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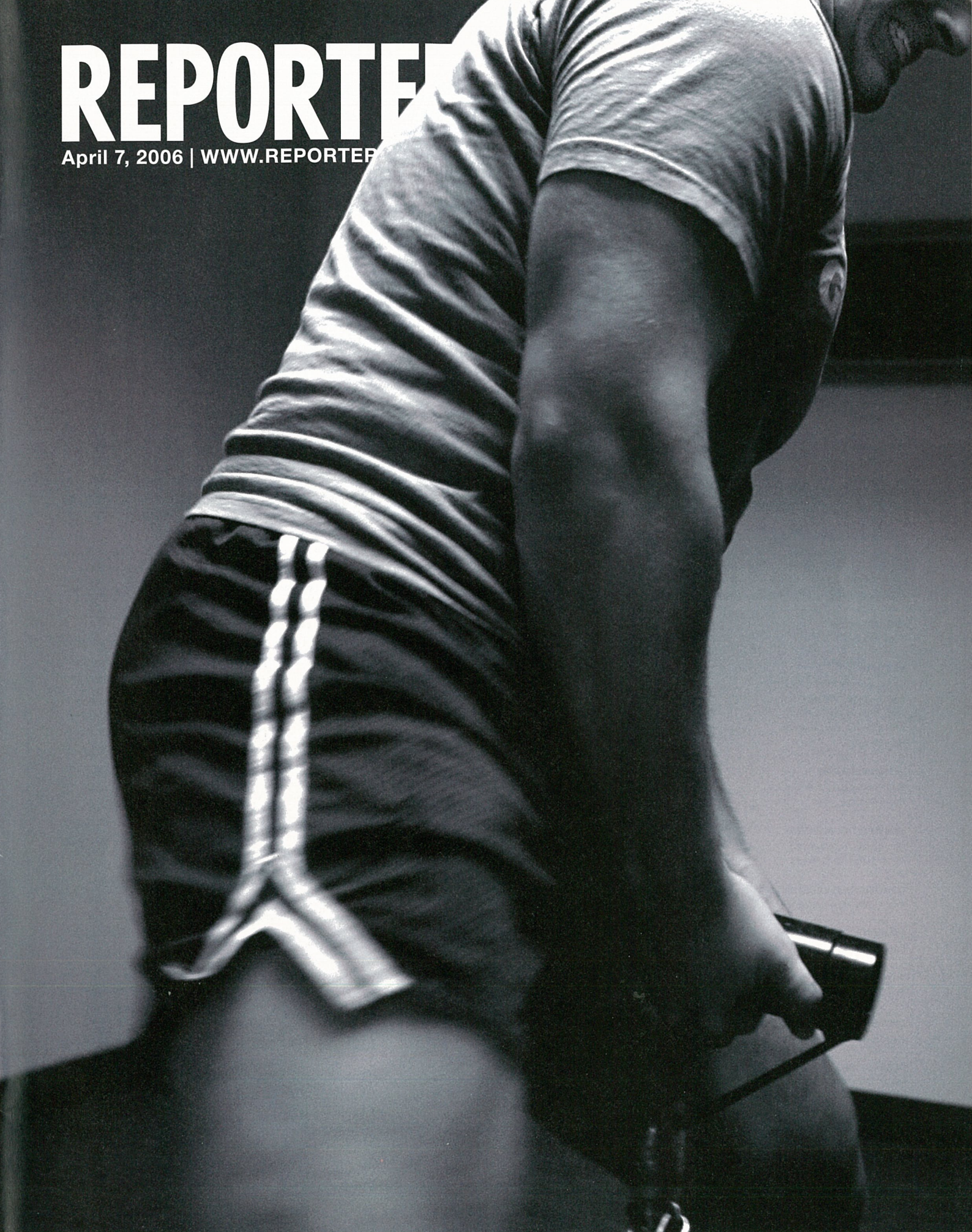
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# REPORTER

April 7, 2006 | WWW.REPORTER





# REPORTER

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## EDITORIAL

### A Grand Entrance

Allow me to introduce myself.

Born in Texas, I escaped when I was seven to Tonawanda, NY: a suburb of what's left of Buffalo.

Bored with the New York education system, I taught myself to roll a quarter back and forth over my knuckles... and that about sums everything up until I turned 18.

After enrolling at RIT in the prestigious-yet-misunderstood film program I decided that, having no experience at all writing for a publication, I should work at *Reporter* (yes, it's that simple). So I got myself a writing assignment and ran out to Facilities Management to ask about all that construction going on along the entrance to RIT.

I was emphatically told that all the racket was the beginning of the makings of a brand new entrance... a brick entrance. Why bricks? To keep out the wolves, I suppose. But, by the hair on my chinny chin chin, I got to see my article in print on October 8, 2004.

So time passes, as it's wont to do. Construction workers build and writers write and I start editing the news section and the workers do some landscaping and I decide it would be a good idea to transcribe RIT Rings and have a Views section and the builders start laying bricks and before anyone knows it, it's now. The workers slap a sticker over the text on the sign at the entrance; instead of "Fall 2005" it reads "2006."

And, okay, the construction world follows Latin American rules of casual punctuality. Dinner at 5 p.m. means show up at 7 p.m. New entrance in the fall means you'll have it by spring. This is expected. The last time I drove by, they were still putting the metal plates on the top halves of the six ornamental(?) brick walls.

I'm not saying they should rush or anything; it's not like anyone is waiting to live in there or hold a class. It's not like I'm incapable of entering the campus until the entrance is done. But, c'mon; should a bottom-rung reporter with no experience be able to nervously stumble into the Facilities Management building to ask a few questions and then turn around and become editor in chief before the entrance is completed?

I'm not saying that building six brick walls is particularly easy. I'm well aware that if I attempted to build a brick wall while some other equally undeserving individual attempted to scale the wall of hierarchy at *Reporter* that I might be put in my place. In all likelihood, my walls wouldn't be level and they'd just topple like it's 1989.

But I don't build walls; I tear them down. It's my job to rip apart all barriers to facilitate a stream of unadulterated information for you, the readers. To make you think. All the writers and photographers and illustrators and designers and distributors and editors and various managers that work here don't specialize in building; they're masters of demolition, toppling whatever stands between you and the things you need to know.

Think of stacking up some dominos; it can take hours to set them up, to build and construct any intricate path; but it takes seconds to topple them all. My job falls into the latter category, which is why it makes perfect sense to me why I'm writing this editorial while Facilities Management is still working on their grand entrance.



Casey Dehlinger  
Editor in Chief







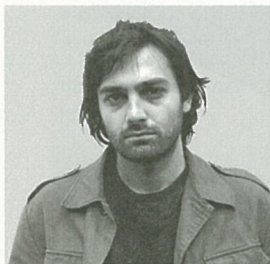
# The Gamekillers **OBITUARIES** April 2006

## Game Killed

Andre Massis  
Fernando Nieves  
Zack Danielson

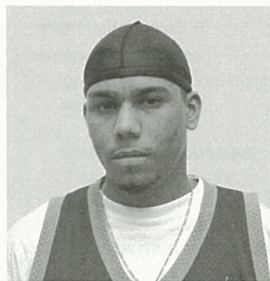
Hanwey Shieh  
Bharat Kumar

Eric Smith  
Jon Fox  
Chad Utsch



### MASSIS Andre, São Paulo, BR

Was lured away from a pretty young thing and into a heated game of 'Foos' by his good friend Carl—more commonly known as "The Mayor of No Women's Land." While Andre made several attempts to step away and put himself back into contention with the said female, Carl's relentless pursuit for all things that don't involve getting some, was ultimately too much for the young Andre. He quickly found himself sweating it out over the air hockey table, from where he would catch a glimpse of his young beauty heading out the door with another suitor. Andre's game will be remembered by many, just not her.



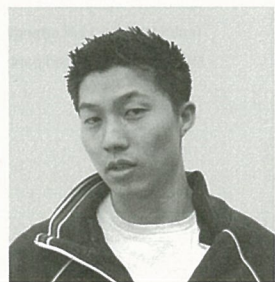
### NIEVES Fernando, New York, NY

His game was alive and well on its way to a ten digit exchange with a hottie known as Britney, but was suddenly bushwhacked by a classic Gamekiller, The Drama Queen. She ran into the scene, tears streaming, and sobbed a story of having seen her ex from four years ago. "I, I, I just can't be alone tonight, Brit." Still a retrievable situation had Fernando kept his cool. But he didn't. "Four years seems like a long time ago," he said in all innocence. By the time

The Drama Queen was done flipping the script, Fernando was re-cast in the role of "the villain" in front of a crowd of horrified on-lookers. No one hooks up with an insensitive pig. Rest in peace Fernando, but you sleep alone.

### DANIELSON Zack, Atlanta, GA

It was early in the evening yesterday when Zack's game left us, and while it didn't go without a fight, Zack did have his arse unceremoniously handed to him. Upon returning from the bathroom, Zack found the girl he was seeing had been surrounded by a beefy mesomorph, Early Man, who tried to use his abundant muscle to strong-arm him out of the picture. Zack did not keep his cool and accused his young lady friend of flirting with the first guy who came along. His girl, no doubt disgusted by Zack's over-the-top bravado, fled the scene when his far from attractive jealousy escalated into Zack throwing a punch, which was caught in mid-air by something that looked like a hand, but felt like a 20lb vice. By the time Zack re-gained consciousness, he was home alone and unable to console himself with his dominant hand.

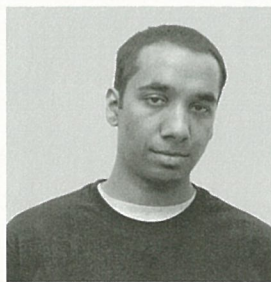


### SHIEH Hanwey, Los Angeles, CA

Hanwey was chatting up a Latin diva at an apartment complex barbecue and his game was hot enough to pose a fire hazard, that is until his friend and cocoon of horror known as The Mess entered the picture and snatched Hanwey up like a flash flood of distraction. Somewhat of a loose cannon, The Mess immediately engaged Hanwey in the age-old male

## Game Killed

bonding tradition of lighting one's own farts. Sure, there's little more enticing than the ignition of one's own combustible human gasses, but much like riding an electric scooter, you don't look that cool doing it. When the laughter subsided, Hanwey was left with nothing but a good laugh and the faint smell of old eggs, while his lady was snared by a new suitor. Man, talk about blowing it.



### KUMAR Bharat, Jacksonville, FL

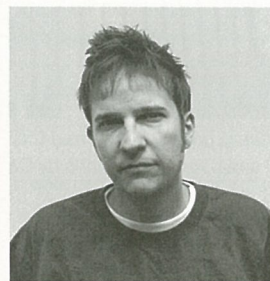
After kicking his game to a leggy redhead at a dorm mixer, Bharat was interrupted by Trevor, a.k.a. British Accent Guy. Women are drawn to men with British accents, so all it took was a single "pardon" to make his girl raise an eyebrow toward this game killing Redcoat. This prompted Bharat to get riled by calling out the guy's busted grill of yellowing bad teeth and comparing the merits of baseball over cricket. The British Accent Guy smiled and opened his mouth only to offer small bits of non-confrontational banter, allowing his accent to seep into the girl's brain like a piece of brilliant propaganda. In the end, the Brit would invade on Bharat's territory with ease, taking the girl, and leaving Bharat's game strewn on the road as a piece of collateral damage.

### SMITH Eric, Washington, DC

His game came to its demise in the most unlikely of circumstances. While engaging in two of his most pleasurable pastimes: talking about boats, with his other passion, a beautiful girl who seemed genuinely interested. They were even planning to go out in his 15-foot dinghy, only to hit unseen rocks in the form of The One Upper, the classic Gamekiller who lives by the motto "Anything you

## Game Killed

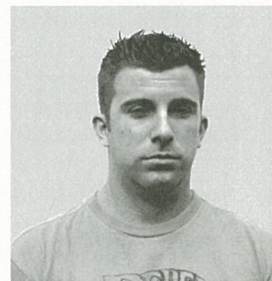
can do I can do better." Sure enough, The One Upper claimed to not only know boats, but he also boasted of captaining his own 40-foot vessel. Eric tried to navigate to the calmer waters of car talk but was run over again by The One Upper's supposed vintage German roadster. The tension quickly mounted, and soon the two were engaged in a ruthless game of one-upmanship. On and on they went, seeing what the other guy just said and raising him. When the smoke cleared, Eric had won the gloat-fest, but the girl was nowhere to be found. No one likes a braggart. Eric's game was last seen drifting away towards the vast sea of loneliness in an oversized boat.



### FOX Jon, London, UK

Jon's game, beloved to many a cheerleader and facilitator of the ménage of 2003, was fairing well at a Gold Coast club with a delightful pair of sisters. That is until the playboy predator and full time Gamekiller simply known as Kash Munki entered the picture. A well-endowed socialite famous for trashing 5-star hotel rooms, Kash had traveled in from oil rich lands wearing expensive Italian loafers and indoor sunglasses. Drinks were bought for willing and unwilling recipients alike with his family's fortune, which he shamelessly flaunted in the form of an array of high status plastic. This caused Jon to suddenly lose his cool and go on the defensive by opening a tab of his own. On his debit card. After three rounds, Jon's account was maxed. Shortly after he was dropped off alone would Jon learn the hard way that a woman's affection should never be for sale, and that many a man has gone broke trying to prove otherwise.

## Game Killed



### UTSCH Chad, New Brunswick, NJ

His game was faring nicely at the local coffee shop with a seemingly receptive latte drinker called Rita and he seemed well on his way to a little afternoon delight, that is until the corduroy-clad Gamekiller known as "IQ" entered picture. This pompous scholastic scavenger, famous for luring men into heated debates on subjects of which they know nothing, over-heard the conversation turning to art and pounced. Immediately he steered the dialogue into an area known as Out Of Chad's Depth where he would dish out ever increasing portions of intellectual emasculation. Chad reacted as anyone with a 20 point IQ deficit facing "IQ" would: the wrong way. No, the answer to "When do you feel Picasso peaked?" isn't to shove the questioner in the chest. Rita was left to apologize emphatically for Chad's actions and asked if she could make up for it in some way. Chad tried to recover, but it was too late. He had lost his cool, and his game would retire home, where it would begin its own blue period.

Obituaries can be created and sent via email to friends at [gamekillers.com](http://gamekillers.com)



Keep Your Cool. Axe Dry.

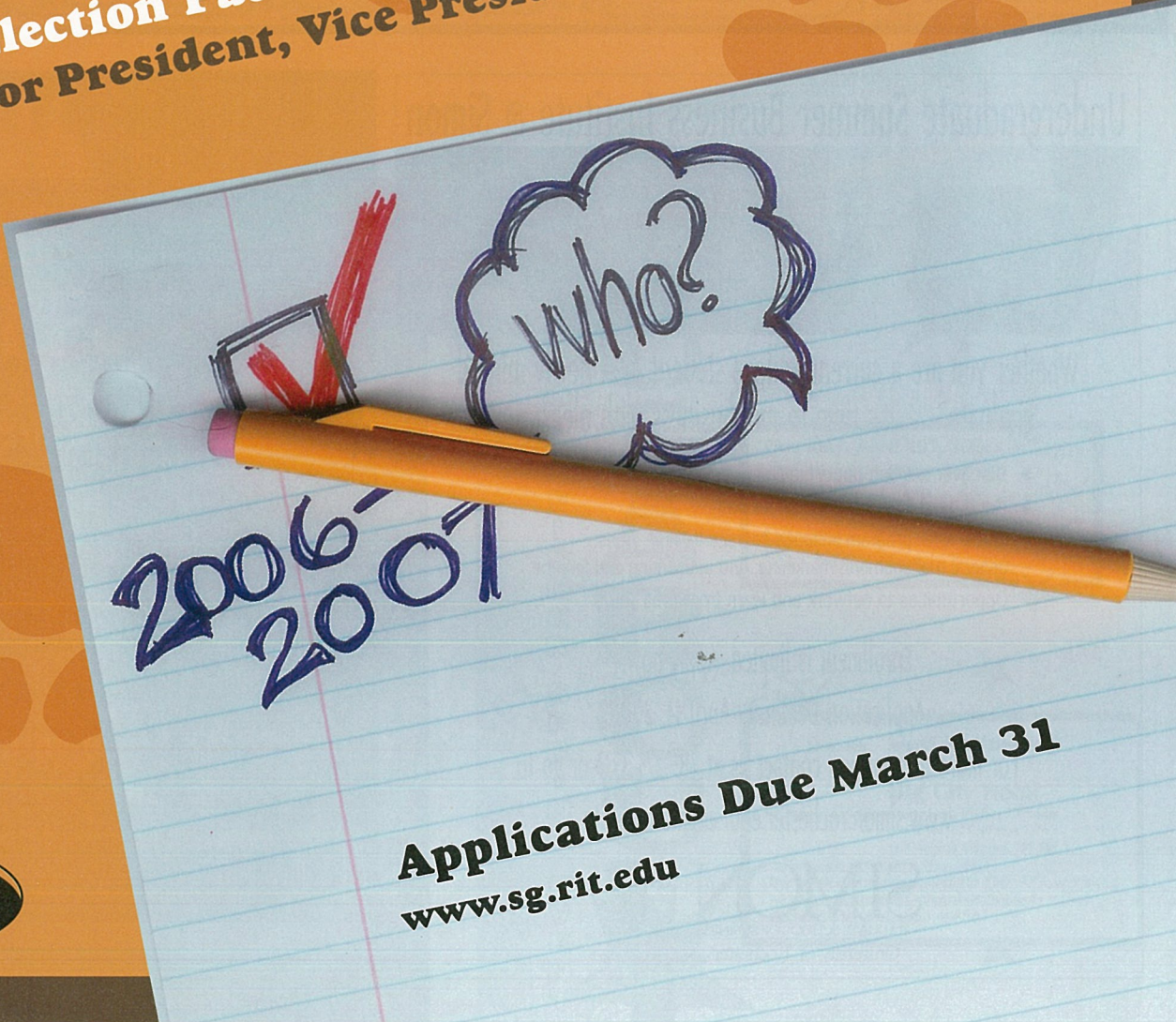


mar 24  
mar 31  
apr 3-16  
apr 7-8  
apr 10  
apr 12  
apr 17-20  
apr 21

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leadership conference  
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debate in fireside lounge @4-6pm  
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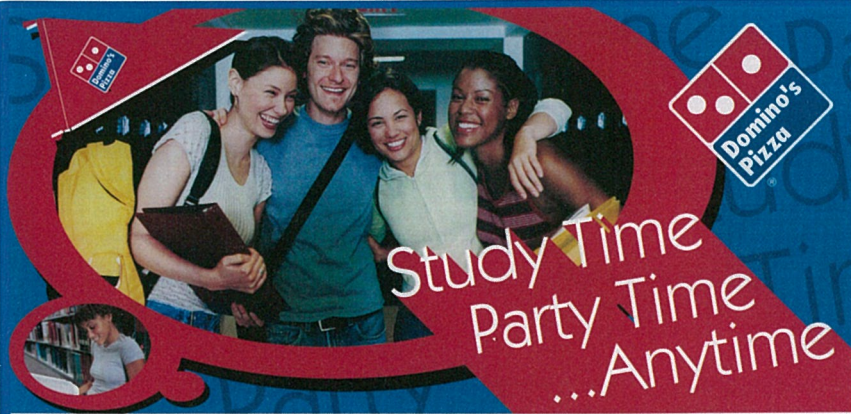


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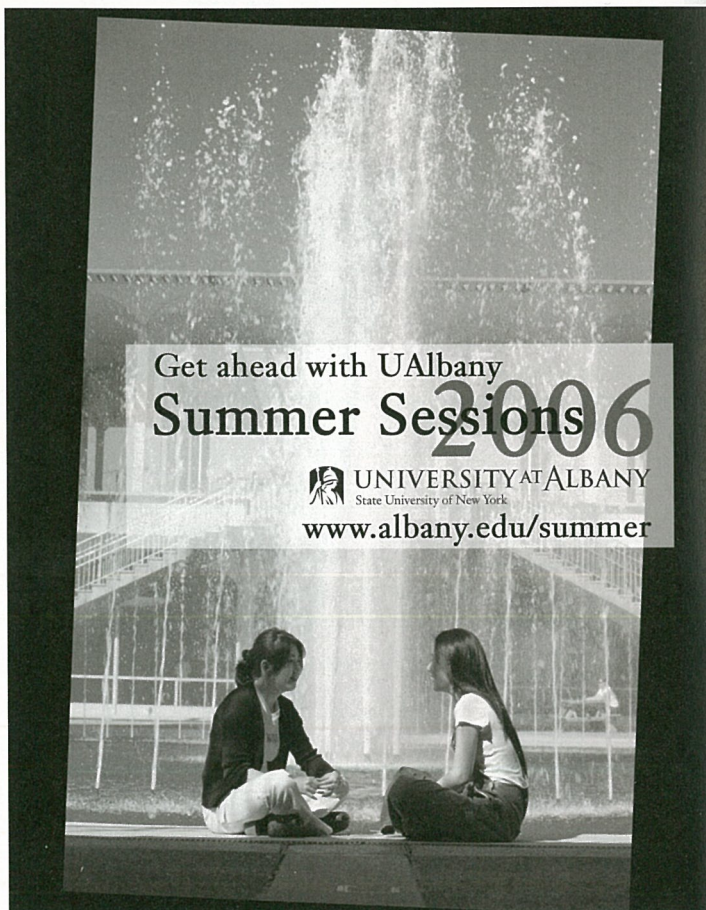
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# Letters to the Editor

## Why Quit?

The two articles that appeared on the last page of the March 24th *Reporter*, "The Smoking Gun" and "Cigarette Burns" caught my eye. "The Smoking Gun" annoyed me because the author clearly states she knows smoking is "bad for you," yet her major complaint seemed to be the latest additional tax being imposed on cigarettes. I will admit that taxing smokers to ultimately pay for either quitting programs or for research to find a cure for their self-induced diseases seems a bit incongruous, but *someone's* got to pay for these things!

The other article seemed to counterbalance the first one. "Cigarette Burns" very creatively suggested a way to help smokers realize just how much money they are actually burning, and I applaud it. As a quit-smoking counselor for uninsured New Yorkers, I talk to people everyday who are in jeopardy of losing their homes because they can't afford the rent, but yet they manage to scrape together enough cash to get their daily nicotine fix. Like the author of the article, *they* wish they could afford to smoke, too! When they quit or cut down how much they are smoking, I encourage them to put away the money they are not spending on cigarettes to see just how fast it adds up. Even if they can't literally put that money aside, they can figure it out with pen and paper and it usually amazes them.

I have seen homeless people grapple for a discarded cigarette butt on the street and thanked my lucky stars that I was able to quit several years ago, and that I don't have the traits that would make me susceptible to addictive behavior. When I quit, I did sit down to figure out how much money I had spent in my 25 years of smoking, and it was enough to buy a house!

Quitting smoking is the only way to get the message across to the very big and very powerful tobacco companies who are the only ones benefiting from people smoking. It costs five cents to produce a pack of cigarettes—selling cigarettes is a very lucrative business and the tobacco companies do everything in their power to keep smokers hooked. Whether you quit for health reasons or because you think it costs too much is up to you, but please: **Do quit.**

Thanks,  
Nicki Tiffany  
C-Print Captionist

## Still feeling April Fooled?

Here's a retort for the distorter:

- On page 3A, change 13C to 6B.
- On page 5B, change 6B to 6C.
- On page 6A, change 13C to 6B.
- On page 14A, change 6C to 13C.
- On page 14B, change 6B to 6C.

Now you may or may not be able  
to ruin Simone's azaleas.

Or gank Chuck Norris.

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# Lessig@RIT

by Erhardt Graeff

I should not be writing about Lawrence Lessig, one of the world's foremost experts in the field of cyber-law and intellectual property. I should not be counted on to provide an objectively reported account because, at an academic conference in October, RIT Professor Amit Ray and I met Lessig and first asked him to speak here. I even ate dinner with the man on the eve of his talk at RIT. However, seeing the latest edition of his "performance," as presented to a motley collection of RIT students, faculty, staff, and Rochester intellectuals on March 24, is what qualifies me to write something about the event.

So let me start the coverage saying: if you have never attended one of Lessig's public lectures, you are missing out on an absorbing and enlightening multimedia experience, whether you understand *stare decisis* or not. Although there are no 3D glasses or phantom aliens breathing on your neck, the rhythm and visual punctuation of the words and concepts flashed in bold black and white on the screen are undeniably engaging. With his 12" Apple PowerBook on the podium and slideshow remote control in hand, Lessig commands your attention with a controlled and deliberate intellectual progression.

Starting with an allegory about encephalitis, Lessig described what he saw in the movie *Awakenings*, which depicts the treatment of encephalitis sufferers with L-dopa. The drug "unlocked" the patients from their physical and mental immobility, but would eventually wear off, leaving the patients "relocked" in coma. Lessig wanted to emphasize society's capacity to be unlocked and relocked in regard to innovation and culture. He used the newspaper and radio industries as an example. The respective technologies afforded proliferation of practitioners and new facilitated discourse. But as cost and regulation mounted, the industries were forced to consolidate. Lessig saw this pattern as: technology spurring an uncontrolled explosion of democratic speech (society unlocked), which threatens those in power and, thus, those in power react (society is relocked).

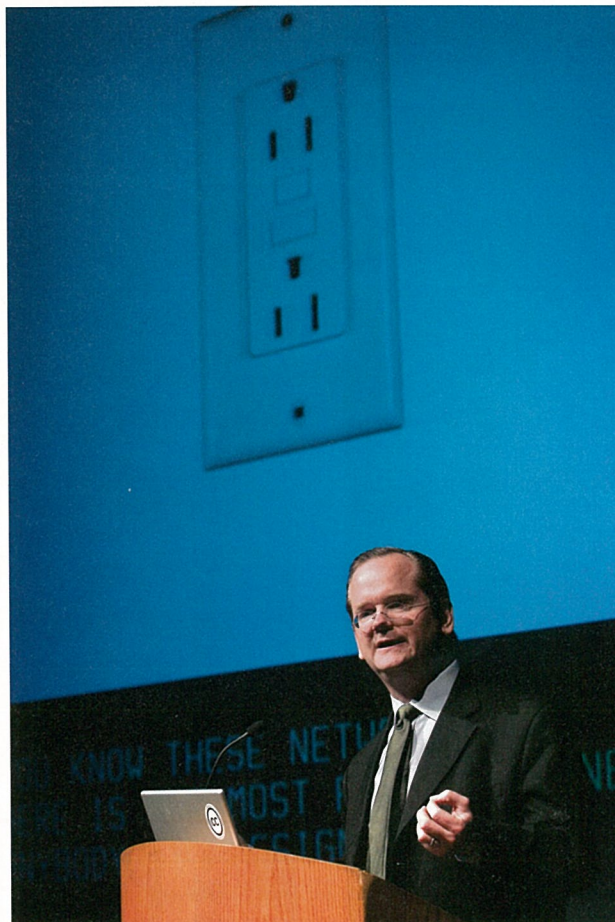
Lessig framed the rest of his talk with this idea that "the relocking of the opportunity of 'awakening' is happening

right now." He strongly feels that the current litigation and legislation involving copyright and intellectual property law is relocking society—most profoundly on the internet. *Are we going to be in a "read-only" culture or a "read-write" culture?* he asks. The read-only culture is the re-locked internet, providing sources of movies, music, etc. from a select set of conglomerate sources represented by such bodies as the RIAA and MPAA. Lessig promotes a read-write culture, where the sources of inspiration (previous creative works) are not barred from use. He wants to transcend the narrow and ill-defined space known as "fair use" and offer the ability to share culture in a "commons," unfettered by abstruse legal language. Thus, Lessig offers "Creative Commons," his alternative to copyright ([www.creativecommons.org](http://www.creativecommons.org)).

## "It's like waking up and discovering butterflies are illegal."

The hope of Creative Commons is to allow existing culture and technology to spawn culture, unburdened by the fear of massive lawsuits. Though the details of this "copyleft" approach are several hundred words beyond the scope of this article, the potential impact is simple: unlocking society. Lessig offered several examples in his presentation of new creativity spawning from this: anime music videos, digital storytelling in California high schools, and the infamous "viral videos" of the internet. The most entertaining of Lessig's evidence being the improvised video remix love duet between President Bush and Tony Blair ([www.atmo.se](http://www.atmo.se)).

But all the entertaining *new* culture Lessig displayed is technically illegal. Such creative works are currently threatened by legal action; the read-write society can be re-locked. Lessig's message is that we need to protect what should be *Free Culture*, the title of his latest published book. He wants us to understand that the bits of video and music that we create and consume in our routine contemporary experience are of value in a read-write culture and should not be subject to discouraging legal action. Lessig lamented, "It's like waking up and discovering butterflies are illegal."•



Lawrence Lessig, a professor of law at Stanford University, lectures about copyright issues in the digital age. Young Jang/REPORTER Magazine



# Nader Shakes the Bricks

by Elsie Samson

"You have 15,000 or so days before you turn 60," said Ralph Nader, addressing the topic of procrastination during his opening on Friday, March 24. Sponsored by the College of Business, the former presidential candidate spoke on banking deregulation and consumer interest. Nader kicked off the lecture by addressing RIT students to not waste this time and to, "treasure it as a decade of creative breakthroughs."

Nader went on to say that now is the time for reflection, creativity, public gatherings, civic work and collaboration. He stressed that students have resources and media, such as the campus station and newspaper, ready for people to voice and make a difference without the barriers of money or politics. Quoting Daniel Webster, Nader said that, "Justice is the great work of human beings on Earth." As he referenced the interpreter, Nader explained that there never was a signer at lectures when he attended college. He made the point that people organized and had a thirst for justice, leading to change and making the impossible possible.

As Nader segued into discussion on banking deregulation, he told the story of Bill Gates's father and how the man attributes his wealth to his roots, such as good public schools. Nader suggested that there aren't enough bigwigs like Bill Gates's dad serving as the forces for the people, and that consumer interests could fit in a small room compared to government lobbyists and corporations with their own interests. Nader also pointed out that the top 1% has the same wealth as the combined financial wealth of 90-95% percent of the American population. He said that a third of our full-time workers are making less than \$10 an hour, while millions of Americans go without health insurance.

He further commented on the depletion of our country's libraries, and the way our drinking water systems are not reflective of the latest water-purifying technology. "Our court rooms are a disgrace while our stadiums are gleaming," Nader said. He contributed this to the idea that our country needs to improve competition. There are about ten giant banks, he explained, which people put their money into since they're too big to fail. Nader said that banking deregulation has eliminated geographic barriers and restraints on the prices for services, causing interest rates and late payment fees to increase without bounds.

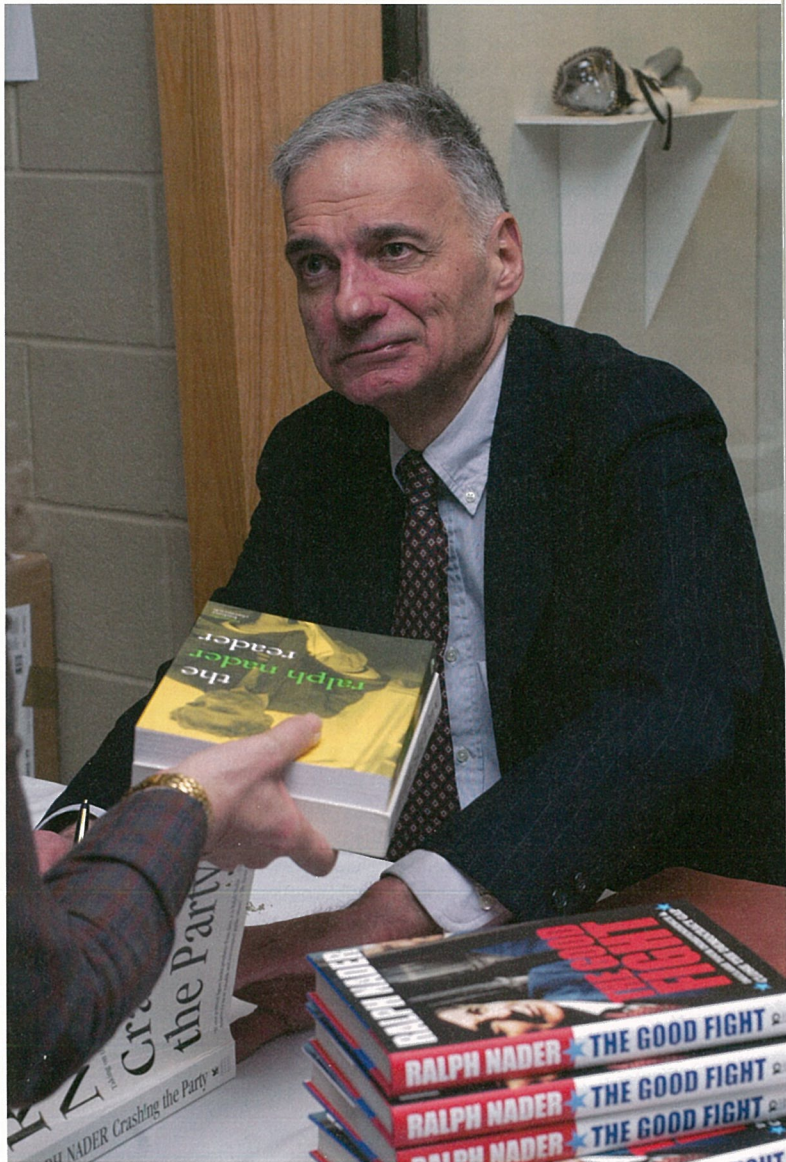
On the subject of consumerism, Nader confessed that he has never owned a credit card. His reasons:

- 1 Invasion of privacy: it's no one's business what you buy.
- 2 Credit cards increase price of production through transaction costs and advertisements to get you to buy a credit card.
- 3 Different elasticity: easier to overbuy when not handing over physical bills.
- 4 Exposure to rip-offs (even on campus).
- 5 Loss of control: you have to pay for an insurance policy.
- 6 Credit rating has morphed into the most tyrannical thing: the credit score, which can be raised or lowered for almost any reason.

He explained this point by using an analogy of the infinite extensions of credit, saying that, like a rubber band, "You pull it and pull it and think, 'Wow, what a great rubber band,' and then it snaps."

Nader concluded his talk with a call to action. He encouraged involvement in uspirg.org, a grassroots group dedicated to serving public interest by taking action on consumer and environmental issues. He incited students to start a civil skills course on campus to promote participation. He also proposed that, "The next time you buy a car, have a little fun." Nader suggests that you should ask to read the consumer agreement before you sign it, get out a magnifying glass, look at the fine print, make edits, cross things out, and then ask the sales worker to sign it and see what happens.

Hopefully, unlike Nader's experience, the sales workers won't call the police. •



Ralph Nader was a guest speaker of the College of Business on Friday, March 24th. A. Sue Weisler/REPORTER Magazine

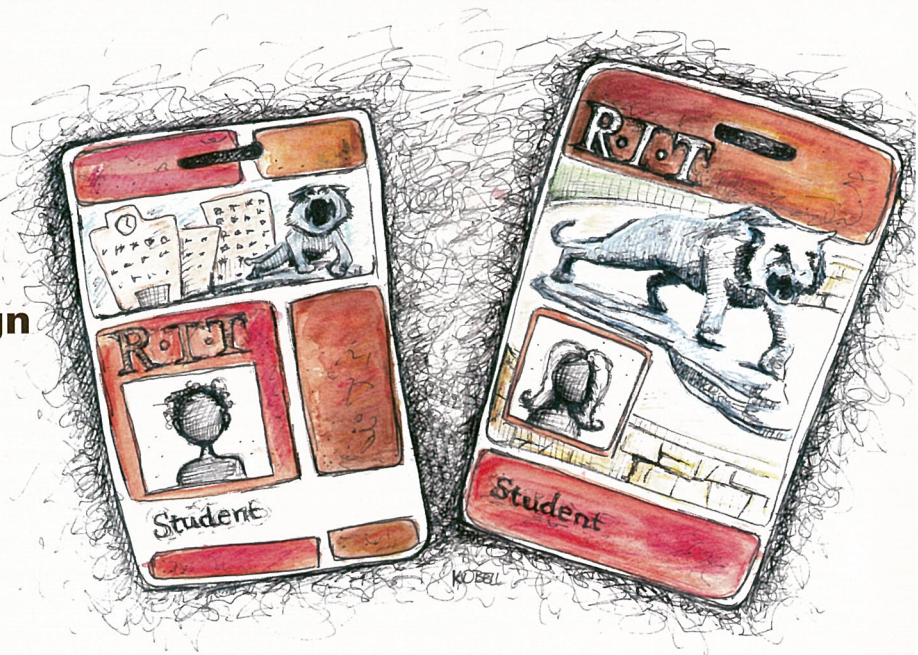


# POCKET EDITION

## How They Chose the New ID Design

by Adam Richlin

illustration by Kristen Bell



7,200 votes...wow. That's half of RIT. Not even presidential elections get that good a turnout.

Nearly half of RIT's students turned out digitally to vote for the new ID card design in February, and almost 7,000 again last week. Student Government, University Publications, and the School of Design all submitted designs for the contest. The project is part of a larger plan to reorganize RIT's ID system without using social security numbers as public identifiers because of recent law changes.

"While we were at it, we thought [we] should change the look of the card. We have been using the old design for over 20 years," said Joe Loffredo, Registrar and chairman of the project.

Few have seen the vast scope of the project—it's truly monstrous. At \$1.00 per card, RIT is spending over \$20,000 just to reprint the cards for students and faculty. "Then, we also have 900 programs to change on campus and over 30 systems that need to be overhauled." Most of that work is being done by the SIRP project in ITS, but the card design and funding is coming through the Registrar.

**"We noticed that while 7,200 people voted, the [spread] was less than 20 votes between the two choices," commented Loffredo.**

The first student poll went up with just two submissions; one from Katie Koch in SG, the other from University Press. "We submitted around thirty designs on the theme of Katie's design," said James Macchiano. The committee narrowed all of the SG submissions down to the one that was on the far left in both polls. "I was surprised that [the project] was not offered as a student contest to everyone," remarked sophomore Bryan Lavrich. In response, Loffredo commented, "To be honest, doing a public contest never came to mind." The poll was the committee's plan to include students, even though it was nearly at the end of the process.

Instead, Student Government took part in the committee, acting as the student voice in this issue. "There were a couple things we wanted to see on the card...school colors and school icons were important," said Macchiano. He has been on a mission throughout his presidency to get more clubs and departments to use orange and brown as a way to enhance school spirit. It fits that he would push school colors in the new card design. "[The new designs] promote what we are. They're simple, they're fun, and they add a lot more than what our current ID card is, with just the green bar on top," said Macchiano.

**At \$1.00 per card, RIT is spending over \$20,000 just to reprint the cards for students and faculty.**

"We noticed that while 7,200 people voted, the [spread] was less than 20 votes between the two choices," commented Loffredo. The near tie gave the committee a valid excuse to toss the controversy-ridden first poll and reconsider the designs. There was also an onslaught of email from students demanding that they change the designs. The Registrar, however, failed to mention that in an email announcement of the new poll.

In mentioning the School of Design's submissions, I neglected to mention that they were a few weeks late. The faculty of the Design School were, apparently, rather annoyed that they were not included in the first poll. "They missed the deadline...and the few submissions they gave us didn't even fit what we asked for," said Macchiano. So they handed the cards back to the designers and tweaked the plans again. (Thus explaining the different looks from poll to poll.)

The second poll was opened Friday, March 24th, and accumulated nearly 7,000 votes as well. The committee has planned the conversion for after commencement, so this year's students won't be affected. Most new students will get their newly designed cards during Move-In Day in the fall. •



# the BeyondBricks

compiled by Benjamin Rowny

Here's another batch of strange news from around the world. If you're new to Beyond the Bricks, here's the deal: All of these stories are absolutely 100% true. Except one, which is a lie. Last issue's phony was the *Homemaking Degree at Harvard*, by the way. Though, I think they offer it at Bob Jones University, if anyone wants to switch majors...

The week in news:

## Dad Leaves Toddler for Strippers

(AP) A manager at a Tulsa, Oklahoma strip club called police when a three or four year-old boy wandered inside, apparently searching for his dad. Police responded to the scene of the crime and arrested the boy's father. According to the police report, the man left his son in the car for half an hour in 45-degree weather, and told the boy that if he left the car, "monsters would eat him."

## Brits Use the Telephone Nude

(Reuters) A new study in Britain revealed that approximately one third of British telephone users enjoy making phone calls naked. Of those surveyed, men were a bit more likely to make naked phone calls than women.

## Jesus' Bong Hits Continue

(AP) Following up a previous story, it appears students are rallying behind the cause of an Alaska boy suspended from school for possession of a banner reading "Bong Hits for Jesus." Since then, "Bong Hits for Jesus" posters have been seen at more than a dozen high schools and universities throughout the nation. According to one San Francisco-area student, "There's evidence of marijuana use in the Bible. It's a pacifist cause." Christians and stoners of all denominations are invited to support BHFJ at various rallies scheduled for April 20, 2006.

## Alligators Out of the Sewers, Making House Calls

(AP) A Florida woman answered the door this week to find not a door-to-door salesman or member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Later Day Saints knocking, but rather an eight-foot alligator. Apparently the alligator crawled up from a pond behind her house and proceeded to bash its head against the woman's front door. She closed the door and contacted authorities, but the persistent alligator stayed at her front door for an hour before returning to its pond.

## Naked Bodybuilder Annoys Police

(WCSC-TV) Police were stunned when they answered a harassment call and found a naked, oil-covered man wielding nun-chucks. The man asked his neighbor to borrow some oil for a workout, then exposed himself to her. He almost avoided capture when the slippery oil made detaining the man a difficult process.

## New Delhi Couple Divorces in Their Sleep

(Reuters) An Indian couple is at a loss after accidentally divorcing during the night. The husband spoke the word "talaq" three times, which, according to an Islamic personal law, is enough for a divorce to be official. The man was sleeping at the time, but local Islamic leaders insist the couple must divorce and separate for 100 days before they are allowed to remarry. The couple has stayed together and they are working with a family counselor to sort out the issue.

# RITForecast

compiled by Erhardt Graeff

Friday  
7  
APR

## Accepted Student Open House II

8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. Campus-wide. Students accepted for the Fall can and will roam the campus.

## CAB Karaoke Night

10:00 p.m.–1:00 a.m. Ritz SportsZone. Free admission and free food to the first fifty folks to find their way in.

Saturday  
8  
APR

## Sixth Annual Night of A Cappella

7:30 p.m. – 9:45 p.m.. Ingle Auditorium. Brick City Singers doing their annual spring concert thang. \$3 presale, \$5 at the door.

## A Night on Broadway

8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.. Webb Auditorium. Charity benefit concert for autism, Leukemia/Lymphoma Society, and Dream Factory featuring performances of a variety of Broadway musical selections. Sponsored by the Graduate Management Association.

Sunday  
9  
APR

## Palm Sunday

Christians and Non-Christians alike can make today universally special by giving a big high-five to those they come across.

Monday  
10  
APR

## ID Replacement Project: Conversion Tool Forum

10:00 a.m.–11:30 a.m. 76-1125. Required demonstration session for those persons converting their department's databases. Nine-digit numbers involved.

## Earth Month: Fun with Recycling

10:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Quarter Mile. A one-ton block of paper surrounded by crazy objects made from recycled materials—like a bench—will partially block the thoroughfare.

## SG Presidential Election Debates

4:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m. SAU Cafeteria. See your potential campus leaders duke it out, with words.

Tuesday  
11  
APR

## ID Replacement Project: General Forum

10:00 a.m.–11:30 a.m. 76-1125. Session open to all students, faculty, and staff wanting to learn about the project, including: getting a new ID card and how to look up numbers.

## Earth Month: More Fun with Recycling

10:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Quarter Mile. See Monday, April 10 for details.

## SG Loan Consolidation

12:15 p.m.–12:45 p.m. SAU: Clark A & B. Information session discussing student loan consolidation.

Wednesday  
12  
APR

## Earth Month: Still Having Fun with Recycling

10:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Quarter Mile. See Monday, April 10 for details.

## Men's Health Workshop

6:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m. SAU: Clark A. Workshop with speaker sponsored by Lambda Alpha Upsilon Fraternity, Inc.

## SG Presidential Election Debates

6:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m. SAU Cafeteria. See the vote-wanting candidates battle with mind-over-matter bullets.

Thursday  
13  
APR

## COLA Global Engagements: Mick Moloney

7:30 p.m.–9:00 p.m. Ingle Auditorium. The noted recording artist and ethnomusicologist Mick Moloney will present, "Far From the Shamrock Shore: The Music of Irish Immigration."

## CAB Thursday Night Cinema Series

10:00 p.m. Showing *The Exorcism of Emily Rose*. It's supposed to be scary and possibly introspective. Doors open at 9:30 p.m.





Violet Nine performs Friday Night at the Ritz on March 31st. Dave Londres/REPORTER Magazine.

# REAL AT THE RITZ

# Rock and Roll

by Laura Mandanas

If you've never been to CAB's Friday night at the Ritz, go. It's only \$1 every Friday night from 10 p.m. – 1 a.m., there's free pizza and good music. On April 31, three bands played: [Download](#), [Johnny 5](#), and [Violet 9](#).



First up was Download, a Rochester based group that can be heard regularly at Tiki Bob's and Alexander Street Pub. Though their website ([www.downloadband.com](http://www.downloadband.com)) proudly proclaims them as "Rochester's HOTTEST cover band," for some reason, lead vocalist Tony Catalfamo kept referring to them dismissively as "just a cover band," and looking moderately apologetic.

At the end of the 15 songs, Catalfamo thanked everyone for not leaving, noted that their few originals are on the website, thanked Johnny 5 and Violet 9 for sharing the stage with them, and announced them as "what you guys are really here for." Although that may be true, this closing statement really cemented the vibe Download was giving off through the whole set: that we had just done them a huge favor by not getting up and leaving, demanding earplugs while they played, or booing them off the stage. Honestly, they deserve more credit than that. There's no shame in being a cover band, if it's done well – which it was. Projecting a little self-assurance on stage would bring this band a long way.

Although younger and less experienced, the second act had about five times the confidence of Download. Of course, it didn't hurt that they were on home turf. Two of Johnny 5's band members are currently attending RIT, and the third is a recent graduate. The band got together two years ago, when bassist Ryan Tierney (a fourth year biology major) was an RSA. "It's actually a funny story," says Tierney. "I was going down the hallway and I heard them playing drums. I knocked on the door, and they thought I was busting them. But I was just like, 'hey, you guys should play with me!'" They've been together ever since.

They each hold their own as individual musicians – as we heard through the various guitar, drum, and even bass solos throughout their performance – but it is when their forces combine that they are something truly remarkable. To hear some of their songs, go to [www.sketchybuildingproductions.com](http://www.sketchybuildingproductions.com). However, if you can, go see them live. The combination of Johnny 5's distinctively funky, laid-back sound and very likable, earnest stage presence make their performance memorable. The band recently placed third at Tiger Idol, and has been building a strong fan base on campus. This is their second performance at the Ritz.

Most of the crowd at the Ritz was there to see Johnny 5, and many knew the band members personally. Says Gavin Craig, a fourth year psychology major, "Nick [the drummer] is a good friend of mine...They're a real awesome band." Craig is a guitarist himself, and has played with Johnny 5 before. The fifth song of their set was dedicated to him, prompting a loud cheer from the section where he was sitting along with several catcalls. All throughout the performance, the audience was wildly supportive. After their final song, the crowd cheered for almost a minute and a half. Many gave a standing ovation.

After Johnny 5 was done, the twenty or thirty people that were dancing up front cleared out. The room was suddenly almost completely empty. Johnny 5's band members themselves stuck around, but their fans were nowhere to be seen – which is very unfortunate, because the next band was *amazing*.

Violet Nine is a five-piece rock band from Boston. Their music has a familiar quality to it, like something you've heard on the radio before but just can't remember the name of. It's the sort of music that you'll find yourself humming a week later, not sure of the lyrics, but drawn to the catchy,

pulsating guitar riffs and haunting melody. Guitarist John Ducharme describes their sound as such: "I would say we're a combination of a lot of different things – like most bands. We write pop type songs with more sophistication. We put a twist on something familiar. There's a lot of rock. There's a lot of soul. There's a lot of ambient textures. We try to write songs that are memorable without being two-dimensional."

On stage, the harmonies were wonderfully executed. They are obviously well practiced and polished, and they definitely have the live performance aspect of the business down. In addition to their musical talent, they *look* like a rock band, with their long hair and pinstriped pants, velvet jackets and fitted t-shirts. Lead vocalist Ben Consoli dances around like nobody's business, reminiscent of Taylor (the gray-haired one) on this season's American idol: totally absorbed, uninhibited, and having a ball.

The band played 12 songs, many of them off of their debut album, "Any Wonder." The album will be released in stores April 25, but was available after the show for \$10. In the span of the past three and a half years (they've been together since June 11, 2002), V9 has toured in California, Nashville, Santa Fe, and all over New England, but has not been on any extensive tours. With their debut album coming out, they hope to do so.

One factor to their success thus far has been their self-promotion using the popular online community, MySpace. Bassist Tom Gallo states, "I actually didn't like the idea, but it's important to know how to drop your ego. Nobody's going to fight for you; you've got to do it for yourself... it's not selling out, it's just giving yourself exposure. We know how many kids use the site, and how many bands are on it." They now have around 6000 friends. Gallo also notes, "It's nice because you get that feedback, that interactivity. You get that at concerts, but then it's over and you go home... We like to not separate from fans. We like to make friends with our fans. Myspace lets us do that and get that feedback all the time."

You can friend them at [www.myspace.com/violetnine](http://www.myspace.com/violetnine) and check out some of their music. Their song, "Yell it Out" is also played on WITR, which Consoli states is, "The reason why we're here. Your college station picked it up, and we're so happy they did. We hope to come back."

We hope you do too, Violet Nine. •



# submit

I suggest surrendering suitable stories and sketches

But please, no subliminal messages.  
Sublime and subliminal aren't synonyms.

Submissions for the Art & Lit issue are due May 7, 2006.

DOCs and RTFs go to reporter@rit.edu.  
PDFs and TIFFS (CMYK, please) go under our door (SAU Room A-426) on a CD.

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crisp dialogue and  
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the first truly  
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laugh-out-loud  
comedy of  
the year."  
CHRISTY LEMIRE,  
Associated Press



"**VERY SMART  
AND FUNNY**  
...that rare film  
that actually  
has a sense  
of humor."  
KENNETH TURAN,  
Los Angeles Times

"Writer-director  
Jason Reitman's  
**HILARIOUS**  
movie couldn't be timelier."  
JOHN HARTL,  
NBC

"**TWO THUMBS  
UP!**"  
Ebert & Roeper

Aaron Eckhart Maria Bello Adam Brody Sam Elliott Katie Holmes Rob Lowe William H. Macy and Robert Duvall

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EDITED BY DANNY GLICKER MUSIC BY PETER AFTERMAN MARGARET YEN MARGARET YEN MARGARET YEN MARGARET YEN MARGARET YEN  
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## STREAM OF FACTS

APRIL 7th

April 7th, 1829 - Joseph Smith, Jr. begins translating the Book of Mormon. The original book was (supposedly) inscribed on **gold** sheets and written in some Hebrew-influenced form of Egyptian, which Smith was able to read with the aid of God.

The ultimate goal of alchemy was to be the King Midas of science; that is to say, the alchemists wanted to produce **gold** from most any other substance. Instead, they managed to lay the foundations for **element** interaction; that is to say, chemistry.

The Honda **Element** is one of the ugliest cars currently in **production**. That's not my opinion; it's just the way it is.

The **production** value of a particular product is the extent to which that product exhibits **"polish."** This value is not synonymous with overall artistic quality. For an example of this relationship, compare and contrast South Park with the 2004 movie Catwoman.

The **Polish** word for "brother" is **"brat."** That's an interesting coincidence, eh?

The **Brat** Pack is a group of actors from the '80s who made such films as "The **Breakfast** Club" and "Pretty in Pink." There were eight core actors in the Brat Pack, including Emilio Estevez, Molly Ringwald, and Demi Moore.

**Breakfast** tip: recipe for eggs on toast. First, beat a couple of egg whites until they're stiff. Place the egg yolks on some buttered toast, then cover the slices with the egg whites. Season with salt and pepper, then bake slightly in a hot oven. Don't serve **cold**.

April 7, 1943 - Albert Hofmann synthesizes the first dose of LSD in his research laboratory in Basel, Switzerland. During the **Cold** War, the CIA studied the mind-control applications of this drug, but most of this research has since been destroyed.

### QUOTE

"The true meaning of life is to plant trees, under whose shade you do not expect to sit."

*Nelson Henderson*

### Limerick

*by Brian Garrison*

Your eyes stuck on unmoving clock  
While listening to smarty-pants talk.  
ADD strikes,  
"Wanna ride bikes?"  
So back on two chair legs you rock.

### REPORTER RECOMMENDS

Mooching debit off your friends. Let's face it: \$1100 is a lot of food. Your friends working on an all-debit meal plan are never going to spend all of that money alone. Oh, they could try. And fail. And get fat in the process. In short, they are going to need help. Invite your debit-laden friends to lunch. Sure, you could probably sugarcoat the request by using phrases like "We never see each other anymore" or "I'd really like to spend some time with you" or "Wow, you look really hot in that skirt." But, never let all this needless chatter get in the way of your ultimate goal. My friends, there *is* such a thing as a free lunch. You've just got to mooch your way to it.

### RANDOM REVIEW

EasyAps 98 is a shareware download that allows the user to easily make icons and cursors in the Windows environment in two ways. The first approach allows you to import pictures (JPEGs, GIFs, and the like) and load them up into the editor, which then saves them in the proper format. The second way? There's an easel portion of the software that lets you create your own image from scratch by painting individual pixels. It is, by far, one of the coolest tools I've used all year. Just picture it. You're sitting at your Windows machine. You've just spent two hours adjusting the desktop to optimize the appearance via new wallpaper, color theme, fonts, and screen resolution. (At least, that's how I spent my last Saturday afternoon). It's perfect...except for that annoying little recycle bin in the lower right hand corner that you can't get rid of. Whatever are you going to do? Well, you could take a yellow smiley-face icon to take its place. Plus, it's free. You can't really beat that, right?

Download it at: [www.easypapps.com](http://www.easypapps.com).

### Word Search Bored Games

r m d r s o e k u s a  
c o n n e c t f o u r  
r n a a l u l r i s k  
a o l e b s r u s l s  
n p y s b y b r e j o  
i o d o a o e c e t s  
u l n r r k h n h h a  
m y a i c e g e c t a  
o b c e s a l u r h  
p i h s e l t t a b c  
r c i o o m e e p s o

battleship, candyland, checkers, chess, clue, connectfour, cranium, jenga, life, monopoly, othello, parcheesi, risk, scrabble, sorry

### JUMBLE

*Jelly Belly Flavors*

tttfruttutii  
mltanrweeo  
pjnaleoa  
tnoucco  
aiargmtra  
nitnergae  
sotldamehtwmlasaro (2 words)  
ucacopnipc  
enpordpocrttueb (2 words)  
noelm  
epcha  
alaaopndic (2 words)  
yresarprb  
jrcapiyue (2 words)

pear  
popcorn, lemon, peach, pina colada, raspberry, juicy  
tangerine, toasted marshmallow, cappuccino, buttered  
tuttfruttii, watermelon, jalapeno, coconut, margarine,



# BACC

## LOOKING BACKWARDS FOR THE FUTURE'S SAKE

by Jen Loomis



(Left to Right) Dr. Ricky Kittles and Mr. Thabiti Bruce Boone speak at the 20th Anniversary of RIT's Black Awareness Coordinating Committee in the Golisano building on Saturday, April 1st. Ralph Smith/REPORTER Magazine



## **“YOU HAVE TO UNDERSTAND, A LOT OF PEOPLE AREN’T PREJUDICED; THEY’RE JUST IGNORANT.”**

Darrin Elcock, a volunteer at the BACC Career Mentoring Showcase, spoke those words in reference to facing adversity in the professional world. His words sent a shiver down my spine, because they inadvertently described my complete lack of knowledge concerning black history here at RIT.

I am proud to say that, after attending the Black Awareness Coordination Committee (BACC) 20th Anniversary Celebration (held on April 1st), I am a bit more enlightened. As it turns out, that particular organization has had a long and hard-fought history, filled with all the makings of a blockbuster hit: a suppressed and divided community, police “escorts,” and a repressive administration. And, just like you’d see in the movies, there are plenty of heroes and fighters in this story. But, unlike that blockbuster hit, there’s no fiction to be found here.

The all-day affair started out with the mentoring session and the theme of passing-on experience remained center-stage for the rest of the event. There was not one, not two, but three very important and influential BACC figures were present during the course of the day, each was able to share their experiences. Between the three of them you can get a real sense of the rich history of the organization.

### **The Start of It All**

The BACC may have been celebrating its 20th anniversary last weekend, but the history of that organization reaches as far back as 1967. During that groundbreaking year, Dr. James G. Hamilton, along with a few other individuals, started up the BACC. Although it had its early roots as a purely social space, Dr. Hamilton saw the need to make it more: there needed to be activism.

Through his hard work, the BACC founded a scholarship fund for books and a tutoring program for younger students. They also worked extensively with the admissions office in an attempt to diversify the campus through the recruitment of minority students. “When I went here, we went from about a dozen black students to...about 150,” said Hamilton.

But remember -- this was the ‘60s. The Civil Rights movement was still a thing of the present (and a controversial thing at that). Hamilton, even when working with a black-friendly administration, could not bring the BACC to governing-status that it has today. That major advancement for the African American students would not happen for some time to come.

### **That Legendary Year**

Jump to 1987. The BACC is still just a club, restricted in its budget and in its influence on campus. Enter Mr. Thabiti Bruce Boone, then a student of pre-law. Together with his good friend, Dr. Rick Kittles, Boone sought to change the campus. If Dr. Martin Luther King had a dream, then these two young men most certainly had a vision. They saw a bright future for the BACC: their own office, their own budget, a black history library, and inclusion in the student search committee. Their justification for such sweeping change? As Boone put it, “We always felt that black students don’t take away from student life, but

add to it. But, for some reason, RIT didn’t recognize that and didn’t want to recognize that....As great as RIT is, known nationally for its [academics] -- who cares about that if you’re still a racist institution that’s still treating black students [like] they’re on a plantation?”

Hold on and back up. Racist institution? RIT? You bet. To hear Boone tell it, prior to Al Simone, the presidency of the Institute was held by a certain Dr. Richard Rose, a former CIA agent and a strict, imposing man. He was not keen on Boone’s ideas and actively worked to divide the community against that so-called radical: According to Boone, “The administration was trying divide-and-conquer tactics, trying to pit Unity House against BACC, getting different black administrators to interfere...They were trying to create tension.”

But Boone would have nothing of it. He worked day-in and day-out, networking with every minority student he could find on campus, using tactics that ranged from visiting club events to bringing free Domino’s pizza to the dorms. He and Kittles were ferociously dedicated to the cause and urged the entire community into action. The two of them accomplished all of the goals they had set for their presidencies. For those of you who have not experienced club-bureaucracy at RIT, this feat alone is noteworthy.

## **“...WHO CARES ABOUT THAT IF YOU’RE STILL A RACIST INSTITUTION THAT’S STILL TREATING BLACK STUDENTS [LIKE] THEY’RE ON A PLANTATION?”**

### **The Current State of Affairs**

Still not convinced that the BACC has left a lasting legacy here at RIT? Don’t worry about it; the importance of this institution to the Institute didn’t hit me right away either. Then, I had the pleasure of attending the 20th Anniversary Gala, a dinner party that followed the day’s tale-telling. Now, I’ve been to semi-formals at RIT before, but this was something else. The atrium of CIMS was literally packed with current and former students alike. Smiles graced the faces of everyone present and laughter filled the room. I am still in shock that I saw so many alumni present, that so many now-successful graduates would actively seek to revisit their campus. Their presence at the Gala (and throughout the entire day) spoke volumes about the BACC’s contributions to campus life.

So, where is the BACC now? Erica Holder, a fourth year marketing student and president of the organization, says that its in the middle of a major revival. The entire event was put on in order to energize the community and to spur it into action. “I want to make sure that people who are coming up after us are linked to [what happened today],” she said, commenting that there was still a lot of work to be done for the black community, both on a large scale and on the RIT campus itself.

Three years after Boone graduated from RIT, he received a letter from his long-time rival, Dr. Rose, thanking him for his hard work and dedication towards progressive change. It’s now a little under twenty years since that letter was sent, but its intent is no less important. And, in my eyes, its message needs to be reiterated. To Dr. Hamilton, Mr. Boone, Dr. Kittles, and Erica Holder (as well as the countless other supporters of the BACC): Thank you. You’re continued efforts towards the betterment of the RIT community as a whole have not gone unnoticed. •



# Choosing Charity over Chasers: It Wasn't About the Tequila After All *by Monica Donovan*

Conjure it in your mind's eye: Spring Break. The long, hot days of lounging on sandy beaches. Hotter nights spent licking shots off of girls' stomachs in crowded bars. Beach bodies. Muggy dance floors. Girls Gone Wild. Cleaning up rubble.

Huh?

Usually after spring break is over, you hear about the various drunken misbehaviors and mischievous doings of undergrads celebrating their warm-weather vacations. This year, spring break made different kinds of news waves. Thousands of students made the trip to New Orleans to help clean up the muck and debris left in the wakes of Katrina and Rita. The work wasn't easy, nor were the accommodations anything more than basic. Many students went at their own expense.

Throw those numbers in with the usual minority of students who spend their breaks participating in alternative spring break programs, and you have a little more goodwill than usual going around the country. RIT students were no exception.





#### GRASSROOTS ENGINEERS

Venezuela is a land of epic proportions. It boasts South America's largest lake and third-longest river, the highest waterfall in the world, and the longest of all species of snake. Two professors and four students from RIT spent their spring breaks in Venezuela. But they didn't go for the fabulous attractions, or even for the warm weather. Their reasons fell onto the 'micro' scale of things.

"The conditions were like nothing I've ever seen before," says Sarah Ballard, a fifth year Industrial and Systems Engineering major. She recounts the barrios, or slums, of Caracas. "These houses are on top of one another... they're so small." Engineering professors Brian Thorn and Andres Carrano and four seniors and master's engineering students, including Ballard, spent their free week assembling and implementing UV water sterilization systems and working with solar ovens in urban areas of Venezuela.

The trip is funded by an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) P3 (People Prosperity and the Planet) grant for \$75,000, awarded to a multidisciplinary team of RIT engineering students in 2005 for their design and development of a solar oven for developing countries in Latin America. Thorn and Carrano plunged into the work right away, taking the team of students to Venezuela in the summer of 2005 to work on the project. "In the end, we kind of targeted Venezuela," says Carlos Plaza, a graduate engineering student from Venezuela, "because of the people we had contacts with."

Members of the group are also members of the RIT student chapter of Engineers for a Sustainable World (ESW), which is open to all students on campus. ESW's mission is "to engage engineers in reducing poverty by improving environmental, social, and economic sustainability worldwide." In other words, engineers working at the grassroots level to support those in need of help. "My mindset kind of changed," says Ballard. "Being at my

co-op, I realized that I don't want to just work for an industry. There's got to be more than making money." Chapter members also regularly volunteer at St. Joseph's House of Hospitality, a shelter and soup kitchen in Rochester. One of their long-range goals is to complete energy-efficiency improvements at the shelter.

This year, a new group led by Carrano and Thorn headed down a second time to follow up on their solar oven work and to start implementing a water sanitization project. Their prototype is an ultraviolet tube, which uses UVC light to sterilize drinking water. "It gets to be a pain to boil water, so a lot of people don't do it," says Ballard. "Their kids end up getting worms and stuff." In 2002, one health report stated that 15% of Venezuelans in urban areas are without improved or basic water sanitation. A staggering 30% are without it in rural areas.

The group went to an orphanage to install one of the UV tubes. "The most shocking part was when we first went into the orphanage," says Ballard. "Seeing these kids who didn't have any parents to care for them. They were smiling and laughing and playing." They split up, with one half working on the tube at a time and the other half playing with the kids, and then switching back and forth throughout the day.

"For me, one of the most amazing things is talking to the people who are doing the work in the missions," says Thorn of the people he met. "They're just amazing, amazing people." Carrano and Thorn have pending proposals for four more projects, so that they can continue working on the UV sanitization system and other sustainability projects. While in Venezuela, they visited a church that plans to open a clinic, with the hopes of arranging a future UV tube installation. Chapter members of ESW also plan to attend a conference in Spain this summer.



# *"It makes you wonder, are they still alive, did they come back?"*

"We think travel is important," says Carrano, "because it is important for students to get away from this RIT incubator, this bubble."

## ROCHA-CHA-CHARITY

Some students, on the other hand, made the conscious decision to stay in the bubble over break. A group of nine students participated in Alt.roc, a program coordinated between RochesterCares and the RIT Leadership Institute and Community Service Center. On the agenda was a week overflowing with a variety of service experiences, workshops, and speakers. Also providing nightly lodging for its participants, Alt.roc is intended to expose the participants to an intensive and wide range of volunteer work.

"We didn't know what we were doing," says Denise Herrera, a first year Interpreting major. "It was left as a surprise." The students simply signed up with only a general description of what the program was about and no specific details. Upon their arrival on Sunday morning, they were handed schedules packed with morning-to-night activities all across Rochester.

"Most students have been relatively landlocked on campus," says Joel Kunkler, the executive director of RochesterCares. The program, he points out, is not only intended to expose students to volunteer opportunities, it's also meant to get students off campus and to let them see more of Rochester itself. Take, for example, day three. Tuesday, March 7. 10 a.m.-12 p.m.: volunteer in the Rochester Presbyterian Home. 12:30-1:30: listen to a speaker from Foodlink and eat lunch. 2:00-5:00: neighborhood bus tour. 5:30-6:30: dinner and an ArtWalk speaker. 7:00-8:00: service learning. And, finally, 8:30-9:00: reflection.

"The whole program is intended to be a broad stroke," says Kunkler. "They might not identify personally with every one, but hopefully one or two might stay with them."

This is the second year of Alt.roc. The first year saw six participants. Phyllis Walker, the coordinator of RIT Community Service, hopes to upgrade the program further next year. "Our ultimate goal is to go out of Rochester to a warmer climate," she says. Smiling wryly, she cites one of the reasons for the small number that signed up: "Rochester is not warm in March." One of the other problems, she says, is funding. Walker hopes to have the participating students start fundraisers for Spring Break '07, starting the fall before the actual event.

Kunkler, who worked closely with the students all week, made note of the progress in the team dynamics as the days passed. "Not knowing each other and not having social connections with each other...it's just amazing to be able to see that progress," he says.

Several of the participating students were international students who didn't go home over break. The sheer array of ethnicities in the group was astonishing as well. Herrera, for example, mentioned three students from India, one African student, and another born in Russia. The result was what Kunkler calls "a very eclectic group of people." Mehram Kalvert, a second year Software Engineering major and returning Alt.roc member, considered the unity of the group. "They share something about the way you think and that's why they're there," he says.

## Ghost Town Resort

Debbie Crane, a second year Photojournalism student, was one of the 10,000 some-odd college students that made it to New Orleans to help out. The work was filthy and tiring, and the surroundings of the ruined city shocking. "I'd do it again in an instant," she says.

Crane, a member of Campus Crusade for Christ (CCC), came down with six other CCC members for a conference called Big Break in Panama City





Beach, Florida. They went to New Orleans on the Wednesday of spring break with 130 people in buses and spent the day what Crane calls “gutting out” an apartment complex ruined by water, so that workers could later come in and start renovations. The complex contained eight or 10 apartments which were almost completely underwater after the hurricane. The water line, Crane remembers, was two or three feet up from the floor of the second story of the apartment complex. They were close to where the levee broke. “We tore down all the walls and insulation...all the sinks and bathtubs and everything,” Crane says. “We ended up with a 50 foot by 50 foot area of rubble like 10 feet high.”

Many students who came for cleanup found the town eerily empty. More than half of the city’s 460,000 residents still have not returned to their homes. Crane recalls that she only saw two or three other people while in the city. “It’s a ghost town completely,” she says. Crane remembers a house across the street from where they were working. Its front window was open, so passerby could see what was inside.

“Everything was still there,” she remarks. “The bed hadn’t been made. There were still clothes in the closet. Because the ceiling fell in, there was dust and mold from all the water. It’s ridiculous to think after six months they didn’t come back. It makes you wonder, are they still alive, did they come back? It’s really desolate down there.”

Walker hopes to send RIT students down to New Orleans in the future. Right now, though, she expresses that the accommodations are less safe than she would feel comfortable putting students in. “It’s not that far to go,” she says. “But I need to know that there’s a place for them to stay safe.” Walker points out that cleanup will be going on for the next five years, providing ample opportunity for future volunteer work.

#### TRIED-AND-TRUE TRENDS

Considering the 10,000 young people that went to New Orleans last month makes one wonder; is this an indication of a growing trend of young people more dedicated to grassroots action and community service? Or is just that, a trend, soon to be forgotten when the memories of national tragedies fade away?

“It’s an existing trend,” says Kunkler. “Occasionally it gets a lot of attention... It’s a continuing trend that is definitely growing in momentum across the country.” Kunkler points out the demography of college-aged students as well. “Student are probably the most attractive group to focus on,” he says, “because they have the ability to drop what they are doing more than older people.”

Walker believes that once someone starts volunteering, it’s hard to stop. “It’s sort of, like, infectious once you do,” she says. “The younger generation is realizing they need to give back.”

Interestingly enough, a 2005 Bureau of Labor Statistics survey showed that volunteer rates were lowest among those in their early twenties, at an average of 19.5 percent. The highest volunteer rates were among people aged 35 to 44, at 34.5 percent. This begs the next question: as the demographic group with the greatest freedom to volunteer, are college students also the most self-absorbed?

Now, stick *that* in your margarita and drink it. •



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# WORD on the Street

compiled and photographed by Ralph Smith

**Q:** What are your plans now that it's nice outside?



"I don't know but [fornicate] this guy."

**Pete Riehl**  
Fifth Year  
Computer Science



"Play some soccer and get some hacky sack in between classes. Wear some lighter clothing."

**Alex Veilleux**  
First Year  
Computer Engineering



"Take off all my cloths and run around."

**Chris Tang**  
Third Year  
Computer Science



"Basically just this."

**Cassi Fecho**  
First Year  
Photo Technology



"Complain with a short sleeve shirt on instead of a coat."

**Niel Laperriere**  
Third Year  
Metals



"Run outside a lot more."

**Rachel Simpson**  
First Year  
Photojournalism



"Stay indoors more."

**Kevin Kanellakis**  
Second Year  
Photojournalism



"Stay out of the tunnels."

**Katie Combs**  
First Year  
Photojournalism



"Skip class a lot more."

**Cindy Raspiller**  
First Year  
Visual Media



"Lay around and get as many new freckles as possible."

**Amanda Lasicki**  
First Year  
Advertising Photography



"I would like to play volleyball outside my Riverknoll apartment. It is the only good thing about Riverknoll."

**Natalie Sinisgalli**  
Third Year  
Photo Technology



"I plan on eating a lot of rice. Because I like carbohydrates."

**Steve Zhang**  
Third Year  
Marketing



# Virtual Refuge: The Evolution of Community

by Elsie Samson | illustration by Mike Norton

“I TOOK ADVANTAGE OF A GUY  
WHO WAS HUNG OVER...

I BEAT HIS ASS AT TIC-TAC-TOE.”

(GROUP HUG)

“I HAVE A NECKLACE I BOUGHT AT THE PLACE  
I CHEATED ON MY HUSBAND.  
I WEAR IT WHEN HE TELLS ME I’M FAT,  
UGLY AND STUPID TO REMIND ME  
THAT SOMEONE ONCE THOUGHT

I WAS BEAUTIFUL.”

(POST SECRET)



How much of yourself do you allow the whole world to see? Do you ever release your problems into cyberspace? Do you participate in the online community? Well, you do if you're on Facebook. "Join my Facebook group!"

Online communities and blogs have become places of retreat. Many people surf the online waves in search of connection—to find others that share an interest or can just relate to life. For some, the virtual world has evolved into a haven for support. People discuss anything from minor relationship troubles to suicide attempts, giving and receiving advice in the process. This trend is only growing with every new generation as the youth is immersed in cyberspace from the cradle. Like any shift in our social culture, advantages and disadvantages crop up as a result.

## THE GOOD

There's no doubt that the rapid industrialization of the virtual world has given birth to many benefits. People are now connected to every type of person out there. Through online communities such as Meetup, people can find locals with similar interests in a matter of seconds. People have the means to date and start relationships through sites such as Match.com. These hot spots take the virtual and make it tangible, blurring the line between the two worlds.

Students wander on Facebook or Myspace while in class, compelled by the feeling that they're a part of a fun campus community when logged in. There are forums and community blogs to discuss practically any topic out there. Meetup and LiveJournal have active community blogs for topics such as bipolar disorder and depression. Here, members share personal experiences, even discussions about their medications and side effects, as they offer mutual support, advice, and understanding. In the virtual space, people find others that can relate, whereas their physical environment might lack that population.

Online communities can also allow for a sense of anonymity, which may help some people to be even more open. IT professor Elouise Oyzon, who teaches user experience and has social computing (online communities, blogs, wikis) as a research interest, blogs daily. With students reading her blog, she comments that, "There is a tension, between writing what is looping in one's head—that thing that you're passionate about, regardless of impetus or sphere of life (professional, personal, spiritual, sexual)—and a realization that others are reading it. The degree of disclosure sets the level of intimacy. [It's] virtual fraternization." People usually gain comfort just in knowing that others are reading and listening.



“I SELL HEROIN TO SMALL CHILDREN  
JUST TO GET THEM HOOKED YOUNG.  
THEN I USE THE PROFIT TO PAY FOR  
MY KID’S CLOTHES.”

(GROUP HUG)

“WHENEVER YOU GO OUT OF TOWN,  
YOUR BOYFRIEND TRIES TO FUCK ME.  
SOMETIMES I LET HIM.”

(POST SECRET)

#### THE BAD

There can be downsides to these cyber communities. Unfortunately, it isn’t hard for people to slander others or spread lies and wrong information; this can also hold true for any medium. People can also be prone to trust too easily—even when most people that they talk to start out as strangers. They may be eager to take advice, which could potentially lead to harm due to a lack of understanding and knowledge of a topic, or due to the fact that everyone is different.

Those searching for more detailed answers to problems relating to bipolar disorder, depression or any issues and conditions might look to online forums when they should be seeing a professional. Dr. Kathleen Scott, director of the RIT Counseling Center, elaborates that, “Treatment recommendations typically include therapy, sometimes medication, and sometimes more intensive intervention like full or partial hospitalization. Self-help books, online resources, and blogging might be helpful options, but shouldn’t take the place of assessment and treatment of mental health problems by trained professionals.” Every person’s condition is unique. While it feels therapeutic to release frustrations into the virtual world, people should have a professional diagnosis for serious treatment and therapy.

#### THE UGLY

Taking into account the extent that people discuss certain issues online, when is it too much information? When you walk around on campus and see a certain level of PDA (not the geeky gadget kind), you think: get a room. So what is the online threshold before you decide: this is not the place? Well, like PDA, everyone’s threshold is different. Some people spill their guts in their blogs. Some do it for attention while others forget that their audience is the entire universe.

With community blogs, there’s a greater chance that people don’t know one another personally (in the physical world), causing some people to feel less inhibited. Sometimes you know more than you want to know, but it can be amusing. Sites exist that encourage people to post confessions, such as Group Hug with its constant stream of randomness and PostSecret with its postcard visuals. While people tend to tell the bare-all truth in that adrenaline rush from realizing that their secrets will be shown to all the world, don’t believe that everything is true. Mapping Sex in America (from the Museum of Sex) is a log of sexual acts across the country, submitted by our fellow Americans (or Canadians, who knows). Rochester seems a little bare though. So come on, you Tigers—get to it! ••

#### MENTIONED LINKAGE:

LiveJournal Communities: <http://www.livejournal.com/community>

Meetup: <http://www.meetup.com>

Group Hug: <http://grouphug.us>

PostSecret: <http://postsecret.blogspot.com>

Mapping Sex in America: <http://www.museumofsex.com/USAmapping>





by José Plaza

## Baseball

**March 26:** RIT Baseball returned to action against SUNY Oneonta. In the first of two games, a 1-1 tie was broken by two home runs from Jim Miller and Dan Christner to help the Tigers win 3-1. In their second game the Tigers were aided by Christner, and great pitching from Dylan Reese a 2-1 win for the Tiger was again aided.

**March 28:** Cazenovia College was the victim of RIT's offensive wrath, as the Tigers went on an 18 hit, 12 run strike to come out on top 12-1 for their third win in a row.

**Record through 3/28/06:** 5-6

## Men's Lacrosse

**March 18:** The cold, snowy weather did not stop Men's Lacrosse from improving on their undefeated record this season. They beat SUNY Oswego 14-4, with Zach Bednarz leading the charge with four goals for the Tigers.

**March 22:** SUNY Brockport was the next victim on the list. The Lacrosse team held Brockport to two goals for the entire game, and on offensive, RIT exploded for 18 goals of their own to win the game 18-2.

**Record through 3/22/06:** 6-0

**March 25:** The red hot Tigers came into their game against Cortland State undefeated, and by a snap of a finger, they tallied their first loss. RIT lost the game, 14-6, in a match where they were never able to create the offensive spark they've had all season long.

**March 29:** Empire 8 action began for the Men's Lacrosse team as they played Elmira College. They defeated Elmira 16-5, bringing them back to their winning ways, with Andrew Ruocco, Colin Jesien, David Demuth scoring.

**Record through 3/29/06:** 7-1, 1-0 Empire 8



## Men's Track and Field

**March 24:** Mary Washington College's Battleground Relays set the stage for RIT members to win events and put RIT on the winner's circle.

### Event Winners:

1,500 Meter Run: Jesse Williamson (4:11.84)

110-Meter Hurdles: Jimmy Sorrel (15.34)

400-Meter Hurdles: Jimmy Sorrel (56.65)

1,600 Meter Sprint Relay: RIT 'A'

3,000 Meter Steeplechase: Nate Lowe

## Women's Track and Field

**March 24:** Competing along with the Men's Track and Field Team, the Lady Tigers also fared well in indoor track and field action at the Battleground Relays, giving RIT wins in the competition.

### Event Winners:

10,000 Meters: Sarah Pancoast (41:31.34)

100 Meter Hurdles: LaKeisha Perez (15.85)

1,500 Meters: Adrienne Gagnier (5:10.55)

Shot Put: Allison Griggs (40-11.00)

(RIT Also won the 4 x 800, 1600 meter sprint, and 4 x 400 meter team relays)

## Softball

**March 29:** In doubleheader action against Elmira College, the Lady Tigers scored a total of 20 runs and won their games, 4-1 and 16-1 respectively. Pitcher Shila Wells earned her second win of the season.

**Record through 3/29/06:** 7-5, 2-0 Empire 8

## Women's Lacrosse

**March 28:** Nazareth College was RIT's first Empire 8 opponent. The Lady Tigers were unsuccessful in finding a hot touch on offense, and lost the game 16-1, with Jessica Cotton scoring the lone goal.

**Record through 3/28/06:** 0-2, 0-1 Empire 8

## Men's Tennis

**March 22:** The Defending Empire 8 Champion RIT Tigers started their season off at home hosting Ithaca College. Ithaca College won, 6-1

### RIT Winners

Doubles

Chris Meunch/Alberto Lopez Samper

Singles

Han Chong (6-4, 6-4)

**March 23:** In their second match of the year, the Tigers took their first win of the season against Roberts Wesleyan College. The final score was 4-3 for RIT.

### RIT Winners

Doubles

Han Chong/Nathaniel Benz (8-4)

Chris Meunch/Alberto Lopez Samper (8-3)

Singles

Han Chong (6-4, 7-6 (11-9))

Nathaniel Benz (6-1, 6-3)

Chris Meunch (6-3, 6-1)

**March 28:** RIT Men's Tennis was never able to find their offensive rhythm against the U of R Yellow Jackets. They were shut out by their cross-town rival and handed their second loss of the season.

**Record through 3/28/06:** 1-2

▲ RIT Varsity Womens 8 Crew races against St. Lawrence on Saturday, April 1st. Ralph Smith/REPORTER Magazine

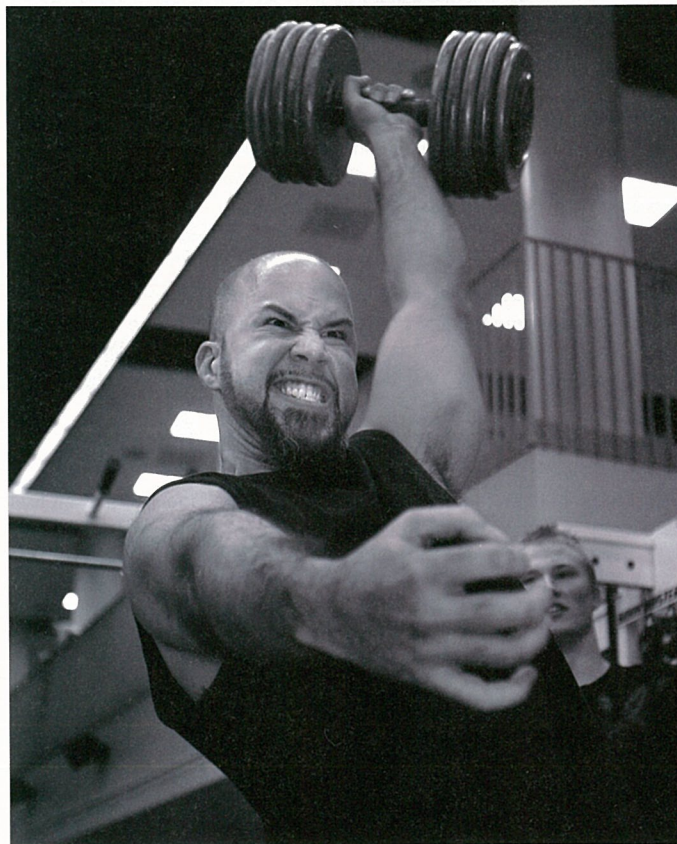


# RIT'S STRONGEST simply lacking green skin

by Chad Carbone

I know ripped jeans are the fashion nowadays, and I'm as guilty as anyone of this fashion trend, but Jared Vestal has no choice in the matter. "I can only wear certain brands of pants because of my legs," he said as his ripped denim revealed patches of thigh that complement his so aptly labeled "Testosterone" t-shirt. He has, what I'd like to call, "Hulk Fashion."

Much like the Hulk, Jared lifts heavy things. He is the captain/president of the RIT Strongmen, an club for those who enjoy this unusual hobby. But to this club's members, people like James Dickinson, "a hobby is something you do when you have free time. I LIVE for this stuff."



Practicing for the "Six Inch Medley" event, Carlos Alfonso, an RIT alumnus who majored in Computer Science, extends one of six dumbbells weighing between 20 and 140 pounds each above his head in the SLC gym on Saturday, March 25. Chris Felber/REPORTER

On April 1st, the RIT Strongmen ventured out to "Stronger Than All 2006," a strongman competition held in New Haven, Connecticut. Although there aren't events that involve pulling fire trucks, flipping 800 lb tires or picking up huge rocks (like you may have seen on ESPN), the competition still has interesting events that involve lifting logs and carrying beer kegs (two events that could pay off if you want to hold a party after you build a cabin in the woods).

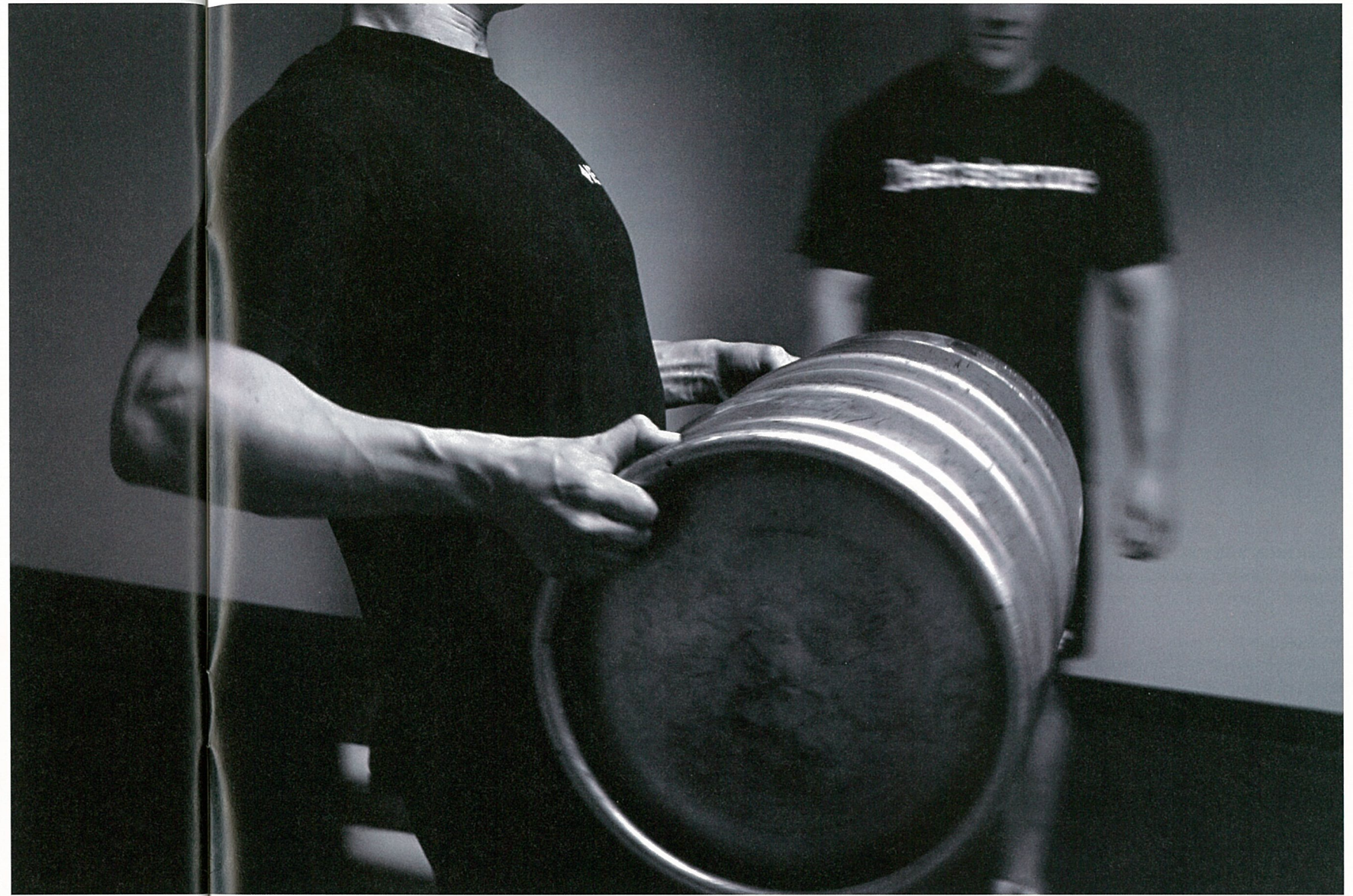
The club is not pigeonholed to Strongmen competitions. The team participates in other events, like power lifting competitions and the Highland games: a kilt wearing, Scottish influenced, set of throwing and carrying events (like in Braveheart, where the big guy tries to kill William Wallace by throwing a rock at him).

Don't misunderstand.

**"It's not so much a Strongman  
[Competition] team . . . its more a bunch  
of guys that like to lift heavy weights."**

And that's what they do. Don't have anyone to lift with? "We'll find you a lifting partner," said Jared. "Most members of the group pair up during the week to lift." Along with individual schedules, the team meets once a week to practice together. If they are training for a particular competition, such as the "Stronger Than All 2006," they will do so at a practice.

When it comes to lifting heavy weights, people often get suspicious when watching you, said Jared. Jared lightheartedly explained a particular situation where a curious guy at the gym approached him. He likes to have fun in these situations:



Gavin Page watches as Leland Smith, an RIT alumnus, runs with a keg full-speed down a narrow hallway of the SLC on March 25, a part of the "Carry and Drag Medley" found at the strongman competition held on April 1. Chris Felber/REPORTER

Curious Guy: What kind of stuff are you using? Are you using a "protein powder?"

**Jared: I eat a lot of spinach**

CG: Spinach?

JV: Yea, because it converts to testosterone in the body.

CG: Oh, I don't eat any spinach.

JV: Well, that's why you look the way you do.

Being a member of the Strongmen does not require being the Hulk or Popeye. Hell, you could be Bruce Banner. The key component of the Strongmen is the determination to lift and a desire to learn new things, because, "if you're not motivated, we don't want you."

But what makes lifting so great? Jared emphasized, "there's no research proving that lifting heavy weights makes you live longer, or even makes you a better person whatsoever, so if you don't want to do it, no one is going to care. The only thing I can say for sure is that being bigger, faster, and stronger than you is enough motivation for me." It's also enough motivation for me to say that this guy is a monster, per his request.

*If you'd like to learn more about the RIT Strongmen, visit their website at <http://ritstrongmen.com> or email at [jvestal@gmail.com](mailto:jvestal@gmail.com).* •





# RITRINGS

## 585.475.5633

### compiled by Ryan Metzler

All calls subject to editing and truncation. Not all calls will be run. To increase your chances, use a landline telephone and announce when you're intoxicated. Reporter reserves the right to publish all calls in any format.

### Wednesday 7:58 p.m.

Bring back the ice cream Snickers! You took the Snickers out of all the ice cream machines and we want them back. Viva la revolution!

### Wednesday 11:51 p.m.

Yo! All I got to say is I just peed on the [fornicating]...on my neighbor's dog. Don't pee on your neighbor's dog! Do not do it. It's bad for you. [Barking] It's bad for your health and the dog's health. [Howling] Once again, do not pee on your dogs. Well, on your neighbor's dog. Peace.

### Thursday 1:03 a.m.

My name is Michael. Michael, motorcycle. Trained to see, watch me pee.

### Thursday 3:41 a.m.

Hey, I just had [relations] with a horse and it hurts a lot more than you think. I just thought I would let your readers know.

### Thursday 3:49 a.m.

Alright, I believe it's 5:04 in the morning, however one of my friends just ate the paper off of a burger. You know the paper that's between two burgers? Yeah, he ate it. He didn't realize it was there and he just figured it out. I think it's hilarious. Alright I'll talk to you later, *Reporter*. Goodnight.

### Friday 1:15 a.m.

Hey Rings, I totally agree with everyone. The new I.D. cards suck [buttocks]. I'm serious, it looks like someone [defecated] on it. Hello? This is one of the highest rated colleges in the book. This is a technical college blended in with many colleges in one campus. Why don't you make an effort to emphasize the focus of what we the students want? Make those cards more creative, artistic, computer technical, and ASL. Blend it all in and make it one of a [fornicating] kind. Come on, wake up. We are in a diverse college. Campus Safety, stop giving me tickets, I'm parking legally.

### Friday 11:21 a.m.

Yes, *Reporter*, I am reading your March 24th issue and I'm reading Word on the Street. The guy is talking about what organisms he would like to combine and he says a lion and a tiger to make a liger. Ligers already exist. Look at dictionary.com. Also, you're kind of stupid.

### Saturday 1:47 a.m.

I just want to let everyone know that I purchased some anal lube. I am real excited about using it. So, wish me luck.

### Saturday 2:37 a.m.

Hi RIT Rings! You know what I love? Deaf Campus Safety officers because you can party your ass off and they can't hear a thing. Wonderful!

### Saturday 3:01 a.m.

Hey *Reporter*, I just want to know why is there such a dramatic guy to girl ratio at RIT and I can't I find some single, normal guy? This is the kind of school that turns girls into lesbians. Someone really needs to address this problem.

### Saturday 4:30 a.m.

Man, I just want to tell you that RIT is a mighty b— and there is nothing you can do about it. This is President Simone. There is nothing you can do about it, IT majors. There is nothing you can do about it, Art majors. You're just going to pay \$100,000 and come out with the same degree from MCC. [Fornicate] it. [Fornicate] that [feces].

### Sunday 1:13 a.m.

*Reporter!* I am calling to report a crime. I'm the girl who always calls about Jessica Simpson and Angelina Jolie. I'm at a party right now and they totally ripped a picture— it's not even a picture— it's a cardboard cutout of Angelina Jolie! I'm really upset right now and I'm calling because I'm concerned about Angelina. There's other girls here who are concerned Angelina too. Ladies are you not concerned about Angelina? (Female voice: Hello, I am so concerned about Angelina right now I don't even know what to do). And now she's pregnant. These guys have no chance...

### Sunday 1:34 a.m.

Hey do you guys know where Ricku is? I've been looking for him all night. He walked off with these chicks but I don't know where he is. Alright I'm going to get a plate so let me know if you see him.





# Exposing the Empire...Sorta

by Krister Rollins | illustration by Michael Norton

Does anyone care anymore?

Judging from the turnout at the Exposing the Empire event, I'd say not.

Let me fill you in, since you missed it. RIT Anti-War held this event on Friday the 24th in that auditorium in building six (Webb). They had three speakers: Ken Love, a student and former cadet; Tom Barton, editor of *The G.I. Special*, a magazine of protest and the star of the evening; and Aidan Delgado, an Iraq War vet turned conscientious objector.

I'm not sure that even 25 people showed up to the event. And as a result, this great forum or tool for discussing public opinions and fomenting a seed of change (or at least making something interesting happen) was wasted. Twenty-five people showed up and everyone here was already on board with the speakers—hip to their jive. The evening played out more like a standard run of the mill church service than an inflammatory indictment of America's military actions. They even passed around a collection plate...er...hat. Collection hat. What went wrong? It's hard to say. A number of things, really. Apathy

## Here's who showed up: Socialists and silver-haired former hippies.

is the new black, apparently. Why show up? Will it directly benefit me? Yes! Darn right, yes! Let's look beyond the endorphin rush of *doing the right thing* and just settle on the fact that it's *doing something*. Anything. It's getting out and being with people. It's positive physical connections at the very least. And this is important. The military action in Iraq, right or wrong, is perhaps the biggest issue affecting our generation. Beyond the obvious facts of death and mayhem that a war brings, there's policy changes and business deals going on at a record pace. We've racked up an incredible and unprecedented debt, largely at the expense of defense measures. Soldiers are suffering and

tormented simply by the training. This war is going to echo throughout our lifetime, like Vietnam was for our parents and World War II was for our grandparents. It is important to involve yourself in it. No excuses.

"Oh, it's Friday night? Screw that, I gotta go out with my friends," you whine? Bring 'em! Go out afterwards. This forum doesn't take all night, and it keeps you in touch with your peers in a way that the bar never will.

Here's who showed up: Socialists and silver-haired former hippies.

## Everyone here was already on board with the speakers—hip to their jive.

Oh, and me. Now, I'm all for people who are already in the scene showing up in solidarity, but it'd be nice to hear some dissent. These guys, particularly Delgado, said and showed some heavy stuff. We talked about the rape of female soldiers by other soldiers. We talked about the estimate of 30,000 dead Iraqi civilians being extremely conservative, with some other estimates running as high as 150,000 dead. We talked about the racism encouraged in the forces ("Haji" is the new "gook"). We talked about the best ways to approach the enlisted to get them to consider quitting. It would have been at the very least interesting to hear someone say, "Your facts are crap." Or hear some researched and smart arguments. Like, "Hey, Delgado, you were a mechanic, how can you know about prisoner abuse?" There was no one there to call these guys on their pretensions, only support.

We're in queue to inherit control of the world. Soon we'll be behind desks and in front of classes. Soon we'll be running the show. You've got to be with it to know what is going on and to be with it you have to get out and do something.

Do something. •





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