Features Wednesday, April 1, 20<u>15</u>

EVENT REVIEW

Timeless game becomes life of the party

Leaf Roseyfall Senior Reviewer

AS A MEMBER OF *THE POLY*, AND AS A MEMBER of the Features team, I feel remiss in having little knowledge of one of the most important aspects of this section: video games. In order to gain an appreciation for the medium, I decided it would be my duty to learn everything I could, starting at the beginning with the most groundbreaking video game of history: Pong.

Unfortunately, at the start, I did not know anyone with a Pong console, until I overheard some people on campus discussing the game, and that they would be playing it this weekend at someone's house. I was blown away; not only was this game decades old, but people were still talking about it and meeting up to play it today. I decided that it would be better to try the game for myself in a large group setting where I can observe a few games before trying my hand.

When I arrived at the arcade, I was a little shocked. It featured the name "Pi Lambda Upsilon" on the front, and then I had to wait in line to finally get in. But wow, when I did, I was super impressed. There were about three consoles set up, and they looked almost like tables. Imagine something the size of an air hockey table or a ping pong table, very large consoles, but that's the only way they could squeeze all the processing power into these primitive machines. Each was set up with multiple plastic cups in a pyramid shape on either side of the machine, with one competitor on either side. Then, the opponents toss a small ball, which I assume must be magnetized to activate sensors within the machines, and try to land them within round begins. the cups. If they make it in, the opponent must remove the cup from the board and empty the liquid within it, which I assume is used to weigh down a pressure switch



Jalapeño Whatpepper/The Polytechnic

PONG IS BROUGHT back as one of the favorites by college students. Reviewer's first attempt at playing the game from the early 1970s was overall a learning experience, although a bit hard to remember in the morning.

on the board. However, I do not yet understand why the person consumes the liquid, perhaps as a tradition at the arcade or to stay hydrated from such a physically intense game. After one person has all cups removed, the victor is decided and another

After viewing a few matches, I tried my hand at it, and although I had my reservations as a non-gamer, I have to say I was pleasantly surprised by the old game. The

first few games I did quite poorly, but after getting incredibly hydrated with what I can only assume is tap water from the funny taste, I felt fantastic and managed to hold my own. At least I think it did, as it all got a little blurry after several games. And here's a tip for any would-be players: I woke up with an awful headache the next day. I think I got really bad eye strain that caused my head to hurt, so word to the wise.

Overall however, I think this is a game that has stood the test of time as a classic, and I can see why it spawned such an impressive medium. The consoles were reliable and incredibly durable; not one featured any malfunctions, even when people flipped them in their victory fueled stupor. I'm seriously impressed, and for didn't see any screens on the machine, but I those thinking of trying it, just skip the next frat party for once and try this game out for yourself.

ART REVIEW Performance art brings reviewer to tears; must-see

Clef Drumincall Senior Reviewer

WHILE MANY OF THE FEATURES ARTICLES WEEK TO WEEK REVIEW RECENT ACTS ON CAMPUS OR INFORM readers about new content, this review will be a bit of both. For the past couple of months, I've been experiencing a wonderful street performance artist, the senior Joey Stein. And while his



art may not be everyone's cup of tea, I'm sure everyone should at least give his act a try.

My first experience with Stein, or as he likes to be called, "The Steez," was in my freshman year on campus when he pushed me to the ground and requested my lunch money. I was shocked and appalled at first. "Excuse me?" I asked him at once. He answered me with a swift kick to the gut and a repeat of the demand. It was then I realized, that this was obviously some form of avant-garde performance art by an experienced older student, who was honoring me with an example of his work. I soon gladly gave into his command, and I bid him a good day while he sauntered away.

After this, I seemed to start to build up a rapport with Stein. It would become a daily occurrence to take my lunch allowance, then he began waiting for me after class to use me as an accomplice in his public demonstrations. Usually these acts involve some form of shame, such as "pantsing" me, or giving me a "wedgie." Stein's work seems to transcend modern audience-artist relationships into an art I have coined "Textural Harassment." The way in which he works with his audience is built in layers of interwoven ideas; for example, here is a breakdown for the latest stunt we pulled. First, he corners me in the hallways after my lecture. Then, he brings me forward to a circle of people. After knocking my school work out of my hands, he then verbally asks loaded questions, topics of which range from my sexuality to my parents' sexuality. And after a final bout of physical confrontation, he takes my glasses and uses one of his classic quips, "Great, I could use a spare pair."

Obviously, this type of art is not for everyone; I've even found myself visiting a therapist after the total mental breakdown his work has caused. This isn't the kind of work you would see at Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center or a museum, but it's worth experiencing nonetheless. The Steez has even stated himself, "I'm available 24/7 to give some good poundings to wanting individuals."

Jackaffrey Walkhopper/The Polytechnic

CLEF DRUMINCALL WEEPS at the beauty of the art that he experienced daily from world-renowned performance artist Joey Stein.

MOVIE REVIEW Internet overrun by cute cat videos; entrancing

Kitty McMeowly Senior Reviewer

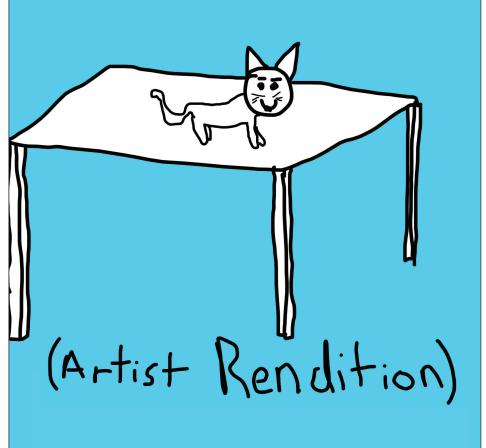
AVID REDDIT AND IMGUR USERS SHOULD know that both Redditors and Imgurians alike have a particular fondness for cat videos in their day-to-day activities. I have never understood the appeal of these feline films, but I decided to give them a shot. I decided to start my venture into viewing feline cinema with a video titled "My cat being a jerk." The video was uploaded to the YouTube channel "Mumbo Jumbo 2" on March 29, 2015.

"My cat being a jerk" features a spotted cat and a woman. The video starts with the cat perched on the edge of a bathroom sink and a woman placing the cap to a mouthwash bottle on the edge of the sink. The cat responds by promptly knocking said cap into the sink with its paw. During the next 75 seconds, this process was repeated 12 more times, with the owner growing increasingly frustrated. About 50 seconds into the video, the cat appears to lose interest and instead turns its attention to a bowl of potpourri on a shelf above the sink. After being shooed away from the bowl, the cat returns to knocking the cap into the sink.

"My cat being a jerk" has received over 17,000 views since it was uploaded on March 29. Why, I can't understand. The

cat's actions are highly repetitive and there is a distinct lack of a well-structured plot. The video skips an exposition entirely and jumps straight into rising action. What is the relationship between the cat and the woman? Viewers are left asking this question for the entirety of the video's 76 second run time. No background information or setting is provided for the viewers. Moving on to the rising action, there is an obvious conflict between the cat and the woman, but throughout the video it remains unclear who the antagonist and protagonist are. The cat and woman are locked in a heated battle for 60 some-odd seconds with no end in sight. Viewers are tricked into believing the cap conflict had been resolved when the cat turns its attention on the camera and appeared to have forgotten about the cap on the sink. However, the cat regains its focus and takes one final swipe at the cap before the filming ends. There is no resolution! How can a movie end without the conflict? Every good writer knows a solid plot requires a build up to a climax and a resolution of conflict.

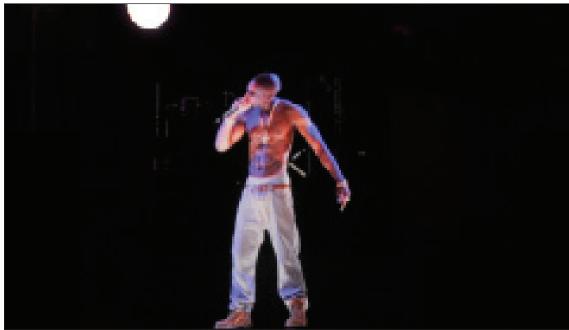
As I am not a connoisseur of cat cinema, in my inexpert opinion, I believe this feline film deserves a pitiful rating of 2/10. The actors' repetitive actions, combined with spot on my personal list of terrible movies.



Spelling Curses-Alltheway/The Polytechnic

a complete lack of a plot earn this film a INTERNET USERS FIND feline videos on the internet very appealing to watch. One such video being "My cat being a jerk" featured a spotted cat and a woman.

EVENT REVIEW EMPAC meets hologram



David Giesbrecht/Netflix

TUPAC's HOLOGRAM's HOLOGRAM APPEARS at EMPAC to the delight of older ladies and the Troy community. The hologram brought his unique passion to the stage for the audience.

Stefan Colonel-Ollie Senior Reviewer

However, despite the delay, Tupac's with its 20-pack abs, beefy arms and ON SATURDAY MARCH 29, 2015, ONE hologram's hologram tried to ramp two times as many tattoos as the up the crowd with some of his greatest hits, starting out strong with "All Eyez on Me," which got the crowd of mostly Troy residents and old ladies belting out the fast paced lyrics along with him. He then kept up the energy with a fan-favorite "California Love," which that featured some great stage presence as the tiny little projection bounced around and really took over the small horizontal space it could occupy. The rest of his set had the audience really feeling the vibe as the hologram seemed to spit out lyrics furiously, with digital slobber from the ferocious passion that the artist was known to have for his music. Or it could have been static in the video from the projectors or flaws in the projection screen. After the show, Tupac made a flashy exit from the stage after thanking his fans for coming. The projec-

bring Tupac back to life a second time. tion that vaguely resembled the artist original, definitely had a great night with such a fueled granny crowd. I even felt hyped after the set, although it was awkward every time the disk skipped and the hologram would freeze. However, I heard little criticism of the show and truly enjoyed myself. Afterwards, I talked to some of the staff behind the scenes, since the star was turning in for the night and wouldn't be available to comment anything but "That's riiiiight, West Side!" However, when I spoke to some of the staff, they grumbled later that the superstar seemed to look down on them all, like he was untouchable, and wouldn't listen to them when they were giving safety and security briefings. We all have our faults, though, and Tupac's may just be in the film that we're viewing him on. However, in all, I enjoyed Tupac's hologram's hologram's hype set.

EVENT REVIEW Fraternity fun fills night with surprises

Topher "Freddy" Ming Senior Reviewer

I WENT TO A PI LAMBDA UPSILON PARTY THIS PAST MONDAY NIGHT, AND IT was dope. It was a crazy rager. I know a couple of the brothers there, so they let me in. I'm Greek too, part of Kappa Epsilon Gamma, so you know I've got some cred. I'm not a freakin' geed or something. The theme for the party was journalism. A little weird if you ask me, but it fit the bill. Everybody wore news reporter clothes, business casual, carrying around notepads and tape recorders. The president of Pi LUps changed his position to Editor in Chief for the night and the rest of the executive board became his "senior board" members. Different parts of their house were dedicated to different sections: News, Features, EdOp, and even Comics. They even had computers around running Adobe InDesign and Microsoft Word. It was like I was in an actual newspaper office.

The Pi LUps house is on third floor of the Rensselaer Union. Their letters are lit up on their windows, and you can see them pretty clearly from freshman hill at night. The rooms at Pi LUps are huge; they've got three whole rooms: a living room—which they called the front office, a family room—called the composing suite lounge, and the bedroom-that they called the composing room. What I found odd, though, was that they share the family room with two other fraternities, Sigma Alpha Eta (they go by their nickname, S&W) and Tpavoit (also known as Transit). I haven't heard too much about them, since they don't throw weekly parties, like Pi LUps does, but I think that their once a year ragers are respectable. But I mean, I've never been to one, so I wouldn't know. Moving on to the beverages, Pi LUps served mixed drinks of Pepsi, root beer, and purple drank. I really enjoyed the "serve yourself" atmosphere that they had; I just kept pouring myself drinks from the two liters that they had at the tables. The drinks were so good I couldn't even taste the alcohol in them. But the best part is that they also had free pizza! It was from Pizza Bella, though, so average, but I'll take it. It also seemed like the pizza was just for brothers, but I helped them take down for the party, so they gave me a few slices. I'm telling you, the bros there hit. Unfortunately, I think someone had too much purple drank and had to be taken away by the paramedics. I hope they're alright. Overall, I think the Pi LUps brothers are dope. Remind me of me, back in the day; I mean they're no Kappa Epsilon Gamma. But they're a bunch of respectable people that throw a great party every Tuesday. Just imagine how much money that takes. It's a service to the community and they don't expect anything back.

of the most iconic and renowned rap stars made an appearance on RPI's very own Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center's main stage. Well, at least it sort of looked like him. Former rap sensation Tupac Shakur stood on stage with the help of some of the digital age's newest technology, the hologram. You may recall the Coachella festival in 2012 where the Tupac hologram made its debut, but Saturday night saw a holographic image of the artist never before seen.

Tupac's hologram's hologram rocked the not-so-packed house with some of the dead artist's classics. The faux figure didn't start the night out too well, however, something I know the hologram of Tupac finds very important. Unfortunately, the concert began about an hour late due to the impressive amount of time it took to set up the projectors and screen to

Rating: TFM