements or tricking the victim into giving up information over the phone. In fact, it was quite common for students to be identified by their SSN. "If you go far enough back, professors would actually post people's SSN with their grades in the hallway, and that was how your grades were communicated to you," said Executive Director of Information Security Jonathan Maurer. This has only become a legitimate concern with digital authentication, where no face-to-face validation is

needed. Over time, everything has slowly become more and more electronic, and now that the government and other agencies provide their services online — where identities can be authenticated without face-to-face contact — things like SSNs that were not previously security threats are now top priority.

Generally, information security can be seen as a way to minimize the risk of data theft. Any important piece of information, or often a computer itself, can be considered an asset. Assuming an outside force is trying to access an asset, “the individual could want the computing resource, they could want the information,” said Maurer, “or it could be they want to cause harm by exposing the information or by rendering the information unusable.” Whatever the attacker’s goals, information is compromised through security holes, physical theft or user manipulation.

Laptops and mobile devices fall squarely into the middle of these vulnerabilities, since they’re considered “mobile, easily stolen and never fully secured” by the ISO. “By their very nature, they are vulnerable.” Because of that, it’s much easier to see that there has been a dramatic improvement in RIT’s network and offline security. Since the thefts of 2008, it’s been the goal of the ISO to “really try to understand what exists within the environment,” allowing the office to get a better picture of what needs to be protected on devices. These security issues can be separated into three groups: policy, on-board controls and technology education.

The biggest guard to student’s personal computers is the high-security network we at RIT are all so familiar with. In order to access the RIT network, the student must provide login credentials and some computer details. According to Maurer, the small amount of time it takes to make the first connection is well worth it. He states that the ISO routinely “scans for well over 30,000 vulnerabilities” and takes initiative to fix any issues that crop up. Often, student will get emails about open ports on their computers.

Still, network security means little if thieves gain physical access to a laptop or other devices. Using programs like Identity Finder, a scanner that looks for personally identifying information on computers, Maurer says that they can track down “every instance of a piece of private information that might exist on a laptop.”

Once every piece of important information is found, Maurer explains that the best course of action is to “delete or remove that information to more secure locations.” No matter how well orchestrated an attack is, it cannot find information that just doesn’t exist. In many cases, he said the best tactic “is simply to limit the information that is present on the [laptop]”.

Identity Finder isn’t a perfect application though, running only on newer, Intel-based Mac computers, and requiring remote access to scan Linux machines. Its website does not mention compatibility with mobile operating systems, namely Android systems.

Unfortunately, threats are ever-changing, and while some practices are universally applicable, security layers have to be in constant states of change. The ISO’s policies are reviewed bi-yearly, and as the most recent standards’ statement is from 2009, it seems due for a review. Phones and tablets lend themselves even more to theft than laptops, but the Institute’s published desktop and portable computer security standards do not mention any policy to restrict high level information access on these devices, let alone compliance. This has the potential to leave administrator accounts vulnerable, and, in turn, student information.

Despite the omission of smaller devices, which admittedly were barely relevant at last year’s review, the ISO constantly works to make the RIT network as safe as possible. While they are an unobtrusive part of RIT, that’s precisely their goal: to create an environment that’s both safe and non-intrusive. **R**

BY NICK BOVEE

PROTECTING YOUR INFORMATION, YOURSELF

While the Information Security Office handles overall network security, your personal devices are still your responsibility. Some of the tools mentioned in the article, such as Identity Finder (<http://www.identityfinder.com/us/Home/Free>) and Secunia Personal Software Inspector (http://secunia.com/vulnerability_scanning/personal/) can be handy tools for checking your computer for at risk files or security gaps.

OTHER USEFUL PROGRAMS

KEEPASS

(<http://keepass.info>; Windows Only)

We each have a lot of passwords to manage. Facebook, email, bank information the list can go on. KeePass is a free password “vault” where you can store passwords, and only have to remember one long password rather than dozens of short, unsecure passwords.

TRUECRYPT

(<http://truecrypt.org>; Windows, Mac, Linux)

True crypt provides a simple tool to encrypt volumes, entire drives or even an operating system.

Additionally, ITS provides links to the following free programs, including:

MCAFFEE

(Free to RIT students) for Windows

MACINTOSH VIRUSSCAN

for Mac users

CCLEANER

MALWAREBYTES

SPYBOT



BRINGING BACK

RIT

FOOTBALL

by Steven Markowitz | illustrated by Erica Landers



n February 5, 2012, Tom Coughlin led the New York Giants to victory in the 46th annual Super Bowl. Forty years ago, Coughlin began his coaching career here at RIT, where he served as head coach from 1970 to 1973. In 1977, only four years later, the RIT football team was dissolved. Since then, students have proudly worn shirts declaring the team “Undefeated since 1978.”

In the 35 years that RIT has gone without a football team, there have been many attempts by students to resurrect a National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division III team; however, none of those efforts have amounted to success. Recently, one student has made a different proposal that has gained support from both students and administration. RJ Pollard, a first year Environmental, Health and Safety Management graduate student, is working hard to bring sprint football to the school.

Sprint football is a varsity sport that is not recognized by the NCAA but follows their rules. It has all the same rules as a normal football team, with the exception of a 172-pound weight restriction. “Sprint football is more of a textbook game and a speed game as opposed to just a big guy hitting another big guy,” said Pollard.

Sprint football’s emphasis on weight has given it the nickname of lightweight football. Since students would not have to worry as much about their weight or body, the sport encourages athletics not to take over a student’s education.

“[The game] is perfect for RIT student athletes ... it attracts the students who really wants to get a good education but also play some high-quality football,” said Pollard. The sport also forbids off-campus recruiting.

The sprint football league is run by commissioner Stephen Erber at Cornell. There are currently nine teams in the league, including Princeton, Cornell, Army, Navy and Mansfield. The eight game season starts on September 14, 2012 and runs until November 2. There is no tournament at the end, as the team with the best record wins that year.

In December 2010, Pollard approached the advisor of the RIT Flag Football Club, where he serves as president and quarterback, about bringing a sprint football team to the school. However, by that point it was too late in the budgetary process and there were many details to be worked out. Pollard began researching, and last September he brought a proposal to Student Government (SG).

In the months that followed, SG passed a resolution to support the team. Phil Amsler, the vice president of SG, assembled a committee to gather more information that will eventually be presented to administration. The committee is headed by Greek Senator Taylor Deer and includes Pollard, Director of Student Relations Sarah Thomas, SG Advisor Dr. Heath Boice-Pardee, and members of the athletics and financial resource departments.

The committee’s role is to gather details on resource and budget requirements. There is currently no budget estimate, since an accurate number would require knowledge of facilities knowledge and funding perspectives from alumni and administration. Other details that need to be worked out include equipment, initial costs, locker room space, coaches, schedules and — perhaps the largest hurdle — finding a place to play. According to Pollard, they are looking at three different possible areas to play. This includes the club field, RIT Field — though the soccer

“...it attracts the students who really wants to get a good education but also play some high quality football.”

teams have expressed concern over field wear and schedule conflicts — and the turf, which Pollard has been told is due to be replaced.

In the near future, Pollard is going to speak with athletics to talk about the feasibility of starting a sprint football team. Meanwhile, the committee is preparing a document with all the details and opinions of students and professionals to hand off to Senior Vice President Student Affairs Dr. Mary-Beth Cooper, who will work the proposal with the administration.

If the team is approved by President Destler and the board of directors, the school will present the proposal to Erber and join the league. After that, the first year would be an introductory year consisting of two away games, with normal play beginning in the second year .


In addition to gathering details, the committee’s goal is to gauge student interest and evaluate the impact of a football team on the school. Pollard surveyed students about a possible team, and 75 percent of those polled want to see and would support a football team. The committee also believes a team would also increase school spirit and bring back alumni to cheer for the team as they play against schools like Princeton or Cornell.

The committee is taking each step of the process very carefully to ensure that a football team would not take away from any other varsity athletic team. The administration and the committee have made it clear that they will not bring a football team to campus if it takes away from other sports.

“We really want to make sure that it adds to the campus and really brings a positive light to RIT, rather than taking away resources other teams would be using,” said Thomas.

In a perfect world, Pollard would like to see RIT join the league as soon as next year, with the 2013-14 school year serving as the introductory year. Deer says that the goal is possible if the administration strongly backs the proposal, pushing it along at a rapid pace. As of now, however, he says the goal seems unlikely.

Thomas, on the other hand, says that the project is years away. With the emphasis in athletics currently on building the new hockey arena and helping the women’s hockey team transition to Division I, a football team is unlikely to begin playing here for another few years.

Despite the lack of details, the committee remains hopeful to one day see a football team play on the campus for the first time in over 30 years. Pollard has been told that his effort has gone farther than any other to bring back a team, partially due to the attention to details and also due to his choice of sprint football over the more expensive Division III football. “I am just going to keep pushing and pushing until someone tells me, ‘No, you can’t,’” says Pollard. 



GIVE US A RING

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Eight Months and 100 Pounds

by Danielle Delp | photograph by Thomas Newton

In order to change something about yourself, you must devote every ounce of yourself to it. Eight months ago, third year Electrical Engineering major Nate Finch made a promise to himself to put an end to the obesity that has plagued him his entire life. Fearing future health complications and recalling his late father's wish for him to someday be healthy, he began mapping out a way to improve himself in the months ahead.

Initially weighing in at 346 pounds, Finch's goal became to cut his weight in half. Rather than create a weight loss plan that would be abandoned after the weight was lost, Finch reworked his entire lifestyle in such a way that he could continue to live by it even after reaching his target weight.

The first decision that needed to be made was how to eat; rather than eat foods that he didn't like while following a strict diet, he focused on eating less of the food he already ate and enjoyed. A diet change alone isn't enough to induce large-scale weight loss, however, so he also began seriously working out to get in better shape through any exercises he could think of. He now exercises five times a week and makes a special effort to include more walking in his daily routine. He sums up the entirety of his strategy as, "Eat less, move more."

The most personal and unique aspect of Finch's story is his incorporation of technology into the process of weight loss. Early on, he realized that his passion for the internet and technology could be used as a source of much-needed motivation. The most dramatic result of this was the birth of his blog, Weight of a Man. It serves as a place for him to record everything from his exercise achievements and musings on life to his current weight statistics. He also uses the blog to share his experiments with other technology that he has implemented into his new routine, such as a smartphone app that records caloric intake.



Almost immediately, the pounds started coming off a little bit each week. He quickly discovered that the key to success was remaining enthusiastic about what he was doing, so he set short-term goals for himself that would give him something easier and more immediate to work towards than the entire 170 pounds. As a constant reminder of how far he has come, he keeps a photo of him at 348 pounds on the blog so he doesn't lose sight what he is trying to change. By making himself love what he is doing and maintaining a sense of achievement, he has been able to make it feel less like a chore and remains willing to keep up with it.

In the present, Finch's ultimate goal is finally appearing on the horizon. On February 18, he achieved one of the shorter-term goals as he lost over 100 pounds, and continues to lose more every week. He has described his new self as "happier, healthier and more energetic overall," and has no intention of going back to the way he was. The people around him have noticed the change as well, as he jokingly remarked, "Some people have trouble recognizing me now, especially from behind." One of Finch's most memorable moments of the past eight months was the day his mother realized she could wrap her arms entirely around her son's body for the first time.

Finch is living proof that it isn't impossible to lose a dramatic amount of weight, provided you set a goal for yourself and keep fighting to reach it. The desire to change must remain strong if you are to make it a reality, but the results can be incredibly rewarding if you see it through to the end. **R**

For more information about Nate Finch's weight loss journey, visit his blog at <http://weightofaman.com>.

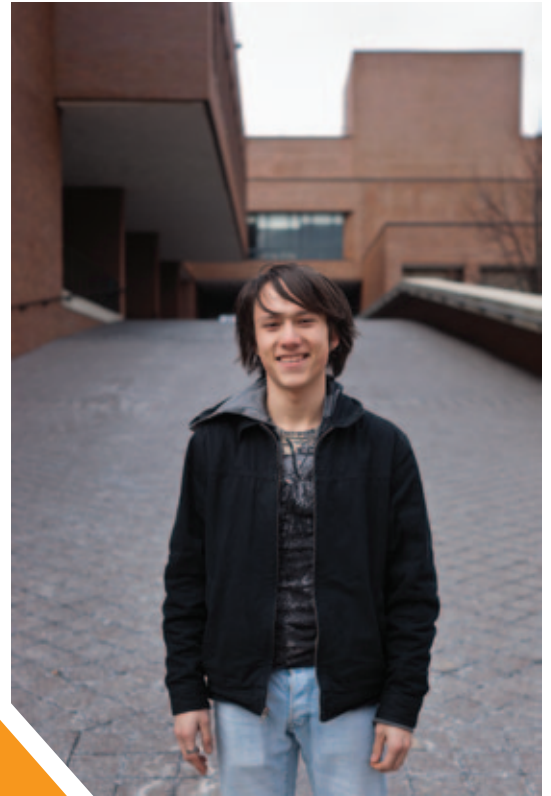


**“Animal hats
because they
are a problem.”**

Hannah Micca
First year Mechanical
Engineering

**“40 page essays
involving group
work.”**

Steven DeRidder
Fourth year Advertising
Photography



WORD ON THE STREET

by Matt Burkhardt



**“Fountains,
because they
waste tuition
money.”**

Frank Rodriguez
Fourth year Computer
Engineering

**“Card swipes,
because I get
locked out all
the time.”**

Hiram Taylor
Fourth year Criminal
Justice





"The bell, because it is just an extra reminder that I am already late to class."

Rony Martinez
First year University Studies

"Smoking on the quarter mile."

Ben Brittain
First year Computer Science



WHAT SHOULD RIT BAN?



"The snow."

Ned Blakley
Fourth year New Media Interactive Development

"Brown RIT shirts because it makes us look like poop."

Jeffery Huyn
Second year Film and Animation 





REPORTER

STATE OF POLITICS

by Nick Bovee

Has anyone stood back and taken a good look at the current primary election? Obama's got his free pass, but it seems like the Republican Party decided several months ago that they were going to host a reality show rather than a primary. Between Cain, Romney, Santorum and Gingrich, what we've had are caricatures, not candidates.

Although no longer in the running, Herman Cain was radically unprepared for a presidential campaign. While personable early on, Cain latched onto half-baked ideas like his 999 tax plan or a 20 foot tall barbed wire electric fence along the Mexican border. Even more cracks in his character appeared when he claimed his plan for the electric fence was a joke and then, in the following interview, reneged on that statement. Additionally, he made comments that implied he wasn't aware that China had nuclear capabilities and displayed magnificent insensitivity to Uzbekistan, calling them "Ubeki-beki-beki-beki-stan-stan," directly insulting them as a small and insignificant. But Cain isn't in the running anymore, so don't sweat it until 2016.

The ones we do have to worry about are the equally unfit frontrunner candidates, Rick Santorum and Newt Gingrich. What to say about Newt? Nothing controversial has come up for him in recent months, aside from his ridiculous promise to build, and accept into statehood, a moon base. Where he does fall down to the level of the rest of the candidates is his history from past years. He has claimed bilingualism is dangerous to the "fabric of the nation," has encouraged profiling in the search for terrorists, and suggested in 1994 that welfare benefits be cut to young mothers and in turn used to fund more orphanages. Santorum is similarly opposed to bilingualism in America, but also brings to the table a whole host of homophobia and anti-intellectualism.

There are only two explanations that make sense of what's going on. The party has clearly already written off this election, so their plans must be focused far ahead, on the 2016 election.

The first option hinges on this primary election being a test of the voter base. Whatever ridiculous caricature of a presidential candidate is the most successful in this election will be the "model" candidate for the primaries of 2016. Hopefully this isn't the case, since we'll just get an even more polarized view of conservatives.

If there is some grandmaster scheme behind the Republicans' choice of nominees, something with reasonable intelligence, it's this: The people actually qualified to run don't think Obama can be unseated, so they're letting the corrupt and radical nominees make their shot this election. When the primaries for 2016 start, you can bet that we'll see a new batch of hopefuls, most of whom will seem streets ahead of the political circus we're currently seated with.

Which one of those it is will depend entirely on who decides to run in 2016, but it is clear that this primary election is as close to a farce as can be. It's because of ridicule of the election process like this that voter apathy is such a mounting problem. The only solution is to voice your opinion by voting against the parties that perpetuate this stagnation. No matter your politics, this problem will continue as long as either political party is playing games with the election, something both the Republicans and Democrats are guilty of. **R**

The opinions expressed are solely those of the author and do not reflect the views of REPORTER.

RINGS

compiled by Brett Slabaugh | illustration by Simon Jones

585.672.4840

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

SUNDAY, 4:29 A.M. (FROM TEXT)

Decided to drunkenly color a picture, found a debit card with \$150 on it in my Crayola box. **WINNING AT LIFE!**

TUESDAY, 11:43 A.M.(FROM TEXT)

RINGS! An old people biker gang just rode past me by the bus stop **on actual bicycles**. I don't think we're in college anymore!

TUESDAY, 9:33 A.M. (FROM TEXT)

Just tried to play **ZONIE** in "Words With Friends." It didn't accept. Is it trying to tell me something about **how I Zonie too much Zonie Zonies?**

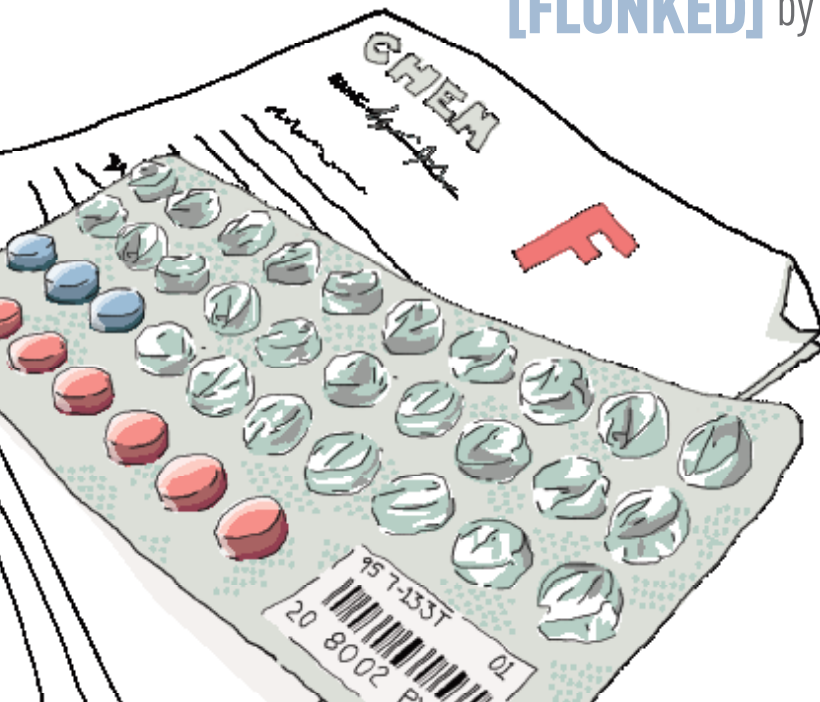
MONDAY, 9:22 A.M. (FROM TEXT)

Three years of being here and my **PROUDEST MOMENTS** were getting in **RINGS** and creating a popular RIT meme. **I seem to have my priorities set, eh?**

MONDAY, 12:01 P.M. (FROM TEXT)

WALKED INTO MY ECONOMICS EXAM

and saw a girl **TAKING HER BIRTH CONTROL**. Looks like I'm not the only one preparing to get **[FLUNKED]** by this final.



TUESDAY, 2:04 P.M. (FROM TEXT)

Week 11 is where dreams go to die. **CAN I CRY ON YOUR SHOULDER, RINGS?**

THURSDAY, 11:24 A.M. (FROM TEXT)

I LOVE FINALS WEEK.

Only because the guys look **SMOKING HOT** in their business suits. **R**

tune in

to orientation 2012



**Audition for
ORIENTATION ASSISTANT
or
PHOTOGRAPHER
positions at one of
our info sessions!**

 R·I·T New Student
Orientation

March 13 - 6-7 pm
Campus Center 1010/1015

March 14 - 7-8 pm
Gleason Hall A-055

*March 16 - 4-5 pm
Campus Center 2610/2650

March 17 - 2-3pm
Global Village Conference Rm 1200

*March 18 - 3-4 pm
Nathaniel Rochester Hall Rm 1250

March 19 - 8-9 pm
Campus Center 2610/2650

March 21 - 6-7 pm
Campus Center A640/650

*March 22 - 7-8 pm
Campus Center 2610/2650



* Indicates interpreted session rit.edu/orientation/assistants.php

PARK POINT



Don't Leave Your Housing To Chance

*Apply Today
Less Than 50 Rooms Available!*

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