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REPORTER

09 17 10 | reportermag.com

The Worst Summer Break

You thought your desk job was bad.

Another Year, Another Student Prosecuted for Child Porn

RIT student Christian L. Barroso charged with the possession and distribution of child porn.

Accidental Inventions: When “Oops” Leads to “Eureka!”

What do potato chips, Coca-Cola, penicillin, and pacemakers have in common?



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EDITOR'S NOTE

WHEN THE LIGHTS GO OUT

A significant part of my weekends involves waiting. Waiting for drafts to creep up the editorial chain. Waiting for a status report on that next potential Reporter crisis. Waiting for the designers to print out the next set of designs to proofread. I sit with my laptop propped up in front of me, classical music filling my ears and my smartphone on the ready, standing by for the next sign of progress.

This weekend was slow to start. I was sitting in my office editing printouts – a whopping two pages – when suddenly, everything went dark.

My laptop was sitting on a table in the outer office, and its battery was running low. My phone was nowhere within reach. Tripping on my shoes and spilling coffee all over my desk, I felt my way to the door. *What was I supposed to do now?* When the emergency lights kicked in, I collected my things and left. Little did I know that those two hours of darkness were just what I needed.

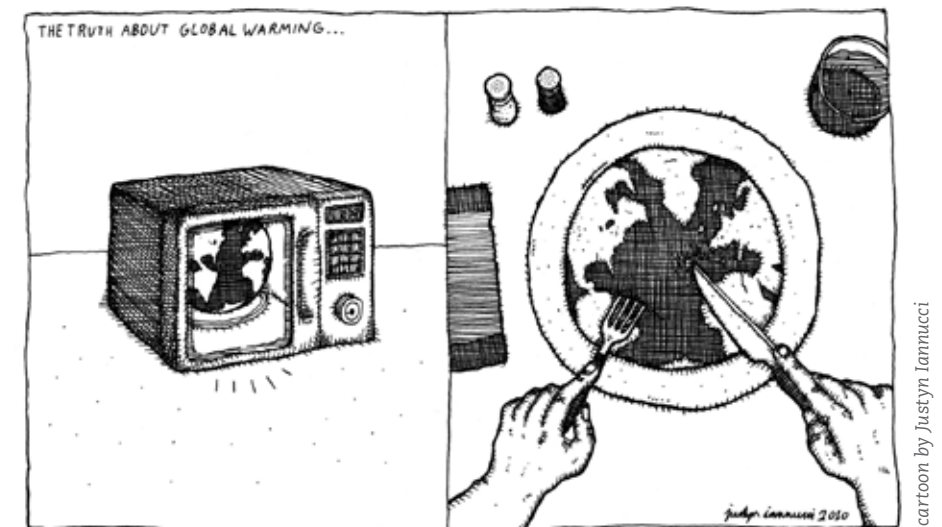
During that time, I was powerless. If articles came in, I couldn't edit them anyway. There was no point in putting my life on hold for a problem that I couldn't fix. The blackout forced me to relax for once, even once power was restored. I spoke to friends who I hadn't heard from in quite a while. I played the guitar. I remembered to feed myself something other than vending machine snacks. I even made it out to watch Resident Evil 3-D.

My mind was clear and, for the first time, a dangerous thought made a nest in my mind. Why do I spend so much time on this magazine when I could be living a life of leisure? I pushed the thought out of my head, but it only resurfaced once I read our coverage of Gannett Project Speaker Matthew Crawford (see "Brain Tinkering with Matthew Crawford" on page 22). This particular line jumped out at me: "Crawford's ultimate message is about happiness, and he sincerely asks why we break our backs to do things that may not be mentally, spiritually, or even financially fulfilling." The question nagged my brain for hours.

I have worked at Reporter for over three years, and with each year, I find myself in a more stressful position than the last. The hours are long and grueling. The pay sucks. I lose sleep. I miss significant events and my friends have an entire Facebook album dedicated to Photoshopping me into their memories. I've developed an extremely unhealthy diet consisting of caffeinated drinks and junk food. I'm not even in a major that is related to the journalism or any writing field. It's nonsensical but I love it, and sometimes love makes do you stupid, crazy things.

Madeleine Villavicencio

Madeleine Villavicencio
EDITOR IN CHIEF



cartoon by Justyn Iannucci

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RIT students spin themselves on the Tornado at the Fall Carnival sponsored by College Activities Board. | photograph by Chris Langer

	
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Christian Barroso is charged with the possession and distribution of child porn.

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Cover photograph by Joi Ong

ANOTHER YEAR, ANOTHER STUDENT PROSECUTED FOR CHILD PORN

by Chris Zubak-Skees
illustration by Joanna Eberts

For the second time in two years, an RIT student has been charged in federal court with possession of child pornography.

Christian L. Barroso once pursued a computer engineering degree and expected to graduate in 2011, but on May 13 federal prosecutors accused him of possessing, receiving and distributing child porn. If convicted, he could face between five and 30 years in jail. Bob Finnerty, chief communications officer at RIT, stated that Barroso is “currently not at RIT.”

Stephen M. Reber, a graphic design graduate student, pled guilty to possessing child porn last year.

The cases are part of an explosion of child porn suspects, who are increasingly introduced to child porn by the internet and then introduced to police the same way. RIT is no stranger to this trend; according to Mark Allen Miles, director of Clinical Services, the Student Health Center has treated students unnerved by their own favorable reaction to child porn.



FROSTWIRE DOWNLOAD TRIGGERED PERKINS RAID

Barroso, who entered RIT in 2006, was a prolific Facebook user. He “liked” 306 pages about a range of topics: Filipino identity and food; the Muppets and George Lopez; the RIT Society of Women Engineers and breast cancer awareness; N64 and *Starcraft*.

Barroso tried to involve himself in his RIT housing community on Facebook by joining pages for students living in the RIT Inn, Perkins Green apartments and James E. Gleason Hall, but sometimes met only frustration.

“Yes! Maybe this place can get a little more social with the doors open,” he wrote, responding to a question about the use of door stops on the RIT Inn page in September 2008. Six days later, he asked, “So are we going to do anything?” No reply was apparent.

Requests for more information about Barroso met with few results: RIT cited the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, a federal law protecting student information; a woman who answered his listed phone number said he was “not available;” his lawyer and one of his former co-workers did not return messages seeking comment.

What is known is largely from court documents.

Those documents allege that a New York State police investigator used peer-to-peer software to download a video containing child pornography from an RIT-owned IP address. The address was allegedly assigned to Barroso at the time.

Police raided Barroso’s Perkins Green apartment with a warrant and seized a computer found there.

The documents allege Barroso then confessed to investigators that he downloaded child porn files using Frostwire peer-to-peer software and stored hundreds of images and videos in a “Sharing” folder.

Investigators found approximately 350 videos and 938 images of child porn on his hard drive. A media report said he was 21 years old at the time.

On July 1, Barroso was arrested at his Hewlett, N.Y. home in Nassau County, Long Island and was subsequently released on bail. The terms of release prohibit him from using a computer, except for work, and from going near children, except when the child’s parent is present.

He has since appeared in a Rochester federal court, but his trial date has yet to be scheduled.

THE CASE OF STEPHEN REBER

The case closely parallels the case of Reber, another student charged with possessing child porn.

Reber was identified by his IP address and e-mail as a customer of a child porn website.

Court documents allege that Reber voluntarily allowed investigators to take his computer, and confessed to possessing approximately 100 child porn files on his computer. He allegedly told investigators that he had been trying to document child porn sellers so he could notify police. Investigators questioned that story, partly because he hadn’t contacted any police officials.

Reber, who was 38 years old at the time, pled guilty to possessing child porn in October 2009 as part of a plea bargain he made to spare his family large fines, according to a media report. He was sentenced to a little over five years in jail, was ordered to pay \$500, and was required to register as a sex offender. He is now a prisoner in a Massachusetts federal medical center with an estimated release date of 2014.

A GROWING PROBLEM

The number of suspects prosecuted in federal child porn cases shot up from just 76 in 1994 to 1,390 in 2006, said a Justice Department report. Cases have continued to rise at a rapid clip since then.

The increase is due in part to the ease with which child porn can be obtained on the Internet, experts say. Police have also adapted to the Internet with increasing success.

Miles said viewing child porn is a legal problem and, to many, a moral issue, but that it isn’t necessarily a psychiatric problem. Still, it does result in an increased risk of child abuse.

“The risks seem to be high enough that, as a society, we’ve said, ‘Let’s legislate against it,’” remarked Miles. **R**

Reporter will continue to follow the Barroso case as it progresses through the court system.

INVESTIGATORS FOUND APPROXIMATELY 350 VIDEOS AND 938 IMAGES OF CHILD PORN ON HIS HARD DRIVE. A MEDIA REPORT SAID HE WAS 21 YEARS OLD AT THE TIME.



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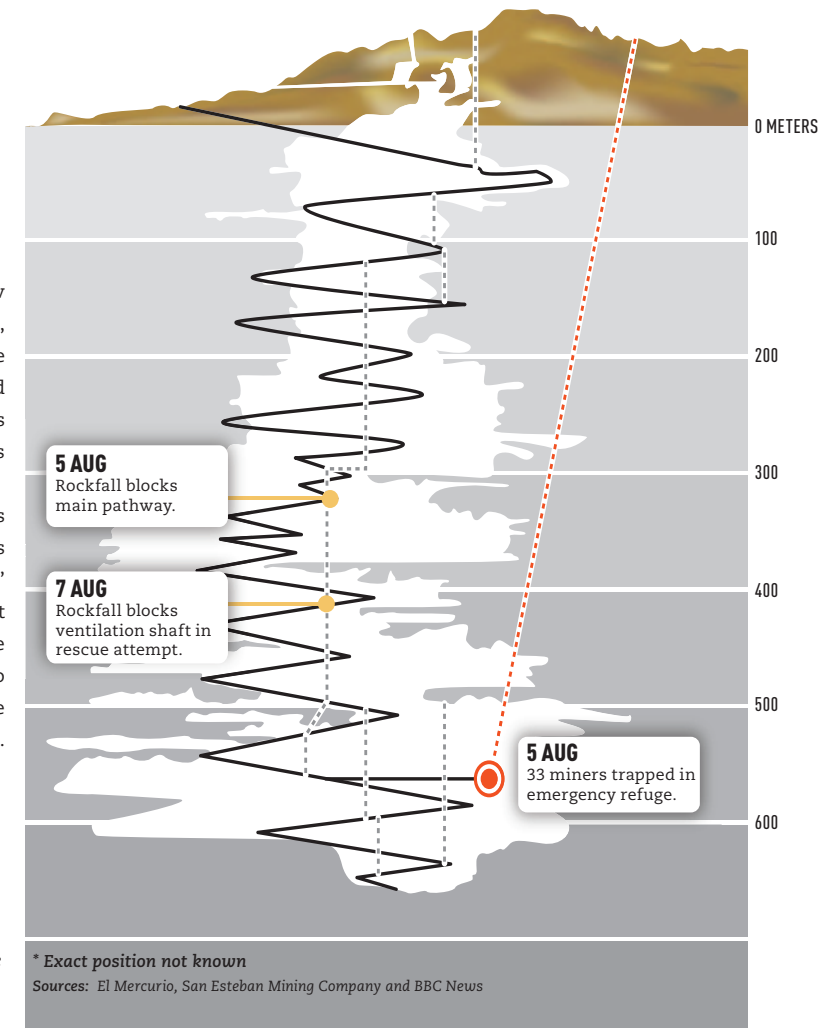
WORLD NEWS

by Nick Buonarota, Brendan Cahill,
Daniel Mancuso, Liz Shaw and
Madeleine Villavicencio

NASA TO AID TRAPPED CHILEAN MINERS

The mission to rescue 33 Chilean miners trapped 2,300 feet below the Earth's surface in a collapsed mine continues. On August 5, the main shaft of the San Jose mine located in Copiapó, Chile caved in. For 17 days, the miners' fates were undetermined as rescuers drilled a small hole to deliver emergency supplies and set up a communication line. During that time, the miners survived on two spoonfuls of tuna per person every other day.

Currently, there are two drills working to bore rescue shafts for the miners. The faster of the two would reach the miners in approximately two months. In order to ensure the miners' health and safety during the long wait, the Chilean government enlisted the help of the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). A group of experts comprised of two medical doctors, a psychologist, and an engineer will advise the miners of nutrition and health precautions that should be taken.



USPS TO CEASE SATURDAY DELIVERY

The United States Postal Service (USPS) announced last month that it would be changing to a five-day delivery system starting in fiscal year 2011. The decision would eliminate Saturday mail delivery, which "has the week's lowest daily volume," according to a USPS press release. The press release also claims that "more than a third of U.S. businesses are closed" on Saturday.

The basis for the decision is financially driven; USPS declared a revenue drop of almost \$7 billion during the 2009 fiscal year. U.S. Postmaster General John E. Potter notes that this drop is primarily due to an upward trend in online communication.

Results from a national Gallup Poll indicate that most people consider the cessation of Saturday delivery to be the least obtrusive. Yet many postal workers, who fear that putting an end to Saturday delivery signals job cuts, believe this poll was conducted in a skewed manner; they assert that alternative solutions to five-day delivery were presented in an extremely unfavorable light. Currently, the original poll is not publicly available.

No definitive date for five-day delivery has been decided upon. Although the Postal Regulatory Commission has approved the decision, final approval is pending a decision from Congress.

RIT NEWS

IMAGINE RIT 2011

Imagine RIT might be in the distant future for students and guests, but preparations for the event are already underway. Dr. Barry Culhane, executive assistant to the president, and Andrew Quagliata, chair of the Imagine RIT Program Committee, presented their plans for next year's Imagine RIT to the Academic Senate.

The fourth annual Imagine RIT festival will kick off at 10 a.m. on Saturday, May 7, 2011. As always, Imagine RIT is free and open to all who are interested in attending. The festival will include live entertainment and food from many local restaurants, including Dinosaur Bar B Que. Culhane expects it will draw over 30,000 visitors from all over to see the exhibits, of which over 80 percent will be new.

This year, Imagine RIT will target a larger demographic, from elementary and high schoolers to CEOs. In doing so, RIT hopes to attract both potential students and business leaders for co-op opportunities.

Culhane confirmed that the Imagine RIT poster contest — a huge hit last year — will be back again and that the submission deadline is February 18. However, the green vehicle challenge will not be returning.

Culhane also announced that he would be working to get Imagine RIT into the national media spotlight.



Barry Culhane announces plans for the next Imagine RIT | photograph by Chris Langer

DAVID MULLANEY NAMED NEW VICE PRESIDENT OF SG

After the resignation of Student Government (SG) President Phil Amsler on August 10, Vice President Greg Pollock stepped up as the new SG president. The first order of business at the first Senate meeting of the year was to announce the nomination of David Mullaney, a fourth year information technology major and SG's director of services, as SG vice president. After a brief discussion, Mullaney stepped out of the room and the vote was held. Mullaney was elected unanimously. "I'm excited to get started [with] transitioning my old role over," Mullaney told Reporter after the meeting. "I look forward to working one-on-one with the senators."



President Greg Pollock (left) celebrates after naming David Mullaney (right) SG vice president. | photograph by Robert Shook

SEMESTER CONVERSION UPDATE

Dr. Anne Wahl, director of Student Learning Outcome Assessment, is heading a committee that will ensure that colleges are on track with deadlines to smoothly convert into the semester system. The committee urges colleges to use the tables that it has provided to collect data on their programs. Once they have collected the data, it will be easier for the colleges to make decisions about curriculums. Due to the immense amount of work required for the conversion, the committee is checking that departments stay on track and that everything goes smoothly.

CREATION OF THE FALL ELECTION COMMITTEE

Every fall, new senators are elected to represent the following three student groups: NTID, freshmen and graduates. With elections approaching, a proposal was made to alter the procedure for senator selection. Last year, an indefinite number of candidates were able to fill out a packet, come to SG, and give a two-minute-long speech about their platform. SG would then select the new senators out of this group. This year, a motion was passed to create a fall elections committee to interview all potential candidates and select the top three for each position. This would allow these nine candidates more time to speak to SG, and voting could take place immediately. The motion passed unanimously.

GENERAL EDUCATION UPDATE

RIT sees the change from quarters to semesters as a time to look at its current education process and evaluate it. One curriculum that is undergoing redevelopment is that of general education. The new system is revolutionary because it does not follow a specific discipline, but rather knowledge gained by course. The goal is to provide opportunities for integrated experiences across college barriers. For more information, contact Dr. Elizabeth Hane, chair of the General Education Committee, at enhsbi@rit.edu.

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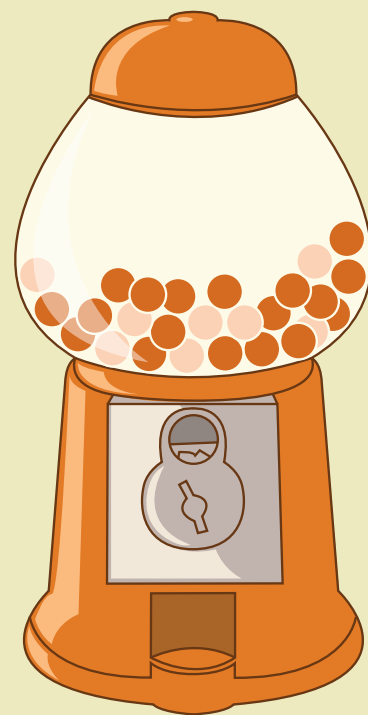

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RIT

Forecast

ROC

compiled by James Arn

FRIDAY 17

VIGNELLI CENTER DEDICATION CEREMONY

Carlson Auditorium, CAR-1125. 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. One of RIT's newest additions is the Vignelli Center for Design Studies. Celebrate the opening of this new gallery during a Q & A session with Massimo and Lella Vignelli. Cost: Free.

SATURDAY 18

24 HOURS OF THEATER

Ingle Auditorium. 6 – 9 p.m. Do you have a theatrical itch that needs scratching? 24 Hours of Theater gives students 24 hours to audition, rehearse and perform a play. Cost: Many hours of sleep.

SUNDAY 19

HVZ REGISTRATION

Liberal Arts Lecture Auditorium. 8 p.m. – 12 a.m. Humans versus Zombies is returning to RIT. This is your last opportunity to register and get in on the bandana-toting action. Cost: Roughly a month salary's worth of NERF darts.

MONDAY 20

SPAGHETTI DINNER

Phi Kappa Psi house, 616 Charters Way. 6 – 8 p.m. It's a free spaghetti dinner from your friendly neighborhood chapter of Phi Kappa Psi. Dress code is semi-formal, so you can spill sauce on that nice white shirt. Cost: Free.

TUESDAY 21

ANNUAL STUDY ABROAD FAIR

SAU Lobby. 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. If you have any interest in studying abroad during your time at RIT, this event is a must. The wonderful people from the Study Abroad Office can hook you up with tons of information and answer all of your questions. Cost: Expanding your educational horizons.

WEDNESDAY 22

ADAM RITZ SPEAKS OUT

Ingle Auditorium. 7:30 – 10 p.m. Public Speaker Adam Ritz is here to discuss many of the alcohol-related choices you have and how the decisions you make could save lives. Cost: Free.

THURSDAY 23

"BURN AFTER READING"

Ingle Auditorium. 10 – 11:30 p.m. This week, CAB is bringing you that fantastic comedy-drama, "Burn After Reading". Cost: Free.

FRIDAY 17

IRONDEQUOIT OKTOBERFEST 2010

Camp Eastman, 1306 Lake Shore Blvd. in Irondequoit. 6 – 11 p.m. Head up to the lake to celebrate all things German at this two-weekend-long festival. Cost: \$8.

SATURDAY 18

CAMP GOOD DAYS COURAGE BOWL

Marina Auto Stadium, 460 Oak St. 7 – 10 p.m. Has RIT's lack of a football team left you jonesing for that collegiate football experience? Head to Marina Auto Stadium to see St. John Fisher take on the University of Rochester. All proceeds go to Camp Good Days, which helps children and families affected by cancer. Cost: \$5 for students, \$7 others.

SUNDAY 19

BRIGHTON FARMERS MARKET

Brighton High School, 1150 Winton Rd. 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Brought to you by the town of Brighton, this popular farmer's market offers a wide variety of local products. From meat, to cheese, to farm-fresh produce, you can't go wrong here. Cost: Free.

MONDAY 20

SAVOR ROCHESTER: A FESTIVAL OF FOOD

Rochester Public Market, 280 N. Union St. 5 – 8 p.m. Enjoy the natural abundance that the Rochester area provides as over 100 local restaurants, wineries, breweries, bakeries and farms bring their best offerings straight to your mouth. Cost: \$40 in advance, \$50 at the door.

TUESDAY 21

COLORAMA

George Eastman House, 900 East Ave. 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. For decades, giant Kodak Coloramas graced the walls of New York's Grand Central Station. These 18-by-60-foot photographs offered visions of an idealized American lifestyle. Smaller versions of these masterpieces are now on display at the Eastman House. Cost: \$6 for students, \$10 for adults, free for members.

WEDNESDAY 22

MONTHLY STORY SLAM

Writers & Books, 740 University Ave. 7 – 9 p.m. Whether you have a great story to tell or are interested in hearing what your neighbors have to say, stop by Writers & Books for this storytelling open mic. If you're looking to participate, make sure you sign up by 6:30 p.m. Cost: Free.

THURSDAY 23

WHO'S BAD

Water Street Music Hall, 204 N. Water St. 8:30 p.m. Who's Bad is one of the King of Pop's leading cover bands. Since you'll never see the real Michael Jackson live again, head to Water Street to get the next best thing. Cost: \$15 in advance, \$17 at the door.

“In the land of the blind, the one-eyed man is king.”

– DESIDERIUS ERASMUS

ARCADE FIRE - THE SUBURBS



ALBUM | INDIE | 64 MINS.
by Alex Pagliaro

Despite an almost decade-long tenure in the music industry, Arcade Fire saw fit to release their third full-length studio album over the summer. After much commercial success and a long-winded tour, their sophomore record, *Neon Bible*, has been succeeded by their latest collection entitled *The Suburbs*.

As the name suggests, this album has a very specific theme. Its lyrics and general tone resonate strongly with the theme of homecoming, returning to where you were raised. These are ideas that most listeners — or anyone who grew up in the suburbs, outside of any major city — can relate to.

Musically, this is by far the most enjoyable Arcade Fire album I have experienced. Many found the band's previous output to be hit or miss — some songs were easily enjoyable, while it was a chore to sit through others. Although this album has a few misses, it is much more consistent and features a lot of catchy tunes, such as the driving “Rococo” and “Sprawl II.”

While a few of the tunes sound like they belong on an indie film soundtrack, the majority of this album has a really nice sound with clever lyrics. The artists themselves admit that the album is somewhat autobiographical, drawing from their own childhood spent in the suburbs. Whatever their influences, they certainly picked a good direction for *The Suburbs*. Debuting at number one on the Billboard 200 and selling over 100,000 copies in their first week, this album is set to be a success.

BIG SEAN – FINALLY FAMOUS VOL. 3: BIG



MIXTAPE | HIP-HOP | 65 MINS.
by Patrick Ogbeide

It has been a long road to stardom for Detroit rapper Big Sean. After chronicling the journey through his *Finally Famous* mixtape series, Big Sean now readies himself to release his debut album, but not without entering a final captain's log for longtime fans to read and enjoy.

The third and final installment, entitled *Finally Famous Vol. 3: BIG*, puts the G.O.O.D. Music artist's stylish shoe in the revolving door of hip-hop and grabs the attention of every passerby who previously ignored him. Simply from the intro of “Final Hour,” you know Big Sean is relishing the fame he achieved, as evidenced by the line “Working graveyard shift cuz we finna make, a killing / Went from intern to the owner of the building.” Such slick wordplay combined with the theatrical beat creates a track very fitting for any red carpet entrance.

However, do not think that popularity has changed Big Sean. He is still the same kid from the D-town streets, and if the Adele-sampled “Home Town” proves anything, it is that he carries the pride of Detroit in his heart and puts it all on the line for the city. If cadence is more your thing, then Big Sean's flow throughout the album will undeniably be a major selling point. He varies from molasses slow in the bass-heavy “Fat Raps (Remix),” to quick and unrelenting in “Supa Dupa Lemonade,” all the while embodying the calm attitude and braggadocio on which hip-hop is built.

Despite the occasional annoyance from infamous hype man and producer Don Cannon, nothing can take away from the experience Big Sean lays out for your ears. With a long journey soon ending, I will continue to ride shotgun and admire all the sights and people Big Sean encounters on his road to fame — even if this is only a teaser of what his album has to offer. **R**

HAIKU

HEAD BACK AFTER CLASS,
BUT THERE'S A SOCK ON YOUR DOOR.
WOE IS ME, SEXILE!

REPORTER RECOMMENDS MEDIOCRITY

Let's face it — work is hard, and sometimes you're not really up to the challenge. Although you may start the quarter out well, early morning classes all too quickly become a blur of NoDoz, calculus, and that creepy guy sitting next to you. *Totally uncool.* Mediocrity may just be the answer to your problems. Rather than striving to be the best you can be, simply nestle yourself in all that is completely average and mundane. It's a crazy idea, but roll with me on this one. The world needs mediocrity to function properly; after all, someone has to make up the main portion of a bell curve. So before you get frazzled with your classes, take it easy for a while. Set your car on fire, skip class, and spend the day playing air guitar in your underwear. Slowly rise to a middle-class job, marry someone boring, and work your way towards 2.5 children, a white picket fence, and a dog named Sally. Second best doesn't sound so bad after all. While your friends are working their asses off, you can sit back and enjoy life. Because you're number two. Or three. Or four. **R**

OVERSEEN AND OVERHEARD

“MY FRESH TISSUE DOESN'T LIKE YOU.”
– Male student in Colony

“DUDE, MY GRANDMA HAS
HANDLED YOUR UNDERWEAR.”
– Female student to male
student in Colony

“WHEN I LENT HER MY BARBIE, I
EXPECTED TO GET IT BACK.”
– Female student on Quarter Mile

Send your *Overseen and Overheard* entries with the phrase “Overseen and Overheard” in the subject line to leisure@reportermag.com. Or submit them via Twitter by directing submissions to @reportermag with #OnO. Now accepting cell phone pics!

SUDOKU DIFFICULTY RATING: HARD

	3				6		
			3				
		9	7				
5				3			
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2	7					9	
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9	2		8		4	1	

WORD OF THE WEEK

ANATHEMA *n.* - someone or something intensely disliked or loathed.

RoboNixon's cunning plans of world domination were a constant **ANATHEMA** for Zombie Lincoln and his brigade of peacekeeping undead.

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

STREAM OF FACTS

In August 1990, while preparing for the first Gulf War, the U.S. **ARMY** bought 25,000 bottles of sunscreen, lotion, lip balm, and bug spray from a Hinesville, Georgia Kmart.

Up until 1994, the Swiss **ARMY** kept at least 30,000 **CARRIER** pigeons on standby in order to communicate during emergency situations.

Last May, a Bulgarian wireless **CARRIER** suspended the phone **NUMBER** 0888-888-888 after three people assigned the number died within the past 10 years.

In 2006, the **NUMBER** of Euros in circulation finally surpassed the number of U.S. **DOLLARS**.

The largest bill ever printed in the United States was for \$100,000. Printed between December 1934 and January 1935, these Woodrow Wilson-adorned **DOLLARS** were intended for internal U.S. government **USE** only.

French President Nicolas Sarkozy, an avid supporter of anti-piracy laws, drew fire for his unauthorized **USE** of MGMT's hit song “Kids” at a 2009 political rally. Due to this somewhat contradictory scenario, the band threatened a lawsuit, the proceeds of which would have been donated to an artists' **RIGHTS** organization.

Civil **RIGHTS** activist and former South African president Nelson Mandela was finally removed from the U.S. Terrorist **WATCH** List in July 2008.

In a 2008 poll, respondents indicated they would prefer to **WATCH** football with President Barack Obama over then-opposing candidate Senator John McCain.

ACCIDENTAL INVENTIONS

● ● ● WHEN “OOPS” LEADS TO “EUREKA!” ● ● ●

by Alex Rogala | illustration by Griffin Moore

In 1945, Percy Spencer was touring the facilities of the *Ratheon Company*, a U.S. defense contractor. He was studying radar at the time and paused for a minute in front of a magnetron, a device used as an antenna in radar, when he noticed a strange sensation in his pocket. Looking inside, he realized his chocolate bar had melted. While many people would simply chuck the melted monstrosity, a light went off in Spencer's head. Running to the cafeteria, he returned with a bag of popcorn kernels and an egg. When placed in front

of the magnetron, the kernels popped, and the egg exploded on an observing engineer.

Although he didn't know it then, Spencer's simple gaffe would revolutionize the world of food, allowing people to quickly heat meals in the comfort of their homes. With the pop of a kernel and the crack of an egg, the microwave was born.

Contrary to what my imagination tells me, most science isn't very flashy. While my mind runs amok with imagery of lab coat-donning, beaker-clasping madmen, the reality of inventions is often far disconnected from

these idealistic expectations.

Not all inventions are made in laboratories. In fact, many aren't even made by scientists. And even more inventions are complete mistakes — backyard flukes as opposed to scientific ambitions. Below are several of these tales, the unlikely stories of how four everyday items came to be. Many of the people who discovered these inventions weren't planning to change the world. Even if they started out that way, they found something entirely different than they bargained for.



COKE HABIT

During the latter portion of the 19th century, coca wines, a type of beverage consisting of cocaine and wine, became a popular beverage and health tonic. By the 1880s, they had reached the height of popularity; even Pope Leo XIII embraced the trend, endorsing a particular brand and carrying a hip flask of the cocaine-containing concoction with him at all times.

Among the many brands of coca wine was Pemberton's French Wine Coca, a blend made in Atlanta by chemist Dr. John S. Pemberton and marketed as a nerve tonic and headache remedy.

However, the days of coca wine were numbered — the temperance movement was sweeping across the nation, and alcohol bore the brunt

of the blame for most societal issues. In 1886, Atlanta enacted a local prohibition law that banned alcohol within city limits. In order to keep his tonic on the market, Pemberton substituted a sugar-based syrup for wine, accidentally stumbling upon what would come to be the world's most popular soft drink: Coca-Cola.

This original drink was similar to — but not exactly — the recipe that would make the drink famous. After Pemberton passed away in 1888, his former partner Frank Robinson and past associate Asa Candler worked on revising the formula. Even then the recipe contained cocaine, which would soon be removed as knowledge of adverse health effects due to cocaine began to spread.

A CRUNCHY CREATION

In 1853, a cook by the name of George Crum was working at the Moon Lake Lodge in Sarasota Springs, N.Y. French-fried potatoes, which had been introduced to the area earlier by Thomas Jefferson, were considered a delicacy and were a staple of the Lodge's menu. One day, a customer — rumored to be Cornelius Vanderbilt — complained that his potatoes were cut too thickly and sent them back repeatedly. Frustrated, Crum sarcastically cut the potatoes paper thin, salted them heavily, and fried them in grease. Unexpectedly, and perhaps to Crum's chagrin, the patron loved them.

These primitive potato chips were dubbed “Saratoga chips,” and quickly spread across the restaurants of the northeastern coast. For a while, they remained mostly restaurant fare, making the leap to the couch — as well as the world at large — during the early decades of the 20th century.

BETTER LIVING THROUGH DRUGS

One fortuitous day in 1928, Scottish scientist Sir Alexander Fleming headed home after a long day's work, accidentally leaving a petri dish of culture uncovered. The next day, to his dismay, he noticed the dishes were contaminated by a mold. While on his way to throw out the sample, however, he noticed that the mold appeared to be “dissolving” the bacteria in the dish. Upon closer observation, he formulated the theory that the mold, *Penicillium notatum*, possessed antibacterial properties, destroying the *Staphylococcus aureus* that had previously occupied the dish.

In a sense, penicillin had already been discovered; a French medical student named Ernest Duchesne had

noted the bacteria-fightin' powers of *P. notatum* way back in 1896. However, his work had been largely ignored. As a result, Fleming's accidental rediscovery of penicillin was groundbreaking, ushering in the age of antibiotics. Yet that role was not Fleming's to play, as the duo of Howard Florey and Ernst Chain would ultimately go on to isolate the antibiotic released by *P. notatum* in 1940.

HAVE A HEART

In mid-1958, Wilson Greatbatch, an assistant professor of electrical engineering at the University of Buffalo, was working on a device to help record fast heartbeats. Needing a resistor, he reached into a box of supplies, accidentally pulling out and installing the wrong one.

When he went to test his creation he got quite the surprise. Rather than the continuous circuit he expected, his device would pulse for 1.8 milliseconds before resting for one second and restarting. Almost immediately, Greatbatch recognized the familiar pattern as that of a human heartbeat.

External pacemakers already existed, the first having been created in

1952. However, the prospect of a miniature, implantable device sent waves through the medical community. On May 7, 1958, the first test was conducted at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Buffalo, N.Y., where the pacemaker was installed in a dog. Although the implant only lasted for approximately four hours, it was a boon to medical science. With a bit of tinkering, the device was upgraded to last several years. Even though later pacemakers would gradually become more advanced, Greatbatch's design was used nearly unchanged throughout the early '60s. **R**

THE WORST SUMMER BREAK

by Tom Sciotto with contributions from Emily Bogle
illustrations by Joanna Eberts

EVERY MAY, RIT STUDENTS DEPART FOR DESTINATIONS NEAR AND FAR WITH THE EXPECTATION OF HAVING LAUGHS, MAKING MEMORIES, AND MAYBE EVEN EARNING A FEW BUCKS. THINGS DON'T ALWAYS GO AS PLANNED, THOUGH; THE RELAXING VACATION YOU WERE LOOKING FOR MAY TURN OUT TO BE A CRAPPY EXPERIENCE. EVEN THOUGH YOU PROBABLY WON'T REALIZE IT AT FIRST, THAT TERRIBLE VIDEO STORE JOB OR DISGUSTING ALLERGIC REACTION WILL MAKE A PRETTY GOOD STORY LATER.



A STINT SHE DIDN'T SIGN UP FOR

Laraine Han is a second year service management graduate student who returned to her home in China to work as an intern at a sports magazine, a position she thought would be related to her field of study.

She was supposed to be planning events for the Barcelona Football Club's tour of China, interviewing the players and organizing other local events. But, like many co-op students find out, the job you sign up for isn't always what you end up doing.

"My manager went to cover the World Cup in South Africa and I had to cover his work. It was really stressful. I wasn't familiar with journalism," said Han, whose bachelor's degree is in sports management. "I want to be involved in event planning, like supporting Barcelona's tour. He wanted me to be a sports editor and translate news from English to Chinese. That was my job for the first month."

Han was not completely dismayed by her opportunity. "I still learned a lot. I think they were good memories," she said.

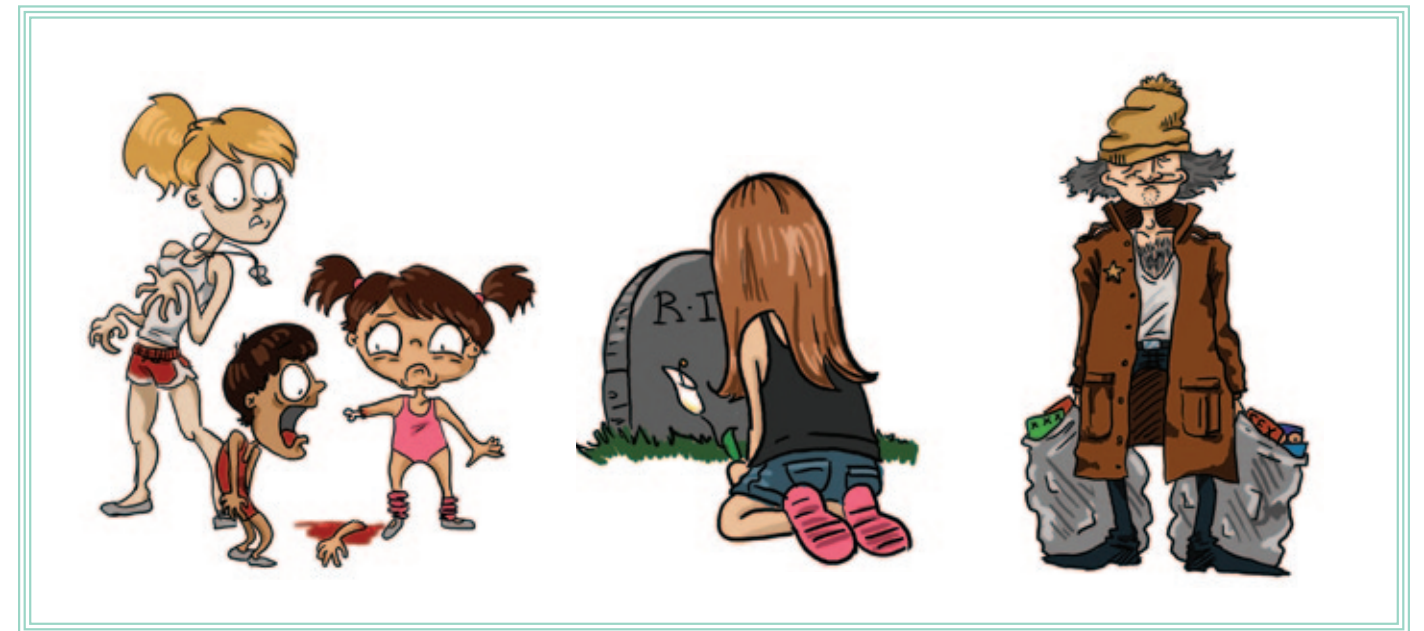
BENT OUT OF SHAPE

Jessy Sikorski, a second year 3-D digital graphics major, had to deal with situations beyond her training. She was given a lot of responsibility with her position as a camp counselor teaching gymnastics to children at Flips Gymnastics and Sport in Lockport, N.Y.

"[One day,] a few of the little kids decided to make up a [gymnastics] routine and were going through it," said Sikorski. "They were falling all over the place and messing up everywhere. Then one little girl decided to do a cartwheel and broke her arm ... Then all of the other kids were screaming because her arm was in a different direction."

When asked how she felt while watching the little girl fall, Sikorski replied, "In that instant, a whole bunch of emotions just ran over me like shock, panic, fear."

"[My bosses] trained us [to react] if somebody falls down, when most of the time it's just a bruise. But when I saw her, I rushed to the phone and called the ambulance. The other coach was with her and she calmed [the girl] down while I called."



LOST LOVED ONES

Third year visual media major Allie Trimboli's summer began with a heart-wrenching shock.

"[This summer] a very good childhood friend of mine died the second week I was home. So, that was a bad experience ... He was 18 and killed in a car accident. It was very intense and it makes you think about what happens everyday, and making sure you take advantage [of life]."

Working at an ice rink and acting in a musical helped Trimboli stay busy and keep her mind occupied. "I don't think I would have treated [my job and acting] with the same attitude. I don't think I would have put as much emphasis on enjoying life. I had a lot of friends and family that helped and I got through it. I still think of him everyday."

AN ITCH YOU CAN'T SCRATCH

Amber Burgert, a third year biology major, had a particularly difficult summer, both at work and with her allergies. "I'm allergic to strawberries, and before it was kind of an uncomfortable burp thing," said Burgert with a grin. "But this time, I was on a lake trip with my friends and I accidentally ate half of a strawberry and, for a month afterwards, I was completely covered in these painful little [bumps] everywhere."

"I had to work at Walmart, it was a lot of walking, and I had to squat down ... in pants. I was like, 'I want to kill myself.' ... 'I can do this, but it's quite painful — it's terrible!'"

CATERING TO PORN ADDICTS

Jesse Spencer, a third year chemistry major, had an awful job at a video rental store two summers ago. "I worked the Sunday morning shift. I would open the store and we had this back room with all this old nasty porno," said Spencer. "I would open up the store every morning at eight o'clock, and there was always a line of the creepiest people you ever met waiting for me to open up the store. [Once I did,] they would go straight for the porn room."

DEALING WITH RAUNCHY SENIORS

Third year animation major Hila Choi had an even stranger experience with elderly customers lingering at her table while she was a waitress.

"[This summer] I worked at Bob Evans in Watertown, N.Y. It was my first job as a waitress, and there were these three infamous customers," said Choi. "They show up every year [for a week straight], and they order food and they send it back, and they order food and they send it back."

They were typical difficult customers until one particularly old member of the group started giving her the eye. "He was winking at me, even my other coworkers [noticed]. I didn't mind because he didn't say anything vulgar or touch me, but they left really bad tips."

"The last day they were there, it was really bad," recalls Choi. "They were ordering food and saying it was bad. They would [keep] asking for refills ... it felt like I was taking care of three tables just for them."



ONE THING ALL THESE STUDENTS HAD IN COMMON WAS THE ABILITY TO LAUGH AND MAKE LIGHTEARTED JESTS AT THEIR PAST MISERY. DESPITE THEIR TERRIBLE AFFAIRS, SOME EVEN ADMITTED THAT IT WAS ULTIMATELY A POSITIVE EXPERIENCE. ONE BAD DAY IS SHORT COMPARED TO HOW LONG YOU'LL BE ABLE TO TELL A GREAT STORY.

WORKING ABROAD

by Emily Bogle | illustration by Jack Reickel

Go ahead and get out of Rochester. Leave now — while you're still in school — and see the world. Although it may seem like a risky idea, it is possible to fund your exploration in another country if you participate in RIT's work abroad program.

Maria Richart, the associate director of Cooperative Education and Career Services, helps students find work opportunities in their field of study. She encourages students to get out and explore their options abroad, even in places which may be unfamiliar to them. Richart, who is also the assistant director of International Outreach, remarks, "This is the time of your life when you have the least amount of responsibility. Especially if you were born and raised in Rochester ... Go see the world."

EXPLORING WHILE WORKING

Working abroad is ideal for someone who is an avid traveler, like Alvaro Prieto. The fifth year electrical engineering major studied abroad in Russia after his first year, then completed a co-op in Switzerland and, most recently, a second one in Finland.

"I love traveling, so if I am able to travel and work at the same time, I will go for it," said Prieto. "More importantly, I really enjoy being exposed to other cultures and people."

"The main difference between the two [for me] was not the job itself, but everything around it," said Prieto. "Here in the U.S., commuting to work

usually involves a car and a lot of traffic. While I was in Switzerland, I had to commute for almost an hour every day, but I was able to take trains and buses to get to work without any problems."

Studying abroad also enabled Prieto to experience vastly different nearby cultures: "Outside of work, I was able to travel to different countries for the weekend, which is not something that is very common or affordable [in the U.S.]"

FINANCIAL ISSUES AND COPING ALONE

Nate Palace, a recent graduate of biomedical photographic communications, ran into unforeseen difficulties as an intern at the Media Resources Centre at the University Hospital of Wales in Cardiff. While he gained experience in photography with both clinical and public relations assignments and even gained experience beyond his major with graphic design and audio-visual services, he ran into a roadblock when it came to getting paid for all his work.

"I was unable to establish a bank account in the U.K., which made my financial situation extremely tricky during the ten weeks," said Palace. "I was unable to do anything with the money I was making over there in any sensible way, and had to mail the endorsed checks back to my bank in the states, which was a nail-biter at best."

Palace had saved enough money for his stay prior to working in Wales,

which afforded him some security. Unfortunately, his checks were unusable until a week before he returned back to the U.S.

Along with tight funds, Palace had a mild case of homesickness and isolation. "I never thought that it would be so difficult to be away from friends and family. I found myself missing my girlfriend and cat daily," said Palace. "It wasn't constant, but I had moments where all I could think at the end of [the] day was, 'I want to go home.'"

While he was lucky enough to be provided with housing, it was hardly a home away from home. As a 35-year-old returning student, living in cramped dorms was something he had last experienced over 15 years ago.

To avoid feeling isolated, Palace explored as many places as he could. "I spent quite a bit of time in Cardiff exploring the local shops, restaurants and pubs ... I was able to visit the mystic Salisbury Plain, which is home to Stonehenge, Avebury Stone Circles, and the Westbury White Horse. My direct supervisor and her family went out of their way to make sure that I got there," recalls Palace.

MEETING PEOPLE AND GROWING

Often, the hardest part of traveling abroad is the language barrier. While there are many countries where English is a second language,

you can't rely on that to get by. As Prieto experienced, "I did meet some people who could not stand [that I didn't know the language]," he continued. "Even if most people speak English very well, [like in] Finland, all the products at the store are in Finnish and Swedish."

Other times, you may get lucky, and work and interact with people who are understanding and accommodating. This was the case for Palace: "I learned a lot from everyone [who] became a regular part of my daily life. I was often invited into people's homes for meals and overnight stays and frequently went on day journeys with the people [with whom] I worked."

Richart has noticed that, after students have worked somewhere abroad, they have a significant growth in maturity. Students build language skills, gain work experience, and grow as a person while navigating through challenges on their own.

Gretchen Schnell, a recent graduate who double-majored in international business and marketing, worked in France for the Eur-Am Center in Pontlevoy as a public relations and marketing intern. She lived in France previously but, during her internship, felt more connected to the country and its culture.

"It has allowed me to see France in a different facet than the first time I lived here," said Schnell. "I have a better idea of what day-to-day life would be like as a working adult. I could definitely live here ... The experience is invaluable," recalls Schnell. **B**

HOW TO WORK ABROAD

The following are some tips from Richart on looking for international internships or co-ops. Many of these tips can also be applied to a national job search.

- Start planning early.
- Narrow down the search to a few cities.
- Look for jobs related to your field in each city.
- Meet with your coordinator at the co-op office to fine-tune your resume.
- Calculate how much money you expect to make compared to how much it will cost to live there.
- If available, accept housing offered by the company so that you will have a guaranteed place to stay during your first night abroad. If it is something you don't like, then make connections to find something more suitable.
- Get away from your desk and explore as much as possible. You don't know when you'll next have this opportunity again.





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Brain Tinkering

with Matthew Crawford

by Michael Conti | illustration by Griffin Moore



Matthew Crawford is a tinkering man's thinking man. A philosopher and a mechanic, he holds a doctorate in political philosophy from the University of Chicago and is a fellow at the Institute for Advanced Studies in Culture at the University of Virginia. He owns and operates Shockoe Moto, an independent motorcycle repair shop in Richmond, Virginia.

To say Crawford defies the expectations of both occupations would be an understatement. Equally comfortable in the halls of higher education and the innards of a garage, he has made a name for himself by challenging what most of us consider being non-coexisting worlds. When this walking contradiction visited RIT on September 8, he tried making clear why he finds working with the hands more intellectually engaging than the world of knowledge occupied by the educated class.

Listen Up, Pencil Pushers

Crawford's thoughts first felt like cold water to the face, waking me up from the three-year dream I'd been in since I'd first entered college. At RIT, we have certain self-assurance that we've made the smart decision. We've passed on the sunlight, beaches and bikinis to make sure we achieve the number one goal set out for us after high school graduation: get a good job, and don't wait on it.

But there's something about those middle management jobs some of us will strive for in the world of office buildings and cubicles that makes me uneasy. Spend a good half a day answering and sending emails, and you might say to yourself, "I haven't accomplished anything."

And in the world of the motorcycle shop, you haven't. Here, the bike either starts or it doesn't, a black-and-white reality that is only cemented with the satisfying feeling of a customer driving away with a roar.

Crawford's ultimate message is about happiness, and he sincerely asks why we break our backs to do things that may not be mentally, spiritually, or even financially fulfilling. To do this, he writes of a hypothetical mortgage broker who works hard all year, and saves to climb Mount Everest. He writes, "The exaggerated psychic content of his summer vacation sustains him through the fall, winter and spring."

In what world do we need to risk our life to achieve fulfillment? In what world do we willingly starve ourselves of human contact, only to stretch the limits of globalization to make our minds feel alive? As Crawford says, "It is in the gated ghetto of his second life that he inhabits once again an intelligible moral order where feeling and action are linked, if only for a couple of weeks."

Crawford Tells a Story

Crawford is a member of the human race. He uses the extreme example of Mount Everest to prove a point, but this isn't coming from someone who doesn't have a sense of irony.

While at a lunch discussion hosted by the Gannet Project, Crawford spoke of his family. With toddlers, he was concerned with keeping the house together, no matter what domestic breakdowns got in his way. So when his well-worn clothes dryer stopped working, he set into a problem-solving mode. How can I get this piece of crap working? Would he rely on the cogs of bureaucracy, or his own brain and hands?

He said his immediate thoughts were not to dive into the helpless

machine; instead, he reached for the phone to call technical support. But as he began to consider the specific nature of these actions (what he calls "mental calculus"), he began to reconsider.

[(Time waiting on hold + time spent talking at an automated troubleshooting guide + time speaking to a customer service representative based in a foreign country) x the rate of confusion when attempting to understand their accent] + (Time spent with repairman + time spent waiting on replacement part, because the repairman certainly wouldn't have it with him + cost of the part ...)

"I wasn't about to fix something because I had just wrote a book about it," Crawford admitted. But considering the potential infinite sources of frustration, he relented and opened the back panel of the device. There, he was surprised to find a diagram, complete with a self-help guide. Within two hours, he was able to isolate the specific problem, remove the faulty part, and order a replacement that would arrive within three days. It wasn't the most glamorous job, but it beat sitting on your hands, waiting for other people to attend to something you could have done yourself.

No Easy Answers

"Why is our society so fixated upon the disposable nature of our stuff?" lamented a member of the Gannet Project discussion as she sipped a plastic bottle of water, doomed for some "recycled" landfill in India. Nobody answered her. I looked at the ham on ciabatta sandwich, preserved in plastic wrap, in front of Crawford. There were too many contradictions around this long-tabled conference room.

That was the nature of Crawford's discussion; he doesn't offer easy solutions to "fix" society's ills. All he represents is his perspective on self-reliance. He suggests that some college students consider learning a trade (he is trained as a household electrician, as well) during the summer to guarantee some form of profitable employment after graduation. He also recommends that we seek to involve ourselves with the people who are affected by our work in a direct way.

What Crawford calls "practical activities in company with others" begins an inquiry into our dependent college student labor, to know if we are tangibly beneficial to our peers. In economic times where we spend quantifiably longer times working at our jobs, we might want to do ourselves a favor, and get our hands dirty. **R**

RIPPING THE TRAILS

WHITEFACE WHITE-KNUCKLE
MTB SEASON OPENER

by Madeleine Villavicencio
photographs by Chris Langer

OVER 100 RIDERS GATHERED AT WHITEFACE MOUNTAIN IN LAKE PLACID, N.Y. ON SEPTEMBER 11 FOR A TWO-DAY EVENT. THE EASTERN COLLEGE CYCLING CONFERENCE KICKED OFF ITS SEASON WITH THE WHITEFACE WHITE-KNUCKLE MTB SEASON OPENER SPONSORED BY THE RIT CYCLING TEAM. THE RACE FEATURED FIVE EVENTS: CROSS COUNTRY, DOWNHILL, SUPER-D, SHORT TRACK CROSS-COUNTRY, AND TEAM RELAY. EACH EVENT FEATURED ITS VERY OWN TRAIL. 📷



Above: James Parascandola looks out the window at the downhill course before competing against other collegiate downhill cyclists.



Left: James Parascandola races on the downhill course at Whiteface Mountain.



Right top: Cuts and bruises on James Parascandola's arm after the race.



Right bottom: Peter Hagerty pulls up a mountain bike at the end of the day.

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WORD *on the* STREET

by Robert Bredvad

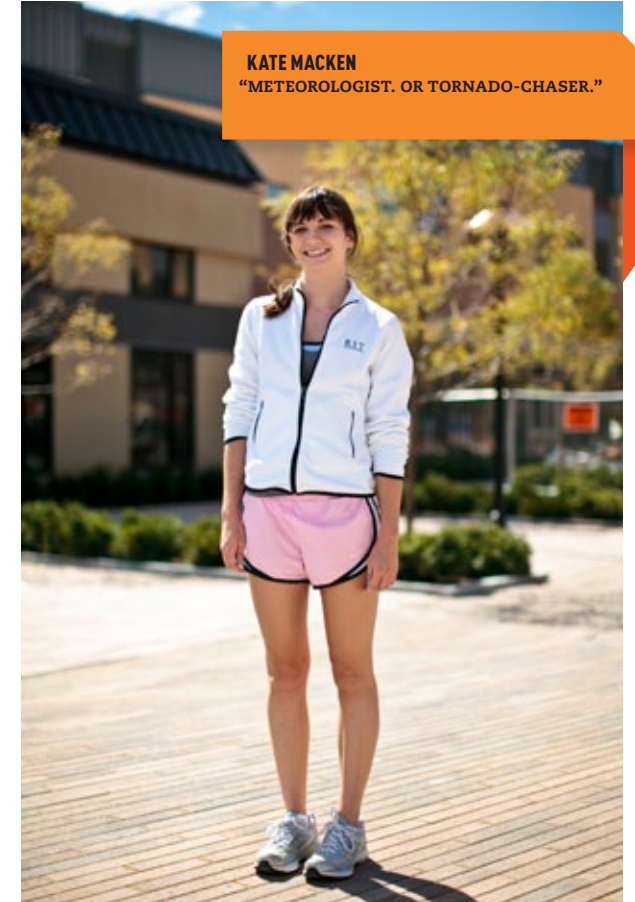
WHAT DID YOU
WANT TO BE
WHEN YOU
WERE TEN?



THEO PETENZI
"FIREFIGHTER."



GLORIA ARTEAGA
"VETERINARIAN"



KATE MACKEN
"METEOROLOGIST. OR TORNADO-CHASER."



ANNIE COURTO
"DOLPHIN TRAINER!"



SAMANTHA COTTON
"PAINTER."



SAM FISHER
"NASCAR DRIVER."



BEN RUBIN
"I WANTED TO BE A SUPERHERO. AND I DEFINITELY
THOUGHT IT WAS IN THE CARDS."

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RIT RINGS

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Compiled by Amanda Szczepanski and Moe Sedlak
All calls subject to editing and truncation. Not all calls will be run.
REPORTER reserves the right to publish all calls in any format.

Saturday, 1:09 a.m.

I'm a fourth year and I don't have money for a car — stop calling me a [flippin'] freshman.

(from text)

Wednesday, 8:34 p.m.

RIT needs to invest in a Mighty Taco.

(from text)

Sunday, 12:23 a.m.

WHO KNEW RITCHIE THE TIGER WAS SO GOOD AT GIVING LAP DANCES AT BRICK BASH?

(from text)

Thursday, 7:51 p.m.

SO THERE I WAS IN THE COLLEGE OF BUSINESS, ONLY TO SEE A GIRL EATING OATMEAL. OUT OF THE PACKET. DRY. HOW IS THAT IN ANY WAY ENJOYABLE!?

(from text)

Wednesday, 9:05 a.m.

NEW MAPS ARE GREAT, EXCEPT OUR EFFING SCHEDULES GO BY BUILDING NUMBER AND YOUR MAPS DON'T APPEAR TO BELIEVE IN THEM.

(from text)

Sunday, 9:06 p.m.

I overheard part of a guy's conversation, "I'm trying to raise my sperm count by drinking more Mountain Dew."

(from text)

Monday, 9:52 a.m.

People watching porn in Java's.

RIT, you never cease to shock me.

(from text)

Tuesday, 5:37 p.m.

Dammit! I walked all the way to the Women's Center and there aren't any sandwiches!?

(from text)

Tuesday, 9:00 a.m.

DEAR RIT, STOP SPENDING MY MONEY ON CONSTRUCTION AND HIRE A NEW PHYSICS DEPARTMENT.

(from text)

Tuesday, 4:03 p.m.

Dear Rings, crisis averted! The tiger sub is exactly the same with just a new name.

(from text)



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Fall Quarter

PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST

**Inform others about an issue or topic
YOU feel strongly about that's relevant
to the RIT community**

Registration is open now through September 30

<http://www.rit.edu/cla/communication/publicspeaking>

Preliminary Rounds: Wednesday October 6 & Thursday October 7

Final Round: Thursday October 14 @ 2:30 in the Skalny Room

\$400 first place, \$200 second place, \$100 third place cash prizes



For more information or additional questions
please contact Elizabeth Reeves O'Connor at
eargpt@rit.edu

The 23rd Annual Institute Public Speaking Contest is sponsored by
the Department of Communication and The College of Liberal Arts.