

# REPORTER

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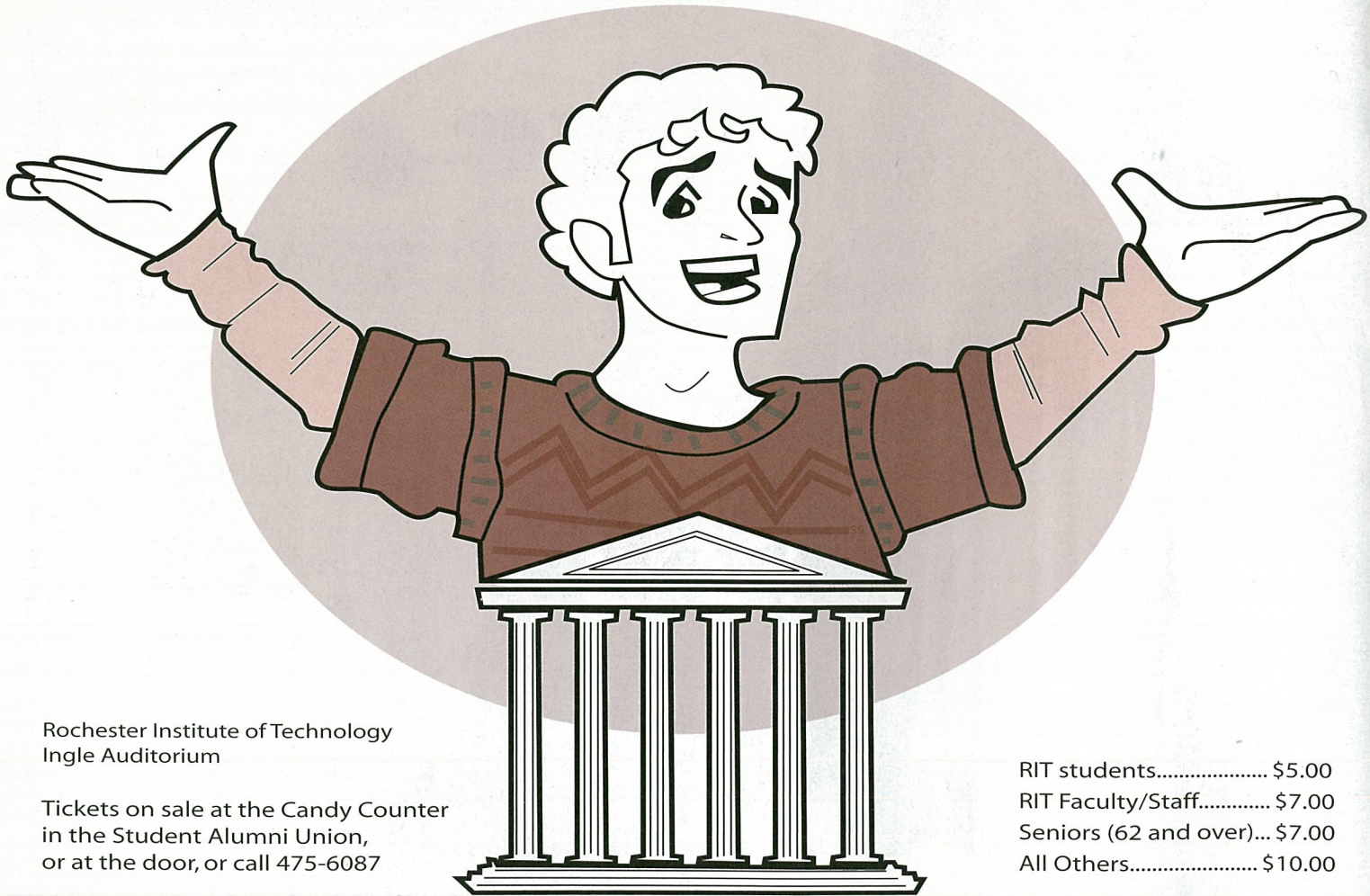




The RIT Musical Ensemble of the Fine Arts Department of the College of Liberal Arts  
in cooperation with the RIT Student Music Association **PRESENTS**

# A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM

Book by Burt Shevelove and Larry Gelbart // Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim  
Director, Jerry Argetsinger // Music Directors, Edward Schell and Jonathan Kruger // Choreographer, Thomas Warfield



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Friday, April 30, 2004

8:00 pm

Saturday, May 1, 2004

8:00 pm

Sunday, May 2, 2004

3:00 pm

interpreters requested



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# REPORTER

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# EDITORIAL

## Everyone's Collegiate Experience is Different

Our two features this week explore two very different academic experiences that RIT has to offer: that of web-based interaction and that which is absolutely hands-on and interactive, based on practical application. Which type of educational experience would I prefer? I'll take the latter.

I came to RIT looking for many things—not the least of which was a holistic, hands-on, vocation-oriented education. I wanted to get involved in my course of study (photography, at the time) as soon as possible and be able to use and learn about the most advanced equipment available—RIT offered me just that. The photography program isn't even close to the only program that offers this sort of hands on approach. Last week's feature on Microelectronics Engineering and this week's "Puttin' on the Ritz," are two more examples. My experience at *Reporter* is yet another—what better way for a student interested in pursuing a career in the print-publishing field to learn than by producing a publication?

RIT's most impressive quality, in my opinion, is that it not only understands that the best way to learn is by doing, it has made said approach a cornerstone to its educational focus. The applied learning opportunities that RIT students have rival any other institute in the country.

That said, I have taken an online learning course—the result of a packed schedule and difficulty finding an open class that would fulfill a degree requirement. I'm sorry that I did it. I felt that the online class that I took was four credits wasted, but not simply because it lacked the hands-on approach that I came to RIT for in the first place. My issue was that it lacked an educational approach at all.

That isn't to say that I believe that all online learning is a waste or that all classes in the program are so terribly disappointing. I'm sure that, like any class at RIT, the success of the program depends on two things: my level of dedication to the class and the professor's level of dedication to the curriculum and the students attempting to learn it. With diligent students and dedicated professors, I'm sure that the online community can open up a wealth of opportunity for discussion and exchange of knowledge. Unfortunately, the difference between online learning and the traditional classroom environment is that if the second part, a dedicated faculty member, is missing, all is lost.

I believe in taking a pro-active approach to my education. With the rise of the Retention Committee, there have been many references to giving the students/customers what they want and what they're paying for. I say, if you don't believe that you're getting what you pay for out of a class, do something about it (respectfully, of course). Just as students are held accountable for the work they are responsible for, the same should apply to the faculty. If a classroom professor fails to meet my expectations as far as the quality of material presented, the level to which I am challenged, or any number of other factors, he or she isn't hard to track down and have a conversation with. Unfortunately, in reference to an online class, it is far more difficult to hold a professor accountable for his or her end of the deal.

Personally, I didn't get anything out of my online class, and, to be perfectly frank, it wasn't for lack of effort. At the completion of the term, I did know the curriculum in question reasonably well—with the help of a few friends more familiar with the material, I taught myself and received an A for my efforts. The only thing that the online class contributed to my learning the material was the opportunity to have to force myself to do so.

I don't believe that the online learning experience has to be devoid of intellectual engagement, regardless of the lack of conventional classroom setting. I'm sure that its existence opens up a myriad of opportunities for remote, untraditional students. However, I didn't move to Rochester and buy into an RIT education to teach myself—not at thousands of dollars per class. I am surprised by the frequency with which other on-campus students sacrifice what they paid for and what they bought into by coming here simply for the convenience of being able to sleep in in the morning.



Ren Meinhart  
Editor in Chief



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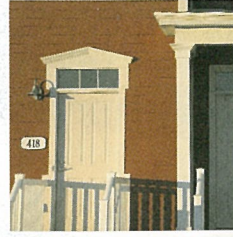
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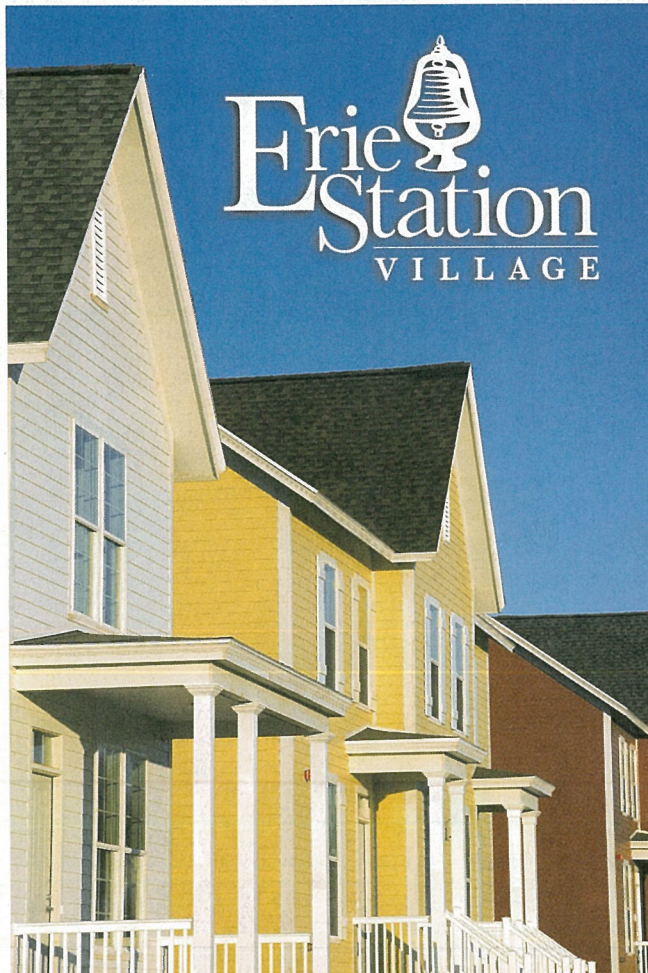
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WELCOME TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD



# Week of Remembrance

photographs and text by Kim Weiselberg

Last week, RIT's Hillel sponsored a week of remembrance for the victims of the Holocaust. Yom Hashoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day, which took place on April 19, was the motivating factor in planning the week long events.

The week began April 19 with the Field of Flags event in which students were asked to put down flags in the Eastman Quad, representing all of the people that were persecuted during the Holocaust. The flags were color-coated for the various groups that suffered losses, and each flag represented 100,000 people. The display focused on not only Jewish persecution, but also the persecution of other cultural groups such as Soviets, Poles, and gypsies. "The Holocaust was a systemized attack on humanity. It not only affected those persecuted directly by the Nazis, but it impacted the entire world," said AJ Siegel, President of Hillel. "The importance of remembering this tragedy is something that could never be forgotten, and I want to thank the entire RIT community for helping us to Zahor (remember)."



Above: Vanessa Holtzberg and Thomas Marmon place a flag in remembrance for all the people persecuted during the Holocaust.



Left: AJ Siegel, president of RIT's Hillel, blows the shofar on the quarter mile to begin the moment of silence for Holocaust victims.

Below: Steve Rosenberg lights a memorial candle in preparation for the Yom Hashoah Service held on the evening of Monday, April 19 at the InterFaith Center.

Along with the Field of Flags display, a Shofar, a cultural Hebrew horn, was blown at every hour to signify a moment of silence for the victims of the Holocaust. Later that night, a candle light memorial service was held at the Interfaith Center where various students and faculty shared stories about loved ones who survived the Holocaust. Others spoke about the importance of never forgetting the past. On Tuesday, the activities continued with "Israel at Heart," an event which focused on the cultural life in Israel.

To end the week, Noa Baum, a traditional Jewish storyteller, performance artist, and writer of *A Land Twice Promised*, spoke on April 24 to a group of students at the Carlson Auditorium. Baum's book is a dialogue that stems from a friendship that took place between Baum, an Israeli, and a Palestinian woman. Baum believes "in the power of stories to communicate our diversity while connecting us in our common humanity." ■





# BrickBeat

by Adam Kreidman

## Imaging Science Conference at RIT

The Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science will be hosting an annual Imaging Science Conference on May 11 and 12. The conference will feature representatives from government agencies, educational institutions, and corporations discussing the field of Imaging Science. Currently, a turnout of about 100 people is expected, with scientists from various corporations in attendance. The keynote address, "The Engines of Creativity and Change," will be given by John Stack, president and CEO of Edmund Optics. Many student research projects will also be presented by the creators to members of the industry. The event is free and open to the public, and is scheduled to begin at 8:30 a.m. both days in the Carlson Auditorium, which is located in Building 76, room 1125.

## RIT Sorority Sponsors "Rollerblade to Geneseo"

The 11th annual "Rollerblade to Geneseo" event will this year be sponsored by sorority Delta Phi Epsilon. On May 2 at 8 a.m., the event will begin with a Cystic Fibrosis fundraiser

behind Wallace Library. At 9 a.m., the 23-mile trip to Geneseo will begin. A registration fee of \$15 will provide breakfast, lunch, and an event t-shirt to each person. All of the event's proceeds will go to Cystic Fibrosis research, further donations will be accepted as well. The first skater and biker to reach the finish line will be awarded prizes. The event will be open to the public; attendants must be age 18 or older. Registration tables will be in the Student Alumni Union from April 26-30.

For more information about the event, go to <http://rollerbladetogeneseo.cjb.net>, or contact Jessica Moy at [jwm1817@rit.edu](mailto:jwm1817@rit.edu).

## Hustle for Habitat Walk/Run Event

On May 1 at 10 a.m., the RIT Running Club-sponsored 5K Hustle for Habitat walk/run event will begin in front of the Lyndon B. Johnson building. Registration fees of \$5 for students, \$10 for faculty, and \$15 for the public will be collected. Event t-shirts are guaranteed for the first 70 registrants. All proceeds from the event will go to Flower City Habitat for

Humanity. Awards will be given for the first man and woman to finish. For more information and to register, go to [www.rit.edu/~wxcwww](http://www.rit.edu/~wxcwww).

## Xerox CEO Anne Mulcahy to Deliver Commencement Address

Anne M. Mulcahy, chairman and CEO of Xerox Corp., will deliver the commencement address during Academic Convocation at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, May 21, in the new Gordon Field House and Activities Center. The event serves as kickoff to RIT's 175th anniversary celebration, which will be commemorated throughout the 2004-2005 academic calendar.

In 1976, Mulcahy began her Xerox career as a field sales representative and later assumed increasingly responsible sales and senior management positions. In addition to the Xerox board, Mulcahy is currently a member of the boards of directors of Fuji Xerox Company Ltd., Target Corp., Catalyst and Fannie Mae, and is a member of The Business Council. For a detailed schedule of graduation events, visit [www.rit.edu/commencement](http://www.rit.edu/commencement). ■

# HistoRIT

Get your current events elsewhere

by Jeff Prystajko

## Another Tired Idea.

Years before the popular "Rollerblade to Geneseo" annual event, Triangle Fraternity and Phi Kappa Pi traversed the same route—albeit on a large-human powered *bed*. On April 25, 1987, 50 students from both groups participated in the second annual "Bed-A-Thon." While this may imply that Greeks are just plain tired and lazy, in reality the efforts were predicted to raise over \$3,000 to donate to the American Diabetes Association. The five-hour trip, which encompassed stretches of East River Road and Route 38 West, went relatively smoothly. Triangle President Steven Young added, however, "We lost control of the bed going down a hill once which led to some minor casualties."

## The Jungle Gym.

In the shameful April 1974 incident of boys not wanting to play nice with each other, six RIT students clashed with members of the varsity baseball team in the Clark Gymnasium when the coach refused to allow their use of an open court. The six students argued the coach "sicked" his team on them, though coach Bruce Proper's story claims he was forced to call security after name calling commenced and violence appeared imminent. Though little was discovered during the follow-up investigation, Director of Athletics Lou Alexander stated that although "Scheduled group use does have preference over use by groups of individuals," compromises are occasionally made. He added, however, "Some people obviously lost their cool."

## Tonight We're Gonna Party Like It's 1699!

Senior photography major Mick Castle wanted to do something about the boring RIT social atmosphere, so he and his father Bill decided to do something about it. On April 30, 1988, the two threw a gigantic but highly unorthodox party at their home—a log cabin without electricity or heat, near Alfred State. Adding to the strangeness, *everyone* was invited. The Castle's enticed potential partygoers by advertising plenty of camping space for an overnight stay, oil lamp lighting, and a log sauna. Any groceries or beverages one could bring would be most appreciated, though. ■



# ThisWeek

submit your events to [reporter@rit.edu](mailto:reporter@rit.edu)

## Think Pink Week

Through April 30. Free. Contact: Christina Benway  
cbenie22@yahoo.com.

**7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.**

### Gannett Lecture Series: Carl Atkins

Webb Auditorium. Carl Atkins, Professor of Music, speaks on:  
"Protest and Music: A Global View." Contact: Cassandra Shellman:  
cls3740@rit.edu, 475-2057.

**7:30 p.m. – 9 p.m.**

### OZ Dance Performance

Panara Theatre. The RIT Dance Company presents a delightful story  
combining the musical *The Wiz* with the traditional *Wizard of Oz*.  
Students/Seniors- \$5, Other- \$7. Contact: Jim Orr: jmo5601@rit.edu,  
V/TTY- 475-6251. Also on 4/30, 5/1, and 5/2

**2 p.m. – 7 p.m.**

### Field Day

Greek Lawn. Sponsored by the RA Programming Committee.  
Free. Contact: Christina Sakran: cmas417@hotmail.com.

4/29

**6 p.m. – 8 p.m.**

### ACS Dodgeball Fundraiser

SLC. Prizes for the winning team. \$1 per person. Contact: Larry Yip:  
acsrit@yahoo.com.

**6 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.**

### Islam's Contribution to Humanity

Webb Auditorium. Panel discussion.  
Contact: Amar Naqvi: aan3854@rit.edu.

**8 p.m. – 10:15 p.m.**

### A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum

Ingle Auditorium. RIT Musical Ensemble presents the hilarious musical.  
Students-\$5, Faculty/Staff- \$7, Other- \$10. Also on 5/1 and 5/2.

**8 p.m. – 11 p.m.**

### Thrift Prom

Science Atrium. Hosted by RIT's chapter of the NPPA. Prizes for  
best and worst dressed, games, and door prizes. \$5. Contact: Jamie  
Moffitt: jem4780@rit.edu.

4/30

**9 a.m. – 5 p.m.**

### Dodgeball

SLC. Annual Dodgeball Tournament to raise money  
for the Deserie Briggs Memorial Fund. \$5/team.  
Contact: Stephanie Choma: sac1295@rit.edu.

**10 a.m. – 4 p.m.**

### 5th Annual Lambda Wetdown

Behind Grace Watson. A water balloon tournament  
and Capture the Flag all in one, sponsored by  
Lambda Alpha Upsilon. Free. Contact: Mario Cisneros:  
mjc5258@rit.edu.

5/1

**12 p.m.-8 p.m.**

### Team Vertigo Auto Show

G and H lots. Street imports, domestic, hot rods, muscle  
cars, and trucks are all welcome. Charge to compete.  
Contact: Adam Clear: walkingchaos@netscape.com.

**12 p.m. – 5 p.m.**

### BACC Annual Spring BBQ

Behind Grace Watson. Free food for everyone at RIT.  
Contact: Abenaa Addei: afa1887@rit.edu.

**3 p.m. – 5 p.m.**

### Human Chess

SAU Café. Students-versus-faculty human chess,  
presented by OCASA. Sign up with OCASA at the  
RITreat. Free. See [cab.rit.edu/~springfestival](http://cab.rit.edu/~springfestival) for  
more details.

**3 p.m. – 6 p.m.**

### Coke for a Vote

RITreat. Free coke for everyone who registers to vote or  
applies for an absentee ballot. Contact: Justin Thorp:  
jthorp@ritcr.com.

**10 p.m. – 2:30 a.m.**

### Dolla Jam

SAU Café. Reggae and hip-hop jam. \$1. Contact:  
Abenaa Addei: afa1887@rit.edu.

**11 p.m. – 1 a.m.**

### Midnight BBQ

Quarter Mile by Building 30. Free BBQ after the Guster  
concert, presented by RHA. Contact: Paula Suzdak:  
pls1892@rit.edu.

5/1 continued...

**8 a.m. – 6 p.m.**

### 11th Annual Rollerblade to Geneseo for Cystic Fibrosis

Start SAU. Rollerblade or bike 25 miles to Geneseo to  
Benefit the Rochester chapter of the Cystic Fibrosis  
Foundation. Breakfast, lunch, and t-shirt included in  
the \$15 registration fee. Contact: Jessica Moy:  
jmw1817@rit.edu, 424-8318.

5/2

**9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

### Tianjin University Martial Arts Workshop

Clark Gym. Free. Followed by 7 p.m. performance.  
Panara Theatre. \$5. Tickets on sale at the Candy  
Counter, Game Room, and at the door.  
Contact: Tara Rosa tkrgrl@rit.edu, 475-7408.

5/5



# Sonography Department Receives Equipment Donation From Local Hospital

by Andrew Bigelow

RIT's Diagnostic Medical Sonography (Ultrasound) program has been the beneficiary of several facility upgrades and donations in the past year. Most recently, the Ultrasound program was the recipient of an Acuson 128 XP 10 ultrasound machine. The Acuson, worth \$150,000 when new, was donated by the Strong Memorial Hospital Ultrasound department. "It is an excellent machine," according to Hamad Ghazle, Director of the Ultrasound program. "We already had three of them, but the additional machine, donated from Strong, means that more students will have access to it in smaller groups. [The people at Strong] understand the importance of training well-qualified sonographers."

Third year Ultrasound student Kate Stowers shares Ghazle's enthusiasm, saying she was "very excited to have [the Acuson]. I love the lab—especially compared to last year."

The Diagnostic Medical Sonography program was initiated at RIT in the 1982-1983 academic year, and Ghazle has been the director for the last ten years. The program was originally housed in cramped quarters in the Gosnell Building, however, this past fall, the program was moved to the Louise M. Slaughter Building. The new, more spacious

accommodations allow for better simulation of the hospital setting.

Third year Ultrasound major Jerald Abraham, proclaimed the new lab to be an "infinite increase in technology, comfort, and privacy that was in no way possible in the old lab." In addition to the new lab, Abraham feels "the Acusons are the best," adding that, "it's very nice to have four of them now."

Third year Ultrasound major Sara Williams agreed with Abraham: "the old lab was very small," she said. "I love the [new] lab; there's more privacy, more space, and thanks to Strong, there's another machine—it's wonderful." Williams also noted that her experience at RIT has been complemented by having an "excellent, caring, and helpful instructor and advisor," referring to Ghazle.

Dan Yiarga, also a third year Ultrasound major, agrees the new lab is "beautiful" and enjoys having "access [to the lab] any time of the day or weekend." Yiarga agrees with Williams in his views of Ghazle as well, calling him "full of energy and very encouraging, anytime, anywhere."

RIT's Ultrasound program is one of only nine in the country that grants a Bachelor of Science degree. The program accepts about 22 students each year from both high schools,

community colleges, and transfers within RIT. Ghazle says that "building flexibility into our program is key; it allows us to more easily accept a wide range of students."

The program is affiliated with over 30 hospitals, from which all seniors must choose two that they will intern at during their fourth year. These hospitals include the top-rated Johns Hopkins Medical Center in Baltimore, Maryland, many hospitals in western New York, as well as others in Florida, Texas, and North Carolina. Williams described Ultrasound as an "intense program, but an excellent program."

The Ultrasound program places around 50 percent of its seniors prior to graduation and boasts a 100 percent placement rate three months after graduation. Ghazle hopes to see the program grow in the very near future, a goal which comes full circle with each donation like the Acuson machine from Strong. A masters program in Diagnostic Medical Sonography is in the works for eventual introduction, and the department hopes to add a Cardiac Sonography program as well. ■

For more information on the Department of Diagnostic Medical Sonography, visit [www.rit.edu/~676www/courses\\_dms.html](http://www.rit.edu/~676www/courses_dms.html).

## Take Back the Night

by Eric Suvar

Buttons supporting women's rights (sprawled out on a table in the Fireside Lounge) were encouraged to be worn by everyone who attended Take Back the Night, held on the evening of April 19 and sponsored by the Women's Center. An annual event, Take Back the Night is an opportunity for the community to unite against violence—especially crimes against women.

Len Mackey (left), Jesi Miller (second from left), Kwabena Ampofo (middle), and Kristin Hocker (second from right) were asked to form a group of feelings using their own bodies during Take Back the Night, in the Fireside Lounge. Women and men shared their opinions, experiences, and poems. The night ended with a march down the quarter mile chanting and shouting, letting the campus know that they are "not afraid."





# Rainbow Licking

THE LIFE WHERE YOU BELONG

by Erhardt Graeff | illustration by Sean Carner

Lots of people have parties. Some of these parties have a theme, like costumes, Tupperware, or sex toys, making the preliminary atmosphere a bit more exciting. Then, you get there. Soon, everything devolves into the usual monotonous standing around with some kind of beverage in one hand. Oh yeah, and music—there is usually music (which maybe aligns with the theme), blasting somewhere in the background to remind people that it's a party. Awesome. Parties are the bee's knees.

Maybe I just can't handle the monumental social sweetness that parties bring about. I like the theme, but wish I could lose the party. Let's do a little nomenclature adjustment, and talk about "Theme Nights" instead. A *night*, as opposed to a *party*, is a far more intimate and more creatively forged event, yet still a simple a process. First, a theme is chosen. Then, the get-together is planned, the friends are invited over, super terrific happy time ensues, etc.

I recently opted for a theme night in celebration of the release of Quentin Tarantino's long-awaited epic ending to *Kill Bill*. Upon returning to my apartment two Saturdays ago, I realized that I wanted to catch a screening of the film as soon as possible. My roommate was down with the idea, as was another good friend of mine. The whole thing bounced around inside my head a little, and then revelation poured forth and a theme night was born.

**Part 1:** CD-ROM Refreshment. Sat in front of the living room television and watched *Kill Bill Vol. 1*.

**Part 2:** Asian Inhalation. My roommate prepared wok-style stir-fry and offered up some California Rollin' sushi from Wegman's. Forgoing our American instincts to sit in chairs, we ate on the floor. To culminate the experience, we partook in the exploration of sake delivered to our door by our own good friend and guest.

**Part 3:** Desideri Finali. Took the short trip over to Regal Cinema's obscenely large film viewing complex on Marketplace Drive, laughed at the antics of fellow moviegoers, and saw the superb second volume of the Tarantino's *Kill Bill* saga.

We all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves that evening, although only one of us truly enjoyed the sake as well. Overall, the enterprise was not a complicated undertaking either, considering how the plan was conceived and arranged only a couple of hours before it was realized. My only regret was never buying that Karate uniform on eBay, which I still believe would make a great lounging/leisure suit.

So, I invite you to use your imagination and design a day/evening/event to entertain yourself. Classic themes to consider include the following: role-playing mystery meals like the one held recently by the Forensic Science Club, throwbacks to particular eras that include donning zoot suits and swing dancing, or playing off of pop culture like my Asian Cuisine/Kill Bill shindig. Now, don't get me wrong, I do think parties have their place in the spectrum of funtastic eventage. But, I also know that there is always room for a few friends and a novel idea. ■



# Sputnik7.com: Internet killed the television star

by Sean Hannan

In an effort to revitalize the stagnating television industry, many cable companies are touting video-on-demand as the wave of the future. The concept is simple: Instead of plunking down in front of the idiot box and watching whatever is on at any given moment, viewers can select their programming with the push of a button. Cable companies are marketing this system as a way of "giving the power back" to consumers, but really, viewers are still limited to whatever programs the companies choose to offer at the moment.

Sputnik7.com takes the concept of viewer-selected media and makes it freely available over a magical invention called the Internet. While television-based video on demand limits your choices to Law & Order: Miami or CSI: Special Victims Unit, Sputnik7 offers

programming that would not normally enter your abode via coaxial cable. When perusing the copious content offered, visitors to the website can choose from three primary categories: music videos, film, and anime.

The music videos that the site carries are not likely to be seen on MTV or even its poseur faux-hip cousin, MTV2. As such, the videos on display here shy away from the glossed-out, booty-bouncing videos of platinum-selling artists and tend more toward lesser known, but higher quality, artists such as Kid606, The Shins, and Beth Orton. That is not to say that mainstream artists are banned from the virtual airwaves. In either a nod to postmodern irony or guilty pleasure, acts such as Outkast and Snoop Dogg have works on the site. And, after

all, who couldn't use a little more Snoop Dogg in their life?

In the films section, you will find various shorts that would otherwise only play to small crowds at festivals or galleries. Most of the films hosted on Sputnik7 have a unique aesthetic that is a result of experimental animation, fresh camera techniques, or inventive storytelling. For those that prefer that their films feature robot-fighting schoolgirls with pupils the size of dinner plates, the anime section is sure to make you tingle where it counts. Streaming the feature-length films in a browser window may not be the best way to enjoy your chosen affliction, but I'm sure it hasn't stopped many hardcore fans. ■

**Design** ★★☆☆☆ The site needs to lose the 1998-era frame-based navigation and implement a better browsing system than alphabetical order.

**Content** ★★★★★ If you were to watch all of the videos non-stop, you would probably die of one of the following: starvation, dehydration, or ruptured bladder.

**Safe for Work** ★★★★★ Even though it does not have to answer to a nipple-fearing communications commission, the site's content is TV-PG.

**Not a Fad** ★★☆☆☆ As long as the Sputnik7 crew continues to listen to their audience, the content will be fresher than Will Smith.





# Reporter's Second Annual Pop

by Kate Bloemker | illustrations by William Robinson

Oh yeah, they're back. The Pop Culture Awards have returned to give another jab at the face of celebrity, deciding who and what is hot, and who deserves to be locked in a room with Donald Trump, Martha Stewart, Michael Jackson, and an accordion for all of eternity. Oh, and if anyone happens to run into Michael Moore, Avril Lavigne, or the State of Florida, tell them that the *Reporter* staff is still waiting for them to pick up their awards from last year. Those damn statues are crowding up space on top the microwave.

**Biggest Comeback:**

No, it's not Demi Moore, Kylie Minogue, or Darryl Hannah. It's the Son of God himself! Thanks to His PR director, Mel Gibson, Jesus has made a full-fledged comeback, starring in one of the highest-grossing films of the year. *The Passion of the Christ* is Jesus' first major foray in the film world since 1977's also-controversial *Jesus of Nazareth*. We won't mention *The Passion's* insistence that the Jews killed Jesus, or the fact that Jim Caviezel's Jesus looks so...Caucasian. Why complain when church attendance is up and dollars are rolling in?



a funny-looking guy with a receding hairline, dressed in a pink-and-silver, tiger-striped spandex jumpsuit, would be one of the new faces of pop music? It's refreshing.



**Freakiest Happening in the Animal Kingdom:**

Residents of the Taiwanese town of Tainan were showered with blood and guts mid-January when a 60-ton dead sperm whale strapped to a flatbed truck exploded in the middle of a busy street, holding up traffic for hours. The whale had beached itself 12 days earlier, and was being transported to a research facility. The reason for the sudden eruption: Gases from internal decay caused the whale's innards to explode. That she blows! Or, rather, he. In an intriguing epilogue, dozens of Tainan citizens, mostly men, later flocked to the nature preserve where the male carcass was taken, in order to get a glimpse of the whale's enormous five-foot penis.

**The Only-They-Could-Pull-It-Off Award:**

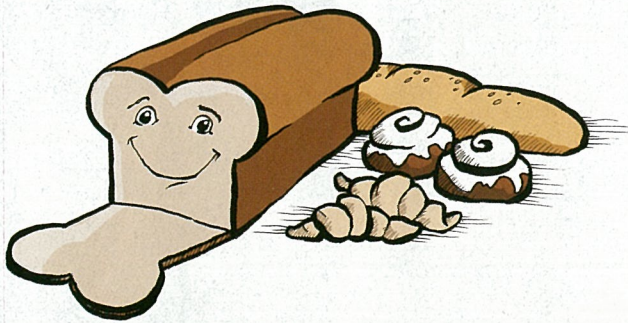
British band The Darkness took America by storm this year, with the aid of their screechy number two single, "I Believe in a Thing Called Love," and the weirdest costumes since, well, whatever Bjork wore last week. Lead singer Justin Harkins and his band bear a striking similarity to Queen, except that they are really, really bad. The good thing, though, is that they are so amusing that most of us don't even notice. Who knew that



# Culture Awards

## Greatest Thing Since Sliced Bread:

Who are we kidding? Nothing can beat bread, not even Dr. Atkins. Bread deserves a special award for just hanging in there. Wheat, white, rye, pumpernickel, French, Italian, Nine-grain, dill, and raisin swirl; they're all delicious and loaded with carbs. Celebrate the endurance of carbohydrates by kicking back with a plate of spaghetti, garlic bread, mashed potatoes, and a tall glass of ice-cold beer.



## Least Popular:

In the good ol' days, people were unpopular because they were weird, socially awkward, or, like me, just plain nerdy. Now, though, we're getting our priorities straight. This year's least popular folks, the executives at Clear Channel (the owner of more than 1200 radio stations), are just plain sneaky, having canceled Howard Stern's show a week after Stern began voicing strong anti-Bush opinions. The media conglomerate swore up and down that it was in the name of protecting the virgin ears of little children (because a lot of five-year-olds listen to Howard Stern, right?), but failed to explain why its executives had donated 25 times more money to President Bush's campaign than to John Kerry's.



## Best Use of Plaid:

All hail Outkast. Pimped-out Big Boi and bow-tied dapper dude Andre 3000 have taken plaid where Avril never could. Where's that? I'm not sure, but I do know that I want to see Andre shake it like a Polaroid picture.

## Worst Aim:

In New York City, there is a smashed-up pier. In a shipyard in Australia, there is a ferry with a gaping hole in it. And somewhere in Toronto, Jan Wong is laughing.

## Creepiest Thing to Hit TV Since Televangelism:

Want to look like Elvis? Okay. Britney? Pam? Brad? Okay. MTV's *I Want a Famous Face* documents the caterpillar-to-butterfly transformations of ordinary people as they have silicon and saline stuffed into their cheeks, breasts, calves, and chins, and chunks removed from their noses and torsos. It's one thing for someone to go out and be surgically altered, but it's another for MTV to document and therefore promote it as a healthy thing to do.

**Big Screen Runner-Up:** The eyeball-snatching scene in *Kill Bill Vol. 2*. Ugh.

## Most Popular:

Candy. Yup, we still like it. ■



# Ed Sanders: FUG LIFE

by Sean Hannan  
 photograph by Eric Sucar

As a beat poet and member of the proto-punk folk band The Fugs, Ed Sanders has had a rich and intellectual past. Thanks to the College of Liberal arts, Sanders was able to share his life and work with an intimate audience in Carlson Auditorium on April 21.

Sanders began with a reading from his current poetic endeavor, *America: A History in Verse Vol. 3 (1962-1970)*, in which he details America's shining moments as well as its most shameful. Sanders' vocal tone during his retelling of the most volatile events of the 1960s was that of a good book-on-tape. This is not to say that the bushy-haired beat voiced his work with a lifeless demeanor, but rather that his recitations conveyed the personal knowledge of a man who had lived life during those moments. If high school history books contained the same smooth blend of fact, imagery, and hindsight wisdom contained in *America: A History in Verse*, maybe the largely apathetic American youth would turn to pleasant optimism.

After concluding his reading, Sanders radically changed gears. Aided by his trusty

Yamaha sequencer, Sanders performed two songs off of *The Fugs Final CD Part 1*, the most recent offering by his band. First up was "Perpitude," a tune best described as the result of Schoolhouse Rock partying with Depeche Mode. The lyrics used examples from history—John Lennon, Socrates, Thomas Paine, and Joan of Arc—to illustrate that even great thinkers are considered to be criminals in the eyes of authority.

Next up was "Government Surveillance Yodel," a hilarious song claiming that Jesus taps your phone calls and Buddha reads your diaries. Sanders then found it fitting to premiere a song about the modern concept of black holes—known as p-branes—at such a technological institution as RIT. And, what better way to explain cutting-edge theoretical physics than to set it to bluegrass? In each of the songs, Sanders sang with the timing and meter of a delta bluesman. The enthusiasm and fervor of his performances outweighed his unpolished vocal chops, and it was clear that he got the most enjoyment out of performing for an appreciative audience. ■

Poet Ed Sanders reads from the year 1964 in *America: A History in Verse*, to a crowd of forty-five in Carlson Auditorium on Wednesday, April 21.

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seven  
 things that  
 are neat about  
 april ending and  
 summer being closer

# 7

April showers are on their way out. Oh wait. It's Rochester. School ends in May. That's a good thing. We can all tan outside rather than synthetically. Oh wait. It's Rochester. We can grill outside, not on tiny George Foreman Grills. Summer movies are normally much more likely to be worth the inflated ticket price. Flip-flops are more comfortable than boots. And more stylish. People finally leave their computers and get a little fresh air outside.



**Ben Stiller**

**Jack Black**

Success didn't go to his head, it went to his neighbor.

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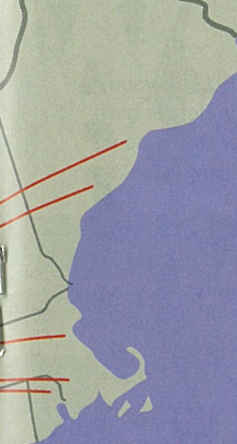
Exp: 12/31/03





**Online Opportunities  
for Classroom C**





# ies onnections

If any single event defines us as students, it is going to class. Waking up, lugging our books down that all-too-long quarter mile in the face of a constant hurricane wind to attend some lecture while still half asleep. It seems like this is the common fate of all of RIT students. However, this is not strictly true. RIT has another student population: distance learners. Whether they live down the hall, taking a few classes online, and the rest in person, or across the country, or the world, never stepping foot on this campus while earning their degrees, these distance learners are experiencing a very different way of attending college.

## The Facts

Distance learning is an ever-expanding program at RIT that has been in the works for more than 20 years. Starting in 1993, RIT switched to the more universal, and adaptable internet delivery system. In addition to a variety of single classes, there are 10 graduate degrees, four undergraduate degrees (see sidebar for a complete list), and no less than 22 certificate programs—all of which can be earned without stepping foot on campus.

Currently, about 1,900 students are enrolled in online classes, and the numbers are always increasing. Not all distance learning students are trying to achieve an online degree. There are essentially three very different distance learning experiences for students. Regular RIT students who take the occasional online class, students who take all their classes online, and students attending the American school of Croatia, but taking classes online here at RIT.

## The Students

The type of distance students we are all most familiar with are students who simply take the occasional online class. In any given quarter, students fully enrolled account for about half the total number of online students. For these students, the vast majority for their education takes place in the conventional brick and mortar classroom setting, but for scheduling reasons, full classes, or simply not wanting to get up in the morning, these students chose to take some of their classes online. They use

distance learning to fill gaps in their schedules, not to overcome great distance. Most of these students will only ever take a handful of online classes. They are not the primary focus of the distance learning department, as they have the possibility of direct access to their professors and other students in their online classes. In other words, some of the common risks associated with distance learning are not as severe for students who live on campus.

The second group of students is called the “true” distance learners. They are professionals who are pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree while traveling and/or holding down a career. Currently, they represent a little less than half the total number of students in the distance learning community.

Marilyn Hanson’s story is fairly typical of those people pursuing a degree online. “I moved to Chicago six years ago and I decided to go back and finish my degree. I wanted to keep my Rochester connection, and since my goal was always to finish at RIT, this allowed me to do that.” Hanson used to work at RIT, in addition to taking classes back in the 1980s. “I received my Associate’s last May and went to graduation in Rochester, and am continuing on currently toward my BS.”

These true distance learners are the primary focus of RIT’s program, and it is for them that the degree and certificate programs were created. They are largely part-time students taking one or two courses per quarter. As Allen Hawker, another online student, put it: “My full time job can be very demanding. I try to take one course each quarter, attempting to give it my utmost attention.”

Although these individuals do not have a huge amount of contact with other students in their classes, it does vary from class to class, as Robert Rose said: “In some classes, the discussion board is very active, and there is even e-mail and IM outside the board.”

Distance learning also serves the American College in Croatia. This quarter, 275 students there are enrolled in online classes at RIT. This gives them access to RIT’s education and greatly expands that college’s academic program and those students choice of major.

## The Weaknesses

Although nearly all the true distance learners seem pleased by RIT’s system, and happy with the education they are receiving, talking to students and faculty on the RIT campus reveals some weaknesses in the program.

The first weakness inherent in distance learning seems to be the actual technology used by the department. There are two pieces of software that are currently used to facilitate distance learning: the older system, myCourses, the same system many RIT professors use to communicate with their students for on-campus courses, and the newer FirstClass. The impression of the students seems to be that myCourses is, in some cases, insufficient. Paul Mischler, who is earning his graduate degree in Software Development and Management online said, “MyCourses didn’t provide any of the facilities that my team needed to get our project done.”

To address the need for better, more functional software, RIT adopted FirstClass. It is becoming more and more commonly used and contains a host of new features. However, issues with the technology remain. Some students consider FirstClass to be bulky and slow, mentioning that it requires students to log in often just to keep track of things.

by Ben Foster  
illustration by Alex Cheek



Most students, however, have little trouble with the FirstClass software finding it easy to use and capable of fulfilling its role. Students on campus also said that the distance learning office was happy to answer any technology related questions.

The deeper question to ask is what the education is really like behind the software. Here again, the stories vary greatly. Just as students on campus have all taken bad classes during their time at RIT, distance learners do find some of their classes unsatisfactory. However, the general consensus seems to be that distance learning is comparable in educational value to a more conventional classroom setting.

Another apparent weakness of the program is a lack of real student-professor interaction—it is difficult to imagine how a student can ever get to know a professor who he or she never meets in person. Some students did discuss their frustration with a lack of student teacher interaction, as Ariel Schlamm, a third-year Imaging and Photographic Technologies major, said, "I think the teacher makes a lot of the difference. One of my teachers didn't post anything on FirstClass and was out of contact for a month in the middle of the quarter, which made learning anything difficult."

#### Distinct Degrees

Within the Distance Learning program, there are a variety of complete majors available in the online format. Time-to-degree varies from student to student, but the final degrees carry as much prestigious weight as any of RIT's other, conventional programs of study.

#### Graduate Degrees

- + Applied Statistics
- + Cross-disciplinary Professional Studies
- + Environmental Health and Safety Management
- + Graphic Art Publishing
- + Health Systems Administration
- + Imaging Science
- + Information Technology
- + Microelectronic Manufacturing Engineering
- + Software Development and Management
- + Telecommunications

#### Undergraduate Degrees - BS

- + Applied Arts and Science
- + Electrical/Mechanical Engineering Technology
- + Safety Technology
- + Telecommunications Engineering Technology

Mischler agreed. "In one class, we had a professor who didn't bother to participate in any of the class discussion. Aside from assignments, he made one comment in the class discussion in the final seven weeks of the quarter.

#### The Professors

The negative impression of online professors is far from universal. Hawker said, "I have had good luck with all the distance learning professors. They are easily reached by phone, e-mail, or scheduled chat sessions. One of my professors even took the time to send a long e-mail detailing the components I would need to set up a home theater television system. Talk about going that extra mile."

On the other end of things, professors themselves acknowledge that distance learning presents some new challenges. Pat Scanlon, who teaches online writing courses, referred to how online classes changed his interaction with students. "Some students who are reluctant to speak up in class are eager to interact with the professor online," said Scanlon. "I think it's harder to truly get to know someone online because we never come face to face." He went on to mention that the relationship is really never the same. "I really never feel as well acquainted with him or her as I do in campus classes. The good thing is that I am able to offer a considerable amount of individual attention to students online." It seems that a subtly different set of skills are necessary for a professor and a slightly different type of student is needed for online classes to be truly successful.

The other major student worry seems to be the amount of work required and the difficulty inherent in pacing one's self over the ten weeks. Many distance learning classes have weekly or more immediate deadlines to help students manage their time. As for the amount of work involved in a distance class, some students seem to think that an online class is a bit more work than a normal class, but again the stories differ one student noted, "I have twice now taken—and withdrew from—an online writing and lit. class because they expect you to write numerous postings every week, and it's a lot more work than a classroom version—where you show up and contribute occasionally."

#### The Work

Some students find the online environment to be slightly easier, some considering not having to go to class an added perk. "I'm taking American Politics online now through Firstclass. I find it very easy," said Bill Comcovich, a first-year Electrical Engineering

major who is transferring out of RIT to pursue a history degree. "I like how the professor gave us all three of our research paper assignments on the first day, along with the due dates, so we could start them right away."

An example of class format involves the aforementioned use of FirstClass as a communication board, used in conjunction with pre-recorded classroom lectures. Students watch the professor deliver the class notes, as well as relevant television or movie segments, respond to readings online, and compose traditional term papers.

Students are always going to have different interpretations of how much work a distance class is when compared to its brick and mortar counterpart, in much the same way students bicker over whose section of a given class is more difficult. Distance learning does not really seem to make the class work more difficult in and of itself, and it does allow a few extra free hours a week to complete the class's workload because the student did not physically have to attend class.

#### The Advantages

There can be no doubt of one thing: online classes do protect students from having to venture to the academic side of campus several more times a week. Today at RIT, scheduling seems to become increasingly complicated each quarter, and finding 12 to 18 elusive credit hours while still making room for the occasional night's sleep is difficult for the average student. Online classes offer an alternative.

As far as the quality of online classes is concerned, online classes can be more risky than their conventional counterparts. It is harder for professors to reach out to struggling students, and it is easier for students to give up. However, it is outweighed by flexibility distance learning provides. Distance learning is allowing professionals from all walks of life to achieve their dreams of higher education, in the context of the frenzied work world.

While the program is far from perfect, the Distance and Online Learning department continues to strive to listen to student concerns about the quality of instruction and technology employed. Overall, these shortcomings are trivial when compared to the positive effect distance learning has, both on-campus and wherever students log in. ■

*For more information, go to the Online Learning website at <http://online.rit.edu>, or visit the Distance Learning office in the basement of Wallace library.*



# WORD on the street

compiled and photographed by Kathryn Nix

## Q: What would be a subject line that would make you read the [All-RIT] emails?



**1** "Something along the lines of free food or money, like, 'First 100 students in SAU get their tuition back.'"

**Matt Atwell**  
Fifth year  
Mechanical Engineering Technology

"I'll go with 'pirates.'"

**Tyler Shingleton**  
First year  
Computer Science



**2** "All classes cancelled and some free shoes."

**Matt Miller**  
Fourth year  
Information Technology

"All guys are required to grow really long beards."

**Sara Stryjewski**  
Second year  
Graphic Design



**3** "Free clones to go to class for you."

**Alex O'Rielly**  
First year  
Computer Science

"Brutal grindcore bands to headline at Clark Gym."

**Greg Herma**  
Second year  
New Media



**4** "Bikini suicide Frisbee match."

**Tim Robinson**  
First year  
Computer Science

"Campus overrun by clowns, bad clowns."

**Chris Peters**  
Second year  
Graphic Media



**5** "New York State passes free education law."

**Aaron Wright**  
Second year  
Computer Science

"Al Simone goes on murderous rampage."

**Glenn Porter**  
Fourth year  
Film



**6** "Don't put 'ATTENTION' in the heading."

**Andy Mullen**  
First year  
Computer Engineering

"For guys, something related to porn."

**Aman Verma**  
First year  
Electrical Engineering



**7** "Mine would involve free shoes."

**Patty Bergemann**  
Third year  
Psychology

"For girls, something to do with chocolate."

**Sahil Wadhwa**  
First year  
Electrical Engineering

"RIT is No Longer Dry."

**Jessica Moy**  
Third year  
Marketing  
&

"Free food."

**Jeff Czebiniak**  
Fourth year  
Microelectronics

**Dawn Pepin**  
Third year  
Marketing



# Puttin' on the Ritz

by Tim Johnson | photographs by Eric Sucar



For the past 19 years, the students in the Hospitality and Service Management program have been part of an annual event that brings the essence of service and elegance into the spotlight. This year's theme, "Simply Elegant," embodied the motivation and desire of these students to create something truly perfect.

The Ritz Dinner is a collaborative effort by the students of the Hospitality and Service Management program and students from various other colleges at RIT. In its beginning years, The Ritz was held at RIT's own Henry's restaurant, where about 30 guests attended the black tie, invite-only dinner. At that time, the meal consisted of 10 or 11 courses, and

the food itself was really the only concern. Since then, the Ritz Dinner has been held at the convention center in downtown Rochester, and the past two years at the RIT Inn and Conference Center, and now hosts over 300 total guests. The night now includes cocktail hours with hors d'oeuvres, wine tasting, dancing with live music, in addition to the still-extravagant five-course dinner.

Planning for the annual "Puttin' on the Ritz," event, as it is traditionally called, begins in November. The students involved plan every aspect of the dinner, from the overall theme to the decorations on every table. In past years, the committee of students in charge

has come up with various themes, such as poker night, Hawaiian night, and last year's Monopoly night. "This year, we spent less money on decorations, we made more by hand, and spent more money on food," said Sarah Messina, Promotions Chair. "We're trying to make everything more simple and fancy this year."

With this intention, the design of the different ballrooms became focused around a "white-on-white" look, as Messina put it. The tables had white table clothes, with white linens and chair covers, with the accent color of light blue on items such as the small Tiffany boxes with chocolates at every place setting.





“The event went very smoothly. I had so many compliments from the guests throughout the night. [Dining Room Managers] Brett Wolff and Javian Rafus trained the serving staff to perfection, and everything worked out great.”  
 – Sarah Messina

All of the students who participate, including servers, bartenders, cocktail waiters and waitresses, decorators, the cleanup crew, and kitchen general staff receive one credit for their contribution. The 20 students on the committee receive two credits as an independent study. “By school standards, to get one credit you need 40 hours of service, and some students think it’s not worth it for an independent study,” said Messina. “First-year students are kind of shy, and might not feel ready for this type of thing, but we try to encourage them to get involved.” She added that it is great to put on a resume, especially for employers that are looking for people with team-based experience.

Commenting on the status just three hours between the doors opened at 6:30, Co-Chair Karla Matteson said, “It’s been hectic at times, but we’re keeping it consistent and doing very well.” They were actually ahead of schedule, which helped because there were still other functions occurring in rooms that still had to be set up. “At 4:30, we only have an hour and a half to turn over an entire room,” said Matteson. “We just have to make sure that everybody is helping and delegating what needs to be done.”

“Puttin’ on the Ritz” requires that a good flow is established between the different elements of the program: cocktails and hors d’oeuvres in the pre-assembly court and Henrietta ballroom, food sampling, wine-tasting, and then the move into the Iroquois ballroom, where 32 tables of 8 seats each were already prepared.

Assigned seating assured each guest that they would have something in common with the people they were sitting with, as parents, alumni and students were grouped together. Speeches were given by the chairs, as well as the Honorary Chair Michael Murphy, who is also the Vice President of Sales and Marketing for Renaissance Hotels. “This is my second Ritz, and the first one being up there and talking,” said Kashani. “My main task throughout the night is to make sure that people are talking, having a good time, and that there is a good flow from one room to the next.”

The night concluded with dessert and dancing at 10 p.m. Looking back on the night, after all of the hard work that went into planning, Messina felt that “the event went very smoothly. I had so many compliments from the guests throughout the night. [Dining Room Managers] Brett Wolff and Javian Rafus trained the serving staff to perfection, and everything worked out great.”

As an annual event, the students and faculty involved can always look to the past Ritz Dinners and make comparisons. In the future, it is likely that they will look back on the 19th occurrence as a simple affair, which was able to capture the essence of elegance. ■

“The committee is more like a family—you grow together. You bond with everyone and everyone is here to help each other. No one is trying to step on each other’s toes, and everyone is doing their best to make this night a success.”

– Susan Kashani

Susan Kashani, one of the co-chairs for the event, felt that the group she was working with was more than just a team to her. “The committee is more like a family—you grow together,” said Kashani. “You bond with everyone and everyone is here to help each other. No one is trying to step on each other’s toes, and everyone is doing their best to make this night a success.”

For \$130 a plate, the guests of The Ritz Dinner were able to sample the finest cuisine that the kitchen staff could create. To illustrate the caliber of this type of meal, the salad consisted of a bed of dandelions and arugula topped with candied walnuts, sliced mangos and a whipped goat cheese cracker, and drizzled with a champagne peach vinaigrette. For the main entrée, guests were served a dish of honey rubbed pork tenderloin stuffed with macerated figs and dates paired with a citrus marinated grilled swordfish, presented with a mashed potato and parsnip puree, and finished with a citrus chutney.

The cooks feel that sometimes they would like to be able to enjoy their work, but at the same time realize that their job is the key to the night’s success. “My family is here, so they won’t really get to see me at dinner, but they’ll see me afterwards,” said Executive Chef Kyle Vesper. “Besides that, I think that’s the only regret I have of working it instead of attending it. I mean, we get plenty of food back here anyway because there’s always extra.”





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Attn: Nasir Memon  
Department of Computer Science  
Polytechnic University  
6 MetroTech Center  
Brooklyn, NY 11201

For more information about the scholarship, the application process, study program, eligibility and requirements, please visit <http://sfs.poly.edu>.

To know more about Polytechnic University's Cyber Security program please visit <http://isis.poly.edu>.

To learn more about SFS program please visit <http://www.sfs.opm.gov> and <http://sfs.poly.edu>.

Questions? Email [sfs@isis.poly.edu](mailto:sfs@isis.poly.edu).

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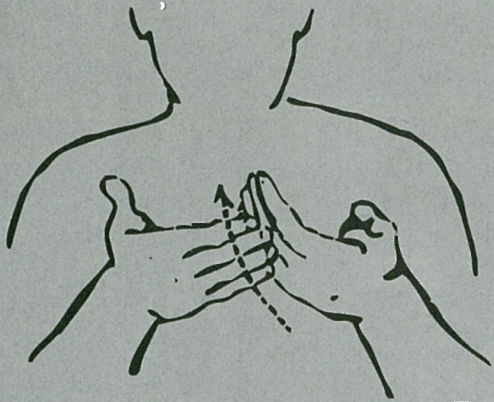
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# S P O R T S D E S K

by Matthew Doak

## Baseball

The baseball team had a tough week, dropping three games, falling to 9-12 on the season.

On April 17, the Tigers took the field for a double-header against Ithaca. In the first game, the Tigers rallied from 5-0 down to make the game close, but could not overcome the Bombers, falling by the score of 9-6. **John Byrne** went 2-for-4 with two RBI and a run scored to lead the Tigers. **Rob Ogbourne** also had two RBIs for RIT.

In the second game, the Tigers gave up two unearned runs and fell by the score of 5-3. **Jamie Schild** went 4-for-4, while **Colin Bradley** went 2-for-4 and drove in a run. **Jeff Ware** and Ogbourne drove in the other runs for the Tigers.

Not much went right for RIT on April 21 against the University of Rochester. RIT found themselves down 7-0 before they were able to get on the board and eventually fell by the score of 8-1. Schild went 2-for-2 and drove in the only run scored by the Tigers.

## Men's Lacrosse

The men's lacrosse team suffered just their third loss of the season on April 17 as they fell to Nazareth in a double-overtime thriller, 17-16. The Tigers had the lead early in the fourth, but were unable to hold on. In addition to scoring two goals, **Josh Molinari** had six assists, enabling him to set the RIT career

RIT's Caitlin Krumm slides into home during a game against St. John Fisher. Krumm scored one of RIT's two runs in the first game of the double-header. Kim Weiselberg/REPORTER Magazine



assists record with 151. **Chris Copeland** had four goals, while **Dave Thering**, **Ryan Neward**, **Zach Bednarz**, and **Colin Jesien** each scored two.

The team returned home on April 20 and got back on track with a 14-9 win over Utica College. After trailing 4-2 in the second quarter, the Tigers took control behind five goals from Thering. Bednarz had four, Copeland three, and Neward two goals to round out the scoring.

## Men's Tennis

The men's tennis team had mixed results last week, winning one match and losing another.

On April 17, the Tigers picked up a 5-2 win over Alfred. The doubles pairs of **David Chachu/Darren Stanley**, **Chris Leary/Rod Razavi**, and **Jon New/Tim Patterson** swept past the Saxons. Chachu, **Frank Solome**, New, and Razavi all picked up singles victories on the day.

Three days later, the team suffered a 6-1 loss at the hands of the Hobart Statesmen. Patterson was the only Tiger able to pick up a victory in singles.

## Men's and Women's Track and Field

Both track and field teams traveled to nearby Roberts Wesleyan College to compete in the Raider Invitational on April 17. That school's fast MONDO surface helped the Tigers to set several personal records and season bests.

On the men's side, freshman **Jesse Williamson** ran a personal best 1:56.06 to win the 800-meter run, while senior **Curtis Howard** was just behind in 1:56.34. In the 1500-meter dash, **Adam Cross** (4:02.91) and **Ryan Pancoast** (4:03.10) placed first and second. **Jon Booth** and **Jeff Abbott** also finished first and second in the five-kilometer run in 16:02.01 and 16:07.24 respectively. Other Tiger victors included **Brandon Schroeder** (52.05) in the 400-meter dash, **Dean Ganskop** (57.65) in the 400-meter hurdles, and the 4x400 relay team of Howard, Ganskop, Schroeder, and **Kevin Custer** (3:28.64). **Vince Cauley** also won the long jump with a 6.03-meter performance.

On the women's side, **Danyelle Yondura** broke an 18-year-old record with her 35.16-meter javelin throw and finished second in the event. **Heidi Spalholz** finished second in the 1500-meter run by running a personal best 4:47.57. The 4x400-meter relay team of Spalholz, **Danielle Simmons**, **Lisa Curtin**, and Erin Canfield finished first and broke an RIT record with their 4:04.87 performance. **Jessica McCarthy** won the 200-meter dash in 27.73, and Simmons placed first with a 59.67 performance in the 400-meter dash.

## Women's Lacrosse

The women's lacrosse team had a busy week, and after losing two games to fall to 0-10, they picked up their first win of the season on April 21.

On April 17, the Tigers took on St. John Fisher and fell by the score of 13-8. **Pinckney Templeton**, **Lisette Silver**, and **Kelly Martin** each scored two goals, while **Andrea Ervay** and **Kaley Ostanek** had one apiece.

Three days later, the team dropped another game, this time to Fredonia. Templeton scored four goals for the Tigers, while Martin scored the other two.

Against Utica, Martin scored five goals to lead the Tigers to their first win of the season. Martin eclipsed 100 points for her career with her goals. Templeton scored three, while Ostanek, **Callise Wiley**, and Silver each scored two. The final score was 14-12.

## Softball

The softball team has had one of the busiest schedules imaginable of late, playing 11 games during the past week and winning eight of them.

On April 16, the Tigers swept a double-header from Keuka. In game one, **Shari McNamara** was brilliant on the mound and also went 2-for-4 at the plate with a run scored as the Tigers picked up a 6-1 win. **Elaine Vonderembse**, **Megan Varner**, **Tonya Campbell**, and **Danielle Miller** all had two hits for the Tigers. In the second game, Varner and **Josa Hanzlik** each had two hits to lead the Tigers to a 9-2 victory. **Mary Keegan** struck out eight and picked up the victory on the mound.

Over the next two days, the Tigers picked up three more wins by sweeping a double header from Cazenovia and beating Utica.

After losing the first of two against Ithaca by a 2-1 score, the Tigers won the second game 1-0. Allie Sitton allowed just four hits in picking up the shutout and Vonderembse drove in the lone run for RIT.

On April 21, the Tigers split a double-header with Geneseo. In the first game, Gretchen Goodhue drove in two runs, and McNamara picked up the shutout as the Tigers won by the score of 4-0. The Tigers lost the second game 5-0.

The Tigers split another double-header against the University of Rochester to finish out the busy week. RIT won the first game by the score of 3-2, but lost the second game 1-0.

## Men's and Women's Crew

Both the RIT men and women's crew teams traveled to Worcester, Massachusetts to take on WPI, RPI, Holy Cross, and Clark. The men's varsity eight, coxed by Justin Blum, came up victorious with a time of 6:17.1, just a few seconds above second place finisher WPI, who placed in 6:18.6. The RIT novice eight also was victorious in a time of 6:22.7, and the second novice eight won in 6:35.2.

The women were not as fortunate, finishing in fourth in 7:20.5. The winner of that race was WPI in 6:58.6. The RIT women's novice eight was victorious, crossing the line in 6:56.7, on a shortened course by 50 meters. ■

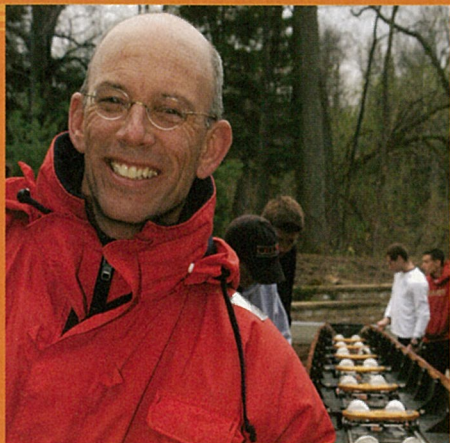
## This Week at Home

5/1	Saturday 2 p.m.	Baseball vs. St. Lawrence
5/2	Sunday 2 p.m.	Baseball vs. Clarkson
5/5	Wednesday 4 p.m.	Baseball vs. Brockport



# Coach Profiles:

compiled by Rachel Pikus and Michael Eppolito



Jim Bodenstedt: Men's Crew



Rob Grow: Men's Baseball



Ann Nealon: Men's Tennis

**What was your favorite RIT sports moment?**

The dedication of the RIT boathouse in October of 1999.

**What is your favorite quote?**

"Fast boats begin with love."

— Jim Bodenstedt

**What was your most embarrassing moment as coach?**

When I told the men's novice eight to row after they finished the race, and they were expected to be at the awards dock, but they just kept going. Someone told me they had medaled, so I went running after them to catch up to tell them to turn around and go pick up their medals.

**What is your best accomplishment as coach?**

"Making sure that my athletes have academic success."

**What is your biggest pet-peeve?**

Leaving water bottles lying around at the boat house everywhere without any names on them—drives me insane.

**Who is your favorite sports figure?**

Steve Redgrave, the British rower and five-time Olympic gold medalist.

**What are your words of wisdom to graduating seniors?**

Pull hard to the very last stroke.

**What is your best accomplishment as coach?**

Graduating kids every year. Seeing them do well academically and athletically, and seeing them go on to get careers and jobs, raise families, and having them come back to take part in the program as alumni.

**What was your favorite RIT sports moment?**

No-hitter thrown by Jason Roland at Hartwick College. It's the only no-hitter we've had while I've been here.

**Who is your favorite sports figure and why?**

Bobby Grich. When I was growing up, I went to see him play down at Silver Stadium in 1971. When I was six years old or something like that, and he was starting shortstop. He had a good major league career. I was number four because of Bobby Grich.

**What is your biggest pet-peeve?**

Umpires. If we found a way to get rid of them, the game would be much better.

**What is your favorite quote or mentality?**

"Show up every day, work hard, play hard, and make sure we represent RIT well--respecting your opponent no matter what their record is and playing your best game everyday."

**What are your words of wisdom to graduating seniors?**

Have a plan of attack. Just make sure that you work hard, play hard, put family first, and make sure you stay connected to RIT.

**What is your best accomplishment as coach?**

The 1983 NYSWCAA Tennis Championship Tournament where the women's tennis team tied for first place in the New York State Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women Division III Championship.

**Who is your favorite sports figure and why?**

Legendary tennis professional Chris Evert. She is a great player who carried herself with dignity. She was respected by all for her great sportsmanship, great play, and perfect court manners.

**What is your biggest pet-peeve?**

People rollerblading and skate boarding on the tennis courts.

**What is your favorite thing to do in the Rochester area?**

Attending the arts—going to Broadway shows at the Auditorium, and going to concerts by the RPO.

**What is your favorite quote?**

"Never give up."

**What are your words of wisdom to graduating seniors?**

"Go confidently in the direction of your dreams. Live the life you have imagined."  
— Henry David Thoreau

photograph by Eric Sucar

photograph by Eric Sucar

photograph by Kim Weiselberg



# Here are some answers from the stars behind the scenes in the RIT athletic program.



John Carpenter: Women's Softball



Gene Peluso: Men's Lacrosse



Tricia Manley: Women's Lacrosse

**What was your most embarrassing moment as coach?**

Probably getting thrown out of a high school game, and then getting in an argument with a kid from the other side of the team. (laughter) Long time ago.

**What was your favorite RIT sports moment?**

When we beat Ithaca to win the conference and go to the NCAA's [four years ago].

**Who is your favorite sports figure? Why?**

Mickey Mantle—just like the way Mickey played. I grew up watching him.

**What is your biggest pet-peeve?**

People being late. For every minute the players are late we run sprints.

**What are your words of wisdom to graduating seniors?**

Be confident in yourself, work hard, and everything will come together.

**What is your best accomplishment as coach?**

When I first started coaching, I coached younger kids... just the accomplishment of seeing kids that didn't even know anything about ball in the inner city be able to win games and play as a team.

**What is your favorite quote?**

Anything Yogi Berra said.

**What is your best accomplishment as coach?**

Taking different programs at different levels and improving them. I have been able to win the Conference Championships as a coach, but the overall best accomplishment would have to be getting the athletes ready for competition.

**Who is your favorite sports figure? Why?**

NY Jets quarterback Chad Pennington, because he is a winner and works hard at making himself and his teammates better. He took his playbook on his honeymoon!

**What was your favorite RIT sports moment?**

Our wins a couple of year ago (2002) versus Nazareth and Hartwick within the same week. We were number 16 in the country, and they were number five and six in the country.

**What was your most embarrassing moment as coach?**

I was once head butted—accidentally—by one of my players before a Conference Championship game in 1999 and his helmet cut above my eye. So, before this big game, I had trainers and medical staff working on the cut, and we were literally five minutes from game time.

**What are your words of wisdom to graduating seniors?**

There is only one way to succeed in anything, and that is to give it everything you have and be very enthusiastic."

**What was your favorite RIT sports moment?**

The win against Utica because the girls record does not show the potential and the talent we have, and also they are a great group of women with a lot of heart and desire.

**Who is your favorite sports figure? Why?**

Mia Hamm, because I've loved and played soccer since I could barely walk.

**What is your favorite quote?**

"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams."  
— Eleanor Roosevelt

**What is your biggest pet-peeve?**

Bad ref's.

**What are your words of wisdom to graduating seniors?**

Enjoy your senior year, and do not rush to get into the working world. Follow your hearts, and never settle for something second-rate.

**What is your best accomplishment as coach?**

Starting the program at Keuka College from scratch. It took a lot of work to gain the respect from the camps community; to see the team receive varsity status.

**Next Week:**

**Suzette Lugo: Women's Crew and Dave Warth: Track and Field**

photograph by Kim Weiselberg

photograph by Michael Sperling

photograph by Eric Sucar



# 3 STARS

by Matthew Doak



## Kelly Iagulli – Softball

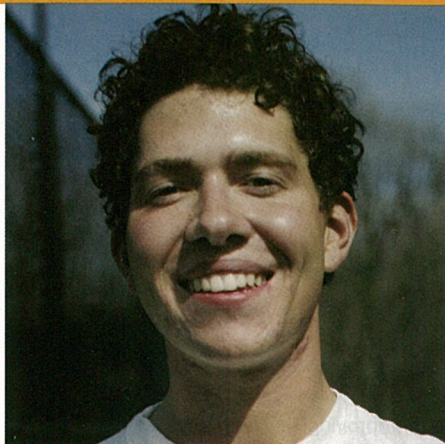
Senior catcher Kelly Iagulli has been among the softball teams leading hitters this season, batting .282 with two home runs, four doubles, and 12 RBI. The Eagle River, Alaska native had a huge game against Buffalo State earlier this month, going 2-for-3 with a home run, a triple, and two runs scored.

"She's been seeing the ball real well lately," said Coach Jack Carpenter. "She's been able to lay off the high stuff."

Carpenter has worked with Iagulli to improve in one area. "Her problem is sometimes throwing the ball when she shouldn't." Her coach is appreciative of her desire to make the big play, but says sometimes she could use better judgment. "She realizes it after the play," said Carpenter.

In addition to her abilities at the plate, Iagulli is an important asset to the team behind the plate. "She catches all the pitchers and calls the pitches," said Carpenter. "She recognizes what is and isn't working, and calls the game based on that." Carpenter says that because she is involved in all of the plays, she is a leader on the team.

photograph by Kim Weiselberg



## Frank Salome – Men's Tennis

Junior Frank Solome has compiled a 6-3 singles record thus far this season for the RIT men's tennis team. In addition to impressing his teammates, Solome has also impressed his coach and some other local tennis pros.

"Frank is respected and appreciated by the head pros at both the Tennis Club of Rochester and Oak Hill Country Club for his teaching skills with promising junior members," said Coach Ann Nealon. "Through his teaching, he has learned a great deal about improving his own strokes."

Described by his coach as being very determined, Solome works hard on his game by practicing and working out all year long. "Frank has worked very hard to maintain his position in the starting lineup," said Nealon. "He earned his position because of his mental toughness and his ability to believe in himself."

Nealon especially appreciates Solome's ability to battle through challenging situations. "When the going gets tough, Frank finds a way to work through a difficult match," said Nealon. "He is always open to suggestions and willing to give a great deal of time and effort in areas of his game that need adjustment."

photograph by Kim Weiselberg



## John Foley – Men's Lacrosse

The men's lacrosse team has been holding their opponents to some pretty low goal totals lately, and one of the big reasons for that has been freshman goalkeeper John Foley.

Having started all 14 of the team's contests this season, Foley has given up just 8.03 goals per game, and his play of late has been even better. He has saved over 58 percent of the 269 shots he has faced on his way to an 11-3 record.

"John is the last line of defense and has done a great job," said Coach Gene Peluso.

Described by his coach as having "quiet confidence," Foley has been an important addition to the lacrosse program this season. "John has very good reflexes and is very cool under pressure," said Peluso. "He doesn't get rattled easily and is an awesome stick handler outside the cage."

Peluso says the only thing Foley is lacking is more college game experience. "He is only a freshman and will get better as the years go by."

photograph by Michael Sperling



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# This Opinion Doesn't Matter

by Erhardt Graeff

There seems to be a growing trend toward self-defeating emotionalism and oversensitive intellectualism among young adults today. This movement, spearheaded predominantly by the popular *emo* cultural revolution, has sprung a resurgence in Nihilistic thought along with many other *Dashboardesque* shots to the head. This is understandable, considering what better way is there to augment one's pessimistic, downtrodden outlook on life, then to say there is no point to any of it. However, if you follow strictly to that logic, then what is the point of even proclaiming that?

In debasing everything in life and the world to "nothing," there is still a gravitation toward "something."

Now, when I say Nihilism, I am referring to the popular facet of the movement called Existential Nihilism for which it is best known. The Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy has this to say about Existential Nihilism: "While nihilism is often discussed in terms of extreme skepticism and relativism, for most of the 20th century it has been associated with the belief that life is meaningless. Existential Nihilism begins with the notion that the world is without meaning or purpose. Given this circumstance, existence itself—all action, suffering, and feeling—is ultimately senseless and empty."

With this definition in mind, a Nihilist is someone whose skepticism has led to a belief in nothing. His or her life is essentially reduced to complete meaninglessness. That sounds pretty bleak. It also sounds semantically unsound to me. In debasing everything in life and the world to "nothing," there is still a gravitation toward "something." The word "nothing" has a meaning. People are able to conjure thoughts of void and nullification from the suggestion of that word, and express their point to another human being when using the word, such as in the statement, "I have nothing left to live for." Therefore, it follows that the word "nothing" has meaning, which makes it "something." So, by aligning yourself with Nihilism and nothing, you are still aligning yourself with something.

Go ahead and be confused by how futile all existence and action is. I am.

Such meaning is, of course, man-made, but so are philosophies. "Nothing" has a meaning, therefore, proclaiming a belief in all meaninglessness and nothingness is faulty because such words have meanings. Furthermore, "Life" cannot be meaningless. Why? Well, because I just used the

word in a sentence and you were able to understand the abstract conceptual meaning to which I was referring.

Taking this semantic fallibility into account, the other grounds on which to attack Nihilism is to the tune of cyclical hypocrisy. For the record, I can understand and appreciate how the diehard skepticism (on which Nihilism was founded) leads to an ultimately infinite trail of questions. And, it is impossibly hard to prove even the simplest things are absolute truths. But, does Nihilism stand as a suitable aggregate of such claims?

Well, with no truth in the world, there seems to be nothing to form a purposeful reason for life. OK then, there is no point to life. Well, does anything matter? No? All right, then why are you standing there telling me about how pathetic your life is, or writing in a *livejournal* entry? Because, it logically stands that there is no point to that action either. Each and every action or thought is inherently hypocritical if the originating person believes in Nihilism, because there is no reason for taking action or even believing in it.

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To be a true practitioner of Nihilism, I strongly feel that need to basically kill yourself outright. Or, by way of complete apathy for existence and total resignation from one's self, limiting all remaining motion to that of a vegetable. At such a point, I could begin to accept a person's Nihilistic fixation. Of course, that is technically not good enough. You would also need to abandon all thought while waiting for death. If life is pointless, thinking is pointless. You are pointless, so stop thinking about it. The funny thing is that you would then die not knowing you were a Nihilist, in fact you would not know anything at all—which is exactly what Nihilistic skepticism tries to purport. This might even prove ignorance really is bliss.

So, I simply want to caution people to think about these matters, if and when Nihilism starts creeping into your system. Most philosophy is structured to make you think anyway. Go ahead and be confused by how futile all existence and action is. I am. Just don't say that you believe in nothing, because what's the point?■

*Note: To avoid insult, I would like to clarify that I do not think that all emo kids are Nihilists, nor do I think all Nihilists are emo kids—if you do happen to fall under such a category, I am sorry.*





# spring festival

RIT 2004

**FRIDAY  
APRIL 30**

SG BBQ (Noon)  
Outdoor Movie,  
Caddy Shack,  
& Miniature Golf (8 PM)  
Carnival (6 PM - Midnight)

**SAT. MAY 1**  
**10 AM - Midnight**

Save the Arts Festival • Car Show  
Live Music • Wing Wars • Karen's Walk  
Carnival • Psychics • LAU Wet Down  
Handwriting Analysis • BACC BBQ  
Caricatures • Inflatables • Human Chess  
Henrietta Hots • Hustle for Habitat

**SAT. NIGHT**  
**MAJOR CONCERT- 8 PM**  
with opener **Matt Nathanson**

[cab.rit.edu/~springfestival](http://cab.rit.edu/~springfestival)





ROCHESTER PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA PRESENTS

*RPO*

WITH

**KYOKO TAKEZAWA**



MS. TAKEZAWA HAS PERFORMED WITH THE LOS ANGELES PHILHARMONIC AND CLEVELAND ORCHESTRA AMONG OTHERS. THIS SEASON SHE WILL APPEAR AS SOLOIST AND RECITALIST IN THE UNITED STATES, ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, IRELAND, GERMANY, MONTE CARLO, JAPAN, CHINA, HONG KONG, SINGAPORE AND MALAYSIA

TICKETS ON SALE APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup>  
SAU CANDY COUNTER

**SATURDAY, MAY 1, 2004**  
**EASTMAN THEATER**  
**8PM**

**\$5**

TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED  
DEPARTURE AT 7PM FROM THE  
LIBRARY BUS SHELTER