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the angelic

reporter

FEBRUARY 9, 1996

that **bosnia**
thing

update on

greeks and

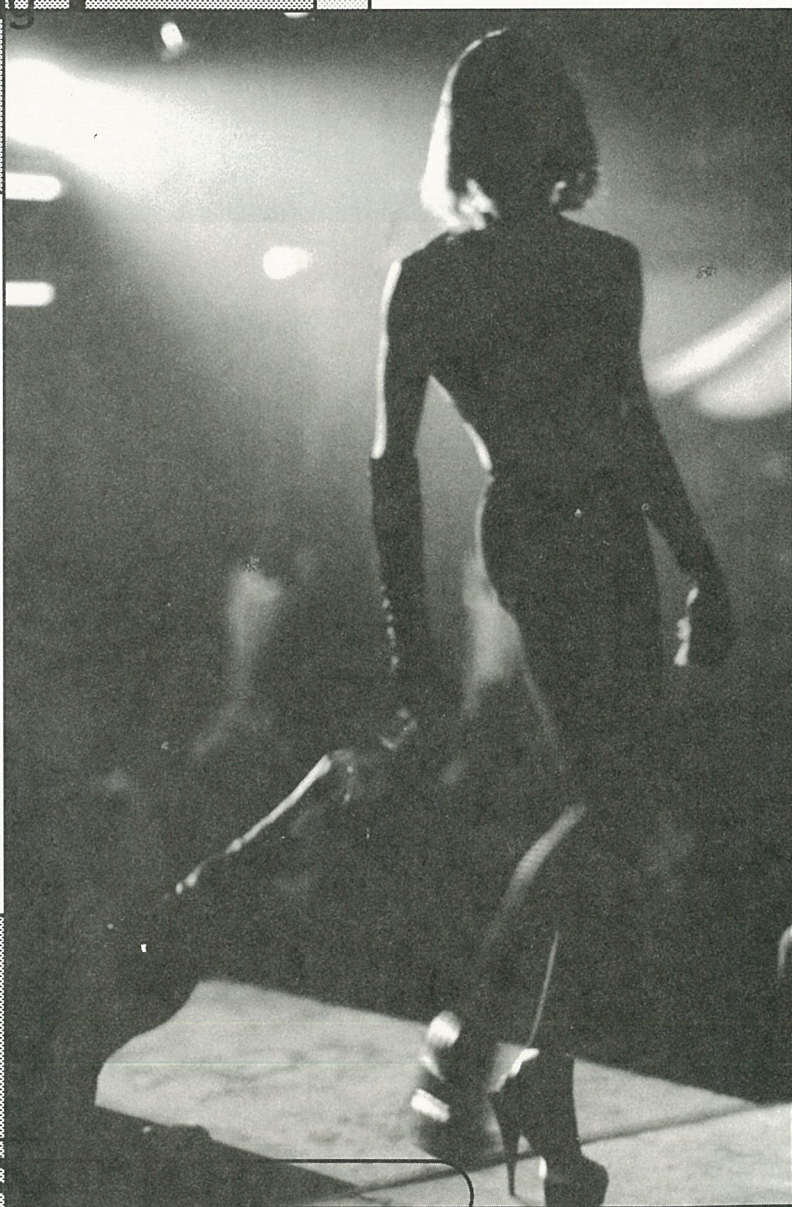
such ■

hey man!

drag **queen**

(*real*
drag) ○

(prettier than your girlfriend)





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Coughed it up for your car insurance.

And *forked* it over for that **fish tank** accident.

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Your True Choice

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COVER: *Rajan Chawla*

It's more than a drag.

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keeping in touch

Last night I got a phone call from one of my all time favorite people. She is a friend of mine from high school (actually, the neighboring high school) and I haven't heard from her in quite a while. That is partially my fault too, the phone does work both ways and my fingers have not been broken.

This phone call came just at the right time. I was stressing over school work and editorial subject matter. We talked for about an hour (there was a lot to catch up on from the past four months) and afterwards, I was in a great mood.

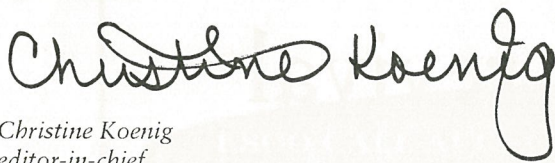
I have always found it very spirit lifting to hear from someone I haven't heard from in a while. Actually, last week I heard from a friend from high school that I haven't seen or heard from since graduation. This friend is attending the coast guard academy. His phone call was a bit on the random side. Other than finding out what I was up to, he wanted to know if Michael Shea's beer was really brewed in Rochester. It was his favorite beer and he was planning a pilgrimage up here. Who would have guessed?

Anyway, since I have been at college a number of my really good friends have left school, graduated, or transferred. Although I always have good intentions to keep in touch, it is hard to keep close friends close when they are far away.

I guess this whole editorial stems from the fact that many of my friends will be graduating soon and I will not be. Last week, I cannot even count how many times I heard the statement, "I just registered for the last time. . . thank God". Although I am more than happy for my friends, and anyone else for that matter, who get to leave here, I am sad to see everyone go.

It is because of this that I have made a decision and effort to keep in touch with far away friends. I bought an address book and I have begun the remarkably difficult task of finding all of the addresses and phone numbers I have accumulated on random pieces of paper and organizing them in my address book.

College is about education, of course, and tasting our first bit of independence while trying to have a good time in the process. It is also about making friends and contacts. Someday I may need to get in touch with some of my friends for reasons other than seeing what may be up. As I reflect upon how nice it is to hear from far away friends from high school, I also look forward to the same experience from my college friends.



Christine Koenig
editor-in-chief

Write Us

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Christine Koenig

reporter

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Derrick Leonard, Jeff Gambles

WRITERS
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Christopher Robin Hewitt,
Marie Kraus, Shannon Lechner,
Ed Pfueller, David Sevier,
Danielle Stolman

DESIGNER
Adam Sloan

PHOTOGRAPHERS
Rajan Chawla, Laura Glazer,
Alaric Lambert, Elli O'Connell,
Ed Pfueller, Mike Rolston,
Adam Zembrak

DARKROOM TECHNICIAN
Dave Sokolsky

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Jodie Jackowicz

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Twelve alternatives to lashing out at your kid.

Ad
Guide

You don't have to lift a hand to hurt your child. Words hit as hard as a fist. The next time everyday pressures build up to such a pitch that you feel like lashing out...stop! And try any of these simple alternatives. Remember, take time out. Don't take it out on your kid.

1. Put your hands over your mouth. Count to 10. Or better yet, 20.
2. Stop in your tracks. Press your lips together and breathe deeply.
3. Phone a friend.
4. Phone the weather.
5. Say the alphabet out loud.
6. If someone can watch the children, go outside and take a leisurely walk.
7. Take a hot bath or splash cold water on your face.
8. Pick up a pencil and write down your thoughts.
9. Close your eyes and imagine you're hearing what your child hears.
10. Turn on the radio or TV.
11. Hug a pillow.
12. Write for prevention information: National Committee for Prevention of Child Abuse, Box 2866, Chicago, IL 60690.

 **Take time out. Don't take it out on your kid.**

JOHNSON IN LOVE

Rochester Mayor Bill Johnson will join RIT for "Make a Difference" Love Day, 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 13. RIT designed the event to share the pleasures of higher education and community service with young children.

Johnson will share his "Make a Difference in '96" message with more than 125 fifth and sixth-grade visitors from Fyle Elementary School in Henrietta and Rochester City elementary schools 4 and 37. The children will work on art projects that represent how they would like to make a difference in the Rochester community. Area agencies like Sojourner House, Hillside Children's Center and AIDS Rochester will display their work.

More than 225 RIT students volunteered to plan an elaborate Love Day celebration. They organized 32 small-group activities for their young guests to choose from - to name a few, interior design painting, emergency medical training, image-capture valentines (using Macintosh Illustrator) and soap carving.

After children arrive on campus around 1:15 p.m., they will split up for small-group activities. At 2:30 p.m., everyone will gather in the Fireside Lounge (decked out in Valentine's Day red) for Mayor Johnson's talk "Make a Difference," activities, refreshments, dancing and entertainment.

90% (percent) ?

Things have been heating up as RIT has finally decided to clamp down on Greek housing vacancies. If the proposed policy is finalized, Greek houses will be required to have 90% occupancy for next fall. 70% or more of that occupancy must be Chapter members, while another 20% may be "Friends of the House." "Friends of the House" are upper-class non-chapter members of the same sex who live in the house.

Presently, the average Greek occupancy percentage is 71%, with some being as low as 43%. These numbers are being compared to the 88% plus occupancy rate of the independent dorms.

According to Vice President, Student Affairs Dr. Linda Kuk, housing in large demand and having high Greek vacancy rates is causing others more money. The policy will hopefully eliminate practice of placing first year students in Greek housing until another room is found for them.

A committee was formed 18 months ago to look at the problem. A report was completed last spring, which offered a complex solution which neither the Greeks nor Kuk felt was satisfactory. In the fall, meetings were held to discuss the problems, and since no other solution was offered, Kuk devised the present proposal.

Kuk hopes that the plan will force the chapters to enforce their own rules stating that members must live in their houses. If a chapter can not meet the occupancy rate, then it may possibly be moved into a smaller space to more efficiently meet its size. "They can't be a fraternity or sorority in this space if they have not met the conditions," says Kuk,

According to Mike Means, President of Phi Kappa Tau and Treasurer of the Inner Fraternity Council, the Greeks understand where RIT is coming from but disagree with the timeliness. "They want 90% to open the house in fall quarter, but in reality, we have until May 1st."

Means pointed out that RIT has a large staff of professionals to fill their housing requirements and that it unfair "to hold us [the Greeks] to a higher occupancy rate than they maintain." Many also feel that having "Friends of the House" goes against the concept of the house since many of their rituals are secret. "I don't think all the houses can meet RIT demands. They are willing to work with us, but their idea of working with us is different than their idea."

Shay Carnes, president of Student Government, stressed that SG is working with the Residence Hall Association. to get the information out, and is providing a forum for the problem to be addressed. A SG meeting was held on Tuesday to address the problem, and Grteek governing bodies met last weekend to devise alternate plans.

The Greek system has been affiliated with RIT since 1901, when the campus was located in downtown Rochester. When the school decided to move to Henrietta, the Greeks sold their houses and RIT built residence halls for the fraternities and sororities, which is where they still are today.

-By Eric Higbee

Fixin' Up The Pads

Possibly as soon as next fall, dormitory residents could see the beginnings of some major housing renovations; a large part of which is installation of Ethernet connections for every room.

A committee has been working 8 months on the proposal for a networking system which will included Ethernet connections for every bed in a room. There's is also the possibility of having two per lounge as well.

The Ethernet connections will allow RIT students to have "a true network connection." Transmitting information at 10 megabits a second, it will allow high speed transfer of images and other formatted documents.

The networking renovations will hopefully be tied in with the other residence hall ren-

ovation which are being planned as well. If all goes well, students will be looking at improvements in their mechanical systems (heat, light, etc.), in acoustical problems (sound traveling through walls), in windows, doors, bathrooms, new furniture, study areas and lounges.

Renovation is a time-consuming process, and the feasibility of working on the rooms while the rooms are occupied is being looked at. Ideally, construction will start in the summer, but it will possibly be a 3-5 year continuous project. According to Director of Residence Life, John Weas, they will "attempt to touch every single room" and would "like to move as quickly as possible."

The plan will be presented to President Simone, and then the Boards of Trustees by spring. There is still some studying to be done concerning finances with installation and maintenance costs, and the final decision still has not been made. According to Weas, however, there is a "strong feeling among the institute community that there is a need to expand to this capability."

"I believe that having Ethernet connections really will make a difference both on what students can do with their instructional work and what faculty can expect," said Ron Stappenbeck, Director of Information Systems and Computing, "There is a significant instructional benefit, and that's truly the primary purpose for doing it."

-Written by Eric Higbee

What's Going On?

A wide ranging poll discovered that **two-thirds of American's** don't know who their congressman is. Of those who do know, half don't know whether their representative is a Democrat or a Republican.

The food crisis in **North Korea** is worsening as the **Red Cross** steps up its aid efforts and **South Korea** accuses it's government of starving it's people by not releasing military reserves.

At **2.5%, inflation** at the retail level last year was at it's lowest this decade.

A small goat herd on a rocky islet almost sent **Greece** and **Turkey** to war last week. A **US** brokered-resolution eased the military showdown over the islet who's ownership is a point of national honor.

Alright, maybe **Sun Microsystems** won't be buying **Apple Computer**, but **Sony**, who's been looking to get into the personal computer business, might be. Meanwhile, angry shareholder's dismissed Apple's chief, Michael H. Spindler.

Things are heating up between **India** and **Pakistan** as Pakistani President Farooq Leghari vowed to respond to an alleged Indian rocket attack, which India denies. Meanwhile, **China** is shipping parts to Pakistan to build a nuclear power plant which could possibly produce nuclear weapons material.

Millionaire **John du Pont** was arrested on his estate after a two day siege for allegedly killing **Olympic wrestling gold medalist Dave Schultz**.

The **United States** issued a stern warning to **China** over the pirating of software, videos and music. The action was prompted by concern for maintaining credibility with trading partners.

The appointment of a conservative Archbishop in **San Salvador** is a signal that the theology of liberation that defined the **Catholic Church in Latin America** for a quarter of a century is in retreat.

A land mine took the life of an **American soldier in Bosnia**, the first American to die in the ongoing conflict.

If you are a **Floridian** addicted to cigarettes, feel free to join in on a class action lawsuit against tobacco companies. The suit claims the tobacco companies intentionally addicted smokers.

-Prepared by Eric Higbee

DOING IT SAFELY

The week of February 12-15 is "Safer Sex Awareness Week" sponsored by PIERS (Peers Informing and Education RIT Students).

In celebration of "Safer Sex Awareness Week, February 12-15, PIERS (Peers Informing and Educating RIT Students) will be handing out helium balloons with condoms and instructions in them from 10 to 2 p.m. in the Student Alumni Union. Also free for the taking will be plenty of literature and, on Friday, a chance to meet Condom Man and Rubbermaid.

On a more serious note, free HIV testing will be available in the Health Center.

The testing is completely confidential, and run by AIDS Rochester, which means the test results will not be put in records here on campus.

Mani Eghbali, Health Education Coordinator, feels that "although this appears as a fun kind of thing, it is not frivolous. It is a sound way of reaching students who aren't comfortable, and raise awareness on campus." She points out the alarming increases in sexually transmitted diseases such as Chlamydia and genital warts, and the truth that abstinence is the only sure protection.

PIERS is group of students who do programming to raise students awareness on health issues, alcohol, drugs, sex, sex assault and harassment. They help run the Sexual Assault/Info Hotline (275-7265) which offer confidential help for those who have been or know someone who has been abused.

-By Eric Higbee

They Might Be GIANTS: "We've never been very cute and we've always been kinda old."

On 2/3/96, at 8:00 AM, John Flansburgh of They Might Be Giants (TMBG) got a call from his road manager saying they couldn't fly due to bad weather. This didn't bother John until his girlfriend reminded him that today was the 40th anniversary of the plane crash that killed Buddy Holly, Richie Valens, and The Big Bopper. Seeking to keep history from repeating itself, TMBG headed out onto the open road. "Since this is essentially a one off for us and an adult size drive, 6 hours, we were thinking 'maybe we'll do the plane thing' because we actually never do. We were supposed to fly in this twenty seat plane, one of those three across deals. I don't really like flying, I prefer to drive. The history of They Might Be Giants is written on the interstate highways of America," John said

At 9:30 PM, TMBG took the stage at RIT's Clark Gym, and proceeded to rock the house for the next hour and a half. TMBG didn't bring the horns section, as they have been known to do for the last few years, but instead played a more power set of songs. The set included a few new songs as well as "James K. Polk," a song that until recently they had never learned to play. They finished with a double encore including "The Famous Polka" and "Joker (Steve Miller Band)". Except for the mildly rowdy crowd and poor acoustics, the concert was a good one.

Sometime in-between their road manager's early morning call and the first note of the concert, Reporter and WITR interviewed John Flansburgh, the band's guitarist/co.-vocalist/co-songwriter.

"There will be four people on stage tonight; me, John Linnell (accordion/keyboards/co-vocals/co-songwriter), Gram Maybe (bass), and Brian Doeherty (drums)," said John as he sat legs crossed and relaxed in WITR's studio "C".

Relaxed is a minor understatement considering they were hours late and had little time to practice, not to mention he was due on stage in twenty minutes. "It's different for us. We worked for years as a duo. John and I just worked together for a number of years with a drum machine and just us playing on stage. We went headlong into this full band thing with a rhythm section about three or four years ago. When we first did, the big problem was to reproduce the rhythm section stuff as well as the extra things.. and the horn section really worked best to fill that out. We were kinda really high on the idea of having a full band."

"In the past month we have started writing songs for the next record. The next TMBG album will be more like a combination of records previous to John Henry and...John Henry. It will have live drums, guitars, and accordions but it will probably have, instead of a horns section on top, it will probably have more electronically generated stuff, more sample based things, as well as things we just created in our home studios."

"Everybody sort of starts in a place that says a lot about the kind of band they are. Like bar bands start out in bars, garage bands start in garage, even though its just a place...it often says a lot about what your intentions are." John sees TMBG as a bedroom band. "I think for us it's been very personal and it always been almost private in a way. I think the intensity and the reason why our music kind of sticks out from the general scene is because it really is not focused on an audience. We have always been interested in...letting the song take us in the direction it's going, to the extreme. It's really almost ... on some level there's something about what we do that is really about pursuing very personal musical issues."

As for new music, along with a new album, there has been many rumors. "The B-side thing (rumored to be titled "Superfueled Freaksickle") is not going to happen. Elektra's not going to put it out, and it is a shame, but it didn't fit in with our release schedule. They just had too many priority things to put out."

"Actually I have a record that is going to come out on an independent label, three labels are bidding on it right now, but the project is titled "Monopuff" and I did it with Hello records. It's done. It will be out in a couple of months, including a song with the Nixons."

It was ten minutes before TMBG was scheduled for the stage. The interview ended and the rest is history. The concert was sponsored by CAB. WITR will broadcast portions of this interview in the future. If you missed this show, you missed another reason which proves that they really are giants.

—Patrick Gaynard and Tony Paglia

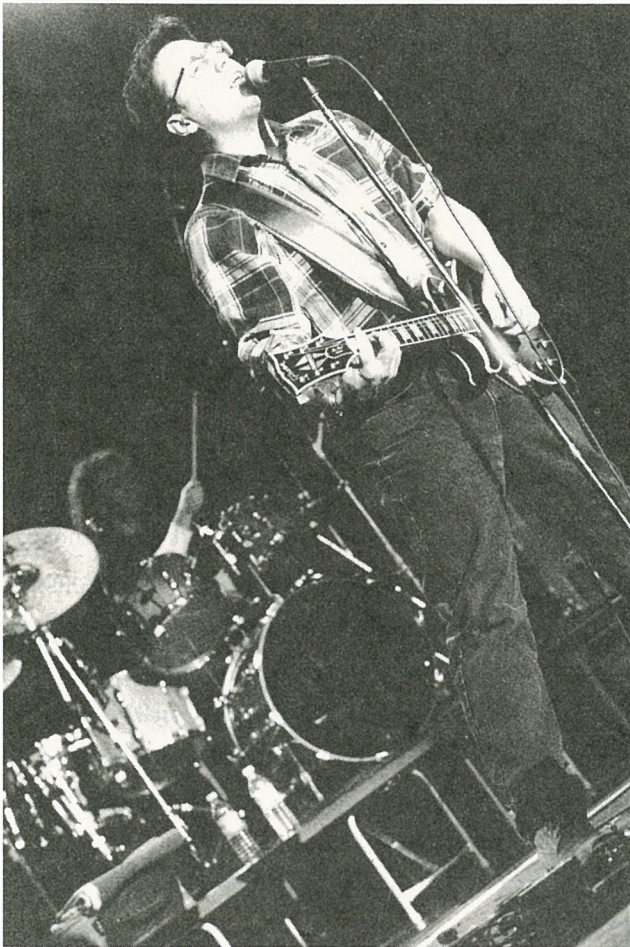


PHOTO CREDIT: MIKE ROLSTEN

They Might Be Giants, on February 4th, performed to one of the largest crowds in R.I.T.'s recent concert history (pictured here John Flansburgh, singer /guitarist)

The Drag Queens are coming! The Drag Queens are coming!

Yes, ladies, gentlemen, and all in between... RIT is hosting its very own drag show. For those of you unfamiliar with the concept, a drag show is a performance where men dress as women, women dress as men, and all lip-synch to music of their choosing while dancing on stage. It will be a judged competition, but don't let that deter you. RIT Alternative Student Fellowship's vice president assures that "We're not looking for people to go all out. It's just for fun!" And don't think you have to be gay to enter... about half of the current line-up is straight.

So, when is this all going down? The show is being held on February 10 from 6pm to about 8pm in the Fireside Lounge of the SAU. Faculty and staff are more than welcome... heck, some of the performers are faculty and staff! It will be interpreted (incidentally, this is your chance to see two of the more popular interpreters on campus like you've never seen them before!) Admission is \$3 for students, faculty, and staff, and \$5 for the general public.

The show is being presented by the RIT Alternative Student Fellowship. (RITASF) Club Marcella, one of Rochester's hottest gay nightclubs, will be providing the judges for the competition in the form of their own talented cast of drag queens. The Pride Connection, a local gay-pride shop, will be providing prizes for the winners. And the performers... RIT's finest. So, if you think you have what it takes to slip on that evening gown or throw on that tux and strut your stuff, e-mail RITASF. If you aren't up to performing than show up, enjoy a great show, and free your mind!

-Written by Liz Croteau

Bed of Roses

You finally found the Valentine of your dreams. All of that stalking, and the ulcer you developed, has actually paid off. It's Valentine's Day and your stomach is in knots as that special someone you have chased for months shares a tub of buttery popcorn with little, lowly you. As you think nothing could possibly go wrong, you realize that you are sitting through the movie from hell, *Bed of Roses*.

The new romance pairing Christian Slater (*Interview with a Vampire*) and Mary Stuart Masterson (*Some Kind of Wonderful*) can only be described in one word: disappointing. The story is of an executive turned floral delivery boy who finds the love of his life crying over her dead fish, through a window. It's your typical boy stalks girl, girl stalks boy love story. The problem lies in the weak and predictable plot which is a complete waste of the cast's talents. Slater plays his usual sensitive, alternative self in an enchanting character you just want to take home to Mom. Masterson, on the other hand, plays a whiny, self-pitying woman ashamed of her past. The story is slow moving and does little to develop the supporting characters and subplots within the story line. A great deal of emphasis is on Masterson's character's past, yet all that is shown of her past are a couple of meaningless flashbacks. You find yourself confused at times and anxiously awaiting a climax that never really comes. The biggest bust of this movie is how many times Masterson grabs her coat and walks out the door. By the end of the movie, the entire audience ends up screaming to Slater to let her go.

In all, *Bed Of Roses* is a very disappointing film for Slater fans and movie buffs alike. Don't be drawn in by the romantic previews, save yourself and your valentine. If you're looking for romance, buy a ticket to view *Two If By Sea* instead. I rate *Bed of Roses* a 2 out of 5.

-Written by Stacy Speidel

Bruce Davidson on Davidson, Photography, and RIT

When the lights came back on the College of Imaging Arts and Sciences Auditorium, there was no doubt in my mind that RIT alumnus Bruce Davidson could walk the walk. However, even more refreshing was the fact that he didn't feel a need to talk the talk for the entire hour and forty-five minutes of his presentation on February 1st. Davidson, a renowned documentary photographer based in New York City, was brought to RIT by the military photojournalism class. The sub-zero temperatures outside could not hinder the enthusiasm of the crowd in the auditorium, as Davidson ran through two and a half slide trays of his work.

Davidson received recognition for his documentation of the Civil Rights movement, and later went on to do a long-term project photographing a street gang. This project was followed by Davidson's work documenting a single block of New York City, a project published as *East 100th Street*. Most recently, Davidson has completed a four-year documentary of the 843 acre

Central Park. During this project, Davidson shot over two-thousand rolls of film, and made over fifteen-hundred 11X14 prints.

As a picture of a man resting on a subway grate, in front of a shady section of the park, was shown on the screen, Davidson explained that the purpose of the Central Park project was to "interpret the relationship between city cement, nature, and what we call culture."

Davidson insists that he doesn't do photo stories. "I don't name what I do, I just explore it."

"We have to label things; documentary, fine art. I just want to make sure it's fine," he states.

Indeed, one of the first things you will notice about Davidson is that

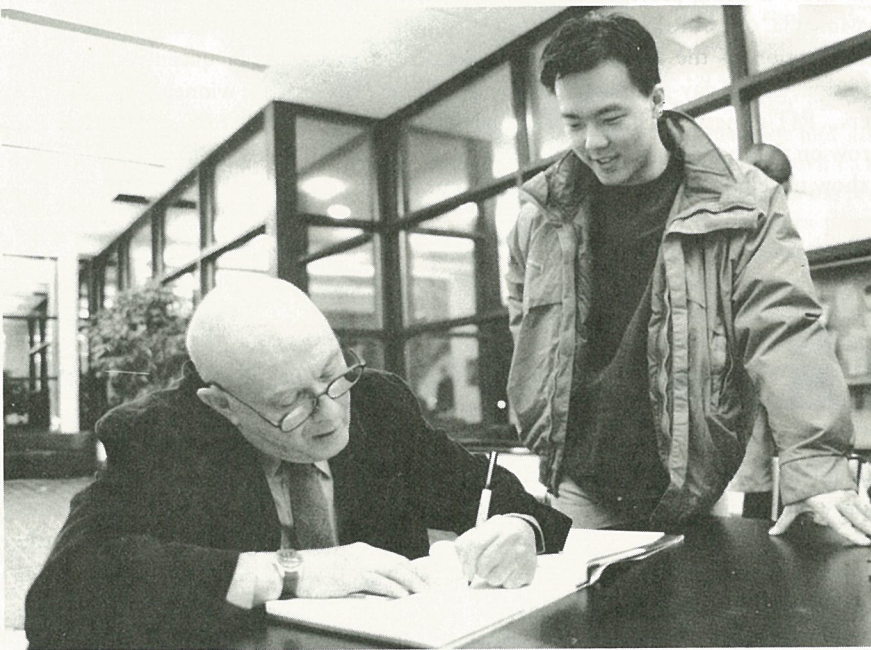
he is very down to earth. He is comfortable with his photography, and doesn't

feel the need, sometimes exhibited by other less-aware photographers and artists, to surround their work with unnecessary mystique. Davidson put up no smoke screen, and given the long string of questions asked after the showing, the audience was enamored by this.

While Davidson was truly inspiring, there was a dark spectre cast on the presentation, and Davidson showed no mercy. After dealing with the auto-focusing problems of the slide presentation, and otherwise poor projection of his photographs, Davidson became fed up.

"You should write a letter to the (dean) of the photo school. I think it is disgraceful that in a school named Rochester Institute of Technology, I should have sloppy projection while I am showing my life's work," he exclaimed. Davidson's comment was met with an applause from the students, while most of the faculty sat silent.

Even though RIT is his alma mater, Davidson had cut right to the chase, and everyone in the crowded auditorium knew it.



"After setting the record straight in the CIS auditorium (see article), Photographer Bruce Davidson was beset by a long line of students and faculty to sign his new book *Central Park*."

-Written by Kurt Brownell

-Photo by Kurt Brownell

sports **Fire on Ice**

A near capacity crowd at Ritter arena witnessed the drama of an intense standoff

between the RIT men's hockey team and their division rival Canisius on Friday, February 2nd. Coach Eric Hoffberg predicted that the game would be "very intense, and that it will be interesting to see how things turned out." Hoffberg hit the nail on the head with this prediction as the two teams wrestled for control during the entire sixty minutes of the game.

The game started with a roar as the teams tore up the ice with their speed and punishing hits. It took a power play midway through the first period before the Griffins could beat Tiger goalie Jamie Morris to set the game at 1-0. Although Canisius is a bigger team, the Tigers relentlessly returned check after check. The four minute exhibition by the Rochester youth hockey league proved to be a higher scoring affair than the game at hand.

Bodies continued to fly in the second period as the teams combined for a total of eight minor penalties. The Tigers offense began to catch fire when center Angelo Papalia blasted a slap shot past the Griffins goaltender for his ninth goal of the season and the Tigers first of the game. Coach Hoffberg urged his team that "there are a lot of ways to win a hockey game, not just the forwards matter," as the Tigers complained of the double minor given to Adam French midway through the second. Freshman Luke Murphy responded to the coach's pleas when he finished a feed from Randy Cheynowski to put the Tigers up 2-1 going into the third period.

In the third period the game reached a new plateau. When Canisius tied the game at 4:38, the two teams geared up for battle. The goalies traded fantastic save after save, each refusing to become the game's goat. As tensions grew Canisius resorted to dirty play, taking two late hit penalties in a period of two minutes. The Tigers failed to capitalize on these opportunities, however. The crowd cheered wildly as the Tigers desperately tried to score in the final minutes. Their effort was not successful, however, and the game ended in a stalemate. This battle was not over yet as the teams headed for overtime.

Play became more conservative in the sudden death five minute overtime, and neither team could muster enough offense to score. As the game ended in a tie, a youngster exclaimed the Tigers should have won because "the purple team swears too much, and the refs stink." He expressed an opinion shared by many other fans, the game had ended in a tie due to poor officiating.

Defense proved to be the deciding factor in this contest. Coach Hoffberg takes pride in recruiting his defensemen, and this game proved to be perfect testament to their skill. The Tigers final home game will be on 2/17 against Elmira. The Tigers have the NCAAs in their sights, but they must win their final games of the season to obtain this honor.

-Written by Ed A. Pfueller

ATHLETE of the WEEK

Marie Signor

Marie Signor, a forward on the women's hockey team has been named Female Athlete of the Week of RIT and the Rochester Area Colleges for her performance in the Tigers' victories over Maine and Bowdin. Signor scored six of the eight Tiger goals including a hat trick in the win against Maine.

Coach Rick Filighera believes her biggest skills are her skating and her speed. These skills were shown on Signor's first goal of the week which occurred after her fourth break away. This season Signor has scored 12 goals and had 6 assists, totaling 18 points for the Tigers. "She's a senior so she brings experience; when it comes to crunch time she will be able to play in the situations a freshmen wouldn't," said Coach Rick Filighera. "She is someone who knows when to be intense and when to be playful, an important mix in stressful situations," continued Coach Filighera.

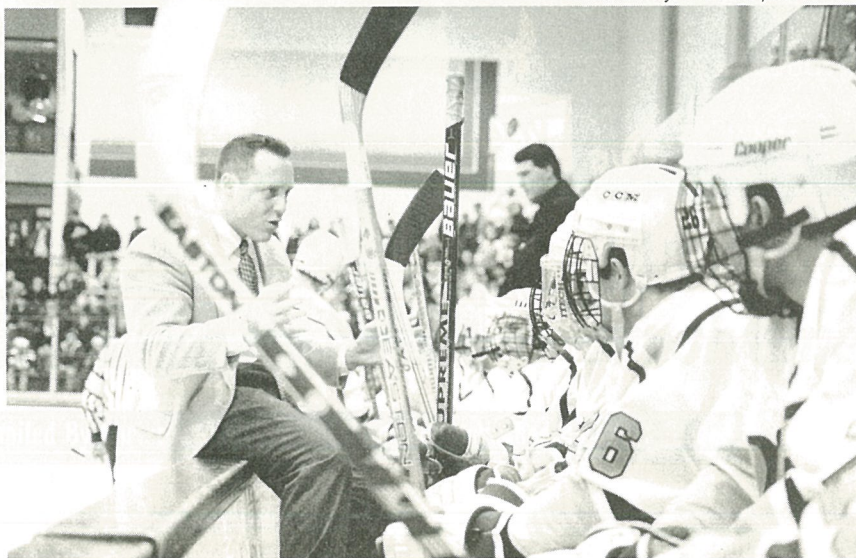
Art Thomas

Art Thomas, forward on the men's hockey team was named Male Athlete of the Week for his performance in the Tigers' 3-0 week including two away games. Thomas racked up five goals and one assist during the week including a hat trick in the home game against Hobart that ended 14-2 in favor of the Tigers.

Coach Eric Hoffberg describes Thomas as someone who "positions himself well, and puts himself in spots where he can score as illustrated in all five of his goals last week." "The three goals on Friday night and his goal on Tuesday especially stand out, because Eric was in the slot area with the puck on his stick for the shortest amount of the split second and he put it into place and into the net in a way he couldn't be stopped," said Hoffberg.

"He's one of the best players in the region, and one of the great leaders in the (RIT) program" said Hoffberg. "I see in him the potential to be All-Conference this year, maybe a potential All-American, and the potential to be an All-American next year." continued Hoffberg.

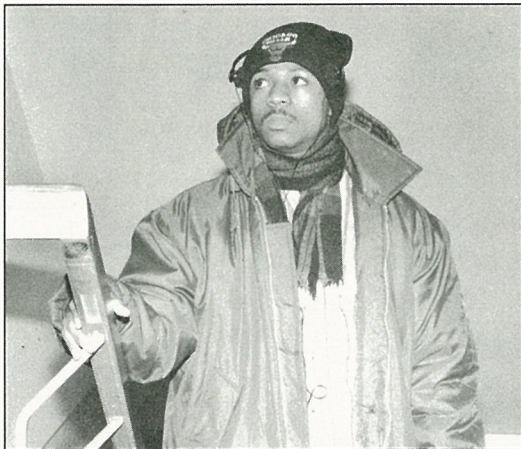
-Written by Danielle Stolman



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"They should have done it sooner. Too many things happened there for too long. It happened in WWI, WWII, Cambodia, and we shouldn't sit around and watch. People have to start taking care of each other."

-Jim White, Ceramics Graduate Student

"Yeah, I do agree. Those poor people are suffering. It's a sticky situation. I'm really worried about the people, not the politics of it all."

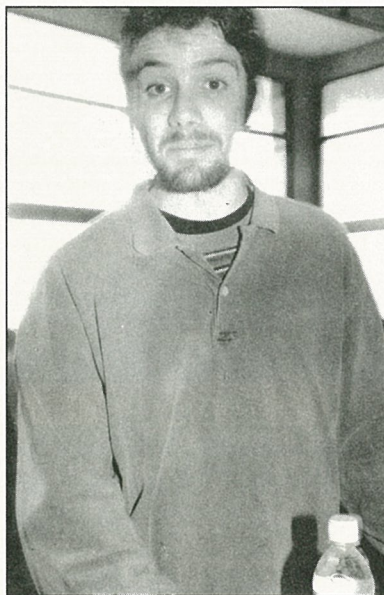
-Jennifer Godin, 1st year Metals

"We should remember the Vietnam War. We still haven't gotten people back from there and should be worrying about that. We should be giving more services."

-Toni Sutton, 1st year Metals

"At first I was totally against it being a pacifist person, but being that they're slaughtering innocent people, I agree."

-HoNe Finch, 4th year Ceramics



"There is no reason for us to be there. Any reason is purely political and for Clinton's reelection. It's all about image maintaining and it saddens and frightens me to see us doing it once again."

-Edward Peck, 3rd year Graphic Design

"From a humanitarian point of view, I think we're doing the right thing. From a political view, Clinton is committing political suicide. It's the job of an international organization. Our part in NATO is too much of a leader."

-Allen Cheng, 1st year Film/Video/Animation

"Although I am generally opposed, I think that the tragedies warrant our involvement in any peacekeeping effort."

-Dr. Diane Hope, Professor in Professional and Technical Communication

"I'm from Haiti and the U.S.'s involvement did bring security up. I think that maybe in the future it will help bring the security back. Hopefully its involvement will bring about a better situation."

-Pierre Dunac, 3rd year Electrical Engineering

"They should be there only because of the atrocities that have taken place. I hope that it will only be for a limited time."

-Sarah Reynolds, User Services Coordinator for the RIT Wallace Library

"I'm from India and I think that they definitely belong there. The U.S. has the most superior military power and shouldn't allow genocide. Foreign opinion of the U.S. is bad for being Big Brother, and this may help."

-Animesh Narang, Business Graduate Student

what do YOU think about the United States's involvement in **BOSNIA?**

written by Liz
Croteau

photographed by Rajan
Chawla

OK. So you're gay.
Or lesbian. Or bi,
for that matter.

You might still be
in the closet, or
you may be the most
flamboyantly proud
member of the RIT
gay community. At
any rate, it's the
weekend and you're
bored out of your

skull, just like the
rest of us. So,
what the heck is
there to do in
Rochester for young
gay peo

out of the

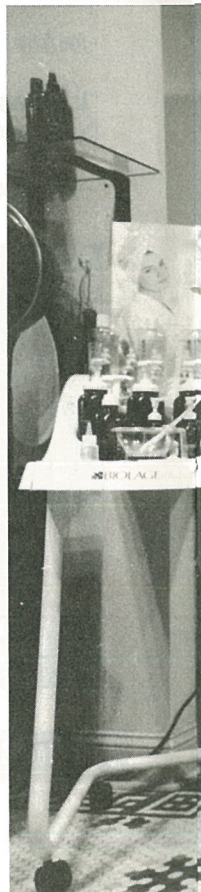
brick closet

Boy, did you come to the right town! With a repeatedly-elected gay city councilman and a gay-friendly police force (with a specially appointed liaison to the gay community), Rochester is one of the more friendly places to come out and play.

For you homebodies out there...

Even though RIT is commonly known as "The Brick Closet" due to its less-than-gay-friendly tendencies, there is the Alternative Student Fellowship to save you from boredom right here on campus. The Fellowship is primarily a social group where gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, and gay-friendly students can get together, hang out, and generally socialize. They meet Saturday nights at 8pm in room 1500 of the Student Alumni Union, and usually make a group exodus for coffee afterwards.

The ASF hosts movie nights, the occasional "field trip" to local gay-friendly stores, and dances. The dances, co-hosted by the University of Rochester gay and lesbian group, are held fall and spring quarter. These "Solstice Dances" are a great on-campus chance to mingle and have a great time. The ASF is also hosting the "Free Your Mind" drag show and competition coming up on February 10 in the Fireside Lounge of the SAU. Their sponsors, ClubMarcella and The Pride Connection, will be providing judges and prizes to the winners, and RIT will be providing interpreters.





left • Club Marcella offers its “Life’s A Drag” show Sunday nights at 10:30pm and 12:30am, plus a New Talent Night for newcomers every Wednesday night. Former Miss Gay Rochester, Heather Skye (Brent Howard) is a crowd favorite.

below • Howard started performing as a drag queen on a dare five years ago. He spends his days as a hairstylist at Sa La Vie hair salon in Rochester.

But what if you are just plain sick of bricks?

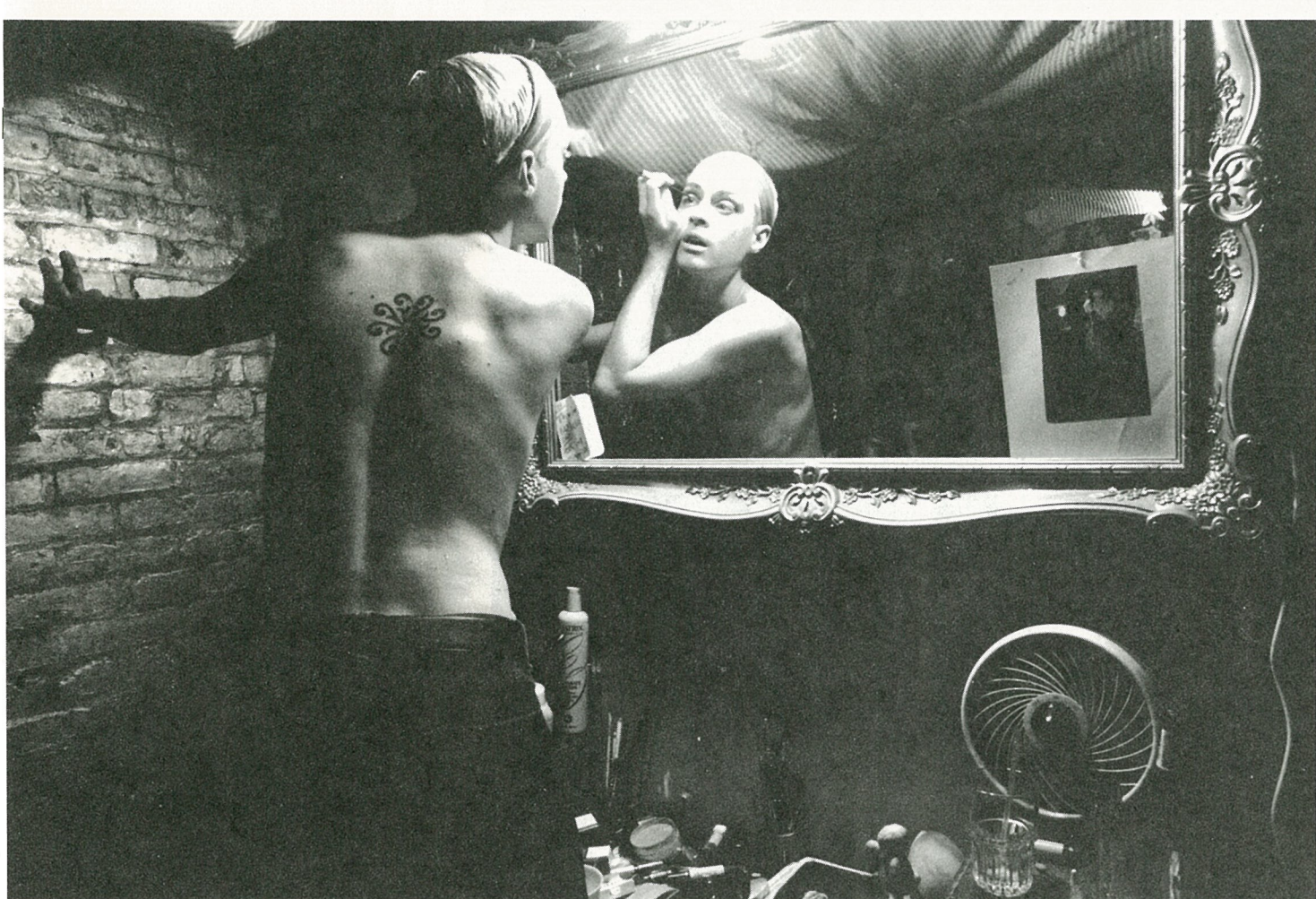
First and foremost on most students’ minds when going off campus for an evening of revelry, be they gay or straight, is the club scene. The club scene for gay students is hopping in Rochester now more than ever.

The two main contenders for the young adult scene are ClubMarcella (123 Liberty Pole Way) and Club Atlantis (10/12 Washington Street). Both have hot music, great people, and fantastic atmosphere.

ClubMarcella, reopened on December 16 after some major remodeling, has rapidly become a favorite nightspot for much of Rochester. Every Sunday night at 10:30 and 12:30, the lovely “ladies” of the “Life’s a Drag” show entertain throngs of ardent fans both gay and straight... a show you don’t want to miss. Emceed by Darien Lake (a former Miss Funny Rochester), the show is an absolute blast! And if you’d like to try popping on the pumps yourself, Wednesday night is their New Talent Night, open to any who’d like to give it their all.

Club Atlantis is a relative newcomer on the scene, but has already developed quite a following. With drink specials every night and a College Night on Thursdays, it’s been





giving the other Rochester nightspots quite the run for their money. At the moment, the second level of the club is closed down for construction of a third floor addition (rumor has it that the new level will be opening Valentine's Day.)

While lesbians are always more than welcome at the gay clubs in town, there is also Club Mahara (10 South Washington Street) if you'd prefer a more favorable odds distribution (I mean, women spend most of their time outnumbered on RIT campus as is!) Mahara has been in Rochester for a few years now and remains a favorite.

What's a good place to bring a date?

If you're looking for some nice, gay-friendly places to go out for a more quiet evening, there are quite a few nice restaurants. Muther's 40 Union Bar and Restaurant (40 South Union Street) offers both a nice dining atmosphere and terrific entertainment. For vegetarian fare and feminist flair, try the Slice of Life Cafe (742 South Avenue) for good eats, cozy atmosphere, and the latest updates on the ecology and gay and women's right's issues.

right • Minutes before the show, Howard gets some assistance with his hair (wig). He'll have to go through at least three more costume changes before the end of the night.



I hate clubs! I just want to meet people!

If you aren't into the club scene, don't think you will still be stranded! The Gay Alliance of the Genesee Valley (179 Atlantic Avenue) offers tons of special interest groups anyone is free to join. Everything from poetry to religion to boating.... you name it, there's probably a group for it!

They also host several support groups, so if you're just coming out (or even thinking about coming out, but not sure if you want to) you may want to give one a call. Not only are they good moral support during a difficult time, but they are also a great way to meet people.

For the bookish types, Border's Books and Music (100 Hylan Drive) hosts "Triangle Talk", a book discussion group held once a month (this month's will be Monday, Feb. 26 from 7pm-8:30pm. Guest speakers come in to discuss books on gay issues and drink large quantities of great cappuccino. The GAGV also hosts a Friday Night Coffee House at their offices on the third Friday of every month, featuring poets, musicians, and other performers... not to mention some great conversation.

And for all you net-junkies out there... you can meet people in the community without ever leaving your dorm room! The Multicom 4 Computer Bulletin Board (hosted out of Rochester Custom Leather in the Village Gate Mall, 274 North Goodman Street) allows access to chat rooms, the latest updates from gay groups around town, gay issues discussion, and the latest AIDS news from AIDS Rochester. To find out more, call Rochester Custom Leather at 442-2323.

Of course, the World Wide Web has it's own sections. !OutProud!, a San Jose, California group for gay, lesbian, and bi youth has a page at <http://www.outproud.org/outproud>. Out! Magazine has a site as well, located at <http://www.out.com>. This site has been expanded recently to include a daily gay news section and a "family album" where you can come out online.

So, you still think there's nothing to do in Rochester? ●



So who do I call for all this stuff?

Alternative Student Fellowship:

Contact RITASF@ritvax via email, or show up Saturday at 8pm in room 1500 in the SAU.

Gay Alliance of the Genesee Valley:

Call 244-8640 (voice/TTY) or show up at their offices at 179 Atlantic Avenue. They have a library of gay literature, and volumes of pamphlets that you can pick up (Recommended reading: their pamphlet entitled "What's Gay in Rochester"... it gives a near-complete listing of all the gay-friendly businesses, clubs, night-clubs, and organizations, and who to contact.) They also offer student memberships for \$20; not only will it help keep their projects running, it'll get you a subscription to the Empty Closet!

Multicom 4: For membership information and where to telnet to, call Rochester Custom Leather at 442-2323, or stop by the Village Gate Mall at 274 North Goodman Street (they have terminals you can access the bulletin board in the back room.)

For too long humans have been practicing violence as a necessary evil. 100 million men, women, and children were killed in wars between 1918-1982 alone. The wars have resulted in the senseless death of soldiers and civilians because of political arguments about territory, religion, race, and freedom. These causes and others have been the cause of the current "Battle of the Balkans" that has resulted in the death of over 200,000 Bosnians.

In addition, tens of thousands of Bosnian Muslim women, mostly girls, have been raped and more than 2 million Bosnians are refugees or in internal exile.

what
it
really
means
to
us

bosnia

The war in Bosnia-Herzegovina has been an atrocious display of "ethnic cleansing" carried out by Bosnian Serbs, Serbian troops, and the Yugoslav army to remove Bosnian Muslims from their homes, cities, and land. The U.S. State Department's 1992 annual report on human rights stated that Serbian forces in Bosnia were conducting a campaign of "cruelty, brutality, and killing" unmatched in Europe "since Nazi times." However, now that U.S. troops are there, it is time to weigh the good and evil of our mission and decide if using physical force is the best solution.

The "just war theory" is a series of angles used to analyze the circumstances before engaging in war and was codified by Sergeant Robert Bellarmine. He took the ideas from the writings of St. Augustine, the thoughts of Plato and Cicero, and the beliefs of Medieval knighthood.

The first part of the theory is termed 'just cause.' Is there just cause for U.S. troops to be in Bosnia? Dr. Jamie Campbell, professor of philosophy at RIT, said that "the genocide is intolerable and must be brought to an end. (This must be made) clear to the international community, while seeking every possible avenue without resorting to violence."

There have been many attempts by the United Nations and NATO to work with the warring parties at coming up with a peace agreement that is acceptable. They have tried to keep the peace but the Serbs have continually violated cease-fires and peace treaties.

Next, the "just war theory" states that there must be competent authority declaring that the war be carried out. Campbell believes that any step that the U.S. takes should be done "with the knowledge, consent, and support of the international community." The "Contact Group", consisting of U.S., France, Britain, Germany, and Russia, is working with NATO and is sending in a total of 60,000 troops. The group functions under the belief that it is best to work together with other countries in the world to solve the problems that face the world.



The third part of the theory states that there must be the right intention for going to war. Many people believe that Clinton is sending in troops to have a better chance at re-election. This intention is a private motive that violates the morality of the fighting. The U.S.'s success in the Gulf made it a victory for both George Bush and American intentions. However, Reagan was not so lucky when he sent troops into Beirut.

Campbell thinks that our intention "should be for the good of the people and not for self-serving purposes." Finally, the principle of proportionality states that the evil that the war is likely to bring about must be less than the evil likely to come about if the war is not declared.

According to Campbell, "we can go in to do good but it can result in evil. When you're surrounded by alligators, it is too late to drain the swamp. We must proceed with caution."

There is a large difference of opinion on whether or not our troops should be in Bosnia. People that have been involved in war know first-hand what U.S. involvement is capable of bringing about.

Scott Wager, an RIT student, served in the Persian Gulf War and says that he "doesn't particularly see the interest that we have there and why we're being such the big watchdogs to the rest of these countries. I think this is more of a presidential thing than in the Gulf. Our crisis there was the world's oil supply. I see that as more of a reason than just saying that we think we should just go help the Bosnians."

Scott McMillan is a local Rochester worker who served as a Marine in Beirut. He said that "from my past experience, we should not get involved in peacekeeping. It makes us a police faction between two opposing forces. It also makes us a target. I was shot in the hand while I was in Beirut and we had to pull out, and things are still messed up. If we continue to stick our noses into these things, lose our men, and pull out, people will think that they can walk all over us."

The disaster in Beirut was a lesson to many people but was nothing compared to the awful results of the Vietnam War. However, many veterans still have a positive impression of the military.

Terry Hewitt served in Vietnam and said that he "feels that we have to be [in Bosnia]. We have a commitment to help keep the peace. I'm mad at the people who originally put their feet in but if we don't stick to our promises we'll lose all of our integrity."

The United States has a commitment, and the RIT students who are most likely to go to Bosnia are the ROTC students.

Lt. Col. Steven L. Slough said that "it's unlikely that an individual would go direct from RIT to a station in Bosnia. They would normally go to another unit and receive some training. When a military person signs on to the job, we are very careful to point out that we have a responsibility to defend the nation. If [the president] says that we need to go to Bosnia, I think that we're obligated to uphold that. That's what we take an oath to do."

Most people do not realize the effect that this war has had on the children and young adults of Bosnia. The children that are eight years old and younger have never known anything besides war. The chance of school is a lost dream.

Jim Bartlett is the editor-in-chief of Berserkistan, an interactive news magazine on the Internet that reports the atrocities of the war in Bosnia-Herzegovina. He said that "the kids in this war really got screwed over. Their lives have been disrupted, many have been killed, and their dreams have been dumped down the tubes. All this for the petty prejudices of old men."

Although there are millions of Bosnians who cannot escape the horrors that face them, some have left the country in order to find a better life. Mehmed Mahmutovic is a Bosnian Muslim who came to Rochester 18 months ago to earn his degree. He is a student at M.C.C. and thinks that the U.S.'s involvement "is crucial. If there were no U.S. ground troops this peace agreement wouldn't work. Bosnians on the ground feel protected because the U.S. is there. It is a sign of peace and most people are happy about it." The U.S. is trying their hardest to keep the peace and NATO is the channel in which they are carrying it out. Mahmutovic believes that "it's an excellent thing to have NATO. It's alright if Americans supervise because if it were up to Britain, France, or another country, things wouldn't get done." Currently, the cities and land of Bosnia are destroyed and will take years to rebuild. However, Mahmutovic said that his "heart is bleeding for Bosnia. As soon as I am done with school, I'll consider going back. My plan is to get an education. With a degree from America, all the doors are open for you." It may take some time for peace to be restored in Bosnia. Let's hope that it will be a lasting peace. ●

June 1991; Croatia and Slovenia declared independence from Yugoslavia. Yugoslav army, under Serb control, retaliated and seized the Krajina region of Croatia setting up autonomous regions.

September 1991; UN Security Council imposed an arms embargo on all of former Yugoslavia. This left Croatia, Slovenia, and Bosnia victim to the monopoly on heavy weaponry and air power of the aggressors (Yugoslav National Army, and Serbian and Montenegrin paramilitary forces).

Fall 1991; Armed guerrillas and agitators, helped by Yugoslav army leaders, and Serbian officials took town after town in non-Serb populated areas of Croatia.

January 1992; UN calls for a cease-fire.

February 1992; Bosnian Croats and Muslims voted for independence. Serbs living in Bosnia boycotted the election and established autonomous regions. In the town of Novo Selo, locals fought Serb troops with hunting rifles and any other weapon that they could find. Shortly after, the Yugoslav National Army (JNA) joined the fighting and town after town began to fall. Serb militias began cruel and deadly "ethnic cleansing". Novo Selo falls.

April 1992; War erupts in Bosnia. The battle for the strategic control of northern supply routes in the Posavina corridor results in the death of many Bosnian Croats and Muslims.

May 1992; UN imposes economic sanctions on the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, which includes Serbia and Montenegro. Created economic discomfort but did not change Serbia's policy towards Bosnia or the behavior or Serbian forces. -Yugoslav Army announces that it will withdraw from Bosnia. However, some 80,000 men, mostly Serbs, simply change uniforms and continue with the genocide. Under General Ratko Mladic began seizing land in North and East Bosnia, expelling non-Serbian population and engaging in ethnic cleansing.

Summer 1992; UN finally sent food and medical supplies to the hungry, sick, and blockaded people in the cities. UN forces become virtual hostages. -Nothing was done about the ethnic cleansing, rape, and mass killings. After eventual media attention, some prisoners were released from the most notorious camps, many others were merely transferred to unknown locations or killed.

May 1993; Serbian parliament rejects plan of the United Nations and the European Community to create three separate, ethnically pure states.

May 1994; U.S., France, Britain, Germany, and Russia (The Contact Group) suggest leaving 51% of Bosnia under the control of the new Bosnian-Bosnian Croat Federation and 49% to Serbia. The plan was rejected by both warring parties.

December 1995; NATO begins sending in troops to keep the peace and enforce their goal of short-term protection. If the plan is enforced, most troops will be sent home while others will stay for long-term protection.

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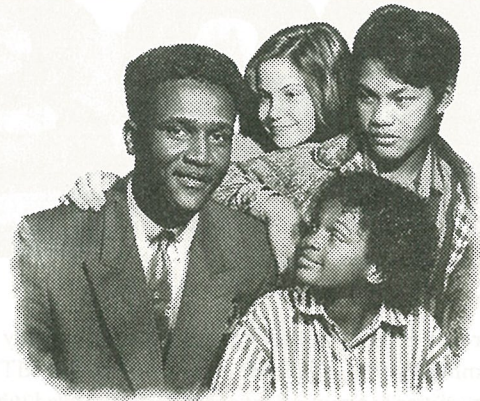
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Greek tragedy

Fifty percent of RIT's housed fraternities are currently involved with the judicial system, bringing forth feelings from the administration and Greek organizations that RIT's Greeks are facing a time of transition.

With four fraternities sanctioned, two currently involved with the judicial process, and the Greeks self governing body, the IFC [Inter Fraternal Council] suspended, many Greeks feel that the administration is demonstrating not only a strong judicial presence, but giving very little support of the Greek system. Some even feel that in two years, Greek life will be a thing of the past. For fraternities such as Triangle, this is already the reality. For repeated occurrences, with little improvement to change direction, Triangle has been suspended- with a strong possibility of losing their house. Others such as Tau Epsilon Phi, have been placed on suspension for acts of hazing.

Hurt by poor decisions, stereotypes, and a lack of support, Greeks face incredible odds to out-publicize certain chapter's negative actions with the positive actions occurring daily.

"I ask people if they are going to talk about the Greek community to not use stereotypes, and to not base their opinions on the rumors they hear. They should take the time to find out the facts about the community and the good things the Greeks do," states Tom Golinski, President of Phi Sigma Kappa.

Each year Greek organizations bring in thousands of dollars to RIT and the community, from pretending to be Santa Claus to standing atop a telephone pole to cleaning a public roadway. They work with children; fixing their school's book shelves, playing games, and giving support. They not only show their support of the local community, but charities world-wide.

"They have great things about them. I can name every single fraternity or sorority and tell you at least five things that are phenomenal about that group," says Dawn Soufleris, head of Judicial at Student Affairs, "but we have seen an escalation of serious behavior



President of RIT, Dr. Albert Simone

not just within our Greek organizations, but within individual students too. We are here for academics and we're here to have a community that is going to foster an appropriate environment for people to succeed academically. We know social things are going to be out there; we want people to have leadership experience, and all positive team involvement and all that, but then there is a line drawn."

Instances of bad behavior are not new here or any campus that incorporates a Greek system. However, some Greek members don't feel that anything has changed with the recent problems except for the administration's views.

"They (the administration/judicial system) went from overlooking things and slapping us on the wrist, to coming down hard on everything," stated one Greek member. "No, it isn't wrong for them to do that, we just weren't ready and didn't see the need for it."

To RIT an empty room is money lost. A proposal put forth recently calls for quotas of population for the houses.

This view of increased pressure may also put pressure on RIT's pocket book. More than 20% of Greek members said that they would not attend RIT if it wasn't for the Greek life. Stated by a Greek "This is the only life here at RIT, I mean, what else is there to do. This school is dead except for the Greek system. Sure when I leave I will have a job, but there is more to life than school work."

Another member felt similarly.

"I have made some of the best friends of my life here (fraternity), if you have a problem you can go to any brother and get help with it. Sure you can get friends in the dorms, but here I have 40 or 50 that will go out of their way to help you."

Hurt by poor decisions, stereotypes, and a lack of

Most Greeks refer to their chapters, in one form or another, as a family. They find a home away from home where brother/sister hood teaches them leadership, teamwork, time management, loyalty and respect. President Simone refers to his college days as some of his finest- due mainly to his participation with the Greek system. "Some of the strongest, positive memories were because of my fraternity." says Simone.

with the positive
actions occurring
daily .

When asked if he felt that fraternities face a great deal of prejudice, Simone said, "Sure, but that is with all of life. A lot of the stereotypes are justified. They are seen as heavy, reckless party throwers on the weekends, and that is what they tend to do. Fraternities do much more good than bad, but that is part of the Greek scene. A fraternity can become a tremendous asset or be detrimental."

As to how he felt about RIT's increased pressure, "There is nothing new, but certain activities are going to draw certain reactions. If there are clearly activities which are wrong, there will be consequences. There is absolutely no intention of removing the Greeks from this campus. Fraternities can be a tremendous vehicle for building spirit. I would like to see them develop in this way. We support our kids, but sometimes you spank them."

One of the major problems that is causing the Greeks to get spanked is the alcohol policies enforced by the Greeks versus those of the Administration. Sororities, being a dry organization nationally, have met with the judicial system favorably. "We have very rarely had any problems with the sororities." says Dr. Linda Kuk, Vice-President, Student Affairs. One president of a Greek fraternity felt that the communication of what is acceptable drinking behaviors were not communicated as well as they should have been. Many were not aware, or chose not to be, about RIT's alcohol policies. RIT carries a BYOB policy for gatherings. These functions require invitations and a proofing system to make sure that those who are drinking are of legal age.

This lack of communication over established alcohol policies was one of the reasons, according to Dorothy Brown, why IFC was

"They (the administration/judicial system) went from overlooking things and slapping us

put on temporary suspension. Originally formed by the Greek chapters to govern their own, the IFC has not stepped up to meet the challenge until recently. Their main

reason for suspension was an
unauthorized spending of funds

on the wrist, to coming down hard on
every thing,"

without yet having an approved budget.

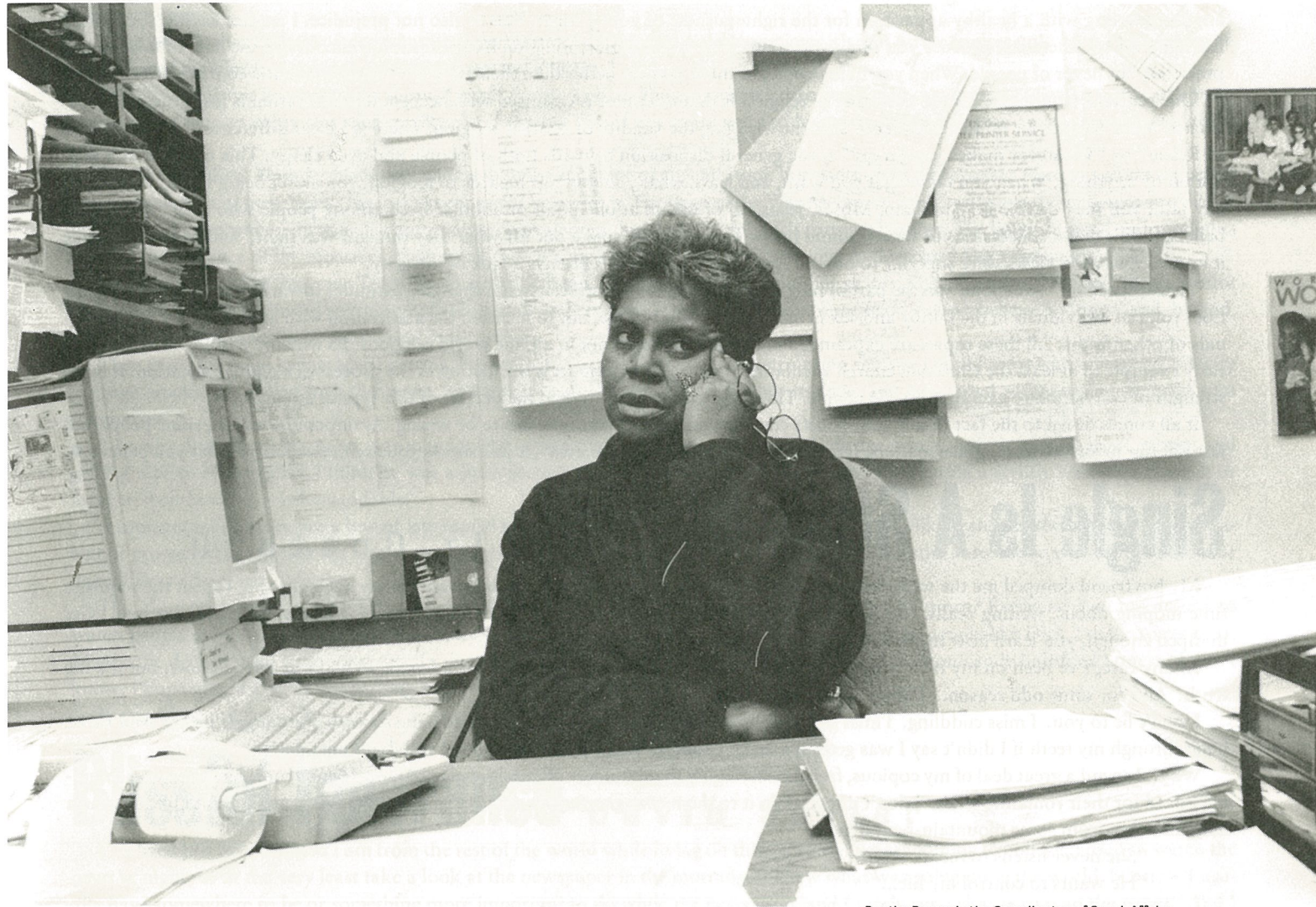
Subsiding the suspension was Dorothy Brown's view as to how things were running, "The IFC was supposed to keep the chapters in tune with what is happening; and that was not happening. The suspension is basically a time out to reevaluate, and fix the problem before it becomes something major." Since the suspension has been put in effect, the IFC has been improving its performance drastically.

As their own governing body, the Greeks are more separated from the rest of the campus than any other organization. Their ability to select the number of individuals within their walls is causing an occupancy problem elsewhere on campus. Currently the dorms are 88% full with many people still tripled. The houses are 67% full. In the beginning of this year, many students were placed in the houses for the lack of organization and room available. To RIT an empty room is money lost. A proposal put forth recently calls for population quotas for the houses. If these quotas are not met, charges will be placed against the house. On the other side, if the house succeeds at room filling, credit may be earned. In an extreme case, a fraternity/sorority may lose its house if population guidelines are not met. The proposal sitting on Linda Kuk's desk as of late is calling for the houses to be 90% full for the fall quarter. True this would meet the economic problem, but it could very well cause many of the houses to lose their place at RIT. (see News)

Steps have been taken to make the future of Greeks a positive one. Meetings between administration and Greeks have been held,

Monster

support, the Greeks face incredible odds to out-publicize certain chapter's negative actions



Dorothy Brown is the Coordinator of Greek Affairs

the problems have been recognized, and they are slowly being sifted through one by one. The objectives of both the administration and Greeks are the same: to provide a home where social organizations can flourish and be recognized as positive entities, as well as be beneficial to the academic environment. The Greeks are in a time of transition, but what road they decide to take is up to them. But whether they like it or not, RIT's administration will always be here to guide them the right way- whether patting them on the back, or putting them over their knee. ●

opinion

Backbone Willis White

Has anybody seen the “backbone” of the world religions, because they seemed to not have one of late. The reason I say this is because religion isn’t as bold in denouncing others as it used to be. I am not encouraging violence on the basis of religion, but the simple “I’m right you’re wrong” attitude is gone. This attitude doesn’t cause destructive behavior, fanaticism causes destructive behavior. There isn’t anything wrong with a healthy apparition for the righteousness of your course. This is also not prejudice. I am not saying you should feel superior to others just because you think your faith system is superior. Religion has, and should encourage, the hate of false or evil practices, but never of people. When you hate people, or think you are better than them, that is when problematic confrontations occur.

One reason I would give for the cowering of religion is that tolerance is confused with acceptance. Toleration is just peaceful coexistence while acceptance on the other hand is acknowledging the validity of another religion. There is a clear difference. “All roads lead to Rome” or “Whatever makes you happy” is the general disposition towards faith of people and even clergy. This outlook isn’t supported by anything. When you take what you want, and leave what you don’t as regards to religion, you aren’t being fair to yourself or any faith you may dabble in. Abraham, Moses, Jesus, all of whom at one point or another lived among people who didn’t share their beliefs, didn’t make concessions to those around them. They publicly spoke out for what they thought was right, and peacefully made it known that their views were superior to others. Anything less than this betrays a lack of integrity.

This absence of “backbone” on the part of religious practitioners is also seen in the changing attitudes towards homosexuality, abortion, roles of individuals in the family and sex in and outside of marriage, not to mention the association with and treatment of individuals of other faiths. All these topics are expounded in detail for most, if not in all, the world religions. So why the wishy-washiness? An early example of at least the Christian church vacillating to win public support is the halting of the process of excommunication. It takes strength of conviction to excommunicate people. This was just the beginning of the decline of this type of strength.

It all comes down to the fact that if your beliefs conflict with others, someone has to be wrong. As unpopular as it is, some people are just flat out incorrect on religious matters. Ignoring this doesn’t make it go away, it just shows you aren’t resolute in what you believe. ●

Single Is A State Of Mind Liz Croteau

My boyfriend dumped me the week before Christmas this year. I think he just didn’t want to buy me a gift. So, I spent the requisite time moping about, writing really bad poetry, and dampening the shoulders of a few dear friends. As always, I got over him. Get dumped enough, you learn how to shove it out of your mind quick, ya know?

At any rate, I’ve been on my own for over a month now. A dangerous admission for a female to make at RIT, I know, but it’s the truth. And for some odd reason... I don’t care.

I won’t lie to you. I miss cuddling. I miss getting kissed. I miss having someone to go to a movie with and snuggle up to. And I’d be lying through my teeth if I didn’t say I was getting a little.... lonely. But, be that as it may, I still don’t miss dating.

Why? I spend a great deal of my copious, free time wringing the shoulders of my shirts dry. All my friends consider me a good sounding board for their romantic woes. I don’t mind... I do it to them enough. But the things I hear over and over again sound like a mantra handed down from some mountain-bound guru.

“She never listens to me...”

“He wants to control my life...”

“She doesn’t spend enough time with me...”

“He acts like a jerk in front of my friends...”

“She’s driving me crazy!”

Oy. If I were so religiously inclined, I’d be convent-bound. But I’m not, so I just wear my nice absorbent flannel, and try not to think about Valentine’s Day.

Heh. Valentine’s Day. What jerk thought that one up? It only serves to make those who don’t have a date feel like total losers, and those who do have someone, edgy and panicky. I know in my gut that I’ll either spend Valentine’s Day consoling at least three friends, or sitting in my room with a box of chocolates and a bottle of Frangelica watching Terminator 2...or, even better, Thelma and Louise. Anything completely non-romantic. Tank Girl might be nice. But I digress.

So all you guys out there who might think you’ve found the one single girl at RIT... don’t get your hopes up. This little girl’s gonna be flying solo just a bit longer. ●

Monster Burda

“Little boys play with toy trucks.... Big boys play with monster trucks!”

My god, with a lead-in like that how could I turn down an evening at the War Memorial watching back-woods drivers mindlessly destroy used automobiles? It was like the TV was speaking to me and only me- “Burda, get your butt down here, this is entertainment you’d have to go to Arkansas to see!” And believe me, ten bucks was a bargain.

One of those luscious freshman from my floor agreed to accompany me on the condition that she could dress like white-trash. I looked here over once.

“And how is that different from what your wearing now?” (Mental note: sometimes it’s just better to shut up). After I regained consciousness and the bleeding stopped, I went and got her a ticket.

I had five Molsons going into the show. Two of the guys on my floor snuck in a case (yes, I said case) of the Bullet. One way or another we were going to enjoy this mother. Besides, I figured that if any sense were to be made of this red-neck ritual I would need to be totally twisted.

The US. Hot Rod Thunder Nationals were a dizzying montage of chrome, pink hot-pants and black-market Pantera t-shirts. I guess if you go to enough of these things the investment might be worth it. The floor of the War Memorial was a testament to junkyards and demolition houses everywhere, imagine the automotive equivalent of the Marquee de Sade’s torture chamber. The lights dimmed and spotlights marked the entrance of the monsters. Each truck took it’s pre-show lap, the drivers waving to the crowd like a conquering hero.

Next came the BMX Extreme Team: Three arthritic BMX bikers and one kid on in-line skates. The announcer sounded like the senior class president that never did anything but talk smack and cow tip. He yelled “ The extreme team doesn’t believe in drugs” and, by god, the crowd had to raise their plastic beer cups to that.

Then came the main event: Mega-saurus. He was some bastard mechanical contraption spawned of old army transports and NY city garbage trucks. He rolled into the arena, grasped a compact car, shot fire from its face, and proceeded to gnaw the compact into two halves.

“ I really don’t think his heart was in it tonight. Mega found out the truck that transforms into a robot is making more money and getting a piece of the gross. I think he was a little perturbed.” I heard from the guy next to me (wearing a stylish “America :Love it or leave it” belt-buckle). Understandable.

A monster truck race over a line of late model Chryslers ended the evening’s festivities . It was like watching the automotive equivalent of pro wrestling. I knew the results were probably rigged, but I wasn’t stupid enough to bet on the outcome so who cared? Some car named Bear Claw won, I think.

The Thunder Nationals ended. But I was still confused, utterly dumbfounded. What did it all mean? Everyone paid ten dollars to watch people drive for two hours? It was more inane then watching auto racing. At least you have people like Dick Trickle to root for. Maybe the drivers were from some small town where the guy with the coolest jeep got all of the cotton-candy hairdoed honeys? I don’t know. I hope to god I never do. As long as it works for them, that’s cool by me.

Peace, Love and Soul...●

Blissful Ignorance David Sevier

I realized just how isolated I am from the rest of the world while living on this campus. Before coming to college, I used to watch the news at night, or at the very least take a look at the newspaper in the morning. I knew what was going on in the world, but now I usually have somewhere to be or something more important to do while the news is on, and I rarely get a chance to read the paper. And I don’t think it’s just me. Either nobody around me knows a thing about what is going on in the world, or nobody gives a damn. In any case, I haven’t had a conversation with anyone lately that had anything to do with what’s going on in the rest of the world.

Maybe nobody cares anymore. Well, I can’t believe that. We do get news on campus, and the Reporter did that article on nuclear testing last week, and apparently at least some people care about that, but if nobody had brought it up, I’m sure that I wouldn’t have given it a second thought. Maybe that’s what being out in the middle of nowhere does to you. I don’t have a car, so I don’t go into the city very often, and like I said, I almost never get any news from the rest of the world. It is possible that because I don’t see the rest of the world any more, I’ve become completely centered on what is around me. What I’m doing, and what is happening to me, or to my friends is important, but I don’t think I really care what happens to the rest of the world anymore. How depressing. It is something that we really should pay attention to, since we won’t be in college forever, and we will have to know what is going on in the rest of the world if we are to function in it.●

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Tab Ads

• This magazine kicks little butts in THE RAVING ROBIN

• Mr. Rocky Hockey, will you be my bodyguard?

• Ramadamadingdong- I can't believe you passed up lunch w/ the Karate Kid- How could you? Duh!

• Rama- ASJ always- you never know who your friends are! Mina

• Peter, Peter- Get out of there before they turn you into a monster!

• Stac- Have you ever thrown something and you wanted it to go really far and it lands a foot in front of you?

• OKT- Good luck to the new E Board- Love, Chris & Kristen

• MIKE MEANS- Congratulations, Pres!

• Stac- D. Jason Knisely- Does it ring a bell? You'll tell me eventually...I know you will!

• Hey Jodi, Heather, Colleen & Jess- Cheer up someday our princes will come, Luv Laura

• Hey Evan- That's a scary door! Luv, Me

• Hey Rob- Stay warm and stay off the balcony

• HAPPY BIRTHDAY JEN & CUR-

TIS!!!!!!

• Meg- You are the best little ever, even if you do have a 'tude! Delta class of D Phi E rocks!

• Amy- To my Big- You are doing a great job! It'll be over soon. Love, Kim Bob- your little!

• Michelle- If by chance you cook in Perkins again- Don't set off any fire alarms!

• Mr. Campus Safety- I see good fortune in your future, but we need to talk.. Shannon Faulkner- the psychic

• Would you like to go for a drink at the Flying Ladies? We can take Asian Bus!

• The HAIR strikes again!

• MARK DAVOLI- Wake up!!!! Luv, ME (Guess Who)

• Mina (Nicole)- Life is like a two year trial.... and we all know the ending! They always get off.

• PHI KAPPA PSI- "110% = Success"

• Proud to Pledge- PHI KAPPA PSI. P.C. #15

• Phoenix- What are you going to do without me around next 1/4? You'll have to find someone else to hang out with- Professor X

• Shelley (Moore) - Next time you're doing the cookie run! Stac & Jill

• Michelle- Hang in there- it's only a matter of time...

• Rosa: You is the of! Luv, your big sis

• The Crazy Clover- You are a B*E*A*U*T*Y, You are irresistible, You are Champ! (Fingers, Toes, Tongue, Hair and Eyes pointing at you)

• Lewis Theirn Kinslayer- I love you forever, Forever Yours Alianna

• Stalkerette- Look Valentine's Week and neither of our be-bes left us a tab ad! Stalkergirl

• Jill- One word: Coo-kie!

• PHI PSI BASKETBALL RULES!!!!

• Mike Baglivio! You are the loudest roommate that I ever had- R.U.

• Winter Wazoo VI- Get psyched!

• Happy Valentine's Day to the boy I love who doesn't know it yet!

• Troy, Matt, Ron- Get ready for the Spring Break Battle Royal- Schaeff

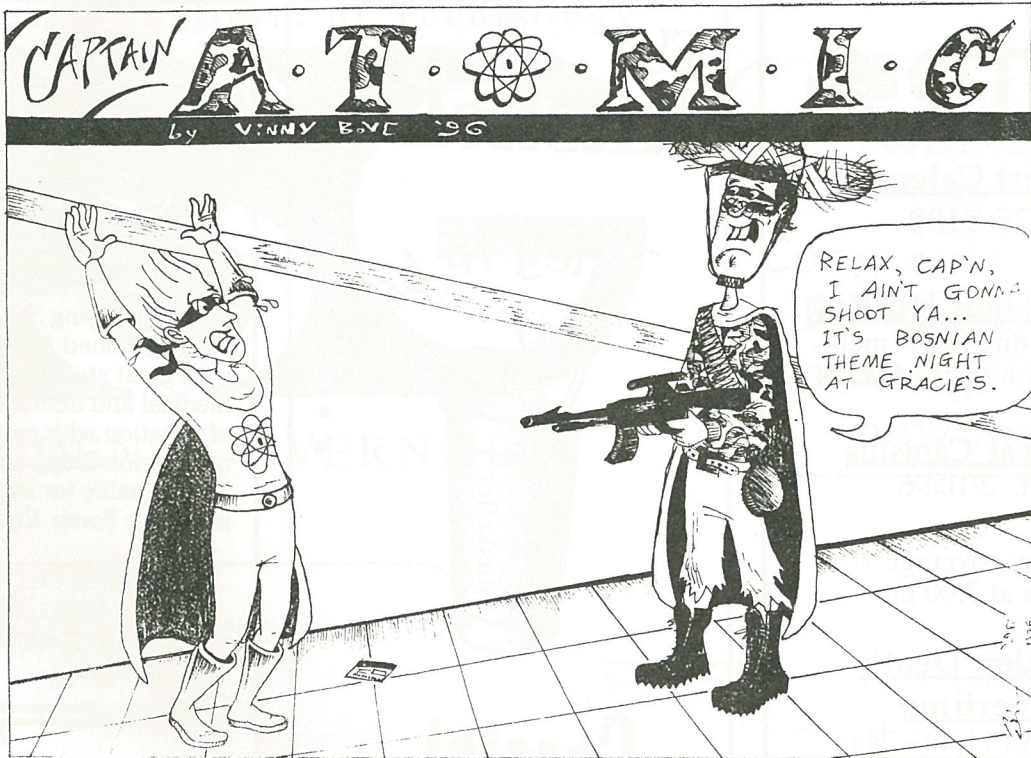
• Happy 144th Birthday Phi Kappa Psi

• Stac, next time we get pulled over by a hottie lets take advantage of the situation- Airhead

• Libby! Libby! Do you feel neglected? She's spending too much time with that stupid cat!

• Trev- Thanks for showing up for dinner- Who were those other guys who were supposed to come?- Chelle

• Stalkerette to Stalkergirl- Come in Stalkergirl- do you need training on how to use this radio?



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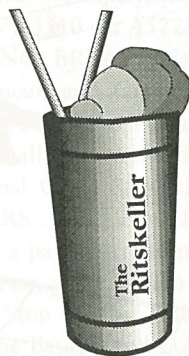
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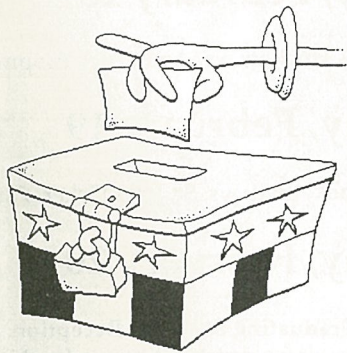


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1996 Student Elections are Comming.....



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Schedule of Events:

Friday, February 9

Talisman Movie: *Seven*, SAU, Ingle Auditorium, 7pm & 9:30pm, \$2.00 admission.

Talisman Midnight Movie: *Reservoir Dogs*, SAU, Ingle Auditorium, 12am, \$2.00 admission.

Saturday, February 10

Alternative Student Fellowship Drag Show: SAU, Fireside Lounge, 6:30pm-8:30pm, \$3 students and faculty/staff, \$5 gen. public.

Talisman Movie: *Seven*, SAU, Ingle Auditorium, 7pm & 9:30pm, \$2.00 admission.

Talisman Midnight Movie: *Reservoir Dogs*, SAU, Ingle Auditorium, 12am, \$2.00 admission.

Monday, February 12

Lunch 'N Learning Series: 'Preparing for exams,' Bldg. 1 rm. 2383, 12-12:50pm, feel free to bring your lunch.

Tuesday, February 13

Love Day !!!! SAU, Fireside Lounge, for more information call ext. 7058.

Student Government Senate Meeting: SAU, 1829 rm., 12:30pm-2pm, Come and voice your opinion about RIT.

The Commons: LuAnn Arena, Acoustic Blues, Jazz and Rock, the Commons, 5pm-7pm, Free.

Women's Basketball: vs. Nazareth, 6pm.

Men's Basketball: vs. Nazareth, 8pm.

Wednesday, February 14

The Commons: RIT Singers, the Commons, 6pm, Free.

General Club Meeting: Representative from all clubs are welcome to express concerns and share ideas, SAU, Clark Meeting Rm., 7pm-8pm.

Thursday, February 15

Men's Basketball: vs. Utica, 7pm.

The Commons: Jazz Ensemble, The Commons, 8pm, Free.

Friday, February 16

Talisman Movie: *Money Train*, SAU, Ingle Auditorium, 7pm & 9:30pm, \$2.00 admission.

Saturday, February 17

Women's Hockey: vs. Williams, 12:15pm.

Men's Hockey: vs. Elmira, 7:30pm.

Sunday, February 18

Women's Hockey: vs. Amherst, 12:15pm.

Monday, February 19

Men's Basketball: vs. St. John Fisher, 7pm.

Tuesday, February 20

Winter Graduating Students Reception: All students receiving a degree/diploma for the end of winter quarter are welcome, SAU, Fireside Lounge, 5pm-6:30pm.

Wednesday, February 21

Reading Day

Celebration of Community:

Light up the Quarter Mile

Lighting and Reception on March 18, 1996 5-7pm
Have your club/organization/department decorate and adopt a tree along the quarter mile.

Speaker nominations due by February 9, 1996.
Sign up for trees on a 'first come, first serve' basis.
For information, contact Karey at ext. 6780 (v/tty).

To publicize your event to the entire campus, send the name, date, location, time, contact person, phone number, and any other pertinent information to CalendaRIT, Center for Campus Life, SAU, Room 2130, by 4:30pm fourteen working days before the issue in which you would like it published.