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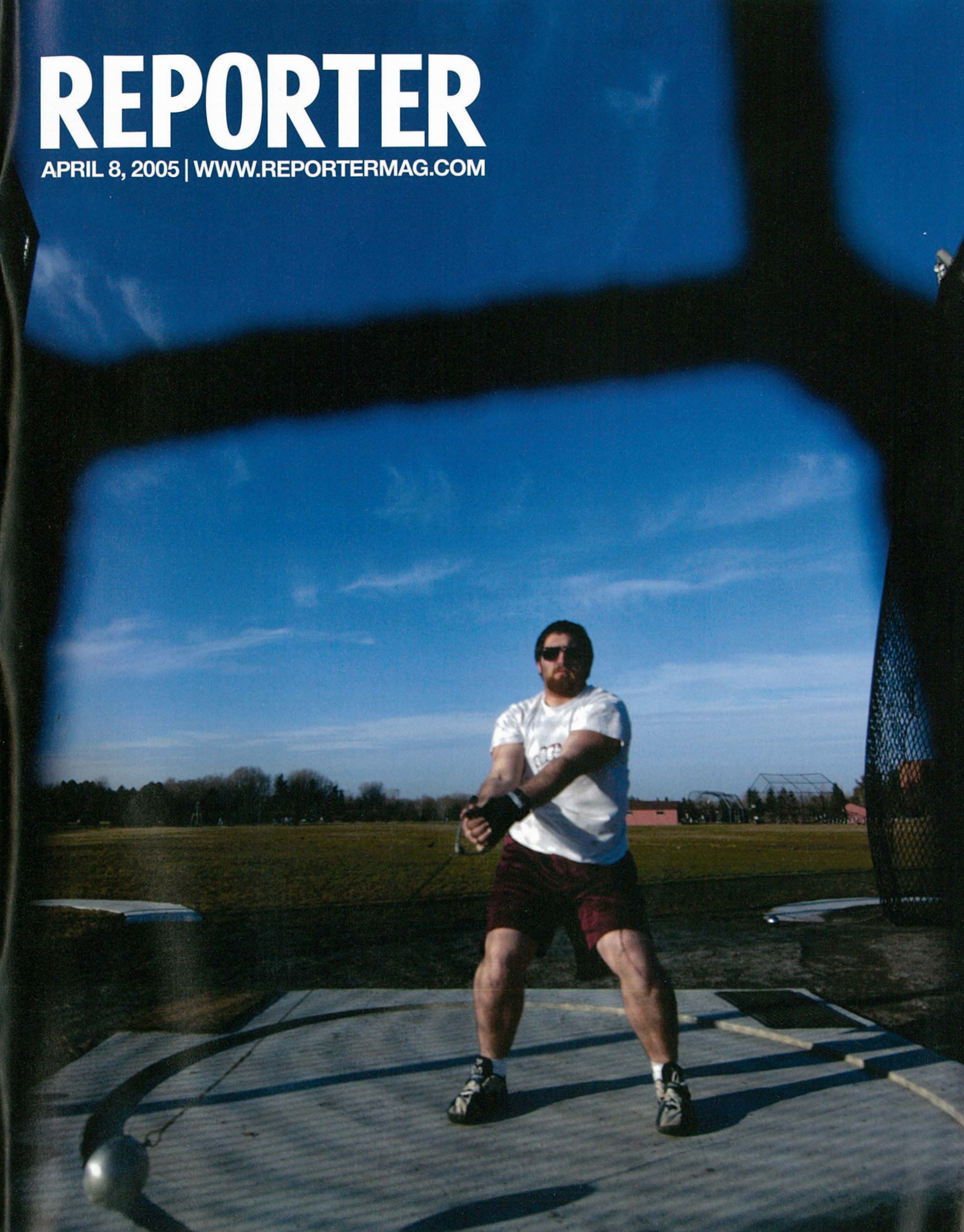
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REPORTER

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EDITORIAL

Let's Make a Trade

It's true—I have never been a farmer in a third world country. Not even once. In fact, I have never even been to a third world country, or even a "developing" one for that matter. I hear a lot about their plights and so forth, and I hear a lot about globalization and what that means for people unaccustomed to grocery stores and unaware of anything like welfare.

I also have learned more recently about Fair Trade. For a while, I knew it as nothing more than a buzzword used to sell Starbucks coffee or protest the World Trade Organization (WTO). The organization that certifies American products as being of "Fair Trade" origin is TransFair USA (transfairusa.org). Their site defines fair trade using principles such as fair price and quality products through care of the environment. Thus, the certification "guarantees that farmers and workers receive a fair price for their product," i.e. a living wage, and ensures that "producers' [use] traditional artisanal farming methods [that] result in exceptional products," i.e. organic growing.

Now, I realize what a great and fairly simple idea it is. In fact, it is more than simple—it is actually simplifying. Fair Trade simplifies the chemical content of foods. It simplifies the middleman craziness of transporting plantation foods to factories to distribution to buyers to sellers to markets to consumers. And, for me, this consciousness simplifies the decision process of what "brands" of food to buy.

For instance, Java Wally's has recently started selling whole bags of Fair Trade coffee. The bags cost \$7.50 for 12 ounces. That breaks down to about 20 cents per cup. Java's has been selling Fair Trade coffee by the cup for a while now as an option amongst other flavors of caffeine. Obviously, they are doing well by this, considering the markup from a bag (at retail) is \$1.05 per cup, coming to a final pre-brewed price of \$1.25. It is worth it, both from a personal economic level and a global economic level, to indulge in some premium Fair Trade coffee.

You know what though? Coffee *is* the Fair Trade icon and all, but that isn't the only thing people are growing organically for a living wage. According to FairTrade Labeling Organizations (an international body overseeing Fair Trade certification; fairtrade.net) several other products are being certified or are in the process of getting certification status. They include tea, rice, fresh fruit, sugar, cocoa, honey, wine, and even sports balls.

It may seem a bit far-fetched to buy the RIT soccer team Fair Trade balls, but it does not seem far-fetched for Java Wally's to offer more Fair Trade products, or better yet for RIT Food Services to offer Fair Trade foods. Cocoa in the desserts. Fruit at the salad bars. Rice in the jambalaya.

I know the issue with all this social-global-awareness stuff is money. It is TRADE after all. And college students are notorious for having less than average amounts of moola to trade with. However, I believe college students are supposed to be aware citizens—the ones who haven't yet succumbed to the burdens of adulthood. The ones who should still have the desire and drive to a make difference.

I am a stickler for value. I like getting paid the right amount for the work I have done. And I like to get everything I can for the money I spend. Buying Fair Trade coffee at Java's gives me a premium burst of tasty caffeine. It also gives me a little piece of mind knowing that the coffee growers who toiled for the beans in my brew are getting paid enough to make a living. That's value.



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Onlookers bask in the warm sunlight while watching the RIT Snowboarding Club's Rail Jam participants. The event was held behind the Red Barn on Saturday, March 26. Kim Weiselberg/REPORTER Magazine

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Cover photograph by Eric Sucar

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Eureka's Campus: Inventing at RIT



RIT's Latest Patents. Eric Sucar/REPORTER Magazine

by Andrew Brooks

Have you ever wanted to invent something? Ever have a cool idea? This might sound like some far-fetched ad for an innovations firm or pyramid scheme start-up you heard on television; but students and professors truly are creating tons of new ideas at RIT. The current crop of these new ideas is actually providing RIT with large licensing revenues for the Institute, some of which are the largest seen in the history of the campus. NTID products include C-Print and the American Sign Language Video Dictionary and Inflection Guide, which have each brought in over \$100,000 from companies wanting these products. A College of Science invention brought in a licensing revenue of \$200,000 all on its own.

The C-Print patent is a combination of both the method and the system used in order to allow voice recognition software to occur in real time. It is much more advanced than the normal transcription program because it includes a conversation feature between two people, a note taking feature, and allows for client server designs. The ASL Video Dictionary and Inflection Guide presents over 2300 different signs, but also gives examples and instruction in how to use them much like an example sentence in a dictionary. The Inflection part refers to how the Guide also shows the user how to use the signs correctly in everyday usage and gives a much deeper understanding than the mere vocabulary of ASL. Another invention being important to the

portfolio of RIT is the CIMS Wiper blade assessment system and method. It has been recognized with the New York State Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence in Pollution Prevention. It sees whether or not the wiper blades can be used by checking the blade for cuts and scratches that would let materials to pass through the wiping blade.

With all this intellectual property floating around belonging to one or sometimes a group of people, it is important for RIT to have policies and organizations in place to help assist people protecting their work and profits. In a competitive world market it is essential for people who have come up with new ideas, especially those filed as a result of academic work at RIT, to be able to prove what is actually theirs. The Technology Licensing Office and the Technical Review Panel, a decision making group for patents and intellectual property cases, help create and uphold such policies at RIT. They help facilitate the processes of filing patents and copyrights. The TLO has helped RIT in obtaining 19 issued patents and another 33 patent applications are still pending. The TLO is currently responsible for licensing out 43 different technologies and two products.

As future ideas come from RIT scholars, the TLO will have to come up with some of its own new ideas, as it has to solve intellectual property issues more efficiently and effectively. They have short-term plans of increasing their ability to prove ownership for patent applications, improve their legal methods, and increase awareness in the surrounding public.

For more information on the TLO including existing patents and licensed technologies visit finweb.rit.edu/rmss/tlo. •

Making the **Connection:** Student Leadership Conference

by **Josh Van Hook**

Industry today is calling for leaders. President Simone made a point to emphasize this in his plan for the next five to ten years for RIT. With this plan in mind, the RIT Leadership Institute (formerly LEAD) has teamed up with several other groups here on campus, namely the North Star Center, Alumni Relations, Co-op and Career Offices, and the Women's Center to hold a leadership and mentoring conference entitled Connectology, on April 8 and 9. The event features informational sessions, speakers, and discussions.

The last time a conference of this nature was set up was about four years ago, when a group of students involved in LEAD organized one. The conference then was on a much smaller scale. It did not draw from the same pool of knowledge as the current one, but the goals were the same. The Leadership Institute decided to gather other groups to hold a large conference. As program coordinator Molly McGowan said, the Leadership Institute needs "to be doing more on a larger scale." Connectology certainly qualifies as larger, not only in number of events, but in the amount of effort put in.

The primary driving force behind this event is McGowan and the Leadership Institute along with Brenda Trinidad and the North Star Center. Unfortunately Trinidad was unavailable for comment, but McGowan had plenty to say about the

conference. As she put it, the conference has a "three-fold purpose." First, the conference is set up to provide a, "centralized leadership training." Secondly, it is intended to, "grab people who are just learning about leadership." Finally, it is meant to help mentors and tutors. This conference aims to help develop the budding leaders and mentors in the RIT community.

The diverse groups running this conference each bring their own knowledge. The Alumni Relations and Co-op and Career Services offices got feedback from those currently in industry and helped tailor the informational sessions to maximize the value of them. The North Star Center and Women's Center helped tailor the information concerning mentoring. The sessions focusing on leadership and mentoring are not the only events taking place. During lunchtime, there are a series of roundtable discussions with everyone from alumni to Student Government. The crowning event of the conference is the speech delivered by Troy McClain, a former finalist on the show "The Apprentice." He was chosen for his "fascinating life story" as McGowan said, as well as his experience in leadership and industry.

RIT keeps pushing its students to develop to their full potential in all aspects. The Leadership Institute has been providing ways for students to grow into the future industry leaders. The need for a large scale event will be realized. With the Connectology conference, put together by the Leadership Institute, North Star Center, and others, students will be given a chance to get two days worth of training in the areas of leadership and mentoring. •

"This conference aims to help develop the budding leaders and mentors in the RIT community."

SWE Conference: Balancing

Things Out This Weekend

by **Austin McChord**

It's not just the warm weather; there are more girls on campus this weekend. RIT's Society of Women Engineers (SWE) is hosting the region E conference here at RIT. SWE groups from as far away as Virginia are coming to Rochester for the conference. This year's focus is "Women making History," as Rochester was home to Susan B. Anthony and RIT is home to the Kate Gleason College of Engineering the only college of engineering in the nation to be named after a woman.

What will the women be taking away from their three day visit to RIT? "Excitement, ideas to bring back to their SWE sections, Ideas to help them grow professional and personally," says Conference Chair, Melissa Zaczek. "RIT has won the outstanding student section for 2 years in a row, 2 years ago we won the small student section for groups less than 35 and last year we won the medium section. Hosting this conference is just a natural progression of RIT's SWE." The event features speakers from Xerox and IBM along with the option for attendees to speak with recruiters from General Mills and IBM.

Students wishing to get involved with SWE can visit www.rit.edu/~sweeng/ or come to the meetings on Wednesdays at 9 p.m. in room 1067 in the Gleason dorms. Melissa stresses you don't have to be a woman or an engineer to get involved.

Mayor Johnson Joins RIT Faculty in 2006

by Govind Ramabadrn

Rochester Mayor William A. Johnson Jr., who has led the City of Rochester for 12 years, will be joining RIT faculty as a Distinguished Professor of Public Policy in RIT's College of Liberal Arts after completing his third term in office in January 2006. Mr. Johnson is a political scientist, having received his bachelor's and master's degrees in political science from Howard University in 1965 and 1967, respectively. In addition, he taught political science at Mott Community College in Flint, Michigan from 1967-1971. Prior to his election, he was president and chief executive officer of the Urban League of Rochester for 21 years. Having Mr. Johnson teach at RIT will be "enhancing RIT by providing a wealth of knowledge on public policy and urban matters as a professor," according to Bridgette Burch White, the mayor's spokesman. "The students will benefit from his experience," she adds. It is not yet known what he will teach, but the faculty of the Public Policy Department is ecstatic about his addition to the faculty. "The addition of Mayor Johnson to our faculty enhances our ability to bring real-world government policy making experience into the classroom," said Dr. James Winebrake, Chairman of RIT's Public Policy program. While it may be a premature to talk about the immediate effects of having Mr. Johnson teach here, it nonetheless is exciting for RIT, according to Dr. Ron Hira, another professor in the Public Policy department. "It's part theory, part practice. It's good that a practitioner like him is going to teach...as public

policy is mostly politics and he's a politician." Students were equally pleased that he would be soon joining RIT's faculty as a professor. "Well, I think it's a really good opportunity for us as students to hear from someone who has actually been out there, doing the things that they're teaching about. Someone with first hand experience is always the best to learn from. They've done it. They know what they're talking about more," said Lauren Ford, a second year biotechnology major and public policy minor. "My best professors are the ones who have worked in labs, performed the techniques that they're teaching us," she adds. Chris Samp, a fifth year BS/MS public policy major and RA for Peterson Hall, agrees. "I am really excited to have Mayor Johnson as a professor [in the] Public Policy department because his experience as a Rochester mayor will bring his knowledge to our students . . . I look forward to learn what he has to offer in the Public Policy program." •



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CrimeWatch

Compiled by Andrew Bigelow

March 14

Harassment – Johnson Building

A student threatened to “kill” a lab assistant unless he kept the lab open late enough for a project to be finished. The people involved in this incident will be contacted for a follow up.

March 19

Criminal Mischief – UC

A student reported a broken window in the lobby of UC building 14. Inspection revealed that an object had been thrown through the window. The area was canvassed but no information developed. The case is closed pending new information.

March 20

Criminal Mischief – Ellingson Hall

The sixth floor button on an elevator was not responding, and an examination behind the control panel revealed wires that had been deliberately cut. The elevator company will be making the necessary repairs. The investigation continues.

Petit Larceny – Nathaniel Rochester Hall

A custom bike left overnight locked to a bike rack outside NRH was stolen. The owner of the bike returned to find only the front wheel and lock still attached to the bike rack. Crime alert flyers were distributed in the area. The investigation is closed pending new information.

March 21

Computer Trespass

An unknown person gained access to an RIT student’s computer account and then altered the account holder’s personal information. ITS provided information regarding the suspect’s network address and the investigation is continuing.

March 23

Petit Larceny – Ellingson

A student reported that he had just seen his roommate take money out of his wallet. The roommate admitted to the act and promised to repay the money. The case has been referred to Student Conduct.

March 25

Grand Larceny – Building 13

A staff member reported that a ceiling-mounted video projector was missing from a classroom in building 13. The area was canvassed and interviews were conducted, but no information was obtained. The Sheriff’s Office responded to the incident. Currently, the investigation continues.

WeatherReport

Compiled by Casey Dehlinger



Friday, April 8:

An accepted student open house will bring many prospectives to the campus for the day. Also at 11:00 a.m. will be an Interfraternity Council BBQ outside of the SAU that will last until 2:00 p.m.. Also, Pamela Leroy will be giving a one hour speech on women in leadership roles in Ingle Auditorium at 3:30 p.m. Friday Night at the Ritz starts at 10:00 p.m. and will feature up and coming hip hop artists.



Saturday, April 9:

The Society of Women Engineers will be holding a conference at various points on campus throughout the day. Also, the NTID Student Congress BrickFest will be shuttling students to Tiki Bob’s starting at 7:30 p.m..



Sunday, April 10:

From noon to 5:00 p.m. the SAU Cafeteria will host remote control car races. Also, the First Annual Latin American Film Festival will be held in room A205 of the Liberal Arts Building (6) from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m..



Monday, April 11:

Student Government Presidential Debates are to be held in the SAU Cafeteria from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.



Tuesday, April 12:

The Wallace Library will be hosting a workshop demonstrating how to use Endnote 7 at 11:00 p.m. Students interested in RIT’s Graduate Programs may attend an informational session at 5:00 p.m. in the Bausch and Lomb Center. French Conversation Hour will be held at Java Wally’s at 6:30 p.m.



Wednesday, April 13:

Student Government Presidential Debates continue from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. while the First Annual Latin American Film Festival continues in room A-205 of building 6.



Thursday, April 14:

The Gannet Lecture Series will host speaker Daniel Pipes, the Director of the Middle East Forum, at Webb Auditorium from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

How to burn software Review of CD burning software

by **Stephen Hiller** | illustration by **Mike Norton**

Picture this: you just bought that awesome new CD/DVD drive. With the lights turned off and an expression of greedy lust on your face, you tear the box to shreds to get the polished gem inside! In twenty minutes flat you've installed your spiffy new CD burner, booted up your computer, installed some drivers, and are finally ready. Then, after all that anticipation, all of that work, you go to burn your first CD and are hit with disappointment like a brick to the face as you sit there looking at a tiny, user-unfriendly interface that won't let you do half of the operations you want because it's not the "pro" edition.

Most of us at some point in our lives have been stuck with the bare-bones authoring software that every hardware manufacturer seems to love. Inevitably, you are going to have to go out and buy the actual retail version of the software, but there are so many choices on the market, each with its own set of capabilities. So which one is right for you? Read on as I put three of them to the test.

NERO First up is **Nero 6.0 Ultra Edition**. Nero combines all of the traditional characteristics of an authoring program with some new features, such as two innovative sound editing programs (Wave Editor and Soundtrax), NeroMix, a ripping/burning/MP3 player utility, and a cover designer for your jewel case inserts. As an added feature, Nero includes "DriveSpeed" which allows users to control drive rotational speed. Nero also offers a useful utility called BackItUp that performs a system back-up onto a DVD or a CD. A feature that really sets this program apart from the competition is its ability to use MPEG4 video encoding for your VCDs (Video CD), SVCDs (Super Video CD), and DVDs. This method of compression allows for near-DVD video quality for your video projects. Nero has a straightforward user interface that's easy for even the most novice user.

The program actually has two interfaces. There is a standard menu that some will recognize from previous versions of Nero, and a new NeroExpress menu that is designed to facilitate quick authoring projects. Nero 6.0 Ultra Edition is a great piece of software that is simple in design for beginning users, but with enough advanced options to keep veteran users happy. Be warned, though—the NeroExpress feature, though sometimes helpful, can become annoying for more advanced users. Nero also happens to be one of the more expensive programs out there, running \$86-\$99 depending on where you shop.

ROXIO Another famous title in CD/DVD authoring software is Roxio and their **Roxio Easy Media Creator 7.0**. The most important things Roxio has over Nero are PhotoSuite 7 and VideoWave 7, integrated video and photo editing software. Another unique feature of Roxio is its ability to perform scheduled backups for automated data archiving. This is an awesome feature for those who tend to forget to back up their system data periodically. Roxio's Retrieve utility can be included on backup disks to allow multi-disk spanning and can even allow you to encrypt your disks. Roxio also makes CD ripping more convenient, with its Gracenote service that looks up information about audio tracks on the internet. This saves you those annoying hours spent tagging mp3s.

Of course Roxio includes your traditional authoring software, but with so many little applets and plug-ins, Easy Media Creator 7.0 is more like a Swiss Army knife than a piece of software. Sadly, the user interface is less than perfect, and other flaws such as excessive load time between the different components weaken the package. Still, Easy Media Creator 7.0 is a great piece of authoring software with enough flashing lights and little gizmos to satisfy even the most avid gadget freak. Roxio is a value with an average price range of \$33-\$99 depending on where you buy the software or if you are upgrading it from a previous version.


Even though OS X comes with a very versatile CD authoring program some people still want more. **Roxio Toast 6.0 Titanium** is the solution for any Mac user looking for more control in their CD/DVD authoring. The most predominant feature of Toast is ToastAnywhere, which allows users to share a CD or DVD burner with other Toast users over the internet or a local network. This capability allows Toast users who have a CD burner, but not a DVD burner, to "borrow" the DVD burner of another computer on the network. Obviously, the software has to be configured for sharing so one simply cannot hijack anyone's CD burner. Toast also includes an awesome piece of software, Spin Doctor 2.0, which allows users to rip audio from an analog source such as a LP or a cassette tape. With filters to remove unwanted noise and to detect individual songs, you don't have to be a sound engineer to get good-sounding audio. Also, Toast can interface with iDVD to import existing video files, and has a nifty little program to help organize and burn your photo albums.

Toast 6.0 Titanium is an easy-to-use utility with a straightforward and streamlined burning process. Be prepared to figure out all the bells and whistles of the program yourself, though. The program comes with horrible documentation that can be a problem if you're trying to accomplish something specific. You can expect to pay between \$57 and \$99 for this program, though there is a \$20 rebate for Toast users who are upgrading. •



You Can Grill That?!

Alternative Barbecue Ideas for Spring by Monica Donovan | illustration by Mike Norton



It's that time again—the permanent cloud cover is letting up and the coats are coming off. Now that outdoor activities such as driving and walking to class are no longer life-and-death battles, it's time to break out the grills. Here are some eccentric and tasty alternatives to your usual burgers and corn-on-the-cob.

Grilled peaches. You've heard of bananas roasted over a campfire, but peaches?? This combo saucepan-and-grill method suggests preparing a sugar, pepper, and balsamic vinegar glaze on the stove and then brushing it on halved and pitted peaches on the grill. The final touch? Bleu cheese crumbled on top just before serving. Other alternative fruit recipes include pineapple and cantaloupe.

Pizza. That's right, pizza. Literally turn an old college favorite turned upside-down by mixing and grilling pizza dough from scratch.

Lamb. Cook and serve lamb patties like hamburgers, or marinate and grill lamb chops as a steak alternative. Some recipe sites suggest lamb marinated in yogurt and cucumber sauce and served on pita bread, a Greek favorite.

Portobello Burgers. Sometimes called "the steak of veggie burgers," Portobello caps are delicious grilled and served with melted cheese on a hamburger bun.

Eggplant. If you've had eggplant Parmesan, you know how tasty this odd-looking vegetable can be. One mouth-watering recipe suggests coating eggplant slices with balsamic vinegar and oil, then placing tomato and goat cheese slices on top for cooking.

Bifteki. If you just can't let go of hamburgers, try them with a Greek twist. Mix the ground beef with plain yogurt and thyme, shape into thin patties, and seal two of these together with feta cheese in between.

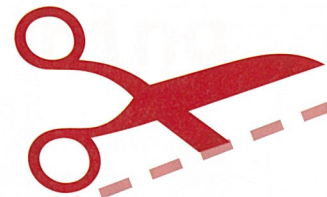
Shudderruppers. Touted as an old Girl Scout tradition, this recipe works by itself or with s'mores. Thread a marshmallow and then a caramel candy onto a stick, and roast over hot coals until the marshmallow reaches a desired softness. Then simply pull the marshmallow up so that the caramel is nested inside. Only for those with an extreme sweet tooth.

All of these meal ideas, and more, can be found in their entirety on recipe sites such as barbeque.allrecipes.com, recipesource.com, and mealsforyou.com. Happy grilling! •



Craftster.org

→ Martha Stewart ain't got nothin' on them



by Sean Hannan | illustration by Brittney Lee

My elbows are covered in a putting green. Well, not exactly. It just looks that way because I patched my favorite cardigan with scraps of faux green fur. I also sport a—quite dilapidated at this point—blue duct tape wallet. In my spare time I like to cut apart magazines and religious mailings and arrange them in little picture frame collages. In short, I like to make things.

Thankfully, there is a site for folks like me who can handle a button maker, but also understand the cultural relevance of pirates, ninjas, and unicorns. Craftster.org, whose tagline is “No tea cozies without irony,” has a decidedly trendy take on the world of knitting needles and decoupage. If you’re familiar with *Readymade* magazine, it’s kind of along the same lines. Except while *Readymade* is an authoritative guide to being DIY hip, Craftster is a community where you decide how hip is defined.

The site is broken into four sections: forum, classifieds, pictures, and the increasingly ubiquitous blog. The heart of the site, though, is the forum. In here is where over 27,000 members show off their recent concoctions, give critical feedback, and ask the craft gods for help. Like any other site with forums, things can get off track. For example, a post displaying a member’s creation—a t-shirt featuring a scene from *Garden State*—quickly devolves from “How did you do that?” to “I heart Zack Braff!!!” C’est la vie.

If you’re just browsing the site for ideas, the quick links on the right hand side make it easy to find the thirty most recent posts or the most recent posts with pictures. If craft-porn is what you’re after, though, a better area to check out would be the picture hosting portion of the site. When you sign up to be a site member (free, but not required to just look around), you also get a spot where you can dump photos of that Hello Kitty pillow you just finished.

Sewing machines and glue not your thang? Hop on over to the classifieds section, where you can purchase such items as a handbag made of cat food bags or bracelets made from bingo chips from members with names like “ikillbarbies” or “LizzieBoredom”.

While the rest of the site is a frenzy of bedazzled goodness, the blog section of the site takes things at a bit of a slower step. Compared with the thousands of other participants on the forums, the blog only has one author, the site’s founder Leah Kramer. As such, it isn’t updated as often as it should be, but it offers good links to crafty resources as well as a bit of a personal touch from someone in the trenches of craftdom.

Now if you’ll excuse me, I’m going to go make a new wallet. •



theVERDICT ***

Design: ★★☆☆

Craft-folk aren’t exactly the neatest of people; they tend to leave a trail of felt and pony beads where they tread. The site is similarly cluttered, but at least there’s a consistent color scheme.

Content: ★★★★★

Over 240,000 posts recounting tales of hot glue, duct tape, and sore fingers should keep you busy for a little bit.

Safe For Work: ★★★★★

Though they are always sporting their freshly minted clothes, Craftster.org finally offers a way to ogle art chicks that doesn’t require a monthly fee. Suicidegirls.com, I’m looking in your general direction.

Not A Fad: ★☆☆☆

Trendiness within a trend is a recipe for “uncool in three years.” Bust out the crochet hooks and iron-on transfers while you still can, folks.

STREAM* OF FACTS:

April 8th

On **April 8**, 1938, the seventh and current Secretary-General of the United Nations, **Kofi Annan**, was born.

Kofi Annan, at the opening of RUNC Brussels, said "The peoples of Europe have supported the ideals and activities of the United Nations since its founding. In recent years, this has enabled us to build exemplary relations not only with the countries of Europe, but also with the institutions of the **European Union**."

The **Europeans Union's** action over software patents has bumped the EU up to the second spot in a Google search for "**banana republic**."

A **banana** is a tree-like plant (though strictly a herb) of the genus *Musa* in the family *Musaceae*, and is closely related to plantains. The term banana is also applied to the elongated fruit (technically a **false berry**), which grows in hanging clusters.

A **false berry**, or epigynous berry is an accessory fruit created in certain plant species that have an inferior ovary. In these species, the floral tube (including the basal parts of the sepals, petals, and stamen) can ripen along with the ovary, forming watermelon, cucumber, **squash**, currant, cranberry, blueberry, gooseberry, and muskmelon.

Jonah Barrington's **Squash** (referring to the game, not the fruit) was one of the original games, released in 1985, for one or two players on the **Commodore 64**.

The **Commodore 64** (C64, CBM 64) was announced by Commodore Business Machines in January 1982 and released in September of that year at a price of \$595. It offered unprecedented value for the money, becoming one of the most popular home **computers** of the 1980s.

Pablo Picasso once said, "**Computers** are useless. They can only give you answers."

Pablo Picasso, formally Pablo Ruiz Picasso, a recognized master of 20th century art, died on **April 8**, 1973.

FINISHit*

He went on and on about something about Custer's last stand. So when the elder came out of seclusion with the counsels decision, no one expected it would take that many ninjas to ...

theHAIKU*

by Brian Garrison

You might think I'm nuts,
Gone bananas or something.
But I'm just peachy!

QUOTE*

"The folly of mistaking a paradox for a discovery, a metaphor for a proof, a torrent of verbiage for a spring of capital truths, and oneself for an oracle, is inborn in us."

– Paul Valery

RANDOMREVIEW*

1995's *Hackers* is an amusingly dated romp through internet culture. From clear enunciation of the word 'elite' to those super-realistic 3D computer displays, this movie is far more computer fiction than fact. And is better for it. Hacking here is exciting and liberating, and the hackers are cool young and attractive. Angelina Jolie and the relatively unknown Jonny Lee Miller star in this tail of a child geniuses pitted against an evil corporation. The jokes are cheesy, the wardrobe adorable, and the lingo... well, so ten years ago. However, for anyone who has ever run a script and has a self-referential sense of humor about the childishness of such things should watch this movie, back when a 28.8 modem was fast and floppy disks were all the rage.

REPORTER* RECOMMENDS:

As if a **banana split** isn't bad enough for you, Try this: Coat a banana in eggs and milk, roll it in flour, and deep fry it until golden brown. Top with ice cream chocolate sauce and all your favorite ice-cream toppings for the best banana split of your life. I know it sounds weird. I was skeptical too, but I assure you it is awesome, so give it a try.

PLAYLIST:*

Download these awesome songs for free...they won't mind

- Metallica**–No Leaf Clover
- Metallica**–Unforgiven
- Metallica**–Master of Puppets
- Metallica**–One
- Slayer**–Raining Blood
- Metallica**–Some Kind of Monster
- Metallica**–Fade to Black
- Metallica**–No Remorse
- Metallica**–Bad Seed





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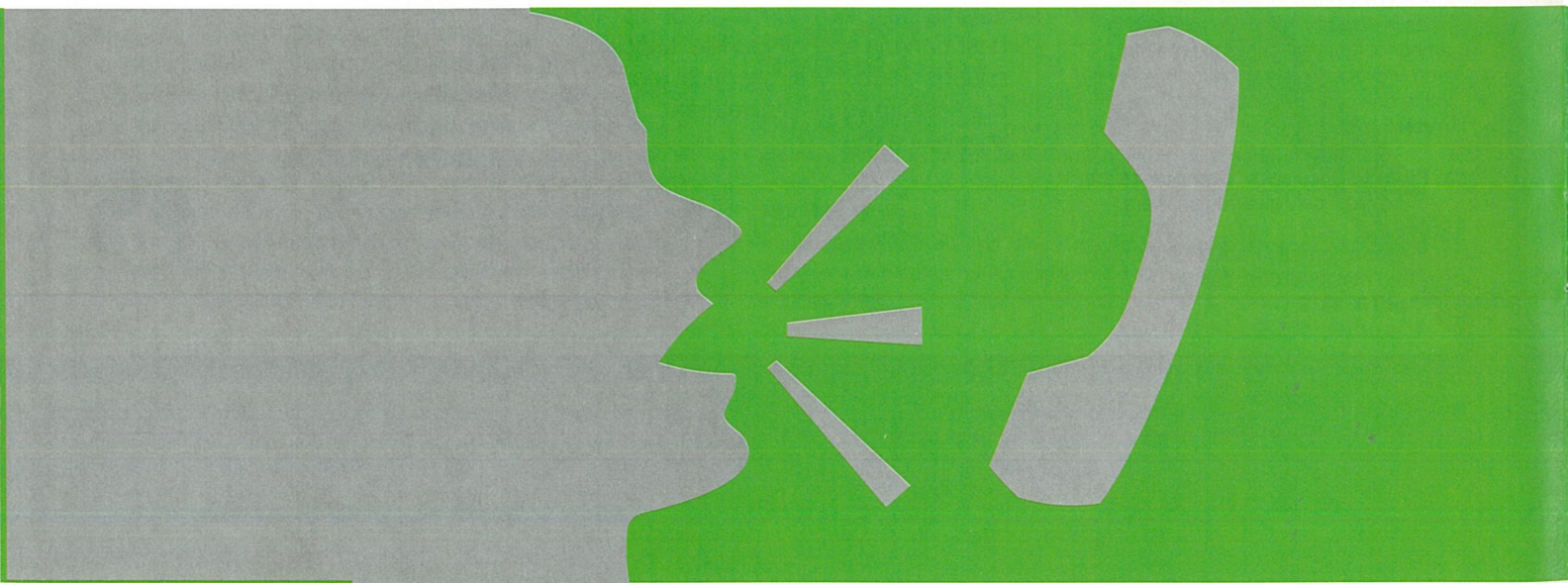
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Imagine This:
Copyright
Enforce

Hits Close
To Home

by Brenna Cammeron
Illustration by
Brittney Lee



Internet Comment

You come home from a long day of classes. You're tired, you're hungry, and you're ready to finally relax and unwind. You unlock the door to your apartment, open the door, and find yourself face-to-face with the federal government. Search warrants in hand, they have confiscated your computers and are telling you that you will most likely have to go to federal court to defend yourself. Think this doesn't happen to the normal college student? Think again. "Jerry" (name changed) was only 19 when the US Customs tracked him down for copyright violations in association with downloading games, software, and Mp3s off of the Internet. Four years later, he is still dealing with the ramifications of what started out as "all fun and games."

Reporter: How did you get into downloading in the first place?

Jerry: I was hired to work at an Internet service provider in my hometown when I was 15. One of my buddies always had the newest games before they even came out. Of course, my initial reaction was, "whoa, how'd you do that?" He wouldn't tell me at first, but I pestered him for a while. Eventually he told me about the Internet Relay Chat (IRC), where you could find games and download them over various channels. At the time, the late 90s, our hometown didn't have cable Internet service, so it would sometimes take like five days just to download one game.

Reporter: Sounds like you had a lot of time on your hands.

Jerry: Yeah, that was part of the problem. My hometown was so small that even the movie theater went out of business. There was really nothing to do at all, so the IRC was just a way for us to spend our free time.

Reporter: What happened next?

Jerry: I started joining groups over the IRC. It wasn't so much about getting free games—actually, my computer couldn't even run half of the games I downloaded. It was more about being part of a team and working together to acquire, crack, and share wares (wares, or warez, is a term used to refer to illegally acquired software). I never even made a profit out of what I was doing. I was just bored and having a good time being part of the community I was in.

Reporter: So then you came to RIT.

Jerry: Yeah, and that was great. A month or two into my freshman year RIT upgraded the Internet connection to make it even faster. We had a great connection all over the world, especially to Europe. If I hadn't had everything all set up from high school, I probably wouldn't have gotten into downloading in college. But as it was, I was already all set up in the communities online, so I didn't have to do any real work to set my stuff up at RIT.

Reporter: Were you making a profit off of your downloading?

Jerry: No, not at all. I never sold any of the wares that I downloaded. I didn't even use the stuff that I downloaded, except for my extensive collection of hip-hop music. It was more like a game: see who could get games and software the fastest, and who could release it the fastest before it had hit the market legally. Sometimes I was one of only 200 or so people that could get a piece of software before anyone else. That was fun.

Reporter: What was your collection like?

Jerry: I'm not going to lie—it was extensive. I had four or five computers' worth of downloaded materials, and a few thousand songs in my collection. The funny thing is that my roommates all had more stuff on their computers than me. I wasn't even in the top five users at RIT who used the most bandwidth. I was just lucky enough to catch the attention of the federal government.

Reporter: So what did you do to make the federal government take notice?

Jerry: It's funny, actually. The feds originally confiscated my computers on a charge that they eventually dropped. They found my IP address on a computer in Texas and followed the trail to my doorstep, but once they got ahold of my computers and saw the sort of stuff I had on it, they decided to charge me with copyright infringement.

The RIAA (Recording Industry Association of America) has long been the enemy of music downloaders young and old.

Most recently, though, the RIAA has “ramped up” their efforts to curb music piracy on campuses nationwide. RIT is no exception. Chances are you have already received the campus-wide e-mail informing students that the RIAA has sent several notices to Institute administration informing them that the RIAA plans to subpoena an undisclosed number of RIT computer users. The RIAA does this by first subpoenaing Internet service providers for names, usernames, IP addresses, and other information about those who are guilty of file sharing. According to the email sent out to students, the notices that RIT has received from the RIAA are all “associated with students living in RIT residences or using the wireless network at RIT.” Letters regarding music sharing have already been sent out to those individual students.

Concerned that the RIAA might come after you? The Internet provides a plethora of information on how to stay safe and avoid being subpoenaed by the RIAA. One site in particular, the Electronic Frontier Foundation or EFF, offers articles such as “How Not to Get Sued by the RIAA for File Sharing.” The EFF also has a feature called the Subpoena Database Query Tool that allows you to type in your username or IP address and find out if you are in danger of being targeted by the RIAA. This aspect of the website appears not to have been updated recently, but with this recent wave in activity by the RIAA, it will doubtless be active again sometime soon. You can find the EFF’s section on music sharing at www.eff.org/share/ and the Subpoena Database Query Tool at www.eff.org/IP/P2P/riaasubpoenas/.

Reporter: What was your sentence?

Jerry: Well, there was really nothing I could do but plead guilty. I considered going to the court with the argument of illegal search and seizure, but my lawyer didn’t think I had a very good chance. I ended out being sentenced in federal court. I got lucky with my sentencing, actually. I had a \$20,000 fine to pay but got it decreased to \$10,000. I’ve been under house arrest for six months...(but) most people go to jail for one to five years. I’ll be on probation for five years.

Reporter: What’s it like being under house arrest?

Jerry: It’s hard. I’m working full-time right now—I don’t have enough money to finish my degree at RIT—and it’s hard to always be making excuses to my coworkers about why I can’t go out with them after work. I don’t have a social life at all, because I have a tracking device around my ankle that lets my parole officer know if I’m violating my sentence. Other than that, it’s alright. My friends come to my apartment instead of me going out with them. I get done being under house arrest in a month, so I’m looking forward to that.

Reporter: What’s the worst part of what you’ve gone through?

Jerry: I hate having a felony in my background. My current employer never asked if I have one, but if they had, I would have had to answer honestly. I hate the fact that what I did four years ago when I was a stupid, bored kid is affecting whether or not I get a job now. I’ve got a great resume and I would be the perfect employee if not for the fact that I have a felony on my record. Since I’ve been working with computers for so long I have good options for potential jobs, but not everyone is going to be that lucky.

Reporter: What would you tell the average college student that is into downloading music and maybe some software or games?

Jerry: I would tell them that it’s not worth messing up their lives. Maybe there’s only a one in a million chance that you’re going to get caught—but what if you happen to be that one in a million? This is a time when you should be working towards a good future for yourself—studying and learning. If you get in trouble for copyright infringement and screw up your future, it’s your own doing. What does it say about you? You made a big mistake. More than anything, I wish someone would have come to me before I got in trouble and said, “hey, this is a felony.” I’ve learned my lesson, that’s for sure.



WORD

on the Street

compiled and photographed by Jodi Goldenberg

Q: What is the first thing you do when you turn on your computer?



"Mostly I play games when I am on the computer."

Andrew Field
Biochem
Second Year



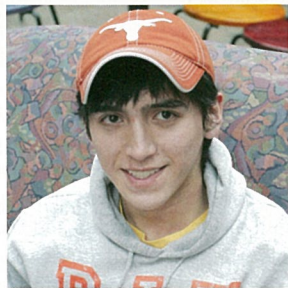
"I just hope to not dump water on my computer again, last time it took 3 days for it to work again."

Becky Jaiben
English
First Year



"I go online and check my mail."

Ines Winkler
International Business
Masters



"I check out my courses and what I need to do."

Jose Kostyn
Electrical Engineering
First Year



"The first thing I do is enter my password!"

Kate Starr
Graphic Design
Second Year



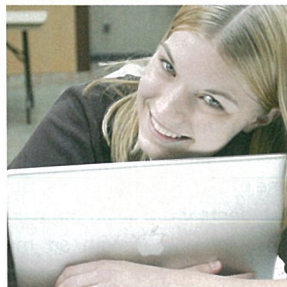
"I check the rating of the newest movies and go to the Nielsen ratings"

Latoye Adams
Film and Animation
Third Year



"Look at the screen?... Am I too literal?"

Mag Varner
Biology
Fourth Year



"I give it a little hug because I love it, since I am an RIT student."

Steph Michalow
New Media Design
Second Year

"I check the weather, hoping it will be warmer than it has been."

Jackie Capeci
Mechanical Engineering
Fifth Year

"AIM what else."

Arlene Espiritu
Graphic Media Marketing
First Year

"Turn on iTunes!"

Carter Stritch
Graphic Media Marketing
First Year

"I read the drudge report!"

Bill Lambert
Electrical Engineering
Fourth Year

"Lately I have been researching the epsilon values of different molecules"

Aaron Bodell
Graphic Media
Third Year

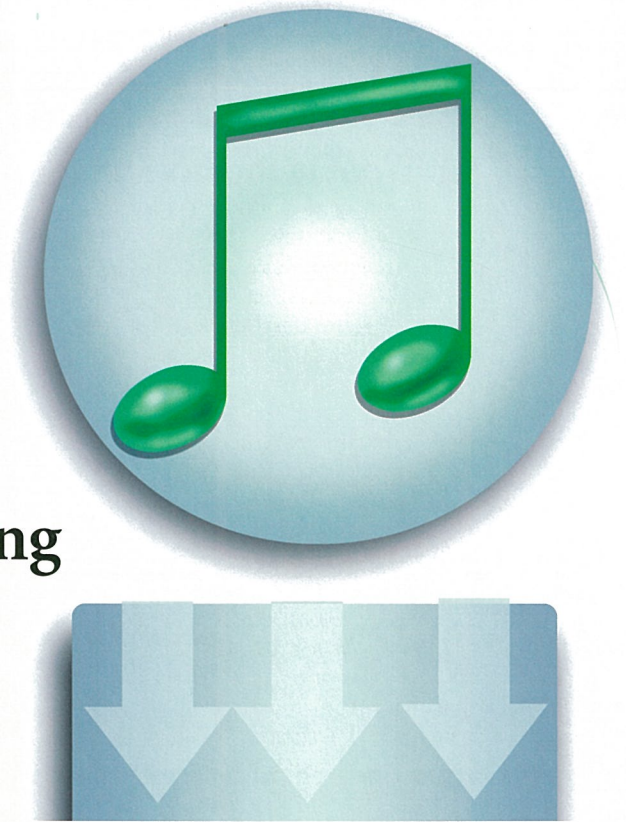
"First thing I do is pick music I want to listen to."

Lindsey Brady
Phototech
Third Year

"First off, I check people on AIM"

Dan Trembley
Computer Engineering
Second Year

Beyond DC++: Students Downloading Music...*Legally*



by Frances Cabrera | Illustration by Brittney Lee

"If my hard drive crashes, I lose all my money," said Ratna Roy, a 2nd year film and animation major. "What's the point in that?"

And that is how most of the interviews went when I asked, "Do you legally download music?" However, to many music-loving, law-abiding, and/or virus-avoiding students, the point is all too clear. The features of iTunes and its accompanying Music Store have attracted music downloaders with a large selection, exclusive music, and protection under the law making it the monopolistic favorite on campus, and leaving other downloading programs such as the new Napster out of the "digital music revolution."

According to Apple press releases, "The iTunes Music Store is now available in fifteen countries, which together represent more than 70 percent of the global music market." Just about a month ago on March 2, Apple announced that over 300 million songs have been downloaded since its launch less than two years ago in April of 2003. With such ludicrous statistics, clearly the lure to the flashy iTunes store is strong enough to turn former free music lovers to 99 cent music lovers.

Reason #1: My Computer Loves It

Hardware factors seemed to be the number one reason explaining the attraction to iTunes for most students. We've all gotten those ITS emails warning us about the dangers of sharing files illegally because of viruses and worms. But as many scoffed and deleted the message, some students were living the warning.

"Using direct connect last year filled my computer with so much crap," said Liza Jacob, a 2nd year illustration major. "If you buy albums [through iTunes] it ends up being a little bit cheaper. It's when you buy one song that it seems like it should be less than 99 cents, but I'm not going to pay to crash another computer."

If viruses aren't the main worry, then of course owning a Mac or an iPod has a large influence. "I have an iMac, and I like how it syncs up with iTunes

really easily," said Jacobs. The long arm of Apple makes sure its customers have everything "i." Theresa Manning, a 1st year packaging science major, said, "I had a Mac [when I began using iTunes], so I didn't have to download it. It was already there."

However, it is because the iTunes software and Music Store are mainly made for Apple users that its features work so well with the hardware. iPod users have no choice but to use iTunes, so Apple had to make sure its program was first-rate. "iTunes is smooth, works like a dream with iPods, and does what you want it to do," said Matt Stein, a 3rd year graphic design major. "It very neatly organizes and categorizes music, and is fairly elegant. It makes managing a library of music almost enjoyable."

Reason #2: My Ears Love It

This is an important quality for iTunes music buyers because the number two reason for the attraction is its large selection. The Apple website advertises having "over one million songs to preview, buy, and download." The music featured comes mostly from the four major record labels: EMI, Sony/BMG, Universal, and Warner Bros, but the Music Store does "offer more than 100,000 new tracks from independent artists and record labels" making for a deep selection. The genres include everything from children's music, to alternative, to classical, to world, where everything from Latin American to Egyptian music can be found.

"They got a lot of stuff that others don't have like Christian rock and rap, and I'm into that," said Martin Martinez, a 1st year mechanical engineer major. "I also like looking at the music videos. I make my decisions usually based on that." With features like music videos, 30 second previews, and weekly

free singles, iTunes attempts to make trying new music easy and without risk of wasting 99 cents for a song that ends up being really bad, even though 99 cents in the scheme of things isn't truly that much.

"It's a good way of testing new bands," said Manning. "I just give them 99 cents to try to impress me, and if I don't like them, I don't give them more." Manning also said that even though iTunes lacks the "chat" capacities of other downloading programs, iTunes offers an alternative with iMixes. iMixes are the AIM profiles of the iTunes Music Store scene. Users compile lists of their favorite songs, all of which usually carry a theme like "90s Flashback" or "Best Alternative Mix" that other users can view and buy music from. The compiler of the list can put a message explaining the story behind the songs for others to read. Over a quarter of a million iMixes are available to peruse on iTunes. Downloads from Apple's service are also higher in quality than the sometimes static-filled, low volume, high base stuff one finds in the illegal downloading programs. "I did use Napster and Morpheus before, and I ended up buying those songs on iTunes anyways because of the better quality iTunes provides," said Manning. With Apple Lossless Encoder, Apple touts that "you'll get the full quality of uncompressed CD audio using about half the storage space."

Reason #3: My Pepsi Loves It

And then Pepsi comes into the picture. The number three reason that the students used iTunes is that Pepsi introduced it to them with their free songs under the cap. It resulted in a smooth transition from free-loading illegal downloaders to law-abiding music buyers.

"iTunes chose me," said Stein. "Our sophomore year we were on debit...so we'd use our fake money to buy Pepsi, and get winning caps during the Pepsi/iTunes promotion. It was a brilliant advertising scheme. I fell for it along with a bunch of my friends, and we competed to see who could get the most free songs." Stein finished with 55 songs. All the students I interviewed mentioned Pepsi and their free songs. Sadly the promotion ends April 11, and for all those who do have winning Pepsi caps, the songs need to be redeemed by May 23.

But Not Everyone Loves It

Despite its unique features, iTunes is not the only option for downloading music. Napster has revamped its portal very similarly, now including the presence of 99 cent songs. However, Napster offers more discounts when buying bulks of songs. For example, with "track packs" members save 20% off when buying more than 15 songs, and albums usually cost less than the sum of all the individual song prices. Napster is also launching a new service, "Napster To Go" where MP3 users can rent songs for \$15 a month. With \$15 users can download an unlimited number of songs into their MP3 players and keep them there for as long as they pay \$15 a month.

Also, the iTunes software isn't so smooth for PC users, proving to be cumbersome. "It takes a lot from your computer to run it when compared to Winamp or Sonique," said Stein.

For music purists, iTunes is a bleak look into the future of music where hit singles reign with no substance. "High school girls can get their hot songs if they want," said Stein. "I'd still like to go with the old-fashioned album-at-a-time method." Stein goes so far as going towards the buying-a-tangible-CD

Ctrax: Is RIT's Response Working?

by Frances Cabrera

In an attempt to quell illegal music downloading and in response to student requests, this year RIT allowed Cdigix onto the campus to promote their online music service Ctrax.

"Probably the biggest thing [that prompted RIT to look into music services] is that we do get notices from the RIAA that people that are connected to our network, and it almost always turns out to be someone in the residential hall population, are sharing copyrighted files illegally," said Dave Pecora, Associate Director of Information and Technology Services. "We get a number of those a year, and those have been gradually increasing."

Pecora, along with others in administration, began looking for an online music service in the summer of 2004. Student government had approached the group saying that students wanted an online service driving the issue even further. Cdigix provided a unique service that suited RIT. "Most of the services were where you sign the whole university up and as a university, pay a big chunk of money to the services and basically everybody has online music," said Pecora. "That wasn't what our management wanted to do." Pecora said that making the service optional for students was one of the main goals in getting a service, and only Cdigix provided that.

Pecora also said that Cdigix provided the most amount of music with over a million titles. "[The feedback] we've gotten regarding the selection is that if the service has something from [an] artist, it generally has everything from that artist," Pecora said. The selection isn't very vast though when it comes to lesser-known bands. For example, you won't be able to find the new Decemberists album Reporter reviewed a couple of weeks ago. The other downfalls of the service were that it is not Apple-compatible, and the downloaded files are data files that can't be burned onto an audio CD.

Pecora said that the numbers of new users has increased each month since its launch a couple weeks into the fall quarter. However, the number has not reached 3,000 because interested users can still get a free 9-month subscription with the opening promotion that is for the first 3,000 people who sign up. Nevertheless, Ctrax will return next year, when the service and its advertising will be up and ready during orientation for incoming students. The services link on the ITS website provides more information on Ctrax and how to join the service.

method that many other students prefer as well. "As a growing designer, I've learned how much work can go into something so simple...I see it as a privilege to pay \$10 or \$15 for something that a group of talented people put so much time into," Stein said. Stein, who lost his downloaded music collection through a computer crash, also uses CDs as a security measure. He said, "To lose all my music again, my computer would have to die, and THEN somebody'd have to smash or burn all my CD's. The chances of these two things happening at once are slim."

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SPORTSdesk

by José Plaza

Nate Lowe practices the pole vault during track and field practice on Wednesday, March 30. The weather was actually sunny with temperatures ranging in the high 50's.

Eric Sucar/REPORTER Magazine

Baseball

March 20: The Tigers played a double-header versus Catholic University in Washington, D.C. Game one featured heavy scoring from both teams, with RIT initially jumping to an early 5-0 lead, and Catholic catching up soon after. The game ended in an 11-9 win for RIT. In game two, RIT's Nick Rappa pitched 5 shutout innings in the shortened game (due to weather conditions). RIT scored three runs, en route to a 3-0 win.

Game 1

Score by Inning

First: RIT 0, Catholic 0. Second: RIT 3, Catholic 0. Third: RIT 4, Catholic 0. Fourth: RIT 4, Catholic 0. Fifth: RIT 5, Catholic 0. Sixth: RIT 10, Catholic 5. Seventh: RIT 11, Catholic 9.

Final Score: W 11-9

Game 2

Score by Inning

First: RIT 2, Catholic 0. Second: RIT 2, Catholic 0. Third: RIT 2, Catholic 0. Fourth: RIT 2, Catholic 0. Fifth: RIT 3, Catholic 0.

Final Score: W 3-0

RIT Record through 4/2/2005: 5-3

Men's Crew

March 19: RIT faced off with cross-town rival U of R at the RIT Boathouse. In this day of competition, the Men's Varsity 8 posted a time of 5:43.71 in the 1900 meter course. Meanwhile, the second Varsity 8 team posted a single trial time of 5:58.62.

Women's Crew

March 19: Women's crew had a lot to celebrate and think about after their win over U of R. With a strong start in the race, RIT seemed confident about their chances to win. However, a few obstacles down the river slowed RIT, and gave them a scare as U of R approached them and at one point passed them. After regrouping, the Women's Varsity 8 squad regained the lead and defeated U of R by six seconds with a time of 7:06.18. The Women's JV8 ended up losing their heat, though the women's varsity 4 won their race by 42 seconds.

Men's Lacrosse

March 23: The Tigers brought out an explosive offensive strike against SUNY Brockport, including six-goal third period. RIT's impressive offense was complemented with a defense that limited Brockport to 6 goals. RIT won the game with a score of 14-6, and posted their first win of the season. RIT Goals: Stephen Papa(4), Andrew Ruocco(3), Zach Bednarz(3), Colin Jesien(3), David Thering (1)

Final Score: W 14-6

March 26: The RIT Tigers hosted number four ranked SUNY Cortland at the RIT Turf Field. Though RIT scored the first goal of the game in the first seven seconds to take an early lead, Cortland emerged victorious. RIT Goals: David Thering(3), Colin Jesien(3), Andrew Ruocco(2), Zach Bednarz(1)
Final Score: L 9-12

March 30: In their 2004-2005 Empire 8 debut, the Tigers did not disappoint. After tying the game 3-3, RIT went on to score the last eight goals of the game, putting the exclamation point on their victory over Elmira College. RIT Goals: David Thering(3), Zach Bednarz(2), Stephen Papa(2), Joe Argese(2), Colin Jesien(1), Andrew Ruocco(1)
Final Score: W 11-3

RIT Record through 4/1/2005: 2-4 Overall, 1-0 Empire 8

Women's Lacrosse

March 21: The Lady Tigers played against SUNY Geneseo for their second game of the season. Geneseo scored the first three goals of the game and kept a strong offense all throughout. In the end, Geneseo ended with 20 goals, defeating RIT 20-2. RIT Goals: Lisette Silver(1), Callise Wiley(1)
Final Score: L 2-20

March 24: RIT women's lacrosse lost their third straight game of the season at the RIT Turf field, playing against SUNY Oswego. Out-shooting the Lady Tigers 17-1 at the half, Oswego took a 9-0 lead into halftime and never looked back. In the end, Oswego handed RIT the loss with a score of 4-15. RIT Goals: Pinckney Templeton(2), Lisette Silver(1), Callise Wiley(1)
Final Score: L 4-15

March 29: The Lady Tigers tied their season record for most goals in a game against SUNY Brockport. However, 5 goals were not enough, as Brockport put up 14 goals of their own and handed RIT their fourth straight loss. RIT Goals: Pinckney Templeton(2), Callise Wiley(1), Lisette Silver(1), Becky Jaiven(1)
Final Score: L 5-14

RIT Record through 4/1/2005: 0-4 Overall

Men's Tennis

March 29: RIT men's tennis began their season versus local rivals U of R. RIT's lone singles winner was David Chachu, over Reddy from U of R (6-4, 6-3), but that wasn't enough, as U of R won 2 out of 3 doubles games. The final score of the match was 6-1 in University of Rochester's favor. Here are the results:

Doubles

1. David Chachu/Rod Razavi (RIT) def. Hansen/Kantarelis (UR) 8-4
2. Prince/Reddy (UR) def. Darren Stanley/Jason Swails (RIT) 8-4
3. Lee/Shinker (UR) def. Frank Salome/Jon New (RIT) 8-6

Singles

1. David Chachu (RIT) def. Reddy (UR) 6-4, 6-3
2. Hansen (UR) def. Darren Stanley (RIT) 6-2, 6-0
3. Bruce-Black (UR) def. Jason Swails (RIT) 6-2, 6-0
4. Kantarelis (UR) def. Frank Salome (RIT) 6-1, 6-3
5. Prince (UR) def. Jon New (RIT) 6-1, 6-1
6. Lee (UR) def. Rod Razavi (RIT) 6-0, 6-1

RIT Record through 4/2/2005: 0-1 Overall

Men's Track

March 25/26: The men's track and field team took part in the annual Battleground Relays meet, held at Mary Washington College. RIT took home first place victories, complements of their A Team in the 4x800 meter relay (8:08.65), and Jesse Williamson in the 1500 meter race (4:08.62). Second place victories were more prevalent on the team, with Nate Lowe in the 10,000 meter run (33:34.99), Jimmy Sorel in the 110 meter hurdles (15.12), Dereck Bojanowski in the 3000 meter steeplechase (10:16.4), and the A Team in the distance medley relay (10:38.64). All took silver. Chris Schauerman posted the only third place victory for the team, with a time of 4:13.49.

Women's Track

March 25/26: Women's track competed in the annual Battleground Relays track and field meet at Mary Washington College over a two-day span. During the competition, Sara Pancoast placed third in the 10,000 meter run with a personal best of 41:35.52. A new RIT record was established by the Tigers' 4x800 meter relay team, which finished second with a time of 10:00.66. In addition, Adrienne Gagnier won the 1500 meter run, Trisha Sliker finished fourth in the 3000 meter steeplechase, and Heather Dashnau finished fourth in the triple jump. •

CREW VSCOURT

What can we expect from Crew and Men's Tennis? by Frances Cabrera

Would you rather cram into a boat full of spandex-clad rowers in the wee hours of the morning, or pull neon yellow balls out of your shorts at a moment's notice? Ponder that provocative question. Members of the crew and men's tennis teams have already made that decision, and although they may have started off the season a little later than the rest of the teams, that doesn't mean we should expect any less from them. All three teams are looking to dominate their competition this season, using any and all (legal) means necessary. While the best way to get a feel for these teams is to go out and watch them, here is a brief taste of what you can expect to see in the upcoming weeks:

Men's and Women's Crew Teams

Moving from good to great is the crew team's motto this season. The crew team is accomplishing this through intense practices and a focus on teambuilding. "Both squads intend to improve on our record from last year with one simple formula: Miles Make Champions," said Coach Jim Bodenstedt. "The winter was spent putting the miles in on the indoor rowers...With the added four new indoor rowers to our inventory, for the first time we were able to train as a squad." In a sport where teambuilding is the key to success, spending time training as an entire squad is valuable. "Over the winter months, RIT crew has really tried to strengthen team unity, and as we can tell, it has really gotten stronger," said Justin Blum, coxswain of the men's team. "...As many of us in the program say, we are only as strong as our weakest link." Other changes in the training schedule included a trip to Cocoa Beach over winter break. "Two practices a day and warm weather motivated us to train hard," said Bodenstedt.

These same goals have carried over into the spring, when the team returns to the water for practice and competition. "Trust is one of the biggest sources of power, and that's what we do out on the water every morning at five a.m.: build trust," said Michelle Blondin, captain of the women's crew team. According to Blondin, the team has been on the water every morning since February.



The Men's Crew Team practices on the Genesee River on the morning of April 1st.
Thomas Starkweather/REPORTER Magazine

With the teams' performances in their opening meet against the University of Rochester, it seems that they have definitely left "good" behind and are approaching greatness. All varsity teams, both men's and women's, posted strong wins over U of R. "This year, this season in particular, is when this team makes a winning difference that will be remembered," said Blondin.

Men's Crew Preview

Seniors Royce Abel, Scott Auger, William Bernabe, Sean Dittrich, Brian Hitchcock, Chris Jarmul, and Ryan Kearns will be leading the men's team this year. "We want to try and be on the medal stand at all of our championship races in the fall, including the New York State Championships and the ECAC Championship. We are also looking to compete well enough to be able to send RIT's first boat to the Intercollegiate Regatta Association's National Championship," said Blum.

Women's Crew Preview

"We are uncommon, extraordinary women that give 110% on and off the water," said Blondin. "Whether it be at our practices six days a week, in the gym, or on race day, there's never a question of integrity or character." Sophomore Diane Seaver is the leading coxswain with seniors Jen Angle, Lindsay Sargaent, Kate Friel, Sarah Clarke, and Blondin setting the example of dedication. "These seniors, along with other veterans on the team, have welcomed in the novice rowers..." said Blondin. "In doing so, we've bonded, built trust, found friendships and a family."

For this season, the women's team is looking forward to the ECAC and the Dad Vail Regatta. "Before those races, however, we've got Ithaca and William Smith ahead of us, two big rivals," said Blondin. Nevertheless, Blondin maintains thoughts of greatness in her mind and in the minds of her teammates. "We're setting a standard for every future rower to come."



Men's tennis team member, Danny Pike, plays during a beautiful Wednesday afternoon on the tennis courts at RIT.
Kim Weiselberg/REPORTER Magazine

Men's Tennis

The new Gordon Field House may end up working miracles on the men's tennis team, anticipates Coach Ann Nealon. "The fact that we have access to the new indoor courts lets us practice three times a week. This has tremendously increased our practice court time," said Nealon. "Last year we were limited to our club courts off campus, and could only practice once a week." This extra practicing should help the men's team improve on their solid 10-4 record from last year. "This year is going to be a test," said Nealon. "We have all this extra practice; now let's see what's going to happen. It's going to be interesting to see how we fare against schools equal with us and some schools we haven't beat before."

In addition to the extra court time, Nealon said that the team is also putting in time in the weight room for cardiovascular training. The extra practicing won't simply affect the physiques of the individual members, but also the unity of the whole team. "The indoor courts have brought us closer since we have a chance to spend so much time together. We have really bonded."

The team has 10 returning players, with six seniors who have been on the team all four years. Captains Jon New, Rod Razavi, and Frank Solome will be leading the team with the help of the other three seniors: David Chachu, Adam Chojnacki, and Elliott Nembhard. Razavi and Chachu have

already stepped forward in the team's first meet of the season against the University of Rochester. Although the team lost, they posted a win in the #1 doubles match, and Chachu posted the only win for the team in the #1 singles match. "The seniors have been the backbone of the team these past four years," said Nealon. "We will be sorry to see them leave." The other returning players are Jordan Bell, Darren Stanley, Adam DePuit, and Tom Fountain.

Some new talent is also entering the team with two freshmen making it to the match line-up: Zak Blazic and Jason Swails. "Jason has had a lot of experience with the game, and comes well coached," said Nealon. "Zac's a great athlete and hits the type of ball that eventually brings down his opponents. He plays a good physical and mental game." Nealon said that the other newcomers, Nathaniel Benz, Daniel Pike, and Joe Schember, will be playing in exhibition matches. Overall, Nealon is optimistic about her team. "They are more ready and prepared to play," she said. "I know everybody has improved, so I expect to see great games."•

*COOL. BOARDERS

Snowboarding Club Rail Jam

by Erhardt Graeff | photograph by Kim Weiselberg

* "You missed one dude crush his fucking junk," said a spectator on his way out to another just arriving. Watching snowboarding is like watching NASCAR races, in that you want to celebrate the triumphs but the biggest entertainment usually comes from the wrecks. With three skiers, some 15-20 snowboarders, and a whole lot of sweet-ass mojo on the slope, the Rail Jam showcased an appreciable balance of talents and faceplants.

Held on the hill behind the CIMS (Building 78) loading docks on March 26, the RIT Snowboarding Club's Rail Jam was an impressive success for a rapidly arranged event. Club founder Aaron Brown (third year Mechanical Engineering), with the help of other high-ranking boarders like Kyle Beck (third year New Media-Publishing) slapped together the event in less than two weeks. "It was a procrastinator's dream," said Brown. "We pretty much did everything Thursday night and Friday." The club managed to get tractors from Facilities Management, and with 15 shovel-armed members hauled snow from parking lot piles and the healthy heap behind Ritter Ice Arena.


The most important element of the Rail Jam was, of course, the rails. For their specific needs, and due to a lack of cheap alternatives, Brown and crew built their own rails. In the final days before showtime, though, they found themselves without a welder. Fortunately, a phone call found its way to Brown's cell from a RIT machine shop student, offering to weld the metal rails into hotrod assemblies for the event. After spreading flyers all over campus, U of R, and Wegmans, the club's final hurdle was whether Providence would have the decency to push off the forecasted rain.

The Jam went down with blue skies, sunshine, and mid-40s weather. To complete the scene were Brad Theophila (third year Computer Engineering) and Shawn Pfister (fifth year Computer Engineering), who some might remember from CAB's Hip-Hop Showcase. "They just asked us to set up . . . and do some rhymes," said Theophila. So they did, bringing in a self-spun set of alternating hip-hop tracks and freestyle rapping.

The flavorful beats bounding out of the speakers accompanied the burgers and hot dogs cooking on a classy half-barrel grill throughout the Rail Jam. Other eats like bagels and donuts were contributed by participants and onlookers. Everything melded into a good, communal time. The slush was slow, so participants helped propel each other down the hill, turning themselves into makeshift running catapults. Eruptions of laughter, cheering, clapping, and howling echoed off the CIMS loading bays.

To participate was a simple process. All you needed to do was slap five bucks down on the table, fill out a waiver form, and get lei'ed. If you had a lei on, you could scramble up the hill and test your mad skillz on two different rails, a picnic table of questionable origin, and high-kicking ramp to the far right. Prizes were awarded to the best and worst performers, as well as to anyone else Brown decided deserved a prize. He and Beck went dollar-store shopping and decided on a plastic ninja play set, a fireman's hat, a hula hoop, Jordache perfume, and some whack CD entitled "Drivin and Cryin." The categories were arbitrary, except for the twenty-five bucks awarded to Svilen Piralkov, a second-year Software Engineering major, elected by Brown as the overall winner for his tasty rail work. One of the fifteen guys who helped build the slope, Piralkov confessed that he "just wanted to ride, not compete." It was a feeling obviously felt by nearly every competitor.

Brown hopes to make the Rail Jam an annual event—a conviction reinforced by this year's success. "I'm surprised at how many turned out; I was expecting like five people.



Svilen Piralkov does a trick off the rail during Rail Jam held behind the Red Barn on Saturday, March 26. FOR MORE PHOTOGRAPHS PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.REPORTERMAG.COM.





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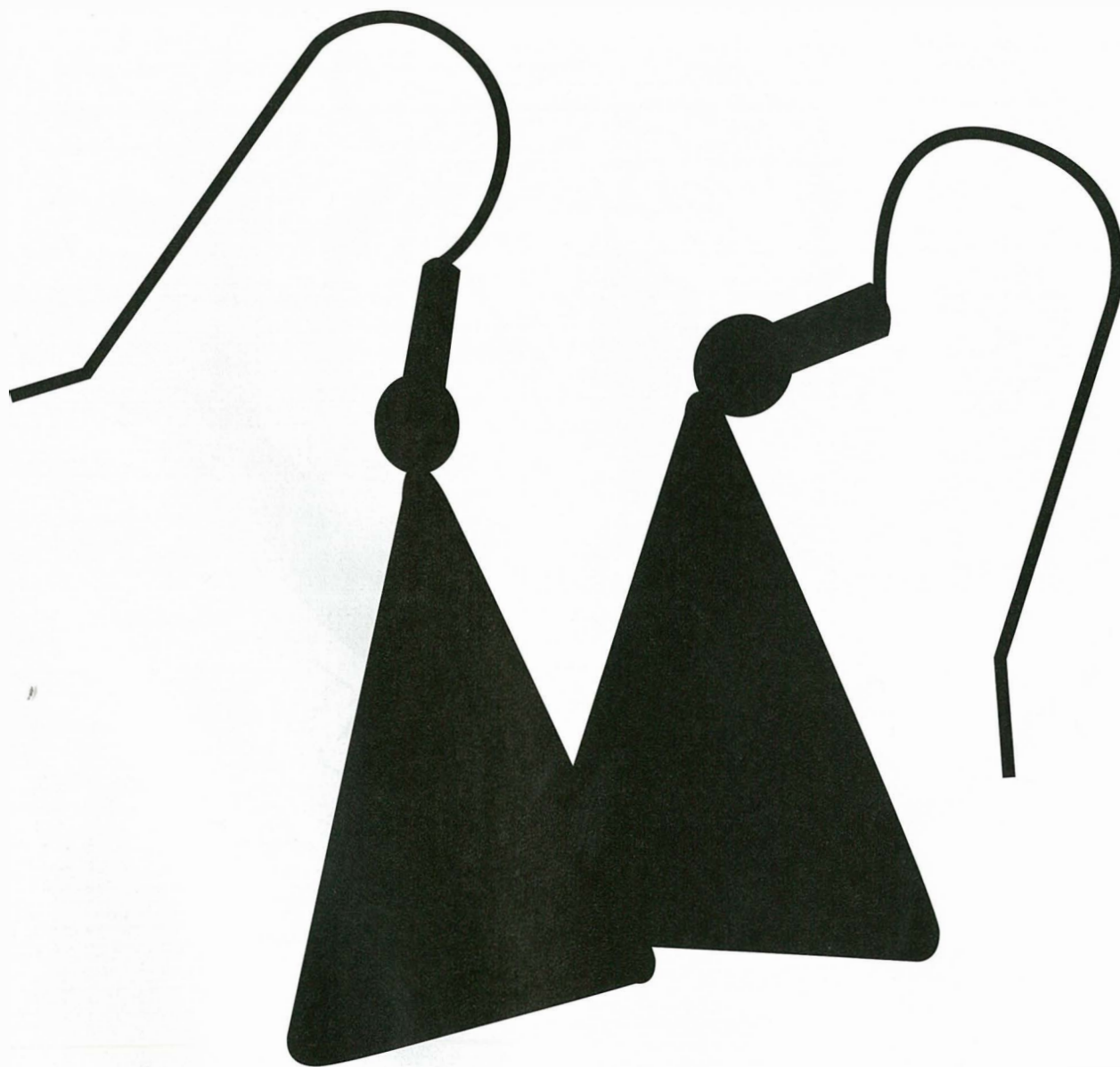
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