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REPORTER

10.05.12 reportermag.com

Signing Across Language

Dangerous Signs encourages diversity through poetry.

The Big Bang's Beats

Fusing dance and science.

New Challenges for

Women's Hockey
Team plays first Division I games.



REPORTER

EDITOR IN CHIEF Alex Rogala

| eic@reportermag.com

MANAGING EDITOR Amber Wilson-Daeschlein

| managing.editor@reportermag.com

COPY EDITOR Nathaniel Mathews

| copy.editor@reportermag.com

NEWS EDITOR Peter LoVerso

| news@reportermag.com

LEISURE EDITOR Amber Wilson-Daeschlein

| leisure@reportermag.com

FEATURES EDITOR Steven Markowitz

| features@reportermag.com

SPORTS EDITOR Jeff McKinzie

| views@reportermag.com

VIEWS EDITOR Jeff McKinzie

| views@reportermag.com

WRITERS Amanda Imperial, Adam Balbi, Angela

Freeman, Cadence Schwartz, Patrick Ogbeide,

Kayla Emerson, Danielle Delp, Brett Slabaugh

ART

ART DIRECTOR Jon Lavalley

| art.director@reportermag.com

SENIOR STAFF DESIGNER Emily Levine

STAFF DESIGNERS Jiwon Lim, Michaela Jebb

PHOTO EDITOR Juan Madrid

| photo@reportermag.com

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS Rachael Franks,

Jonathan Foster, Joshua Barber, Elizabeth

Stallmeyer, Jake Di Pietro

STAFF ILLUSTRATOR Elisa Plance, Emily Gage

CARTOONIST James LeCarpentier

BUSINESS

PUBLICITY MANAGER Nicholas Gawreluk

AD MANAGER Julia Morrow

| ads@reportermag.com

BUSINESS MANAGER Christina Hawara

| business.manager@reportermag.com

PRODUCTION MANAGER Nicholas Gawreluk

| production.manager@reportermag.com

ONLINE PRODUCTION MANAGER Jake DeBoer

| webmaster@reportermag.com

ADVISOR Rudy Pugliese

PRINTING Printing Applications Lab

CONTACT 1.800.970.5406

GROWING PAINS

At Student Government last week, Dr. Neil Hair discussed the fledgling Innovative Learning Institute's (ILI) plans to improve learning technology at RIT. While I find his team's research truly fascinating, one point stuck with me; due to the high cost of children, he said, our generation is likely to have fewer kids than our parents. This, combined with an increasing demand for newer, non-traditional methods of enrollment, necessitates the creation of innovative new online programs.

It's an interesting proposal, and I support it wholeheartedly. However, it seems to run counter to RIT's party line in support of large-scale expansion. This past summer, for example, President Bill Destler published a letter on RIT's web site praising the Institute's impressive growth. Since my freshman year, RIT has added countless buildings and increased its enrollment by at least a thousand students. But for me, Hair's presentation got me thinking: RIT proudly touts this growth, but is it truly what's best for us?


RIT has already seen the growing pains. During my freshman year, there were quintuplet rooms in the dorms. And while these have thankfully been resolved, there are still hundreds of students living in the RIT Inn. Many lounges, spaces essential for relaxation and collaboration in the dorms, have been repurposed to house students.

The idea sounds good on paper; more growth leads to greater revenue, which can then be used to fund the construction of even more buildings. While new buildings are certainly nice, how will they help two decades from now in an education system driven increasingly by non-traditional programs? It strikes me as a self-propagating cycle.

Change and development are undoubtedly engrained in the RIT culture. Yet change doesn't necessarily have to involve rapid physical growth. There are other areas where the Institute can grow without simply expanding its enrollment. For example, semester conversion was a step in the right direction. The foundation of the ILI is another. Now, we just have to keep up the momentum.

RIT is blessed with many unique faculty, facilities and programs, but we're not utilizing everything we've got to the best of ability. With so much academic and social change already underway, we should focus on consolidating and improving what the Institute already has. Liberal Arts Hall (LBR, 06), for example, could use a little love. And, as I learned from an article I wrote two years ago, on-campus accessibility has much progress left to make, particularly in older buildings. Why build up so quickly if we're still unsure what the future will bring?

I've heard difference between a manager and leader explained as such: A manager aims to maintain the status quo, while a leader challenges it in order to achieve something greater. I understand this is a natural part of any business, and I'm not seeking to marginalize the administration's impressive efforts. I've been told this is good, but as a student, I sometimes can't help but wonder why.



Alex Rogala

EDITOR IN CHIEF

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Members of the audience at CAB's Open Mic on Friday, September 28 look on as Koby Trout performs. The event, which was held in Grace Watson Hall, drew a sizeable crowd including approximately 20 performers. | photograph by Juan Madrid

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Cover: Malik Paris, a fourth year Art and Imaging Studies major, signs during the interpretation of Langston Hughes' poem, "Dreams" during a Dangerous Signs rehearsal Saturday, September 29. | photograph by Jonathan Foster



Autonomous Vehicles Legalized on California Roadways

On Tuesday, September 25, California Governor Jerry Brown officially signed a law legalizing the use of autonomously operated cars. Bill SB1298, following in the footsteps of similar laws enacted by Nevada and Florida, is noteworthy for its establishment of safety standards and performance guidelines. It also mandates that the Department of Motor Vehicles adopt new regulations for their licensing, testing and operation by no later than January 1, 2015, according to the bill.

The new legislation is closely linked with Google, which has long advocated such technology, and the bill was in fact overseen at its signing on Tuesday by Sergey Brin, co-founder of the popular search site. According to InformationWeek, the innovative new technology may be instrumental in extending transportation to those formerly impeded by factors such as age or disability.

International Tensions a Factor in Nepal Avalanche Deaths

An avalanche hit a group of more than two dozen climbers early Sunday, September 23, killing at least nine during their attempt to summit the Nepalese mountain Manaslu, the world's eighth-highest peak. Ten climbers have been rescued, and rescue efforts continue for the three climbers still missing as of press time, according to the Toronto Star. The climbers were some of the large number of mountaineers to come to Nepal due to China's increasingly stringent climbing restrictions, brought on by increasing Tibetan tensions.

In keeping with a long history of territorial disputes regarding Chinese and Tibetan borders in the Himalayas, China has taken measures to garner further control over the Himalayan mountain range. Such actions include restricting annually issued climbing permits, limiting foreign tourists' access to the peaks, and raising permit prices.

These measures culminated in an abrupt refusal to accept climbers' applications for permits in 2012, according to a Washington Post article. This unexplained political move brought about a spike in registration for mountain teams through other agencies on the Nepalese side, as climbers altered their plans and cut costs. The additional climbers cause overcrowding on mountains, which can be deadly on the already treacherous mountain faces.

Keystone Pipeline Construction Blocked by Protestors

Eight banner-wielding environmentalists took a stand on Monday, September 24 in protest of energy company TransCanada's tree-clearing efforts. The activists displayed banners and climbed trees on the site, located in near Winnsboro, Texas, demonstrating their opposition to the construction of the controversial Keystone XL pipeline intended to direct oil to Gulf Coast refineries according to Democracy Now.

The pipeline would remain below ground for the majority of its length, according to the Houston Chronicle, and would only become visibly apparent at its six pump stations and multiple mainline valves.

Major concerns regarding the project include emission of greenhouse gases and its overall impact on neighboring areas. While the protestors did not directly impede TransCanada, the contractors for the project, the Chronicle quoted activist Ron Seifert as stating, "Those participating strongly believe that at this point doing nothing is a much greater risk than taking action." A final decision on the pipeline construction project is scheduled following the Presidential election this November. **R**

Remote Learning Discussed

At the Friday, September 28 Student Government Senate meeting, Innovative Learning Institute (ILI) Project Lead Dr. Neil Hair presented a plan for the future of technology-based learning at RIT. They are focusing on three major areas of development: online learning, tradition course transformation and the role of the non-traditional — including returning and distance students — students, such as returning and distance students, at RIT.

Hair stated that the ILI's leadership — which also includes Professor Therese Hannigan, Professor Mary C. Boyd and Director of Faculty Development Donna A. Dickson — feel learning is moving online for many non-traditional students. They noted the large supply of lectures currently available online from schools such as MIT, and Khan Academy, as well as new virtual reality training tools at Duke University. The ILI wants to collaborate with other universities and also develop its own new learning tools. This technology would be then used in both traditional and online courses.

This innovation would be done in a “collaborative laboratory” which would consist of students and faculty working together with a

focus on experimentation and risk-taking. Traditional lectures would be moved online in order to use class time for interactive learning and experimentation. They also plan to transform the Center for Multidisciplinary Studies into the School for Integrative Learning. This new school would encourage students to take courses outside their skill set or develop custom degrees.

The plan will be discussed further this quarter before it is brought to RIT's governance groups for approval. **R**

CORRECTION

The September 28 article “Muddy Tradition Breaks Record” misspelled Jenna Deutsch's name. **R**

FORECAST compiled by Peter LoVerso

Friday
05

Sign Idol

Ingle Auditorium, SAU. 7 — 9 p.m. Sigma Sigma Sigma will be hosting Sign Idol, a competition where you sign a song of your choice without using your voice. The event benefits play therapy at children's hospitals. *Cost: \$3 to perform; \$5 to attend.*

Saturday
06

The Improvessionals Present: “Married with Benefits”

Webb Auditorium, Booth Hall (BOO, 7A). 8 — 10 p.m. RIT Improv troupe “The Improvessionals” will be presenting some of the most side-shaking fun you'll get all week. *Cost: Free.*

Sunday
07

Got Soccer?

Turf Field. 10 a.m. — 6 p.m. Come to the latest soccer tournament hosted by the Muslim Student Association and win some cool prizes with your team. *Cost: \$5.*

Monday
08

Graduate Study Open House

Bausch & Lomb Center (BLC, 77). 9 a.m. — 3 p.m. Are you considering graduate school? Come to this open house to learn about the more than 70 graduate programs offered by RIT and enjoy a free lunch. *Cost: Free.*

Tuesday
09

Career Fair Is Over ... Now What?

Room 1125, Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science (CAR, 76). 3 — 4 p.m. A discussion of what to do with the connections you made at Career Fair. RSVP through RIT Job Zone. RIT Students only. *Cost: Free.*

Wednesday
10

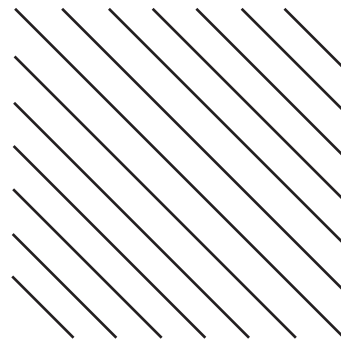
Conable Film Series

Room A-205, Liberal Arts Hall (LBR, 06). 6.30 — 9:30 p.m. The next installment in this international film series showcasing global politics and culture, the award-winning film “Tokyo Sonata.” will be shown, followed by a discussion facilitated by Dr. Hiroko Yamashita. *Cost: Free.*

Thursday
11

International Socialist Organization Public Meeting

Reading Room, Campus Center. 8 — 9:30 p.m. Come discuss a wide variety of social and political issues. *Cost: Free.* **R**

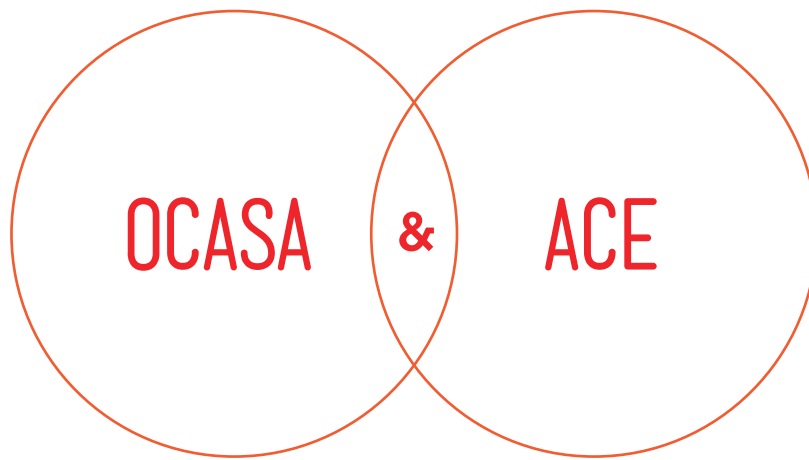


EventsAtRIT



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Different Sides of the Same Coin

by Amanda Imperial

Earlier this quarter, representatives from two provisional Major Student Organizations approached Student Government (SG) with a proposal for how to divide the former Off-Campus and Apartment Student Association into two separate entities. On Friday, January 21, SG approved this plan, creating the rebranded On-Campus Apartment Student Association (OCASA) and the Association for Commuter Engagement (ACE). Through this split, they hope to better manage two distinct constituencies.

According to SG Vice President Sarah Thomas, OCASA formerly managed around 7,000 to 8,000 students, and handled the different problems of students from anywhere Rustic Village and Riverknoll. Now, it represents on-campus apartment residents, which include Colony Manor, Perkins Green, Riverknoll, University Commons (UC), Racquet Club and the RIT Inn.

Center for Residence Life Area Director Brandon Kotler, OCASA's administrative and primary advisor, says that he got involved in the OCASA project because he felt that upperclassmen, who he saw as the "personality" and "presence" of RIT, seemed to lose their way after freshman year. He mentions that in higher education, so much is done to make first-time college students feel comfortable, and that lot of work is put into the first-year students. When a student's second year comes, they are comparatively abandoned.

Through OCASA, Kotler hopes to respect the needs of upperclassmen and connect them to resources. "We're the [Residence Halls Association] for apartments," he says. As part of an active spirit of engagement, he'd like to see many events happen throughout the year once OCASA is back on its feet, such as giving out coffee, collaborating events with ACE, and is even considering a Slip-'n'-Slide day. He also mentions that he'd like to see people come by the OCASA office at Riverknoll 113 to "hang out" and talk to him.

ACE, on the other hand, will be responsible for commuting students, defined as "any student who does not live in institutionally operated housing and/or does not have access to free/included transportation to and from RIT campus," including Rustic Village.

A commuter during his first year, Interim ACE developer Tristan Wright never felt like RIT recognized him as a student. Wright explains that the Division of Student Affairs hopes to engage its entire student body. "You can't have [that] if you are ignoring 30 percent of your student body," he says, adding that this was really the "spirit" behind ACE.

ACE's goals are to better represent the students that do not live on campus, give them the opportunity to become more engaged with the RIT community, and provide support if housing problems arise. According to its website, ACE also hopes to create a database of rent costs and reviews of different landlords. But, according to Wright, before this can happen ACE needs to do research into where the students live and whether they have cars so that useful data can be collected.

According to Wright and Kotler, it is still unclear which organization will represent students in Park Point and the Province. "The challenges and experiences that [exist] in Province and Park Point are much more like what [would exist] if you lived in UC," says Wright. However, students living these residencies pay rent to an independent, non-RIT management. More discussion will be had throughout the year about whether these not-quite-on-campus, not-quite-off-campus living areas will be part of ACE or OCASA.

There are currently no executive boards for either OCASA or ACE. Clay Monson and Kristy Carpenter, respectively, are the Graduate Assistants in charge of sending the new MSOs forward in their progress by hiring the first interim presidents and vice presidents. These leaders will then proceed to select and hire various executive board members. They are currently seeking applicants for all positions. **R**

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Dryden
Theatre



PROGRAM 13 *The Invisible Men*

Sunday,
Oct. 7, 1:30PM
Little Theatre 1



PROGRAM 17 *Petunia*

Sunday,
Oct. 7, 6:00PM
Little Theatre 1



PROGRAM 22 *About Cherry*

Monday,
Oct. 8, 9:30PM
Little Theatre 1

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Dev Patel (*Slumdog Millionaire*)

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4:00PM
Little Theatre 1



PROGRAM 18 *Mosquita Y Mari*

Sunday, Oct. 7
6:00PM
Dryden Theatre



PROGRAM 21 *Call Me Kuchu*

Monday, Oct. 8
6:30PM
Little Theatre 1



PROGRAM 33 *Married & Counting*

Saturday, Oct. 13
11:30PM
Dryden Theatre



PROGRAM 34 *Safe Space* (Shorts Program)

Saturday, Oct. 13
2:00PM
Dryden Theatre



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HEXONIST

A Temporary Home

by Adam Balbi | photographs by Juan Madrid

Imagine arriving on campus to spend your days couch surfing instead of studying, living out of a suitcase or staying at a hotel only to have to pack up and move a few weeks later. RIT's housing department works hard year-round to avoid that situation.

If you neglected to fill out your housing contract by the deadline — or at all — you risk being placed in one of RIT's temporary housing spaces as an overflow student. While your preferences will be heavily weighted in the housing options you receive as the weeks move by, there is no guarantee you will get what you wanted. You are guaranteed, however, to get what you need. No student gets turned away from housing once they have a contract, but the choice and quality of that housing is mostly on a first come, first serve basis.



▲ Dan Irwin (left), a fourth year Computer Science major, and Dan Corey, a fifth year Game Design and Development major, pose for a portrait in their room at the RIT Inn. The hotel acted as a location for overflow housing this year as the Institute faced overcrowding.

This fall, 18 RIT students — including nine incoming freshmen — had to stay temporarily at the Radisson Hotel on Jefferson Road, according to Director of Housing Carla Dilella. These students submitted housing contracts extremely late or not at all.

Having guaranteed housing in the dorms for the freshmen outright, and not wanting to turn any upperclassmen away, RIT Housing made emergency housing accommodations at the Radisson hotel. A professional staff member from Residence Life acted as a makeshift Resident Advisor, and Public Safety delegated staff to provide additional security. Shuttles ran as late as 1 a.m. during orientation week so that

freshmen would be able to attend midnight events. When spaces opened up in the dorms two weeks later, moving assistance was provided.

Typically when students aren't placed right away, they are assigned to the RIT Inn's temporary space. The RIT Inn, donated by Marriott in 2001, is routinely used for temporary student housing for upperclassmen throughout the year until they can be relocated to permanent spaces that are or most closely resemble their first choices. Students placed in temporary housing at the RIT Inn utilize many of the accommodations, like shuttle services, that are already in place for students living in the Inn year round.

In special circumstances such as the Radisson, additional shuttle accommodations must be made for the late-coming students. The cost to provide these additional bus services was \$15,000, which came from the funds designated for RIT's extensive and ubiquitous shuttle service for on- and off-campus transportation. A total of 187 students inhabited the Inn at the start of the quarter, and now 104 students remain in temporary housing there. This is due to a lack of space or because the spaces available are not what the students prefer.

Housing adjusts the number of spots in the residence halls that need to be reserved for incoming freshmen based on statistics from the housing registration process each year. At a minimum, half of the residence hall space is allocated specifically for incoming freshman, with upperclassmen numbering around one third of the total dorm population. RIT's enrollment goal is 18,500 students at all of its campuses, including overseas, a number that Dilella believes can be easily handled. She dismisses the fear that the Institute would be unable to accommodate incoming freshmen, stating that the dorms can provide a total of 3,487 spaces. While upperclassmen are not guaranteed housing in the dorms, there are 7,200 spaces in total available on campus, including the RIT Inn and Racquet Club.

Being placed in temporary housing in the fall and then relocating a few weeks later is a huge hassle. The best way to avoid it is to fill out RIT's housing contract early, with roommates who won't jump ship, or to scout nearby off campus apartments sooner rather than later. When finding a future home at RIT, timeliness is key. **R**

REVIEW

by Patrick Ogbeide



Album | Hip Hop | 54 mins.
G.O.O.D. Music – "Cruel Summer"



Hip hop has always been dominated by crews. This year, the simple b-boy crew has evolved to include a label's rappers spitting verses under one flag. In an uprising of talent and fame, Kanye West propelled his G.O.O.D. Music label to the high end of the rap echelon. After the success of singles like "Mercy" and "Cold," all eyes were on G.O.O.D. Music to see if a full-length show could bring the heat. After a summer of waiting, Kanye and his family are here with their debut, "Cruel Summer."

The first thing to understand when listening to "Cruel Summer" is that it's not a Kanye West album. Instead of the \$50 million mansion-on-the-moon sound West's production has recently embodied, we get a much darker album. Each sound on the album attempts to cater to the spectrum G.O.O.D. Music personifies. On tracks like the hit single "Mercy" it succeeds greatly, creating a sinister record that should only be played under dimmed lights and with a large subwoofer.

However, "Cruel Summer"'s varied sounds are also a glaring flaw. Each track tries to set a direction for the album, but with so many open paths, it becomes easy to get lost. Tracks like Kid Cudi's "Creepers" revel in the sounds of a carefree youth, but when rivaled against with the gun-waving "I Don't Like" and the hopeful "The One," the soundscape begins to form a muddled cloud of confusion.

G.O.O.D. Music's unity shines through on this album. As Pusha T and Kanye West tear through "New God Flow" with Wu-Tang Clan's Ghostface Killah, West and Pusha T share a chemistry that is only formed when rappers genuinely like one other. Each track is an example of the family West has built over the years. It's hard to manufacture the camaraderie that has formed among these labelmates.

Despite the inner conflict "Cruel Summer" suffers from, it's a great showcase of the individual talent and collective idea G.O.O.D. Music holds. How the next compilation stacks up will simply depend on setting a definite direction. The trailer was good Kanye, now bring us the full movie. **R**

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AYL

by Alex Rogala

HAIKU

*Oh, dearest freshmen:
If you run when late to class.
You have much to learn.*

WORD OF THE WEEK

Kerfuffle *n.* - disturbance, fuss.

*While John thought gluing the college deans to their seats during graduation was a novel prank, the ensuing **kerfuffle** nearly cost him his degree.*

Definition taken from <http://merriam-webster.com>

COMIC by James LeCarpentier



STREAM OF FACTS

Bermagot, also known as “Oswego tea,” is a source of thymol, a key ingredient in most mouthwash. Known for his lavish parties, President Andrew Jackson once received a 1,400-pound cheese wheel as a gift from admirers in **Oswego**, N.Y. According to the White House web site, famished partygoers devoured it in two **hours**.

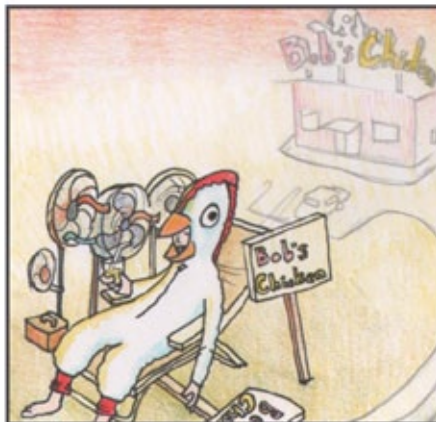
In February, Thailand’s Nonthawat Charoenkaesornsin and Thanakorn Sitthiamthong kissed for 50 **hours**, 25 minutes and one second, setting the Guinness World Record for longest kiss.

Graphic designer Alex Steinweiss pioneered the idea of including art on **record** sleeves. The first album to feature a cover was a 1939 **Rogers** and Hart compilation.

Despite pervasive rumors, children’s television host Mr. **Rogers** was never a U.S. **Army** sniper. Instead, he was an ordained minister and vegetarian.

According to a September 27 NPR article, the U.S. **Army** is facing a massive suicide problem — suicide is a greater cause of **death** than combat injuries. After the **death** of Metallica bassist Cliff Burton, future Primus bassist **Leslie** “Les” Claypool auditioned to fill the space. While members praised his technicality, Claypool has stated his style differed too much from the famous metalheads’. The **Leslie** speaker, commonly used with an electric **organ**, features a rotating speaker designed to emulate the Doppler effect.

In 2006, a Thai monk who suffered an erection while meditating removed the offending **organ** with a machete, according to a Reuters article.



REPORTER RECOMMENDS

LETTERS OF NOTE

It’s 3 a.m. and you’re in a rut. You’ve already leafed your way through this week’s **REPORTER**, and you are craving another good read. While amusing, your friends’ drunk texts are artistically unfulfilling and the library is a pretty far walk.

Enter “Letters of Note.” Updated five days a week, this blog shares letters, telegrams and other ephemera. Despite a lack of original content, editor Shaun Usher does a fantastic job curating a hodgepodge of different letters that run the gamut of topics and emotions. This is perhaps the blog’s strongest suite. Curious readers can find everything from Jack Cassady’s whiskey-soaked letters to King Henry VIII’s attempts at courting future wife Anne Boleyn.

As an added bonus, Usher’s realm of historical oddities extends beyond one site. He also runs letterhead collection “Letterheady” and “Lists of Note.” His twitter account (@lettersofnote) is also meticulously maintained and features some exclusive content of its own. He’s even working on a coffee table book, which will be released in November.

In an email age where written communication is cheap and ubiquitous, “Letters of Note” provides a fascinating look back on a dying art. **R**

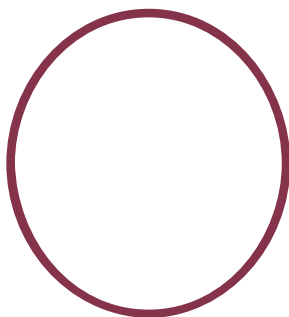
Check out “Letters of Note” at <http://lettersofnote.com>

SIGNING ACROSS LANGUAGES

by Steven Markowitz | photography by Jonathan Foster



○ Troy Chapman, a 1992 RIT graduate, signs a part during “Bully” at a Dangerous Signs practice Saturday, September 29. “This group is a family,” he stated. Chapman grew up in Queens, NY and faced bullying for both being deaf and being aural at a deaf school. Dangerous Signs allows him to embrace and share differences between people.



In May 12, 2009, poets from around the world gathered at in Washington D.C. for the first ever White House Poetry Jam. Among the performers was Joshua Bennett, one of two finalists in HBO’s “Brave New Voices,” who performed his poem “Tamara’s Opus”. Through raw emotion in the inflection of his voice, Bennett passionately told the story of a relationship between a hearing brother and his deaf sister.

Earlier this year, Bennett visited RIT to watch a then new performance poetry group called Dangerous Signs perform his poem. The group, which emphasizes diversity between deaf and hearing, between different races and sexualities, combined the power of voice, the elegant flow of sign language, and the artistry in the movement of the body to adapt Bennett’s poem. The effect was stunning and brought Bennett to tears.

That is the power that Dangerous Signs hopes to communicate in each performance. To bring together audiences of all types into a world free of judgment, to express the stories of everyone. Having formed in January, their first performance being for Martin Luther King Day, the group has quickly grown in popularity and influence.

Already, the group has taken the stage in many major RIT events, at Fringe Fest, and at the Interval Repertory in New York City, N.Y., where they were asked to return next year to tour. With a headlining performance planned for Sign Idol on Friday, October 5, the group shows no signs of curbing their high ambitions. They have a message, and they want people to open up their minds and listen.

Finding a Common Place through Poetry

With each unique poem or story comes a unique interpretation. Generally, for larger theatrical pieces, one person at a time will translate the poem into American Sign Language, occasionally switching off for dramatic effect, and one person will read the poem aloud. The rest of the group will sign movements, representing images or symbols to support the message.

For Luane Haggerty, part time instructor and support facility at NTID's Department of Cultural and Creative Studies and director of Dangerous Signs, the group is "taking a risk with [this] experimental theatrical technique," and that is a dangerous act.

Fusing the talents of storytellers, actors, poets, and dancers is challenging to audiences for the same reason fusing deaf and hearing performances is difficult: there is a preconceived notion that the two cultures should not be mixed. Dangerous Signs attempts to look past these views and educate people on the wealth of beauty that cultivates in these open environments.

Despite the difficulties, Dangerous Signs seeks to exist at the intersection between all cultures, even if it means allowing oneself to be vulnerable. "I had to pull out emotions I wasn't capable showing such as anger," says Jonathan Petermon, a third year political science major. "It really freaked me out until I realized it was a safe place to show my emotions and now I am comfortable shoring any emotion."

Many of the new members emphasized how easy it was to become involved in the group. Regardless of cultural beliefs or skill levels, they immediately felt like part of a family. In turn, the older members are ecstatic to pass down their wisdom and bring more variety to the group, building a solid foundation.

People have their own accent in the way sign, echoing their personalities through their movements and choices of signs that bring another level of diversity to the group. In the combination of all these styles, Matthew Parsley, a second year NTID engineering studies major, suggests that how Dangerous Signs performs is similar to opera, both featuring exaggerated and emotional vocal styles that through tone itself communicates emotion.



Members of Dangerous Signs discuss their upcoming practice and rehearsal schedule Saturday, September 29.

From the Page to the Hands

The process of adapting a poem, of taking the words from the two dimensional page and translating the story into a theatrical movement, is a difficult journey that starts with selecting a work. The members of Dangerous Signs are not selective in where they draw inspiration. They have performed poetry by both hearing and deaf poets, as well as original poetry written by group members. As long as the poem captures the spirit of the group, addresses topics the group believes to be relevant, or connects to current events, they will pursue it.

One poem, "A Negro Speaks of Rivers" by Langston Hughes, was chosen since the words reflect African American culture and history, which many members of Dangerous Signs feel is important to hold onto.

Another poem, "Bully", is about the recent news story of Karen Klein, a bus monitor who was bullied to the point of tears and the campaign to give her a vacation. Once the headlines stop, the group wants people to never forget. For them, cultural differences are insignificant in the face of issues such as bullying.

Once the group has selected their literary text, the actual adaption is not much different from translating works among mediums of art. Approaching Shakespeare, the group laughs,

both deaf and hearing are going to have the same reaction of what does it mean. Analyzing his plays is the same process as bringing a work from the page to the movements of the body.

The members of Dangerous Signs believe that only 10 percent of the interpretation comes from the hands, the rest is in the body motions. One has to consider the visual impact, the rhyme, and the symbolism as it applies to cultural perspectives. They start from the leading person, and then build out the imagery from that central concept.

This process has worked well for the group so far. According to Haggerty, everywhere they go people always want them back for more. They are already booking events for next year and are organizing a Kickstarter to raise money to print DVDs. Yet regardless of where the future may lead the group materialistically or physically, they just want to keep promoting their message.

"We want people to fall in love with deaf shows and deaf language," says Troy Chapman, an RIT alumnus. "I would like to see an audience that is really listening, so we can ... welcome them into our world and hopefully they will welcome us into theirs. Open up the human potential so that people will not judge one another." **R**

THE BIG BANG'S BEAT

by Kayla Emerson with contributions by Steven Markowitz | photograph by Elizabeth Stallmeyer



The dancers stared hopelessly toward the ceiling, watching as one of their props flew away into the air. A balloon drifted towards the rafters. The balloon — no, more than that — the star was beyond grasp. The six performers of the new dance company known as Astro Dance watched helplessly as their prop, a massive star exuding gravitational energy, floated away.

The group was preparing for a performance at the Rochester School of the Deaf on Friday, September 28 when the mishap occurred. Since they are also their own crew, they had to band together to reach for the star. Or just wait an hour until someone was able to retrieve the runaway balloon.

Either way, the group laughed about the incident the next day, and viewed it as an exciting opportunity to test their teamwork and build bonds of loyalty.

Astro Dance is an experimental new group within the NTID Performing Arts program that combines dance and science to tell the story of the creation of the universe. They have fun performing and dancing together, but there is much more to their identity. Together, the group acts as a dedicated family, with a mission to educate. While the dancers have no formal science training, their movements they can communicate stories, a talent which they hope to use to educate children and build a strong deaf theater community.

To accomplish this unique method of storytelling, Thomas Warfield, choreographer and assistant professor of NTID's Cultural and Creative Studies Department, chooses ambiguous and high concept physical events like the big bang to retell in dance. The company then uses props, visual projection, narration, music and, most importantly, dance to tell the story. Astro Dance draws from a wide variety of dance styles and musical genres in unique combinations to translate scientific concepts into an audiovisual experience.

Erin Auble, set designer for NTID's Cultural and Creative Studies Department, works on constructing the props and setting the stage. Smaller props like balloons are used during the dance to represent objects interacting through gravity, in tandem with projections created by scientists from the Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences (GCCIS). Manuela Campanelli, director of the Center for Computational Relativity, is the head of the science team that advises Astro Dance and generates the animations for the group. Even the dancers' uniforms are geared towards astrophysical concepts.

Astro Dance tour manager and RIT alumnus Joseph Fox explains that the group began by bringing back a dance called "Event Horizon," one of Warfield's productions, which had similar goals of fusing dance and science. Fox and some of the other dancers performed in that event four years ago, and were brought back to work on Warfield's new project. For Astro Dance, Warfield choreographed three other dances to complete the



THIS GROUP IS A DEDICATED FAMILY,
WITH A MISSION **TO EDUCATE**
THROUGH DANCE.

storyline using pre-recorded music. The dancers say Warfield will succeed in choreographing anything, no matter how unrelated the concept seems to art or dance. Sometimes it is a familiar child's story; sometimes it is science.

After hatching the idea to portray the beginnings of the universe and gravitational phenomena through dance, Warfield applied for a National Science Foundation grant to fund the endeavor. The grant was awarded to him after the second year he applied. Warfield then met with the GCCIS scientists this past summer to brainstorm. Rehearsals also began over the summer, though some dancers were added as late as September, leaving not much time before their first show at Fringe Fest on September 22.

The attendees of their Fringe Fest performance at Rochester's Little theatre witnessed a passionate effort at something completely new. A diverse audience of Deaf and Hearing communities packed the theater. People were being turned away at the door before the show began because there wasn't even standing room left. The Astro Dance performance is not yet polished, Warfield admitted during the show. The dancers also had to improvise with a smaller stage and only one set of exit stairs. Despite these limitations, Fox believes that the dancers did a phenomenal job.

The performance at the Rochester School of the Deaf came with its own unique challenge. In addition to the balloon incident: one of the dancers, Antonietta Alfano, a third year Hospitality and Tourism Management major, was very sick. Nicole Hood, a second year Multidisciplinary Studies

major explained: "[Alfano] looked miserable in the costume room, but on stage she was smiling and dancing. That shows how we're all really committed to the company."

Alfano felt her teammates' love throughout the day. "Fox, Fox, we need a trash can!" she would say, and the tour manager was ready. Fellow dancer Andrea Mariani, a fifth year Interpreting major, was also eager to help, offering Pepto Bismol and any needed support. "It shows us that this team, Astro Dance, we're not just a team, we're a family," says Alfano.

The company grows more supportive as they deal with more and more challenges. Leen Massillon, a fourth year Game Design major and Alfano agree that the biggest challenge in Astro Dance is finding time for rehearsal between school, work and, for Alfano, parenting. Also, the dancers are used to portraying emotions, not stories, notes Massillon. Yet everyone in the group agrees dance tells a story better than words ever could.

A strong influence in the style of Astro Dance is that it consists of two hearing, two hard of hearing and two deaf dancers. "The deaf [students] can't hear the music. But ... the deaf know the count of the dance. They know the rhythm and the beat. They can feel the beat when the speakers are on the floor," says Fox.

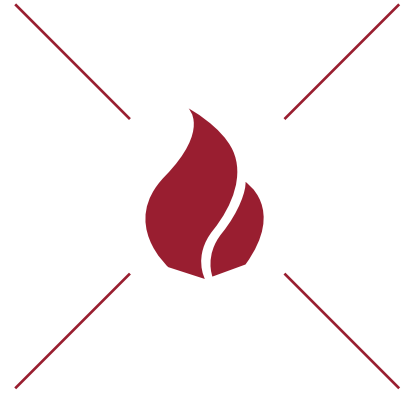
Mariani does most of the cues, giving the deaf and hard of hearing dancers a visual action or count of when to come in. According to Fox, most of the deaf or hard of hearing dancers follow the team as opposed to the music. Fox believes that it is not too difficult for the deaf and hard of hearing communities to learn to dance given the commitment. Nicholas Shaw, a fifth year University Studies major, is deaf, and only started dancing four years ago.

For the members of the company, dance is more than a hobby. For Fox, it will likely turn into a career. Massillon and Alfano dance as a way to unwind from the problems of the day. Hood wishes to one day open a dance school.

Astro Dance begins touring in November, and continues during school breaks. Fox plans for the company to visit and teach younger students at deaf institutions. They will also be making a trip to New York City, where a gathering of both professional dancers and career scientists will watch them perform. The dancers hope that someday, Astro Dance will become a professional company. As for Fox, he is just excited to get the tours rolling: "We're ready to tell the world what's going on out in the galaxy!" **R**

Spreading Scandal

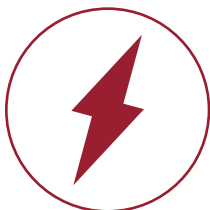
by Steven Markowitz
illustration by Elisa Plance



The RIT campus was designed for Arizona. As a freshman, every student will hear this rumor. In turn, students continue to spread it since it seems difficult to disprove. It seems logical to most who hear it; wind clearly sweeps through the quarter mile, and air circulation would be important in the high temperatures of Arizona. Although false, the rumor stays alive year after year.

Psychology Professor Dr. Nicholas DiFonzo is studying how and why rumors, which he defines as “any unverified information in circulation,” spread, as well as what impact they might have on individuals and societies. DiFonzo believes that rumors can serve as a window into what a group is concerned or cares about, and help construct a narrative within that group. Since rumor is synonymous with reputation, DiFonzo stresses the importance of understanding the psychology of rumors. This knowledge can help one foster a reputation, filter information and cultivate her critical thinking skills.

Igniting the Spark



Walking down the quarter mile, one is likely to hear a variety of rumors. Many of them fade away in favor of more infamous tales including the mythical tunnel connecting the academic and dorm sides of campus. DiFonzo and other psychologists have determined several reasons for why rumors spread, as well as what makes one catch like wildfire while others barely cause a spark.

According to a Psychology Today article, one explanation as to why the tunnel rumor resurfaces every year is that “rumors have the greatest chance of multiplying when the topic is something people are already pondering.” As winter approaches, students are looking to avoid the cold while walking to class. The location of an underground route seems invaluable, so the rumor’s relevancy makes it stick.

Rumors can also build interactions on a more personal level. DiFonzo states that people spread rumors to help themselves discern facts and

enhance relationships. When one gets cut from a sports team, a friend might point to a corrupt organization, though there is no evidence. Upon receiving a bad grade, the professor's personal life could be called into question, even if it is irrelevant. The same concept applies to the interactions of large groups, such as governments or societies. Through the use of rumor-based propaganda, a false or misleading image of a political party or religious organization can be portrayed.

A significant reason for why rumors are transmitted is that they play off of uncertainty. Rumors can, according to DiFonzo, give insight into what will happen or address the public anxiety of future negative events. This is why rumors move quickly in times of panic, one instance being the umbrella rifle incident last year. If there are any facts or shreds of reality integrated into the rumor, this will increase its credibility, even if it is still false.

Rumors also need an appropriate avenue to spread, which is why some are more common than others, depending on the specific community. The rise of social media has increased the reach of these rumors within groups of people. However, DiFonzo says that while the internet may offer a larger audience, it also provides a faster and easier way to refute the legitimacy of rumors.

Dousing the Flames



Most people have had the unfortunate experience of hearing a negative rumor about themselves. Whether these statements are true or false, how people react to rumors can either boost or cripple their reputation.

DiFonzo suggests that the best course of action is always to be honest. Besides being the ethically correct option, an individual's credibility will plummet if deceit is uncovered. This leads to an increase in uncertainty in the public eye. Since uncertainty is linked to the spread of rumor, it is likely that new ones will be generated.

Contrary to popular belief, DiFonzo's research shows that refuting a rumor, or at least saying something, is generally a good idea even if the denial is evocative of the rumor. If possible, DiFonzo recommends using a neutral third party when refuting, especially if the rumor is widespread.

When refuting a rumor, make sure to use facts as the base of the argument, says DiFonzo. It is also important to give people an understanding of why a rumor has come about. If it is false, people will gossip as to why specifically that story is being spread. If a rumor arises that someone is failing all of his classes, people might start wondering what that implies about him. That uncertainty can lead to a greater spread of misinformation, such as a doubt in that person's intelligence or work ethic. Ultimately, a well-constructed rebuttal can make all the difference when combating harmful rumors.

On the other hand, Ohio University psychologist Mark Pezzo, in an article for *Psychology Today*, offers an opposing view on how to approach rumors. "No question, the more you hear something — even the same thing from the same person — the more you believe it ... Even a denial can be a repetition of a rumor." DiFonzo says that



the more one tries to ignore or deny rumors, the more people will think he is trying to hide something.

While it is easy to see the harm that rumors can cause, whether tangibly affecting sales or grades, or intangibly damaging a reputation, rumors also have a positive impact on the way people think about or communicate with the world. "People use rumors to figure out the facts, or they use rumors to be part of a group, or they use rumors to deflect these feelings of vulnerability. A large part of what we say to one another has one of those three purposes," says DiFonzo.

It is through this development of one's ability to decipher facts, to evaluate information and filter ideas, that wisdom is gained. Learn how to wade through advice and one can approach a business meeting or job interview with confidence. Learn how to process reality from fiction and one can expand his or her knowledge. Learn how to tell truth from rumor and one can better understand society. "Much of what we say to one another, whether we realize it or not, is uncertain, is rumor," says DiFonzo. "It is important ... if you understand rumor and how it becomes more accurate and less accurate, it makes you a wiser person." **R**

NEW CHALLENGES FOR WOMEN'S HOCKEY

By Kayla Emerson | photographs by Joshua Barber, Juan Madrid and Elizabeth Stallmeyer



▲ photograph by Joshua Barber

Eighteen seconds into the game, and the score was already 2-0. One RIT fan said what was on everyone's mind: "Welcome to Division I." The Mercyhurst Lakers would make sure the Tigers would not forget their inaugural game, giving them a crash course in the intense, fast, physical play of Division I hockey.

According to an official RIT athletics count, over 1,000 RIT fans were in attendance at Ritter Arena for the game on Friday, September 28. Before the game, they witnessed the unveiling of RIT Women's Hockey's newest banner, announcing their stellar 2011-12 Division III championship win.

New challenges are what the RIT Women's Hockey team was seeking when they jumped up to Division I this year. The ladies were indisputably at the top of Division III last year, with a record-breaking 28-1-1 season. New challenges were exactly what they got last weekend.

Head Coach Scott McDonald explained that this first game against Mercyhurst was about experiencing a Division I game firsthand, and his only expectation was that the ladies would see the style of play they would be adopting in the coming months. The Tigers definitely picked up the Division I intensity for the remainder of the game, and carried it into Saturday's game.

Unfortunately, the anticipation for Friday's game caused a lot of nerves, explained McDonald. This, combined with the new style of play, led to a goal at eight seconds, and then another at 18 seconds. Yet, the Tigers did not give a moment's time to despair over their lackluster start. They quickly began attempting to match the intense play of their opponents. A body-check was called on RIT at 41 seconds. Thus began the penalties. The two teams had 9 minor penalties each by the end of the game.

The play was uneven in the first period, with the Lakers in possession and RIT on defense. The Lakers dominated the offensive play with 16 shots on goal to our 3 in the first quarter. The Lakers could hardly pass before an RIT player reached them, but their speed and well-polished play broke down our defense. Mercyhurst was able to capitalize on rebounds, following up on all of their shots. At 8:13, the Tigers' goaltender Laura Chamberlain, third year Business Administration Major, lost sight of the puck, though it sat to her left between her and the pipe holding the net. She dove right, and Mercyhurst slipped the puck in easily. Chamberlain was taken off the ice for the rest of the weekend while second year Finance major Ali Binnington replaced her in net. By the end of the first, RIT was down 4-0.

The second period had another dreadful start for RIT. Another rebound

for Mercyhurst, and another successful drive to our net; five minutes into the second, the score was 6-0. Could it get any worse for the Tigers?

“They could have very easily hung their heads, packed it in, and let the score get out of hand,” said McDonald. “But as the game went on, we started getting better, and we certainly didn’t quit on the game.” Before the iconic home-ice announcer Rocky Perrotta could finish announcing the Laker’s sixth goal, first year Psychology major Carly Payerl scored at 4:56. Tigers fans were ecstatic. Four penalties went by, with neither team able to do much damage with their power play. Finally, first year University Studies major Katie Hubert scored on a power play with less than a minute left in the period. RIT and Mercyhurst had each scored two goals in the second, leaving the period at 6-2 Mercyhurst.

The third period began in a frenzy, with simultaneous



THE TIGERS NOW HAVE THE CHANCE TO CHANGE THEIR GAME, TO IMPROVE THEIR SKILLS, TO RISE TO THE CHALLENGE THEY SET FOR THEMSELVES.

penalties: RIT had one in the box penalty, while Mercyhurst had two. Disappointingly, RIT threw away the power play. The Tigers’ passes didn’t seem to be connecting anymore.

This period, however, the Tigers didn’t have as much trouble getting the puck out of their defensive zone. The team held Mercyhurst to six shots on goal, while RIT took 12. Some of the shots were quite sharp, but neither team scored in the third. The Tigers showed impressive growth throughout the course of the game, but it ended 6-2, making the first Division I game for Women’s Hockey a loss.

On Saturday, both teams started out with the same intensity they left off with on Friday. The first period was scoreless, with six penalties for the Lakers and four for the Tigers. The game was much more physical. Unfortunately, the Lakers started scoring midway into the second period, and they didn’t stop. RIT lost 7-0, leaving them 0-2-0 in the CHA conference.

The Tigers now have the chance to change their game, improve their skills, and rise to the challenge they set for themselves. Coach McDonald says his team has shown that “[they] are competitors.” The women’s hockey team won’t have another 28-1-1 season this year. But, this season is going to be intense. **R**



▲ Second year Criminal Justice major Julie Hall, fights for possession of the puck against two Mercyhurst opponents during the second period of Friday’s game. | photograph by Juan Madrid



▲ The RIT women’s hockey team leaves the ice at Ritter Arena after a 7-0 loss to Mercyhurst University in the program’s first series at the NCAA division I level Saturday, September 29. | photograph by Elizabeth Stallmeyer



Engineers Take Down Tigers

by Danielle Delp | photograph by Rachael Franks

▲ *Coty Winchell, a third year Mechanical Engineering major, fights to gain control of the ball against an RPI player.*

On September 29, the RIT Men's Soccer team entered their ninth game of the season fairly confident — they had played very well this season, despite having suffered a defeat the day before. Little did they know, they would soon be facing their toughest challenge of the season against the visiting Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) Engineers.

The game against RPI became a stalemate between the two teams. RIT players kept decent pressure on their opponents at first, and much of the first half hour was spent almost solely on the Engineers' side of the field. Neither team scored during the first 45 minutes of play. During the second period, it became clear that the Engineers were getting more aggressive. Play migrated wildly around the field, with several fouls being called on both sides. Finally, almost halfway through the second period, RPI scored the game's first goal with a penalty shot.

The Engineers immediately followed up with a solid defense, making it nearly impossible for RIT to claw their way onto the scoreboard. The Tigers kept up their own defense, however, and did not allow their opponents to score again. The remaining fifteen minutes featured several incredibly close saves by both goalies, but neither team scored another goal. When time ran out, the score was 1-0 and RPI was declared the victor. RPI's record improved to 6 wins, 3 losses, and 1 tie.

The loss fell heavily on the team as their first decisive defeat this year. Fourth year CJ Brunner reflected on how painful it was to lose twice

consecutively on the Tigers' own field. He said that RPI was the most aggressive team they had faced this year, and that the Tigers will need to fight harder in upcoming matches to make sure they don't lose again against a similar team.

Head Coach Bill Garno agreed with Brunner's sentiment, and noted that the Engineers were the best team they've faced thus far. Yet, Garno actually also felt somewhat satisfied with the defeat, since it helped the team realize exactly what parts of their play style needed improvement. "Today we ran into a very strong and physical team, and it was a real challenge for us. They were a great soccer team," he said. "We need to try harder on this field, keep at it, train harder."

The loss against RPI is the fourth loss that the tigers have suffered this year, leaving the team with a record of 6-4. In addition, it is the first loss where RIT didn't out-shoot their opponents, however, it's still early in the year, so the men have plenty of time to train. With their next game at Clarkston just a week away, the team intends to devote themselves to improving over the next few days. The men are determined to make sure they don't get caught unprepared for a team like RPI again. By the time the Tigers return to play at their home field in a month's time, the team will likely be ready. **B**

WORD ON THE STREET

WHAT RUMOR WOULD PEOPLE SAY ABOUT YOU?

PHOTOGRAPHS BY JAKE DI PIETRO

Christy Knowles, third year Photojournalism:

✓ **“THAT I STARTED ALL
THE OTHER RUMORS.”**



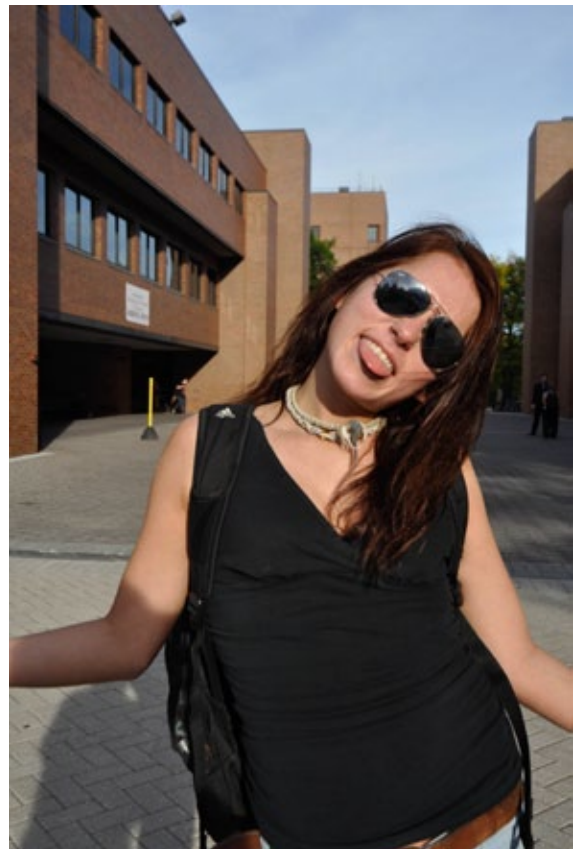
Kelly Lockwood, fifth year Environmental Sustainability Health and Safety:

**“THAT I KINDA LIKE
GIRLS.”** ➤



Victoria Binkley, second year; Advertising Photography:

▲ **“THAT I DON’T FLOSS
MY TEETH.”**



RINGS

585.672.4840
compiled by Brett Slabaugh

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

MONDAY

1:57pm (Text Message)

Pretty sure I just got yelled at by
a car. **Megatron strikes again.**

THURSDAY

3:41pm (Text Message)

Dude, I saw three hot girls today
at RIT. Is there a Syracuse visit?

MONDAY

8:10pm (Voicemail)

Rings, I'm a little disappointed. There are no phone
calls! Just all texts... **Has everyone forgotten how to
use the phone?**

FRIDAY

8:10pm (Text Message)

Shout-out to the Co-Ho employee
who **blasted Queen** like there's no
tomorrow: You make my rockin'
world go round!

TUESDAY

10:07am (Text Message)

Yo **Rings**, my girlfriend just asked
me on a **date to go zombie-
watching**. My question is, do I
ask her to marry me now, or
during extraction?

SATURDAY

8:37am (Text Message)

I should be able to find a man here,
right **Rings**? I mean I'm a chick at RIT...
The odds are ever in my favor.

TUESDAY

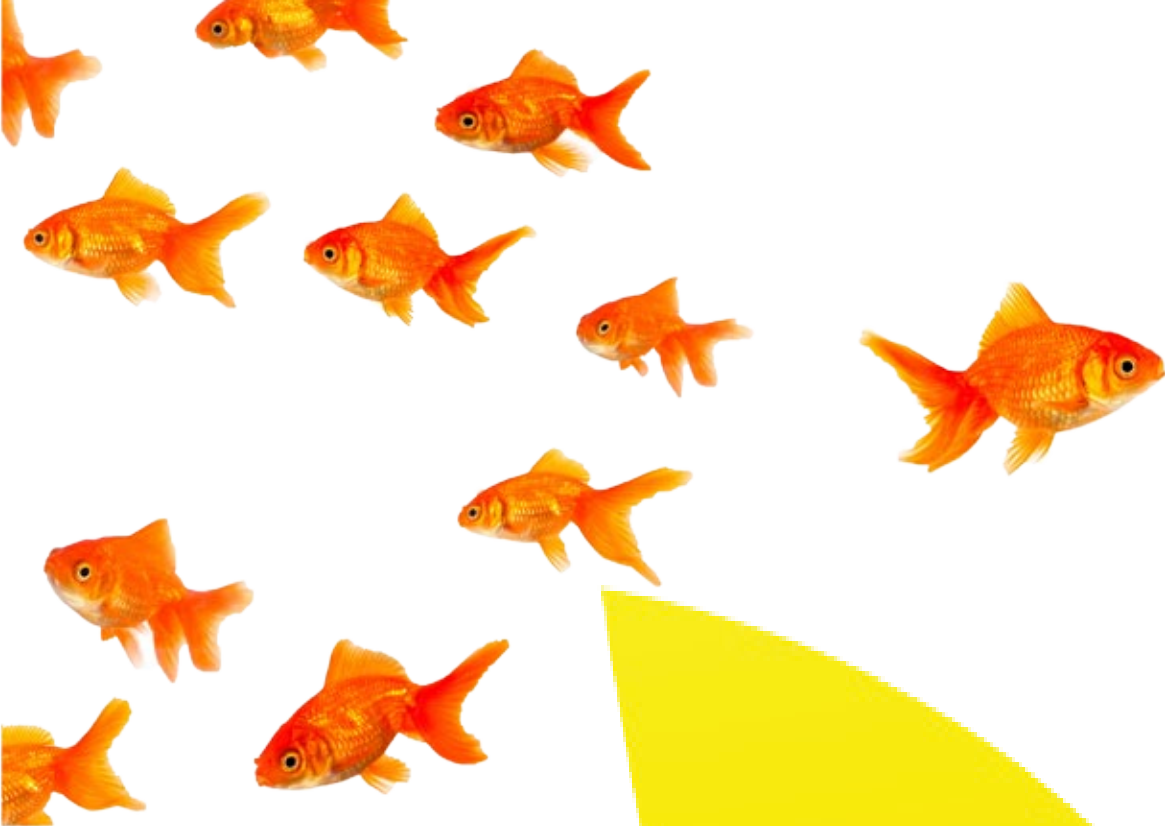
12:42pm (Voicemail)

Today I found \$1.10 in my pocket.
What small things have brightened
your day, **Rings**?

SATURDAY

2:04pm (Text Message)

PSA: The swings are back! Happiest day
of my life. 📻



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- View your personal enrollment appointment time.

You can expect your appointment to be on one of the following days:

Monday, October 22

- Graduate students
- Early 5th-year students*
- Early 4th-year students in a 4-year program

Tuesday, October 23

- 5th-year students
- 4th-year students in a 4-year program
- Early 4th-year students* in a 5-year program

Wednesday, October 24

- 4th-year students in a 5-year program
- Early 3rd-year students*

Thursday, October 25

- 3rd-year students
- Early 2nd-year students*

Friday, October 26

- 2nd-year students
- Early 1st-year students*

Monday, October 29

- 1st-year students

Tuesday, October 30

- Non-degree and all other students

** Early enrollment appointments include the following groups: Students in the Honors Program, Cross-registered Students, and Varsity Athletes.*



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- Step-by-step enrollment guide
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