



Gracies Dinnertime Theatre

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THE TRUTH ABOUT GDT & REPORTER

By Alex Moundalexis

I. Introduction

Many of our readers and critics wonder why the writers of *GDT* have been abrasive to the *Reporter* in the past, not including the constructive criticism (need we bring up the black print on a black background?). It's not common or particularly bright to attack the hand that feeds you, but we do it all the same. Now you're thinking, "wait a minute, *Reporter* feeds *GDT*?"...well, folks, that's just the half of it.

II. The Beginning (1979 to 1993)

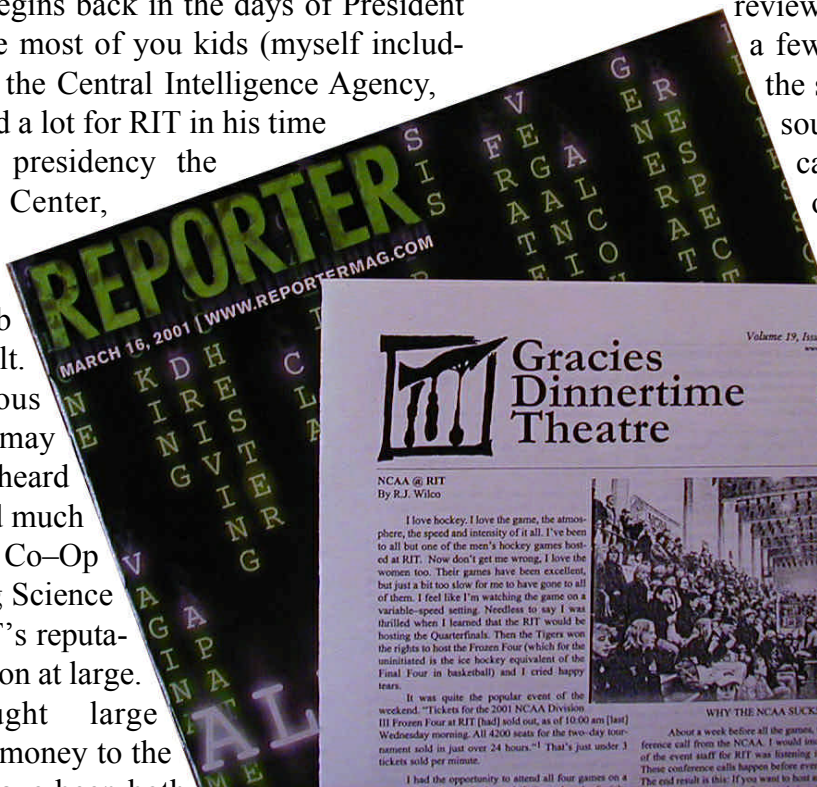
Our story begins back in the days of President Rose, back before most of you kids (myself included). A veteran of the Central Intelligence Agency, President Rose did a lot for RIT in his time here. Under his presidency the Student Life Center, Imaging Science Building, and the Bausch and Lomb Center were built. Through various means that you may or may not have heard about, he also had much to do with the Co-Op program, Imaging Science program, and RIT's reputation as an Institution at large. He also brought large amounts of grant money to the Institute, which have been both criticized and praised due to their source. Less mentioned was his stance on the campus atmosphere. He decided that life on campus was a bit dull, and that

the students were becoming complacent. He realized that campus needed to be stirred up from time to time, to get the students fired up. President Rose was also involved in giving students a strong core in the liberal arts, and so the method that he chose was brilliant along those lines. A medium that would never die: satire.

The administration never would have approved the idea. The spook in him probably wanted to make the project a covert one anyway. Approximately two years after his departure, the plan was to begin a satire publication. It was hoped that when provoked, the student body would react in a positive way: organizing for the betterment of the Institute, student review, etc. If things began to slip, a few critical articles could make the slip-up known. To cover the source of the project, the publication was to attack all groups on an intelligent basis, without prejudice.

There was only one problem. Funding. The money had to be handled by students, and liquid enough to move quickly. The CIA has been rumored to be familiar with money laundering, slush funds and the like. As

such, a non-profit organization was setup to handle the publishing, a post office box leased for billing statements and correspondence. The name given was



Hell's Kitchen. A considerable amount of money was added to the *Reporter* account, and an annual contribution was to be made from that account to Hell's Kitchen. That's right, you read it correctly: *Reporter* was to fund the project. There are theories, but the original source of the funding is still unconfirmed to this day. If asked, the official stance was to deny all ties between the two publications. To the casual eye, the publication would appear to be handled entirely by Hell's Kitchen. The CIA, the administration, and President Rose selected several individuals to carry out his plan, some of which are still very active to this day.

Now let me say something about CIA employees in general. The folks at the CIA never retire, despite what they say. When duty called—and it did in the form of Desert Storm—President Rose resigned. Due to his contributions, we will always hold a special place in our hearts for him.

III. The Simone Era (1993 to present)

In 1995, two years into Dr. Simone's administration—according to plan—the few hand-selected souls started to publish what you know as “Gracies Dinnertime Theatre”. Articles mocking the *Reporter*, illuminating the CIA's presence at RIT and politically incorrect commentary began to circulate around campus. Also included were original cartoons and Tourist's (infamous) movie reviews. Slowly but surely, GDT began to acquire a loyal following. Over the years dozens of writers have contributed to GDT, writing on hundreds of topics. GDT has mocked, humored, parodied and infuriated just about every group/concept: minorities, student government, the administration, the *Reporter*, ResLife, Gracies, drug-use policy, etc. Various letters of hatred were received, all printed unedited. Other letters praised the honest and no-BS approach: we would print what the *Reporter* wouldn't. This all continued for several years without major turmoil.

In late 2000, there were funding problems. By freak accident (or due to some careful scrutiny into the financial audit trail), Dr. Simone came across the transfers from *Reporter* to Hell's Kitchen. Not completely understanding the purpose of GDT, Dr. Simone cut the funding to Hell's Kitchen. The

remainder was to remain in the *Reporter* account, and you may remember the GDT staff ranting about our case in print. In a closed meeting, our Editors convinced Dr. Simone why GDT was needed, and funding was promptly restored. GDT's official story was that GDT provided positive competition and an alternative outlet for material not covered by the *Reporter*. The Editor in Chief of the *Reporter* (Nick Spittal) was furious at GDT's rebuttal. On a personal note, he wanted GDT out, thinking GDT to be an inferior publication. Not to mention that the extra money would have been at his disposal. After a brief cover-up argument over alleged copyright infringement by a GDT writer, Spittal resigned from his position.

Jeff Prystajko took over the *Reporter* as Editor in Chief. Between you and me, he and GDT have an excellent working relationship. All it took were a few 12-packs under the guise of GDT Puzzle prizes. Ask officially, and he'll deny the whole thing, as will most everyone else involved, probably citing that we made this whole story up. Those who aren't aware of the truth still think that GDT has some vendetta against the *Reporter*, hence the few scathing remarks back and forth from time to time. Those who are aware realize that it's a cover up, and know that the GDT staff reads the *Reporter* every week without fail.

IV. Conclusion

Our relationship with the *Reporter* is just one example, but I can assure you that GDT is everywhere. We have contacts in the Executive Suite of the Power Tower, Liberal Arts, ResLife, Mathematics, and other offices around campus. GDT is a small organization with long-reaching arms, filled with individuals unafraid to speak their minds.

Won't you join us?

Suggested GDT Reading:

CIA @ RIT: Vol 4 Issue 7, Vol 8 Issue 6, Vol 10 Issue 3

Modern Mythical Creatures: A Compendium

By Andrew Gill

Medusa. Leprechauns. Ned Lud. Every society has its own mythical creatures based on different social attributes. The bellicose Greeks had bellicose creatures and the mountain-climbing Tibetans have the mountain-dwelling Yeti, so what mythical creatures have crept into our social repertoire?

In an effort to answer this question, I have begun to collect information on such phenomena. The first few entries of the forthcoming¹ Compendium of the Taxonomy of Twenty-First Century American Mythical Creatures are included for peer review.

Gasoline Gnomes—These little pranksters have been known to frequent parking lots and play games on the people parked there. Most often, this amounts to stealing a few gallons of gas from someone's tank. The Gasoline Gnome is reported to be no taller than 3 feet, but often up to six feet wide, with a small clear plastic head attached to its significantly longer neck.

Gasoline Gnomes have been known to frequent RIT's lots, so be careful. It may prove useful to enlist the help of a Gasoline Faerie, a creature that has been known to fill gas tanks without the knowledge of the owner. These are most often seen in suburban neighborhoods.

Goths—In recent years, much has been said about the Goth problem. Many people report seeing people who care little for commonly accepted fashion and pretense, but rather prefer to adhere to their own style. Supposedly,

these "free spirits" place an emphasis on culture from the Romantic Era, such as simple dress and vampirism.

A true Goth, however, has yet to be found. Many of these so-called Goths are using Gothic culture to appear to be cool. These can usually be identified by the characteristic markings of too much disposable income—they wear every Gothic item, and prefer to identify with the upper echelon of Gothic society.

Those who do not fall into this first category are typically not Goths, but rather Beats. These can be identified by observing their reaction to the name Jack Kerouac.

Helpful RIT Employees—This final group is perhaps the most elusive. Reports keep coming in about a group of RIT staff who are actually helpful. Supposedly, just prior to President Rose's departure from office, a group of helpful employees was accidentally hired. In their underground lair, they have been quietly receiving the same information as most RIT employees. Instead of simply stopping all higher reasoning, however, they have simply become very surly.

Strangely enough, this does not impact their helpfulness. There are even rumors of an English parking officer and a woman in the bookstore who aren't surly.

If you encounter a helpful and pleasant RIT employee, you are advised to take cover immediately, since there is no conclusive test as to whether or not this is the calm before the storm.

¹ It's at least a year or two away...



BEWARE THE CASH-MONEY ISSUE

After negotiating an arms deal with an unnamed South American country, the staff of *Gracies Dinnertime Theatre* has come across a great way to launder part of the money that we've come across. And the best part is, you can help!

We are offering cash for creative submissions. That's right, CASH. The stuff that beer is bought with¹. Consider our April 11th issue as the CASH-MONEY issue.

I Dare You To Prove It

Write something witty, smart, intellectually stimulating even. Prove your point, no matter how crazy or silly it may be. Email it to us, and the author of the best explanatory essay will receive \$50, in \$1 bills if you like. Submit by April 6th, 3:43PM GMT.

Fake RIT ID

Your mission, if you choose to accept it, will be to create a fake RIT ID using your skills in Photoshop,

¹ We, the responsible folks at *Gracies Dinnertime Theatre* don't approve of underage or irresponsible possession/purchase/consumption of alcoholic beverages. Uhm, yeah that's right. Really we don't. No, really.

Illustrator, Fireworks, etc. The final product should be a high-resolution image (JPG, GIF, PNG, TIFF, PSD, etc), emailed to us. Use someone else's face. Creativity and humor will factor in, but a realistic integration is the idea here. A crisp, genuine \$50 bill awaits the best. Submit by April 7th, 7:32AM PST.

Additional opportunities will be announced as we come up with them.

A Letter To The Editor Of *Reporter Magazine*

I write today on behalf of Gracies Dinnertime Theatre, to express our condolences.

We learned of Mr. Blackmon's election a day or two afterwards, and were thrilled. Based on his writing we took him to be humorous and witty, and came to enjoy his down-to-earth pieces. We agreed that he would do well as Editor-in-Chief of Reporter.

We think that Edgar Blackmon has been treated unfairly. We salute you Edgar, and offer you our sympathy and support.

Alex Moundalexis
Editor, Gracies Dinnertime Theatre



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