



Gracies Dinnertime Theatre

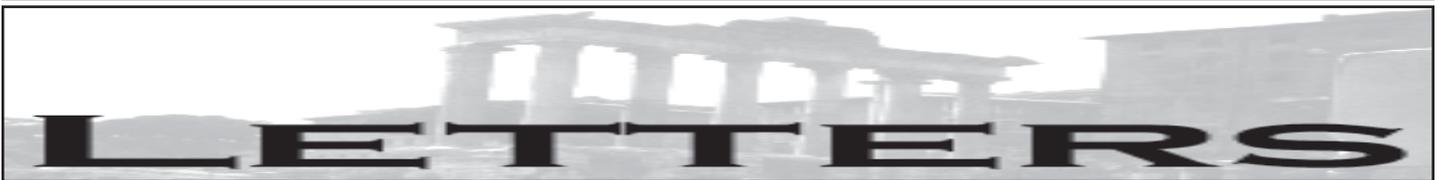
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From: ammm6744@osfmail.isc.rit.edu
To: gdt@hellskitchen.org
Subject: Response to Comments Made by Mr. Gravelle on Racial Profiling
Date: Sun, 07 Dec 2003 16:45:47 -0500

Mr. Gravelle,

This letter is in regards to your response to Mr. Siegel, who had written about his group's poster in www.hellskitchen.org/gdt/pdf/Volume27/01.Strep.pdf. Though there are a few things I would comment upon if space permitted, there is one statement you made which has compelled me to respond. Your declaration that, "when traditionally a rapist is 5'10", 185lbs, dark-skinned, and wearing a FUBU jacket, then if a 5'10", 185lbs, dark-skinned, FUBU-sporting man is approaching a police officer" is "both blatantly racist and incredibly stupid," is false. It is neither blatantly racist, nor is it incredibly stupid.

Racism, properly defined, refers to idea that a certain race is superior to another, simply by nature, whether through genetics or another factor. Racism has existed in many forms through history, on the part of every major ethnic group, whether as white superiority during slavery; black superiority through the proposed benefits of melanin; Japanese or Chinese superiority over Europeans, or a litany of other examples. To make a claim such as yours does two things. First, it helps to foster an understanding of racism by the public that is simply incorrect. Second, it diminishes the horrific nature of true racism, which had manifested itself most obviously during World War II.

If you would like to continue defining "racism" more broadly, as I am sure many readers will be inclined to do, your statement still warrants a response. Racial profiling does not represent any kind of racism; it is a legitimate tool that can and should be used by law enforcement officials. If, in a certain area, "dark-skinned" men commit 80% of

all cases of rape, it is therefore not racist to make the claim that a "dark-skinned" man most likely committed the crime. Instead, it represents an objective fact. It is a legitimate piece of information that can be used by police in order to find the criminal. In a world where all resources are limited, including the police and the tools at their disposal, it makes no sense to discount the fact that the rapist in question is most likely dark skinned. While it obviously would be incorrect to simply arrest every dark-skinned man in the neighborhood, more attention should indeed be paid to that particular group of individuals. To do otherwise would be a great injustice to the residents of the area. The fact that you have given such a specific description of the person --- including things such as his weight, height, and jacket, as well as his race --- makes using race that much more permissible because it is no longer the only piece of information.

If a girl is walking alone in such an area and finds a group of "dark-skinned" men walking behind her, does it make her a racist if she begins to feel frightened? Obviously the answer is no. Should she not try to find somewhere populated in order to protect herself, simply because doing so would employ the knowledge that the men behind her are dark-skinned? Of course not. Jesse Jackson himself famously commented in 1993, "There is nothing more painful to me at this stage in my life than to walk down the street and hear footsteps and start thinking about robbery, then look around and see somebody white and feel relieved."

I find no difference between the statements made by Mr. Siegel and yourself. While it is clearly true that most Muslim men are not terrorists, it is also true that most terrorist attacks committed against the United States and her allies were (and are) committed by Muslim men. Though this statement is clearly not PC, it is something that can be objectively proven true or false. In fact, it is true, and the application of this information would include such things

as screening a disproportionately larger number of Arab men at airports and at other localities such as bridges and buildings. It would also, in the case mentioned by Mr. Siegel, mean stopping the man at security gate. Again, this does not include simply going and rounding up all such persons, but it is one of many pieces of evidence that can be used to fight crime and terrorism. It is plainly obvious that the United States is under attack from Islamic fundamentalists, and therefore it makes no sense to screen the elderly Catholic nun when she is boarding the airplane. Furthermore, because of the intense opposition to properly acknowledging who poses the threat to us --- Islamists -

-- the United States places herself in a dangerously precarious position, moral as well as physical.

I hope that this letter has the opportunity to be published in order for more light to be shed on the issue at hand. Thank you for your time in reading this, and I thank you in advance for your response.

Andrew Morgan

Andrew,

Let me begin by thanking you for your letter, and apologizing for not actually being Peter C. Gravelle. My co-editor moved the his worldly possessions down state this weekend and is currently unconscious and is therefore unable to respond to your letter. I assure you, I write this with his utter confidence.

Let me continue by quoting the American Heritage Dictionary:

racism n.

1. The belief that race accounts for differences in human character or ability and that a particular race is superior to others.
2. Discrimination or prejudice based on race.

It would seem that Gravelle and yourself are both correct in your understanding of what is "racist". It is also apparent that "racism" is a somewhat novel concept.

If eighty percent of all rapes are perpetrated by people of a particular skin tone it is still counterproductive to classify all people of that description as likely rapists, because to do so is to presume some amount of guilt can be attributed to that sort person --- before they even commit a crime. Assuming that its citizens are guilty of a crime before they have been convicted is not something free societies do. However, if we assume that we are not in

a free society, and instead one that is governed solely by resources, as you suggest, it is still less that useful to presume the guilt of certain groups of people.

If a rape is committed, and it is immediately assumed that a black men committed the crime, time will be wasted looking for a black if a white man committed the crime. Moreover, statistics such as the above don't necessarily scale. If eighty percent of rapists are of a particular skin tone, it could still be that ninety-nine percent of people of that skin tone are not rapists, or even criminals.

As for the reverend Jackson, I have two things to say. The first is this: Jesse Jackson also said "Capital punishment turns the state into a murder. But imprisonment turns the state into a gay dungeon-master." And second, can you really be sure that Jackson meant "somebody white", and not "somebody white with a polo shirt, Armani slacks, leather business loafers"? How frightening do you think your hypothetical girl-walking-alone would find a clean-shaven black man in a good fitting, pinstripe suit? What about a young white man wearing pants several sizes too big for him and a wallet chain?

Profiling terrorists is similarly futile. Sharon and his police forces quickly found that the people blowing up their buses and cafes where Palestinian men. Terrorist organizations in Palestine have since created battalions of female suicide bombers. No amount of profiling will help stop an enemy with a changing face.

Ray Wallace,
Editor

Ask Yourself This...

By Matthew Denker

Many of you have found a niche here at RIT as well as your place in life. Nevertheless, it has come to my attention that some of you still are unsure exactly what kind of person you are, or at least how much of a loser you might be when it comes to trying to find creatures of the opposite sex. With that in mind, I offer you the following 20 questions so that you may know fully the echelon in life which you have attained.

1. Did you shower this morning?
 - A. You should be happy I showered this week.
 - B. Yes.
2. What did you eat last night?
 - A. What didn't I eat?
 - B. Pizza, just like every other night.
3. How long was it since you last spoke to a girl/boy?
 - A. Well, my mom/dad called me on Sunday.
 - B. I just got off the phone with a girl/boy.
4. What did you wear to class today?
 - A. Whatever I had on from class yesterday
 - B. You know, clothes.
5. What are you doing this weekend?
 - A. Recompiling my Kernel. I hear there's a new seed coming out Friday.
 - B. There's this big party at Colony I was thinking about.
6. Were I to tell you that you had just been gibbed would you:
 - A. Suggest that I am preposterous, 133tAnGel35 never gets gibbed, and besides you don't have a rocket launcher.
 - B. Politely inform me that gibbed is not a word.
7. How many times have you "hooked-up"?
 - A. I watched a porno last night.
 - B. More than once and less than your mom.
8. Are you still wearing shorts to class?
 - A. Yes.
 - B. No.
9. Rochester has a lot to offer because...
 - A. All this snow is the perfect excuse to stay in all weekend and mod my Xbox.
 - B. I can go out for coffee damn near all the time.
10. When I say unicycle, do you:
 - A. Fondly imagine yourself outside riding yours right now.
 - B. Wonder how those psychos stay on the damn things.
11. My significant other is...
 - A. In Canada somewhere. I've never been there, but I assure you we're engaged.
 - B. Right there laughing at this.
12. What's the greatest video game ever?
 - A. Oh that's easy, it's...
 - B. Uhh, Pac man or something?
13. Masturbating is...
 - A. Soon to be an Olympic sport and I'm practicing my gold medal acceptance speech right now.
 - B. A good idea before a big date.
14. If RIT had a football team...
 - A. Wait, we don't have a team? Isn't that the one with the ball, and the field?
 - B. I'd be out there screaming like a banshee every Saturday afternoon.
15. Listening to techno loud at about 2 AM is...
 - A. The only way to listen to techno of course.
 - B. Completely unacceptable
16. Two girls at once...
 - A. Are in every video on my computer.
 - B. Sounds like a typical party to me.
17. Are there hot girls at RIT?
 - A. Who knows, I can't recall having downloaded Girls Gone Wild RIT.
 - B. Hells yeah!
18. I wish I drove...
 - A. Period.
 - B. A Porsche GT2.

19. I use _____ as a doorstop.
 A. Whatever spare computer part is handy.
 B. Folded up paper.
20. If I were to walk the quarter mile one more time a day, I would...
 A. Probably be too short of breath to have read this far.
 B. Deal.

11 - 15

Now it's time to score yourself and find out how you rate. Remember, each question you answered A is a point, and this is very much like golf: a lower score can only be good.

16 - 20

1 - 5 You are Mr. Too Damn Cool for RIT. I'm amazed you're even reading GDT if this is what your score is. Nevertheless, here you are, and you've just learned that there's not an ounce of loser in your body. Congrats.

6 - 10 You do this and that off key, but you're really pretty normal. You have some friends that wouldn't shop outside the

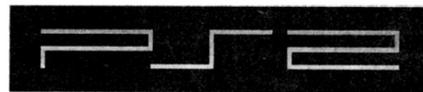
Banana Republic, but you also have some friends who think that a Miller Light is Skinny guy working at a windmill making flour.

You lose sleep at night thinking about how you could ultimately be a lot cooler, but at the same time, you wonder if you shouldn't just surrender and drop into the bottom of the barrel. People at the store can pretty much tell you're from RIT, and you're not too keen on that either. I'd try growing a nice goatee.

You're a typical RIT student. You are the mold from which everyone everywhere believes RIT students to be cut. Microsoft is the world's largest evil, and we won't be safe until we all run your special scratch and sniff Linux called BO Linux. You would probably wish you had a life if you knew such wondrous things existed. I'd like to tell you here that they do, and you should go find one.



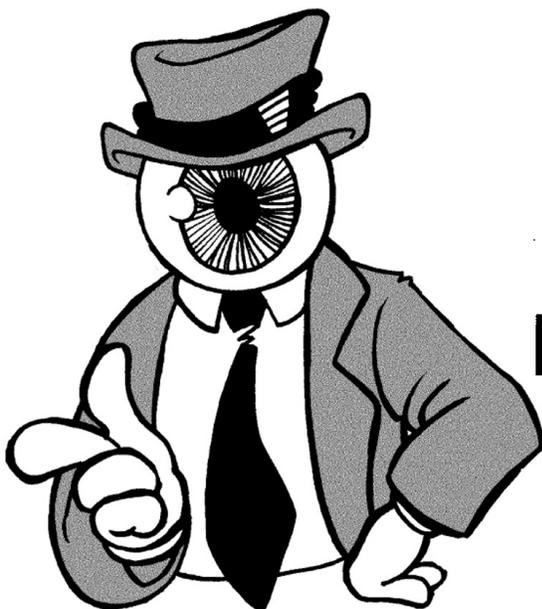
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This Week's Chess Problem
by **Dmitriy Shnayder**

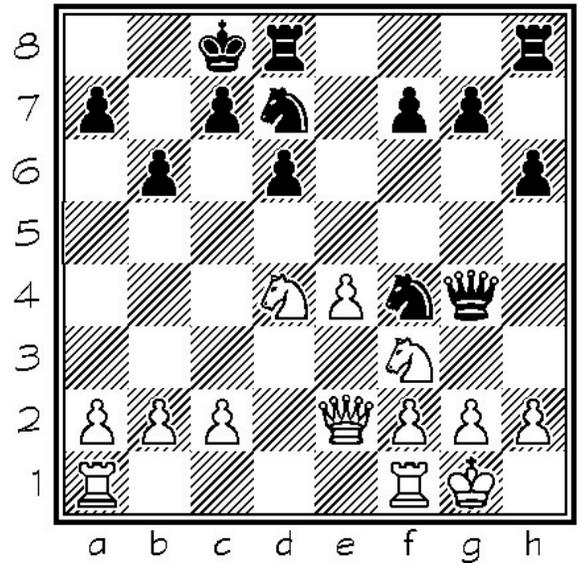
Challenge

In the diagram, White is to move and mate in three.

An explanation of the chess notation used in this solution may be found on the website:

<http://www.michess.org/scholastic/notation.shtml>

Solution on Page 8



From The President's Mailbox, with Albert J. Simone

To Albert J. Simone, President
From RIT Students
Date December 4, 2003
Subject Re: Strategic Planning Progress Report



On a number of occasions, you have spoken to the community and said something stupid. You have also been to shove your foot far past your tonsils. Your plans are terrible and will drive this university into the ground over the next ten years. The group you should be consulting with is Student Government. One student? Jesus Christ, Al.

No amount of Vision, Mission, or Value Statements will cover for that monstrosity outside your office window. You haven't considered the opinion of the student body in the 2 and a half years I've been here, and we've got from "not-too-shabby" to "less-than-desirable." The only "high level" scan you're conducting is the bottom line - we all know you were an Economics major.

I expect you to construct more crap on campus before I graduate next May. I hope someone mentions the housing problem, or the decreasing financial aid to the Trustees at that meeting in July. You're very aggressive about attracting freshmen (or, "customers," I think you called them), and I'm confident you spend more time coming up with ridiculous buzzwords and catch phrases than you do talking to actual students.

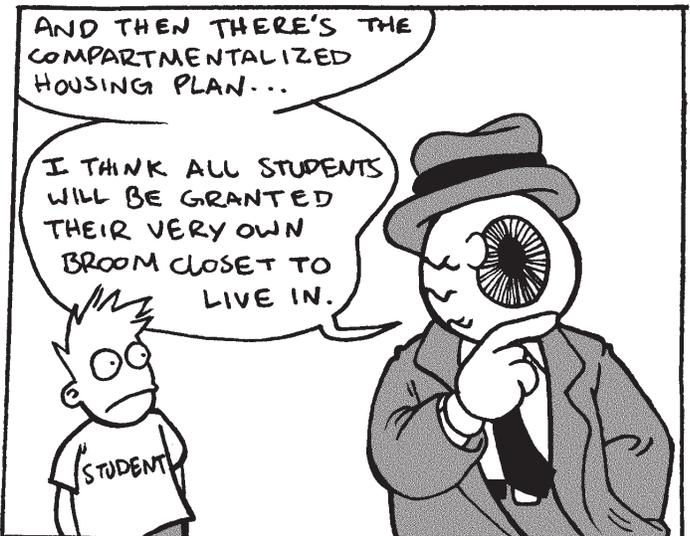
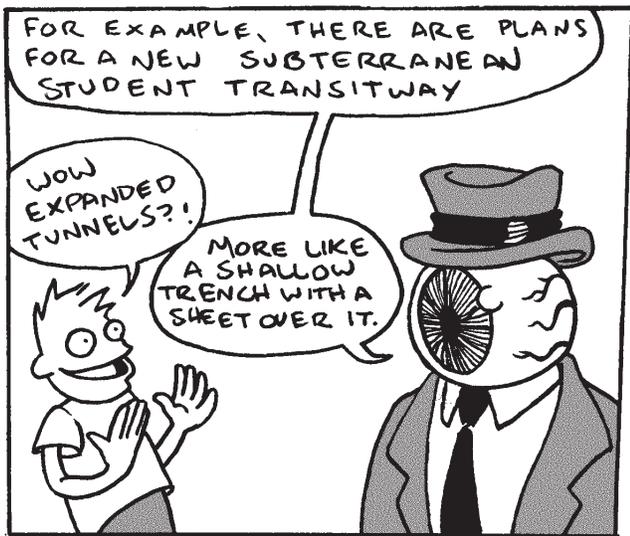
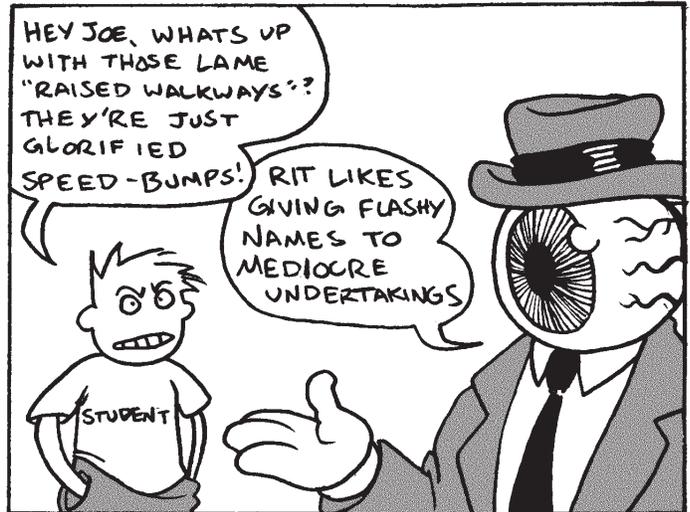
I look forward to graduating. I don't expect you'll engage anything. I don't expect you'll directly receive anything from a student about the future of the Institute, unless it's a check. Together? Together my ass. You've managed to piss off most of the campus, and everyone else knows enough to take everything you say with a grain of salt, assuming you manage to form a coherent statement in the first place.

Let's chat sometime.

Regards,
Brock Johnson, Your Cash Cow

JOE CORNEA!

PUBLIC EYE!
by PETER J. LAZARSKI '03



Lost Under the Flames

By Jai Ramachandran

We marched through burning street corners
As petrified children in the dark
Wandered through burning buildings
And charcoal concourses

We scuttled through city streets
Like screaming idiots we crossed through
Empty crosswalks while the clothes on our back smelled
Like gasoline putting out the flame

We were lighting the world
In a coat of brilliant light
The world's largest Fourth of July fireworks display

We wrote poetry for Vanity Fair, Esquire, and Cosmopolitan
About how fat women could never
"Pleasure a man" unless they lost some fucking
Weight, or got on their hands and knees,
And let their dick slave fuck them like the dogs they were

We wrote short stories for Sports Illustrated
About how sports were just the filler
To keep your mind off of reality
Which made it ok if the newsman said
 "Congress has decided to dissolve social security and the welfare system today."
And with a straight face turn to the man next him and say,
 "How about those <insert sports team name here> I heard they signed <insert big name athlete here> what do you
 think their chances are for winning it all."
And they just smile, like pigs on a fucking spit

We wrote novels listed as
New York Times bestsellers
Under pen names
Of other famous authors
Romance novels attributed to Stephen King
And science fiction novels written by Danielle Steele

Confined to their crappy job
Their ugly drug addicted wife
And bare assed children
Slowly being suffocated with silver spoons
And words like conformity,
Assimilation,
And due process

We put up placards on subway trains
With different catch phrases everyday
"Make war not love"
"Ignore pop culture think for yourself"
And they read it like children in 1st grade
After all, they were cornered
In their suits
And jobs
And two-hundred-and-fifty-thousand-dollar condominiums
On the Far West Upper East Side
And cardboard boxes on lower Wacker Drive

We set the world aflame
With words warbling towards towers in the sky
Each fancy flick of the flame,
One more notch on our bedposts
Every mind changed like another blond bimbo conquered
Every man left to request his freedom
Was one more manicured poodle
Lost under the flames

A SUNDAY JAUNT



“OH HOW I LOVED THE ANNUAL GAMES
OF CHICKEN WE PLAYED AGAINST
BIRTHA’S 18-WHEELER
IF ONLY TOMMY’S LEGS COULD PEDDLE FASTER”

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{ signatures }
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Written pieces should be in Word, plain text or RTF format. Visual art should be submitted at the highest resolution and dpi possible.

Give your time!

GDT meets Wednesdays at 8pm at Crossroads. We are always looking for people to help us edit, write, fold, distribute, cheer, get off and other fun activities.

gdt@hellskitchen.org



**Gracies
Dinnertime
Theatre™**

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