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Staff Editorial *The Poly* works to restore the safety blotter

### STUDENT SENATE

## Senate short on target number of sold water bottles

Jack Wellhofer  
Senior Reporter

LAST WEDNESDAY'S STUDENT SENATE MEETING BEGAN WITH A BRIEF RECESS to give Grand Marshal Marcus Flowers '16 the opportunity to retrieve the new Senate polos from the Student Government Suite. Once the senators had received their polos, the meeting began with committee reports.

During the Facility and Services Committee's report, Michael Han '16 opened discussion on FSC's water bottle filling station project. According to Han, they are slightly short of their intended \$1,500 goal to purchase a water bottle filling station. He asked the Senate to help out by purchasing water bottles if they had not already done so, and proposed using some of their budgeted money to help reach the goal. Graduate student Jen Church noted that some of the budgeted money would need to go toward the Union

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Jack Wellhofer/The Polytechnic

SENATORS DISCUSS the new updates to the preferred names petition that was brought before the Senate during the fall.

### INSTITUTE NEWS

## Carnegie demotes RPI classification from highest rating

Jack Wellhofer  
Senior Reporter

IN THE 2015 UPDATE OF THE CARNEGIE Classification of Institutions of Higher Education, Rensselaer saw its ranking among research institutions fall from the "highest" classification to "higher" in the category of "doctoral universities—higher research activity."

Although the Carnegie Classifications are not well-known by applying students and average consumers, they are referenced by analysts and government officials as a way to categorize the thousands of universities in the United States.

Universities that joined the highest research activity classification—more commonly referred to as the R1 classification—include Boston College, Clemson University, Florida International University, and the University of Mississippi. Universities that accompanied Rensselaer in the change to the higher research activity classification—also known as the R2 classification—include Rockefeller University, Yeshiva University, North Dakota State University, and the University of Alabama.

*The Poly* reached out via email to Vice President for Research Dr. Jonathan Dordick to provide insight into the change.

"Being a technological university, we are extremely strong in science and engineering, but quite

small in humanities and social sciences (professional schools such as architecture and management are in a separate category)," said Dordick.

He explained that the classification system instituted a change to "the algorithm Carnegie used to categorize the amount of non-STEM and STEM research expenditures and Ph.D. degrees awarded."

Dordick noted that Rockefeller University, the highest-ranked university in the "Science and Engineering expenditures per faculty" category, was also downgraded to R2 for a lack of non-STEM research, and also that Rensselaer's classification as R1 was unusual.

Additionally, Rensselaer's research statistics took a positive turn. Dordick explained that, "since the last classification update, the amount of research expenditure reported by Rensselaer actually increased from \$77.9 million to \$80.4 million, placing us on a per-faculty basis (one of the key normalizations used in the classification) in the top 50 percent of the universities classified as R1."

Dordick said that "Rensselaer recognizes the need to build not only STEM but non-STEM," and that programs that are guided by this principle are being instituted in all Rensselaer schools. "These

See RESEARCH, Page 2

### US NEWS

## Navy SEAL receives Medal of Honor

Elisabeth Ryan  
Senior Reporter

ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 29, President Barack Obama awarded Navy SEAL Senior Chief Special Warfare Operator Edward Byers, the Medal of Honor. He received the award because of his heroic acts during a mission rescuing an American civilian held hostage by members of the Taliban in Afghanistan. Byers will become the sixth SEAL to receive this honor—the nation's highest medal for valor in combat.

The Navy's Special Warfare Development Group, known as SEAL Team Six, planned and executed a rescue mission in eastern Afghanistan to extract Dr. Dilip Joseph, an American citizen. This mission resulted in the death of a member of the team.

During the rescue, the team made its way to the place where Joseph was being held, and was fired upon by the insurgents. Byers ripped down blankets that covered the doorway, which exposed him to gun fire. Upon entry, the leader of the group was hit and the shooter was posed to aim next at Byers. Byers fired upon the shooter and tackled another person who turned out to be another guard of the hideout.

According to CNN, Joseph described the scene as "suddenly filled with men and exploding gunfire. Narrow beams of light shot in every direction. Voices called out his name. Joseph answered, 'I'm right here.'"

Hearing Joseph answer in English, Byers threw himself



Courtesy of United States Navy

See NAVY, Page 2

EDWARDS BYERS CONTRIBUTED in a large way to the SEALs' success.

## WORLD NEWS

# Saudi Arabia accused of bombing Yemeni civilians

**Nathan Dorer**  
Senior Reporter

IN A REPORT RELEASED BY THE HUMAN Rights Watch, allegations have been made that the Saudi Arabian-led coalition sent to stabilize the country of Yemen has taken measures that involve using American cluster bombs on civilians. Yemen currently stands as a nation divided; separate areas of the country are occupied by loyalists to Yemen's former president, loyalists to Yemen's current president, foreign armies, jihadists from both the Islamic State and al-Qaeda, and a group of rebels known as Houthi. The country's political disintegration began during the Arab Spring, where large groups of Yemenis protested in the streets in response to perceptions of governmental corruption, economic conditions, and concurrent regional uprisings.

In a November 11, 2015 attempt to calm the protests, the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf brokered a deal between political factions within the Yemeni government that forced Yemen's then-president Ali Abdullah Saleh out of office and replaced him with current president Abd Rabbuh Mansour Hadi. Despite agreeing to the deal, Saleh opted to remain within the country's borders and began to support the Houthi-led rebellion. When the current civil war erupted in early 2015, the United Nations-recognized leader, Hadi, lost control of Yemen and was ultimately forced to leave the country; after the Houthi capture of Sana'a, the capital of Yemen, Houthi rebels consequently took advantage of the power vacuum and managed to gain occupation of the whole of Western Yemen.

From the Saudi Arabian perspective, the occupation of Western Yemen posed the potential for the protests to cross into their territory. Saudi Arabia had previously militarily supported the now Hadi-led faction in the 1994 Yemeni Civil War, feeling threatened by a united Yemen. Accompanied by nine other countries, Saudi Arabia led an



Courtesy of Almgdada Mojalli VOA

**CHILDREN LOOK on as their communities have been reduced to rubble as a result of the Saudi Arabian bombing campaign against Yemen. The Human Rights Watch is concerned that the Saudi bombs might be American-sourced.**

airstrike initiative in an effort to regain control of the area. Saudi Arabian officials had initially expected that the airstrikes would have the power to force Houthi rebels into negotiations, but nearly nine months after the beginning of the strikes, Houthi rebels have managed to keep their footing on the Yemeni capital. Saudi Arabia has maintained that they have only struck strategic locations in Yemen; however, the Human Rights Watch report suggests that the Saudi Arabian forces have managed to take civilian lives in the process.

Cluster bombs are a form of air-dropped artillery in which the bomb explodes over

the target, releasing smaller bomblets to cover a large area. While the allegations surrounding their use in Yemen have not been confirmed, this type of weapon remains controversial amongst the international community—the use of American-made cluster munitions in Yemen would prove to be a violation of US export laws, and could have political repercussions for lawmakers who rejected a ban on the type of weapon. Legally, cluster bombs can be exported from the U.S., and they certainly have been sold to Saudi Arabia in recent years, but receiving countries must agree not to use the bombs in civilian areas.

Department of Defense Spokesman Christopher Sherwood has stated that the government has acknowledged the report, and it is currently under review. The report includes photographs and video evidence of the allegations, in addition to interviews with witnesses and victims. The Human Rights Watch document contains claims from nearly a dozen other witnesses who state they have encountered cluster munitions during airstrikes.

This recent development is a pressing issue for the U.S.; while the bombs run the potential of stabilizing areas occupied by rebels, the potential for civilian death is also incredibly high in the use of cluster bombs. ♦

## Senate: Committees report on their progress towards project completion

From **Page 1**

*Annual Report* fliers, a joint project between the Senate and Executive Board. Paul Ilori '17 was in favor of the idea, saying that the money tends not to be used and this would be a good cause. Graduate student Tim Krentz was also in support of the idea, but wanted firm numbers from FSC before the Senate

makes a decision. He then motioned to close the discussion until numbers were available, which passed 20-0-2.

Samantha Notley '18 of the Student Life Committee along with graduate student Emily Downs presented on their progress of the preferred names petition. Currently, Rensselaer only lets a student change his or her name with a court order, which

can be difficult to obtain. The goal of this project is to allow students to self-identify without the struggle of getting their name legally changed. Currently, schools such as Harvard University, Cornell University, and Princeton University allow students to use preferred names except in some legal situations.

During the discussion of SLC's presentation, questions were raised about how student IDs would work with preferred names. Joshua Rosenfeld '16 pointed out that some places accept them as legal forms of identification. Downs said that the RIN would still go to the person's legal name, so it should avoid the issue in most cases. CJ Sloat '19 noted that Greek organizations use both student IDs and state issued IDs as forms of identification for parties. Having different names on the two IDs would pose problems for their system. It was suggested that some subtle identifier marking the ID as a non-legal ID could be a solution to the problem. However, Downs said that the reason for having a preferred name is because the person does not want to be identified in any other way, and as such making a marking on the ID would defeat the purpose. No motion was made as the petition is still in progress, so with the conclusion of the discussion the meeting closed. ♦



Jack Wellhofer/The Polytechnic

**MICHAEL HAN '16 PROPOSES** the spending of Senate budget money to cover the remaining costs of the water bottle filling station project.

## Research: VP Dordick talks about rankings

From **Page 1**

programs include Art\_X, the Cognitive and Immersive Systems Lab (CISL@EMPAC), and the Summer Arch.

"We look forward to continuing to build both our STEM and non-STEM research programs that involve all our students ... that will bring Rensselaer closer to achieving our goal of being a broad-based comprehensive research university." ♦

## Navy: Dr. Dilip rescued by SEALs

From **Page 1**

onto the hostage to shield the doctor with his own body. When an enemy shooter advanced upon them, Byers pinned the fighter to the wall until his teammates eliminated him.

Capping off his gallant deeds, Byers, a certified paramedic, performed CPR on Petty Officer 1st class Nicolas Checque during the 40-minute flight to Bagram Air Base.

"I'm going to continue being a SEAL and take whatever job or position is next for me." Byers stated. ♦

Thanks for reading!

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

# Mueller Center damage, Union facilities discussed

**Elisabeth Ryan**  
Senior Reporter

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING TOOK PLACE LAST Thursday, February 25. The meeting opened up with reports from the Business Operations Committee, the Marketing, Advertising, and Publicity Committee, and the Policies Committee. BusOps chairman Rasika Ekhalikar '18 reported the committee's continued work on an application for storage space in the basement of the Rensselaer Union. They had finalized the decision of allotting two keys to every club, whereupon if a club failed to move their equipment out on time, the club's budget would be frozen. After receiving feedback from their games room survey, BusOps also determined that students are interested in a more lounge-like area to be made in the games room. The design for the space has yet to be decided upon.

The MAP Committee reported that they are working toward replacing the "125" banners attached to the light posts commemorating the Union's 125th anniversary. The designs will be presented next meeting for approval. The committee is also working toward creating a space dedicated for clubs putting up posters, promoting a competition for clubs to design and update their landing page, and creating a Snapchat filter for the Union.

Policies Committee chairman Jeremy Feldman '16 informed the E-Board that the committee was working towards creating an informative document that would outline the specifications for contracting. As well as creating new documents, the committee is focusing on redefining the classification of an affiliated club. More on this subject is to come in future meetings. To cap off their report, the committee will begin collecting club constitutions.

Programming Board chairman Ines Roman '16 reported on the P-Board events such as Winter Carnival and upcoming events such as UPAC Comedy's show on Saturday, March 5. Roman reported that recent P-Board events have been successes.

Director of the Mueller Center Steve Allard presented an update on the situation at the Mueller Center. They are



Jonathan Caicendo/The Polytechnic

**THE E-BOARD HEARD updates from the Policies Committee, the MAP Committee, the P-Board, the Business Operations Committee, and from Steve Allard regarding the Mueller Center in their most recent meeting.**

currently in the process of getting the downstairs back to normal. The ceilings in the vestibule are fixed and new carpeting will go in at 5 am on Monday, February 29. The administration is working on getting available hours at the East Campus Athletic Village as an alternative choice to the basement. Any equipment that suffered damages too great to the point of being thrown away is not salvageable for students or anyone interested in requesting it or buying it. Look for a follow up article on the Mueller Center situation in an issue to come. ♦

**The Mueller Center weight room is set to open on Wednesday, March 2. Be sure to thank those who made this possible.**

## Attend our next Co-Term Info Session



**March 8 and April 20: 4:00-5:00pm Union 3202**

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# Editorial

Wednesday, March 2, 2016

## Public Safety notes and weekly blotter woes

Anyone who has read *The Poly* last semester, as well as right now, has probably noticed that the News section has lacked a Public Safety blotter. The blotter covers most of the events that Department of Public Safety officers responded to over the previous week. For all of our readers who have missed this particular part of the News section, the Editorial Board of *The Poly* apologizes for the inconvenience. All of us are actively working on restoring the publication of the blotter for all of our devoted readers.

Traditionally, *The Poly's* News department has been on the DPS incident report mailing list sent out roughly once a week by DPS Investigator Terrence Burns to many different people in both RPI's Administration and even public officials in the City of Troy. Of course, we did not publish the content verbatim from these emails, but rather we would edit the submissions for both readability and to make sure that we were not publishing personally identifiable information about anyone being served by DPS. At the end of the last semester, the News department stopped receiving these emails.

Last week, we asked Investigator Burns why we had stopped receiving these emails and we were informed that it was due to a request made by his vice president. This was the first time we were informed that we were, in fact, removed from the incident report list as opposed to just the emails not being sent at all.

Rest assured that we are diligently working with different members of RPI's Administration in order to restore our ability to publish a blotter as it is something that we feel provides a great window into all of the work Public Safety does all day, everyday to protect all people who live and work at RPI.

## EDITORIAL NOTEBOOKS

# “Sorry, but I think I’m busy”

## A little delayed gratification can go a long way

ONE TIP THAT I WILL TELL ANYONE WHO WILL LISTEN IS that you need to be able to find your niche in order to truly be successful here at RPI. You cannot possibly hope to do everything that is going on around campus, but it is important to try as many new activities as possible while reserving enough time in your life in order to study for and do well in your classes. In fact, I spent my first semester finding out what I wanted to do during my second semester. Some hard decisions had to be made about exactly how I wanted to spend my time this semester. Winter Break provided me a good opportunity to, away from the hustle and bustle of life at RPI, finalize some of those decisions.

It involved telling people no when I felt like I was overcommitting myself. As the News Editor of *The Poly*, a mentor with RPI's Center for Initiatives in Pre-College Education, a member of the Pep Band, the Symphonic Band, and the Clarinet Choir combined take up a considerable amount of time. I also work as a member of the team of Systems Administrators of the Rensselaer Union, a paid position maintaining the Union's administrative computing system. Yet I would not trade my experiences in any of those activities for

the world, even if I am busy all nights of the week and most of the day during weekends.

Saying no to fun things is very hard to do, but it's necessary to make sure I can do other really fun things I want to do and still succeed here. My main academic goal is to graduate in four years—okay, maybe it might take an additional semester—through the co-terminal program getting both a Bachelor's and a Master's degree in electrical engineering. Rough planning of my long-range schedule and discussions with my advisor indicate that my goal is a very realistic one as long as I maintain a GPA above 3.5—which at RPI requires a lot of effort and can be very challenging, as classes will only get harder and more time-consuming.

In any case, I would encourage all students to be as ambitious as possible and to remember that you only have four years here (longer if you decide to stay as a graduate student) as a student, so make the most of it. There are so many opportunities here and connections you can make that will give you a real advantage compared to many others starting off their careers. Of course, make sure to have fun and to live a little too; this is college, after all. ♦



David Raab  
News Editor

# Making the most of nature

## Building yourself on the challenge of survival

GROWING COMFORTABLE WITH civilized life is very easy to do. Modern conveniences allow us to cruise through each day far more effortlessly than previous generations ever could. Now that pa doesn't have to go hunt for dinner and sis doesn't have to go milk the cows each morning, life has become more centered on indoor environments. Basically, humans aren't required to spend as much time outside as they once had to in order to survive.

One of the consequences of spending more time inside than outside while growing up is a lack of comfort and familiarity with nature. It always surprises me when I talk to people who say they have never in their life gone on a day hike, or ridden a horse, or swam in a lake; all activities I consider important. I fondly remember hiking along Oregon's McKenzie River Trail, gawking at the massive flow of glacial water as it cascaded over Sahalie Falls. I'll never forget shoeing my first horse at Camp Baldwin, or learning how to give her commands, especially “don't eat every plant in sight, please!” It still makes

me smile when I recall diving off of a 20-foot-tall pier into the Hood River Canal in Washington to begin the Camp Parsons swim test.

After finishing their education, most Americans are forced to enter a high-speed society that only further silences nature's yearning to be discovered. Operating under the shelter of roofs and walls, the monotonous day-to-day routine people are forced into leaves them so exhausted at the end of the day that they prefer rest over any further physical activity. My father is a victim of this plight, working long hours that leave him worn out and tired by nightfall every single weekday. But what is different about my dad is that even after a long, labor-intensive week, he is still eager to go hiking and camping on the weekends rather than rest at home, even if he knows he will be sore come Monday, because he understands the value in exploring the outdoors. This adventurous quality is far too rare nowadays.

During the break, I went snow camping at Willamette Pass in Oregon's Cascade Mountains where I dug and slept in a snow

cave under seven feet of the white stuff. You might be wondering why I would do something strange like that. Besides the practical survival lessons to be learned, I was inspired by the challenge to make something exciting and unusual, and most importantly, I wanted to leave my comfort zone. What I took from the experience more than made up for the work I had to put in to make the cave, because I had gained both skills and thrills in exchange for a few hours of digging.

It you are the sort of person whose vacations are spent relaxing on the beach, I challenge you to instead go on an adventure. Specifically, you can explore a forest, climb a mountain, skate across a frozen pond, or rappel down a cliff. Humans have a tendency to grow sedentary with age, falling into predictable patterns, and phasing the excitement out of their lives. The day will arrive when you can no longer experience and do the things you can now, so don't wait. Seek out the challenges Earth has so generously provided us, and if you ever find yourself trapped in society's unrelenting hold, slow down, take a deep breath, and escape. ♦



Michael Baird  
Sports Editor

## the polytechnic

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“There are some ideas so wrong that only a very intelligent person could believe in them.”

— George Orwell

## DERBY

# Mueller Center fixes

## Keeping campus updated after the flood

HELLO RPI!

Are you ready for this weekend? The men's hockey team takes on their first round in the playoffs right here at home! Fighting against Brown University in a best-of-three matchup, our boys will be fighting tooth and nail. All games start at 7 pm and run Friday through Sunday. Get your tickets up at the Field House while you still can! I know I'm pumped and can't wait for another opportunity to bring out my red!

I know I've been fielding a lot of questions regarding the Mueller Center lately. As of now, I have been updating the public through the Facebook page "Overheard at RPI," the RPI subreddit, and Yik Yak myself. We've also had Erica Blane '18 updating the Mueller Center Twitter whenever updates arise. I want to once again thank the staff for all their tireless work. They have really stepped up to the plate to get us back on our feet as quickly as possible. We are in the home stretch now, and hope to be open again soon. Trust me, we want to be open as much as you want us to be, and we'll let you know when we are!

Last week, there wasn't too much on the Executive Board agenda, but there is one last big project I'll be undertaking in my time in office. Starting Thursday, February 25, I began soliciting ideas for

projects to improve the Rensselaer Union facilities. I have assigned E-Board reps to certain buildings to generate ideas for improvements that can be started before the end of the fiscal year, due to the strong financial position of the Union. This will allow us to address some longer-standing issues as well as provide improvements for the largest number of students. If you have ideas for projects or would like to get involved, please shoot me an email!



**Nick Dvorak**  
President of the Union

March also marks the beginning of campaigning for the next elections, which will occur during Grand Marshal week in April. If you are interested in running for a position, there will be an election handbook available soon and you can get in contact with the Rules & Elections Committee. If anyone is curious about the roles and responsibilities

of the President of the Union or of the E-Board, please feel free to ask me any questions or advice at my office hours Monday and Thursdays noon-1 pm, during Pub Chats Wednesdays 6-8 pm, or email me at pu@rpi.edu. This will mark the end of our 125th anniversary celebration, so be ready for some awesome events and big celebrations! ♦

## INTERFRATERNITY COUNCIL

# Signing bid into law

## Welcoming 112 new pledges this spring

Brad Schwartz

Interfraternity Council President

HELLO RPI,

If some of you don't know who I am, I am the current President of the Interfraternity Council, and a brother of Phi Gamma Delta, commonly known as Fiji. I'll be writing editorials for *The Poly* roughly once a month from now on, so keep a lookout moving forward. I would like to take this opportunity to announce some exciting happenings within the Greek community! Some of you may be wondering what the deal is with the Greek Dean (or lack thereof). Well, wonder no longer: even though Dean Dresher and Beth Pasinella have done a great job bridging the gap, I am excited to report that RPI has posted the position and is hoping to have a new Greek Dean this summer. The idea behind a summer start is that the new dean will have some time to get ready for the start of the Fall 2016 semester. The IFC has been working on a few projects, including revamping the website and making changes to recruitment.

More houses than usual took part in rush this spring, and collectively, Greek life had 112 new members sign bids. This was a 56 percent increase when compared to Spring 2015 (72 signed bids). Even though Fall 2015 saw slightly fewer signed bids when compared to Fall 2014 (305 versus 327), overall the 2015-2016 calendar year has seen a 5 percent increase in signed bids compared with the 2014-2015 calendar year. I think that this spring's recruitment period was especially successful for several reasons, but mostly due to the hard work of the IFC recruitment chair, Nathan Rosengrant '18. He extended the rush period to make it three weeks (one week longer than the previous spring rush period), added a spring Meet the Greeks event (which traditionally had only taken place in the fall), and resurrected a form of dorm storming, where chapters were afforded structured times to go into dorms accompanied by RAs. Even though dorm storming will likely never be "the way it was" due to the break-ins and increased security measures, I think that Greek life is moving in the right direction. This spring was a great example of thinking outside the box and finding new ways to attract members while remaining respectful of the new RPI security.

With Summer Arch and the Nexus programs in years to come, we will need to continue to develop new ideas for recruiting members. I'd also like to give a quick shout-out to Chi Phi for their Saint Baldrick's event on February 28, where they shaved their heads at Park Pub Restaurant to raise money for childhood cancer research. It's events like that which make the Greek community so special! ♦

**Free Comedy Show!**  
Saturday March 5<sup>th</sup> - 8:00PM  
**A Night with Adam Mamawala!**  
RPI Union  
Mother's

RESERVE TODAY: Limited  
VIP seating Tickets  
<http://www.eventbrite.com/e/u-pac-comedy-presents-adam-mamawala-tickets-22130024499>

# Sports

Wednesday, March 2, 2016

## MEN'S HOCKEY

# RPI falls to Colgate in the face of playoffs

Erica Braunschweig  
Staff Reporter

HEADING INTO THE FINAL WEEKEND of regular season play, the Engineers needed to win both of their games in order to secure a first round bye for the ECAC Hockey playoffs. Given the opportunity to head into the post season with momentum, RPI instead limped out of the regular season, failing to beat either opponent they faced.

The Engineers kicked off their weekend by heading to Hamilton, N.Y. to take on Colgate University, who had only eight wins going into the game. RPI failed to score a single goal as they were embarrassingly shut out 2-0. The Engineers were not vastly out-shot in the game, with both teams managing a rather meager 25 shots on goal. Senior goalie Jason Kasdorf, who usually plays like a brick wall in net, was clearly off his game as he gave up two goals early in the first period. Colgate forward Tylor Spink scored just one minute and 42 seconds into the game, and then found the back of the net again less than eight minutes later. The Engineers' consistently lackluster offense couldn't manage to make up the deficit, so, when the final buzzer sounded, the team found themselves out of contention for a first round bye.

Following a disappointing start to the weekend, RPI headed to Ithaca, N.Y. on Saturday to face Cornell University. While the Engineers failed to pull out a win, they did manage to tie the Big Red



Sidney Kochman/The Polytechnic (file photo)

**THE ENGINEERS FINISH off the regular season with a 3-3 tie against Cornell University as they head to the ECAC Hockey playoffs.**

in what proved to be an exciting game. Cornell got off to a fast start, as Anthony Angello put the puck past Kasdorf just 28 seconds into the game. The Engineers pulled even when sophomore forward Viktor Liljegren found the back of the net with 8:28 gone in the second period. Unfortunately, Cornell took the lead back just 32 seconds later with yet another goal from Angello. RPI entered the third period trailing by one.

The Engineers have a penchant for disappearing in the third period of games this season, but this time they came to play. Senior defenseman Chris Bradley got the puck past Cornell netminder Mitch Gillam with just 3:56 gone from the third. The good times didn't last, as Cornell defenseman Alec McCrea broke the tie just six minutes later. The Engineers once again found themselves down a goal, with less than 10 minutes left in regulation. They pulled Kasdorf with

2:04 left in the game in order to gain an extra attacker. The gamble paid off, as senior forward Milos Bubela scored his 10th goal of the season to tie the game with just 24 seconds left. He was assisted by Liljegren and defenseman Mike Prapavessis. That line has been hot for the Engineers during the last few weeks of the season and should be one to watch during the playoffs. Bubela's goal sent the game into overtime, where neither team was able to secure a victory.

The Engineers now head into the first round of ECAC Hockey playoffs as the sixth seed. They will be playing a best-of-three series at home against 11th seed Brown University. The games will take place on March 4, 5 and 6 in the Houston Field House, with a 7 pm start time each night. The matchup on March 6 will not be played if either team manages to sweep the first two games. Let's go Red! ♦

## MEN'S BASEBALL

# Engineers showed strong start against Wesleyan, sadly faltered

Jack Wellhofer  
Senior Reporter

THE RPI MEN'S BASEBALL TEAM HAD A ROUGH TIME THIS past weekend, losing three away games; one to Virginia Wesleyan College and two to Oswego State University.

Saturday's game against Wesleyan started off well for the Engineers. An error and a single to right field by Rensselaer sophomore J.T. Sawyer put juniors Yahriel Jimenez and Jeff Sitarski in scoring positions. Sophomore Christian Spagnuola hit a grounder to the Cardinal's shortstop, who missed the throw to first, allowing Jimenez and Sitarski to score. Finally, junior Matt Lawrence singled to right field,



Evan Barr/The Polytechnic (file photo)

**RPI LOST their lead after an early game double.**

giving Sawyer the opportunity to score and putting the Engineers up 3-0 at the top of the second.

Singles to left and center put two men on base for Wesleyan at the bottom of the second. A big double by C.J. Lindsay sent both men home, closing RPI's lead to 3-2.

At the bottom of the third, Wesleyan tied it up when Deon Hammond was able to score from second after a hit to right field by Taylor Erby.

In the fifth, Corey King was able to score on a series of errors, one that got him on base and another from a failed pickoff attempt.

An RBI by Hammond brought the score to 5-3 Wesleyan in the bottom of the seventh.

In the eighth, Lawrence scored from a double down the left field line courtesy of Sitarski. Wesleyan came back at the bottom of the inning, scoring three runs from a single and two throwing errors.

The top of the ninth proved fruitless for RPI, ending the game with a 8-4 loss.

Later that afternoon, RPI faced the Oswego Lakers. It was a pitcher's game until the seventh, when the Lakers' Wes Randall hit one to left field, scoring Collin Thompson and Robert Donnelly.

Two more scored in the eighth with a single to center field by Myles Kutscher. Matt Capobianco would close up the scoring for the inning with a single that sent Kutscher home, putting the Lakers' lead to 4-0 over the Engineers.

## WOMEN'S HOCKEY

# Bobcats take down RPI in playoff games

Michael Baird  
Kay Sun  
Senior Reporters

ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, RPI WOMEN'S ICE HOCKEY CONFRONTED Quinnipiac University in Hamden, CT. They suffered a crushing 4-0 defeat, largely due to their inactivity by not capitalizing on power play chances. During the entire game, the Engineers had six power play opportunities and seized none of them, while Quinnipiac had a 50 percent power play conversion—one power play goal out of two power play chances in total. Also, Quinnipiac attempted 52 shots, in contrast to RPI's 14. Senior forward Alexa Gruschow performed the best on the team—three attempts in total, and won five faceoffs won out of 18.

Away again in Hamden on Friday, February 26, the Engineers played in two rematches against Quinnipiac on Friday and Saturday for ECAC quarterfinal playoffs. Twice-defeated, fourth-ranked Quinnipiac brought home an overtime victory after clearing a two point deficit in the third period of play, ascending to the number one seed position.

It wasn't until the final two minutes of the second period that a goal was scored on Friday. Freshman forward Jaime Grigsby shot the puck past Sydney Rossman to earn the 1-0 advantage without assistance.

With 31 seconds remaining in the period, freshman Josephine Hansen made her second goal of the season and the second goal for Rensselaer that afternoon.

At 3:52 into the third period, Quinnipiac's Nicole Connery found the flaw in the RPI defensive line, and the puck snuck into the net. After Kristen Tamberg added a goal for Quinnipiac, the score was tied up.

See BASEBALL, Page 7

See HOCKEY, Page 7

# Hockey: RPI loses in tough match against Quinnipiac

From **Page 6**

The game went into overtime with the score at 2-2. Just 2:04 into overtime, Emma Woods scored the winning goal with assistance from Tylar Cianfarano and Nicole Connery.

During that game, RPI gave three power play chances to their opponents, one of which was capitalized on by Quinnipiac. They pushed Rensselaer off the rink and took control of the puck, scoring five seconds after the power play ended. The tremendous difference in the number of attempted shots between two teams is evident; the Engineers only took a disappointing seven total shots in the game, while Quinnipiac took 57. RPI freshman goalie Lovisa Selander had a decent 94.7 percent goalkeeping percentage, while Quinnipiac goalie Sydney Rossman only had a 71.4-percent goalkeeping percentage.

Saturday's game ended up with three unassisted goals, two by Quinnipiac and one by Rensselaer. The Engineers' freshman forward Grigsby scored 25 seconds after the game started. After senior Alexa Gruschow won the opening faceoff, RPI's offensive line swiftly moved forward, pressured Quinnipiac, and made a shot before the Bobcats could respond. Seven minutes later, Quinnipiac tied it up. Neither team made progress for the remainder of regulation time nor during the first overtime period. Finally, in the second overtime period, when both teams acted impulsively and aggressively, the deadlock was broken by the Bobcats' Nicole Brown who calmly scored by herself. These defeats pulled RPI down to 10-17-7 (and 8-9-5 in ECAC). This concluded the women's ice hockey 2015-2016 season. ♦



Sidney Kochman/The Polytechnic (file photo)

RPI FACED DEFEAT twice by fourth-ranked Quinnipiac in the playoffs on Friday and Saturday.

## MEN'S TENNIS

# Engineers win two of nine close matches against New Jersey

Michael Baird

Senior Reporter

THE MEN'S TENNIS TEAM STARTED OFF THE AFTERNOON OF SATURDAY, February 27 ahead of the College of New Jersey 2-1, winning in two of the three doubles matches at their first away dual meet of the spring season. The Engineers seemed to have started off on the right foot until they ended up losing their momentum in the final four singles games to fall 5-4.

Junior McKinley Grimes teamed up with senior captain Sherman Uyeno to win the first doubles match 9-8 first set, 7-5 second set. Grimes also came out on top in his singles match against Pierce Cooper, scoring 6-4, 2-6, and 6-3.

Although the second doubles match didn't go in his favor, sophomore Tristan Wise did well in both sets of his singles match against Mitchel Sanders. In the third doubles match, senior Graham Harris and senior Anthony Kim paired up against Mitchel Sanders and Matt Puig, winning 9-7.

Of the nine matches held on Sunday against Stevens Institute of Technology, the Engineers took only two. Playing against Danny Polk, Grimes again earned victory with 7-6, 7-5. In the fifth singles match, junior Stephen Baxter defeated William Persson.

One of the longer matches of the afternoon was between senior Alain Grullon Gonzalez and Kyle Henry. Henry managed to capture the third set 10-7.

RPI will play in its first Liberty League match this Sunday against Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, New York. Their first home match at Sharp Courts will be April 16. ♦

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# Baseball: Oswego defeats Rensselaer with seven runs in both games played; Engineers struggled to score

From **Page 6**

As RPI struggled to put any men on base, Oswego was able to keep singling and scoring, sending three more men home at the top of the ninth. Two fly-outs and a ground-out for RPI sealed their fate at 7-0.

On Sunday, the Engineers sought to redeem themselves against Oswego. Unlike Saturday, the Lakers got started right away, putting up two runs in the bottom of the first.

In the third, the Engineers scored their first run of the game when junior Justin Valente walked, stole second, and then came home on a hit up the middle by junior Thomas Desmond.

By the top of the sixth, Oswego had scored two more runs, setting the score at 4-1. Lawrence doubled for RPI in the seventh, and then stole third on a wild pitch. In prime position, Lawrence scored when junior Jason Ramos singled.

Just as things were looking to improve, the Lakers struck back in the bottom of the inning, scoring two more runs.

Randall helped Thompson score when he hit a triple, but was thrown out when he tried to take home.

RPI was unable to regain the lead in the top of the ninth, losing to Oswego 7-2. Their three losses put their overall record at 1-5. RPI will travel to Florida for multiple games over Spring Break. ♦



Evan Barr/The Polytechnic (file photo)

THE ENGINEERS STRUGGLED to overcome Oswego's leads, despite scoring two runs before the top of the sixth inning.

**MEN'S LACROSSE**

# Engineers show promise in opener despite loss

**Joe Saulsbery**  
Senior Reporter

RPI MEN'S LACROSSE LOOKED READY TO POLISH off a season opening victory early at Keene State College last Saturday.

Two goals by junior attackman Breanainn McNeally, and one each by junior attackman Matt Hall, sophomore attackman Matthew Gilman, freshman attackman JT Kelly, and freshman midfielder Lucas Bastarache gave RPI a commanding 6-0 lead before 12 minutes had elapsed. But, 48 minutes later, the game was over and the Owls had won, 14-12.

The Engineers started to unravel after their sixth goal of the first quarter. A delay-of-game penalty resulted in a man-up opportunity for Keene, and they took advantage. Midfielder Frank Baccarella scored with 2:46 remaining in the first quarter, and fellow Owls midfielder Tyler Reilly added a goal of his own moments later, collecting a ground ball and firing it into the Rensselaer net to make the score 6-2.

Still, RPI's McNeally scored his third goal of the game with eight seconds left in the first frame, and the Engineers looked well on their way to victory.

Another penalty on the Engineers early in the second period gave Keene another man-up opportunity, and they capitalized moments later on a goal by attackman Hunter Arnold. Ninety seconds later, they cut the lead to three when attackman Bryan Rotatori scored his sixth goal of the season for the Owls.

After Gilman scored his second goal of the game to make the score 8-4, the Engineers offense went cold. It wasn't until 12:32 in the third that the Engineers scored their ninth goal. By then the Owls had caught up, making three consecutive

goals to end the first half and another to open the third quarter.

After a cross-checking on Keene just before the 10-minute mark in the third quarter, McNeally scored his fourth goal of the game to put RPI back up by two scores. However, a minute later, the momentum shifted back to the home team when attackman Tyler McKelvie whipped a shot into the Rensselaer net to trim the lead to one goal. This score started another four-goal spurt for the Owls that extended into the final quarter and gave the home team a 12-10 edge.

However, RPI still showed some life after losing the lead. Hall assisted Kelly twice for RPI goals down the stretch to bring the game to its third and final tie at the three-minute mark in the fourth quarter.

Those were the last two goals the Engineers would score as Keene capped off their comeback victory with two goals in the final seconds of the game and emerged from the battle with a 14-12 win.

Rensselaer junior goalie David Gibbs saved 18 of 32 shots that he faced while opponent Matthew Howe collected 17 of the 29 that went his way for Keene.

Kelly and Gilman each recorded their first career hat tricks at Rensselaer, and McNeally started off his junior campaign well with four scores after tallying 44 and 35 in his freshman and sophomore seasons, respectively. Senior Patrick Finn and Matt Hall led the Engineers with two apiece.

Surrendering a big lead and losing on the road is tough to accept, but there was no better time for it to happen. The Engineers will learn from their mistakes in this game and look to be primed for a terrific 2016 campaign led by veteran starters McNeally and Finn on offense and Gibbs between the pipes. ♦

## Scores from the Week

### Friday February 26

Women's Ice Hockey at Quinnipiac University	L 2-3
Men's Track & Field	1st of 13
Women's Track & Field	4th of 13
Men's Hockey at Colgate University	L 0-2

### Saturday February 27

Men's Baseball at Virginia Wesleyan College	L 4-8
Women's Track & Field at NYSCTC	4th of 13
Men's Track & Field at NYSCTC	3rd of 13
Men's Lacrosse at Keene State	L 12-14
Men's Tennis at the College of New Jersey	L 4-5
Women's Ice Hockey at Quinnipiac	L 1-2
Men's Baseball vs Oswego State	L 0-7
Men's Ice Hockey at Cornell University	T 3-3

### Sunday February 28

Men's Baseball vs Oswego State	L 2-7
Men's Tennis at Steven's Institute of Tech.	L 2-7



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**IMPORTANT DATE**

General Housing & Dining Selection  
**Feb. 29<sup>th</sup>-March 9<sup>th</sup>**

Visit: <https://rpi.starrezhousing.com/StarRezPortal>

For more details on room selection and housing rates, visit the Residence Life website: <http://reslife.rpi.edu>

For more details on dining plans and dining locations visit the Hospitality Services website: <http://rpihospitalityservices.com>



SUDOKU

7		4	5			9		
							3	
	2		9			8		
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		6			9			5
	7							
		8			1	7		2

Previous Issue's Answers

8	7	4	9	2	5	3	1	6
2	3	5	6	1	7	9	8	4
9	6	1	8	3	4	5	7	2
3	5	8	4	9	1	6	2	7
4	1	2	5	7	6	8	9	3
6	9	7	2	8	3	1	4	5
5	8	6	1	4	2	7	3	9
7	4	9	3	6	8	2	5	1
1	2	3	7	5	9	4	6	8

Fill in the grid so that each row, column, and 3-by-3 subsquare contains exactly one occurrence of the numbers 1 through 9.

TOP TEN LIST

Top Ten Equations

10.  $\lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x) + f(x + \Delta x)}{\Delta x}$
9.  $\frac{\sin(x)}{x}$
8.  $\int_{10}^{13} 2x dx$
7.  $P = NP$
6.  $\frac{1}{12}bh^3$
5.  $F = ma$
4.  $9x - 7i > 3(3x - 7u)$  — simplify
3.  $E = mc^2$
2.  $\int_{cabin} \frac{1}{d} d(cabin)$
1.  $PV = znRT$

DILBERT

**Panel 1:** TODAY IS MY FIRST DAY AS AN UBER DRIVER. I LOVE THE FLEXIBILITY!

**Panel 2:** I ONLY HAVE TO WORK 75 HOURS A WEEK AND I CAN PAY MY RENT.

**Panel 3:** WITH PLENTY LEFT OVER? ARE YOU GOING TO FINISH THAT SANDWICH?

**Panel 4:** I'M HERE TO BEG FOR MY JOB BACK. DRIVING FOR UBER WAS LESS GLAMOROUS THAN I'D HOPED.

**Panel 5:** MY MENTAL HEALTH AND MY BLADDER HAVE BEEN STRETCHED TO THEIR LIMITS.

**Panel 6:** MAYBE WE COULD DISCUSS THIS OVER A TILED FLOOR AREA.

**Panel 7:** WHEN YOU WERE AN UBER DRIVER, DID ANY PASSENGERS EVER GET SICK IN YOUR CAR?

**Panel 8:** THEY ALL DID.

**Panel 9:** THE FIRST FEW HAD MOTION SICKNESS, BUT THE LAST HUNDRED LOST IT WHEN THEY SMELLED THE CARPET.

**Panel 10:** NOW THAT I HAVE TASTED THE SWEET FREEDOM OF BEING AN UBER DRIVER, HOW CAN I GO BACK TO THIS LIFE?

**Panel 11:** I MISS THE FREEDOM I HAD AS AN UBER DRIVER.

**Panel 12:** THIS JOB FEELS LIKE BEING TRAPPED UNDER RUBBLE. WE OLD-TIMERS HAVE A NAME FOR THAT FEELING.

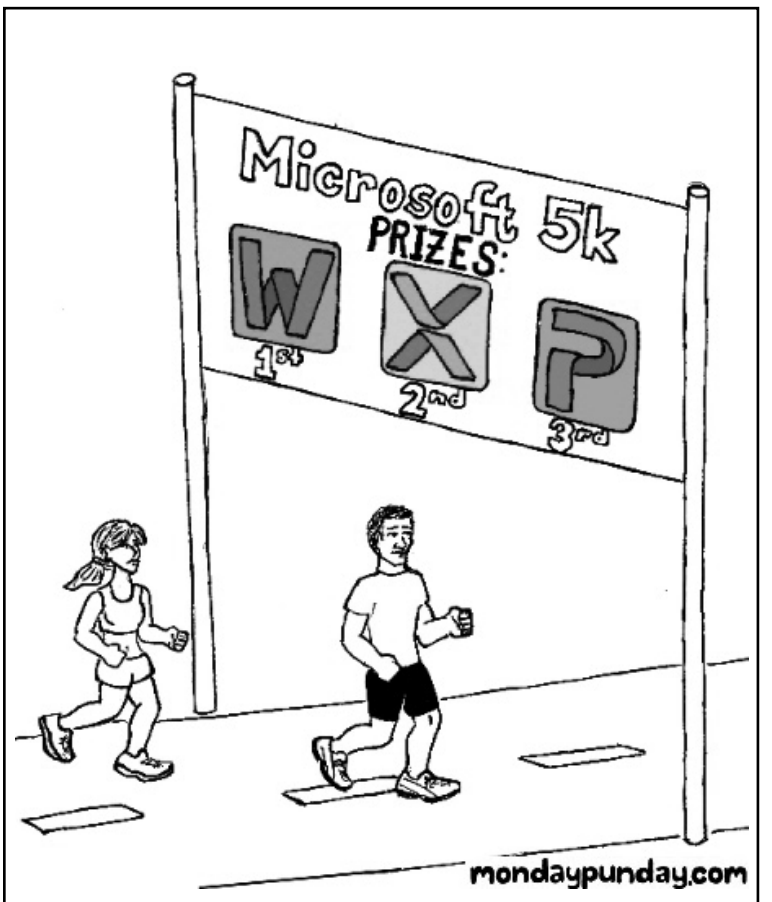
**Panel 13:** WHAT IS IT? "BETTER THAN AVERAGE."

**Panel 14:** I DON'T THINK I'M DOING ENOUGH TO CREATE A FALSE SENSE OF URGENCY.

**Panel 15:** ARE YOU STILL A SOCIOPATH?

**Panel 16:** THAT'S THE EASY PART. NOW ADD A MEANINGLESS DEADLINE AND SOME FEAR.

MONDAYPUNDAY by Matthew Broussard



UPAC CINEMA UPAC CINEMA UPAC CINEMA

**The Peanuts Movie**

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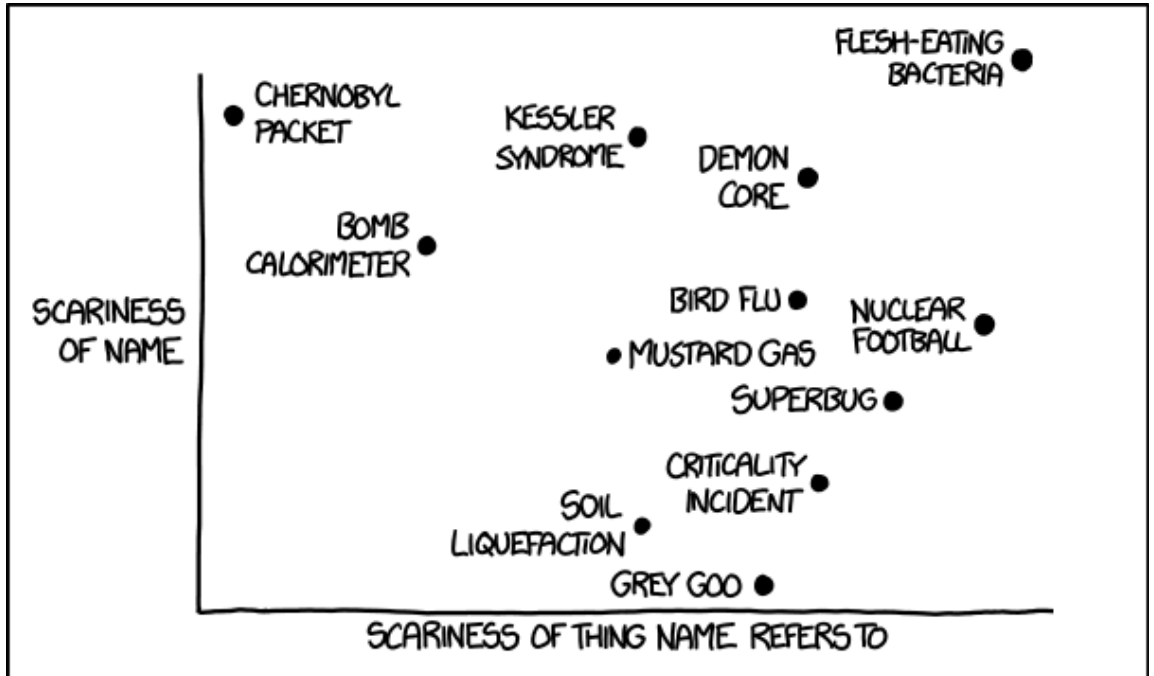
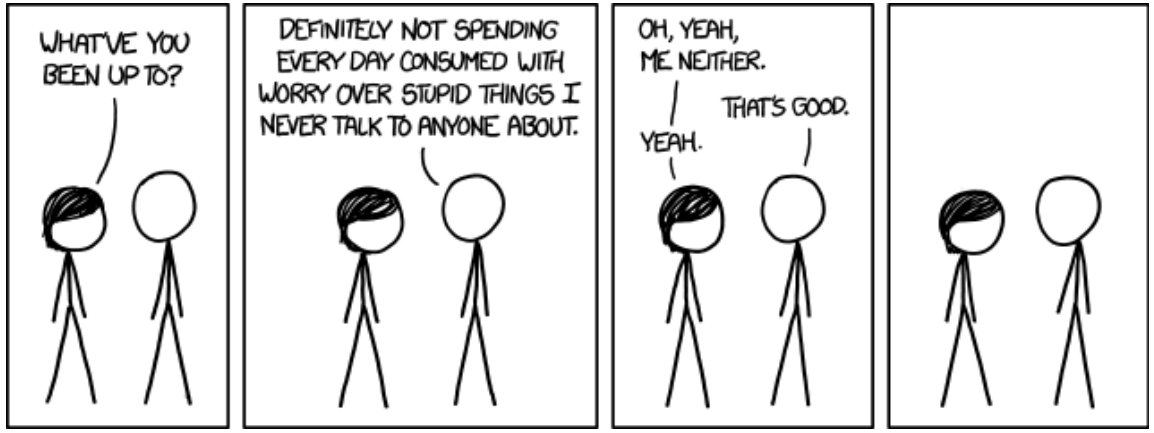
CRYPTOQUOTE

A Cryptoquote is a simple substitution code where each letter that appears may stand for a different letter. The substitutions are consistent throughout the puzzle. Punctuation is not translated. For example: AMXBMAAYQ = ENGINEERS

“C rcf cdcfabfga psq wcrshx cfa ltbng psq qbf c qnbtx. Pg lbyhaf'n dg npg wstqn nb jhbco psq jblctasjg sf c whcz bw qcjtswsjg.” —Qpgthbjo Pbhrqg Rt. Pbhrqg

XKCD

by Randall Munroe



WORDFIND

by Shane O'Brien

Words can be found forwards, backwards, up, down, and in both diagonals.

Automakers

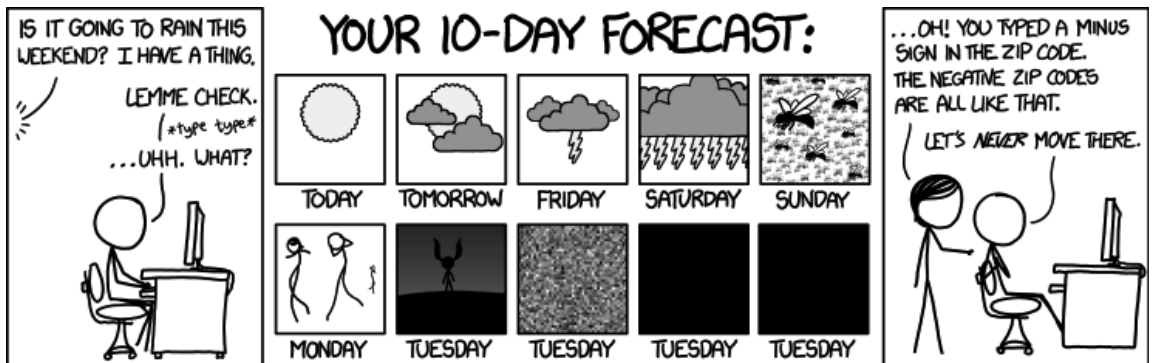
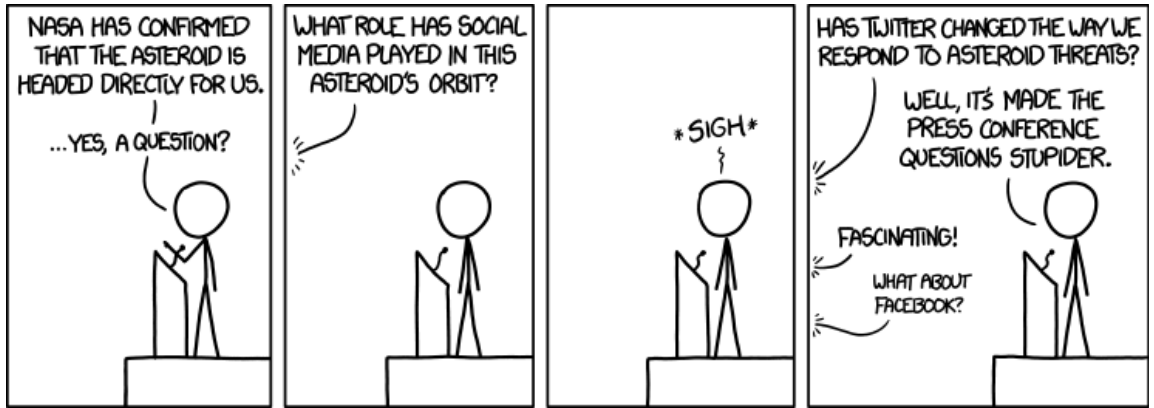
Grid of letters for word search: B L A M B O R G H I N I F Y D, D T N Y B Q S K W R N Q U M A, etc.

- Acura, Audi, Bentley, BMW, Bugatti, Cadillac, Chevrolet, Chrysler, Ferrari, Ford, General Motors, Honda, Hyundai, Jeep, Lamborghini, Lexus, Mercedes-Benz, Nissan, Porsche, Toyota, Volkswagen

LAST WEEK'S CRYPTOQUOTE

“For a special agent, you're not having a very special day, are you?” —Waverly The Man from U.N.C.L.E

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HARK! A VAGRANT

by Kate Beaton



# Events

Wednesday, March 2, 2016

## WEDNESDAY

March 2

**The Rensselaer Collegiate Store** hosts the Graduation Fair from 10 am–6 pm. Representatives from campus will be on hand to ensure that students have completed the necessary steps for graduation.

**The Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering** hosts Dr. Nataliya Le Vine. Her lecture is titled “Why Were the River Eden’s New 200-Year Capacity Flood Defenses Defeated Three Times in 2015? Advances in Flood Predictability Under a Changing Climate.” This event will be held in the Jonsson Engineering Center 3117 from 1–2 pm.

**The Center for Biotechnology & Interdisciplinary Studies Graduate Student Association** hosts Dr. William Brown in the Bruggeman Conference room in CBIS from 2–3 pm. His seminar is titled “An Academic Career in Herpetology: Field Studies of Turtles and Snakes in Mexico, Utah, and New York.” Light refreshments will be served.

**The Department of Physics, Applied Physics, and Astronomy** present Dr. Eric Mazur of Harvard University, and his lecture titled “Less is More: Extreme Optics with Zero Refractive Index.” It will be held in the Darrin Communications Center 324 from 4–5 pm.

**“The Magnificent Honey Bee”** presented by master beekeeper Aaron Morris. It will be held in the Nason Hall Classroom from 5:30–7 pm.

**The Chapel+Cultural Center** continues its five part Lenten Speaker Series with Br. Mickey McGrath. It is titled “Conscience and the Great Cloud of Witness, the Saints.” It starts at 5:30 pm in the C+CC.

## THURSDAY

March 3

**The Biological Sciences Seminar Series** continues with Dr. Susan Cohen. Her seminar is titled “The Cyanobacterial Circadian Clock: When and Where.” It will take place in the Bruggeman Conference Center from noon–1 pm. Refreshments will be served at 11:45 am.

**The Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center** continues their On Screen/Sound series with the twelfth installment. It gets speechless with a selection of films that work in sound and image but no words. It will be held in EMPAC’s Concert Hall from 7–8 pm.

## FRIDAY

March 4

**Spring 2016 School of Engineering Midterm Student Course Evaluations** open. Evaluations will be available through Sunday, March 13, 2016.

## MONDAY

March 7

**The Biological Sciences Seminar Series** continues with Dr. Christopher Baker. His seminar is titled “Genetics of Epigenetics: Natural variation shapes the epigenetic landscape and patterns of inheritance.” It will take place in the Bruggeman Conference Center from noon–1 pm. Refreshments will be served at 11:45 am.

**The Mueller Center** hosts a meditation session. “Burned Out to Blissed Out in 60 Seconds” teaches you a powerful way to de-stress and get recharged. Learn from a certified Stress Management Coach with over 30 years of experience teaching and practicing meditation. It will take place from 6:15–7:30 pm.

**The Department of Mathematical Sciences** presents Douglas Zhou as part of the Mathematical Sciences Colloquium/RTG Seminar Series. It will be held in Amos Eaton 214 from 4–5 pm.

**The Houston Field House** hosts open skate. A valid RPI ID is required upon entry. No skate rentals will be available. It will be held from 11:30 am–12:30 pm.

## TUESDAY

March 8

**The Graduate Christian Fellowship** hosts a follow-up discussion to the Veritas Forum, “Proof?” Weekly discussions will be held for the next six weeks, excluding Spring Break. Each week is independent of one another and they will use the video series “The Reason for God: Belief in an Age of Skepticism” by Timothy Keller to frame the discussions. It will be held in the Library Conference Room from 5–6 pm.

**The RPI Players** host auditions for their Spring Sideshow on March 8 and 9 from 6–7 pm in the Low Center for Industrial Innovation 3051. The auditions will be cold readings, so there is no need to prepare a piece, but it is recommended that actors read the scripts for the four shows found at <http://poly.news/s/4osc1/>.

## WEDNESDAY

March 9

**The Isermann Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering** presents John M. Frostad. His seminar is titled “Micromechanical Experiments on Emulsions and Foams.” It will be held in Ricketts 211 from 9:30–10:30 am.

**A graduate school information session is held** in the Rensselaer Union from noon–1 pm. RSVP at <http://poly.news/s/s22dn/>.

### PLP

**Application for 2016-17** is open to all undergraduate sophomore or first-semester junior students. Please submit the following materials in person at the Archer Center located in Academy Hall or scan and email to [archercenter@rpi.edu](mailto:archercenter@rpi.edu) by **March 11, 2016**:

- Resume
- Cover letter
- Completed faculty/professional reference form
- List of campus involvement activities

For more information, contact Terry Swett at [swettt@rpi.edu](mailto:swettt@rpi.edu) or visit our website: [archer.union.rpi.edu/leadership/plp.html](http://archer.union.rpi.edu/leadership/plp.html)

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- No grades, no homework and no tests.
- Mondays from 5-7 PM in the Student Union.
- Successful completion of the PLP will appear on your official transcripts.

## MOVIE REVIEW

## Frightening film thrills critics

Nathan Dorer  
Senior Reviewer

RELEASED IN 2000, MARY HARRON'S *American Psycho* introduced itself as a vibrant reimagining of Bret Easton Ellis' novel by the same name. The prerelease of the film at the Sundance Film Festival proved controversial; while some viewed the piece as a flat and hackneyed horror, other reviewers saw that the piece had created a new level of depth within the overdone horror genre. However, upon the general release, the film managed to attract the positive attention of major publications—the *New York Times* described *Psycho* as “a dazzling period satire”—and as a result the film attained commercial success in theaters.

The plot centers around a 27-year-old Patrick Bateman, played by Christian Bale, who serves as a juxtaposition composed of upwardly-mobile corporate investor and blood-flinging serial killer. By day, Bateman works at the prestigious Pierce and Pierce trading firm on Wall Street, but by night he spends his time pursuing the interests of young people who have simply too much money for their own good. The scenes of the night life are portrayed as a patchwork of drug abuse, womanizing, affairs, and careful placement of potential indicators of Bateman's homicidal tendencies. Upon leaving his friends, however, Bateman devolves into a bloodthirsty killer and removes his frustration on unsuspecting women and homeless men.

The narration of the piece is provided in voiceovers from Bateman himself, in which he details his careful thought process behind staging his murders. With decided self-awareness, Bateman takes great care to preserve his image amidst his unfettered desire to kill; the protagonist of



Courtesy of Lionsgate Films

**SLASHER FILM AMERICAN PSYCHO TESTS the limits of the genre.**

the film carries his bodies with a stiff upper lip and a Gaultier overnight bag. Bateman's sense of introspection serves as one of the most dynamic plot devices in the movie; he demonstrates a complete self-awareness of the atrocities that he is attempting to commit, but also an understanding of his inability to compromise with his carnal desires.

On the production side, the movie proves itself to be artful through its attention to cinematography and well-thought-out imagery. Between the shots of Bateman's skin care routine and cardio workout, Harron manages to sell the visage of normalcy that carries the protagonist through his daily life. Conversely, the director opts for shaky, halfhearted camera work that serves as a nod to the movie's horror roots upon Bateman's devolution into a serial killer. The movie's use of juxtaposition plays on the two-fold personhood of Bateman, and Harron's work

is a smart and introspective.

However, it was Bale's incarnation of Bateman that ultimately made the movie a rousing success; Bale manages to fill his character with dead eyes and forced smiles in a way that screams that Bateman is doing his best to maintain a façade of normalcy. Bale shakes or sweats on command, and his conviction serves in a deep-seeded connection to the character. The *New York Times* described Bale's performance as “alternately funny, blood-curdling and pathetic” in its devotion to the sociopath's emotional rollercoaster.

*American Psycho* has proven itself to be a smart, original, and powerful contribution to the slasher genre; the piece carries an enormous weight of satire on its shoulders, despite having the simple value of shock to make it worth seeing. Rather than lend itself to the cheap tricks of being a horror film, the movie manages to produce itself with cinematic value. ♦

## Concert: Student musicians impress

From **Page 12**

was stealing the attention from the students in the band.

Following this performance, the Contemporary Jazz Ensemble, also directed by Robert Button, presented “I Feel the Earth Move” by Carole King, “Sweet Seasons” by Carole King and David Palmer, and “Jazzman” by Carole King and Toni Stern. This group performed much like the Concert Jazz Orchestra did, with a big band style of playing, also containing solos from Lauryn Curtis '16 and Erin Lazar '19.

The final group, the 8th Street Swing Band, directed by Joseph Bonville, performed “Till There

was You” by Meredith Wilson, “I Have Dreamed” by Rogers and Hammerstein, “On the Street Where You Lived” by Lerner and Lowe, and “Dancing Queen” by ABBA. These songs were performed with gusto, mirroring that initial energy brought to the stage by Bonville and the Symphonic Band at the beginning of the evening.

The night finished off with “Dancing Queen,” multi-colored lights flashing about the concert hall, and the director encouraging the audience to stand up and dance, which was met with enthusiasm. This was a perfect ending to this Broadway-themed night. ♦

## CLUB SPOTLIGHT

### An environmental column on jobs

Amelia Grimm Blauw

A Special to The Poly

THE CENTER FOR CAREER AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CAREER FAIR, on February 10, was an excellent way to learn about different companies, practice networking skills, and for some, find employment opportunities. If you were not able to attend, do not despair—there is still another career fair available to RPI students!

The Second Annual Environmental Career Fair, organized by the Society for Environmental Professionals will be held on Wednesday, March 9 from 10:30 am–3:30 pm in the Center for Biotechnology Studies. This career fair is open to all majors and has companies providing opportunities for students looking for environmentally focused careers. Companies such as the New York State Pollution Prevention Institute, Margination, and Delaware Engineering have sent representatives in the past. If you are still looking for a job, or just want to get your name out there, this will be a great chance to meet people in sustainability and environmentally-oriented careers.

If you are interested in learning more about the Society of Environmental Professionals, they meet in Rensselaer Union Room 2424, Wednesdays at 8 pm. All are welcome! ♦

## McKINNEY LITERARY CONTEST

call for entries:  
undergraduates & graduates

1st Prize: \$300

2nd Prize: \$150

3rd Prize: \$75

THREE PRIZES IN EACH OF FOUR CATEGORIES:

- FICTION OR DRAMA

- POETRY

- ESSAYS INCLUDING CREATIVE NONFICTION

AND CLASS PAPERS

- ELECTRONIC MEDIA INVOLVING LANGUAGE

STEVEN MILLHAUSER, WINNER OF THE PULITZER PRIZE FOR FICTION, WILL PRESENT WINNERS WITH THEIR AWARDS AT THE MCKINNEY AWARDS CEREMONY ON APRIL 13, 2016. WINNERS WILL ALSO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE CONSIDERED FOR PUBLICATION IN STATLER & WALDORF, RPI'S STUDENT LITERARY MAGAZINE.

entries due  
March  
22nd

## Julius: Tree House brews providing fresh new taste

From **Page 15**

they limit how many cans and growlers each person can buy and still run out. Afterwards, I always travel a half hour further east to B.T. Smokehouse, one of the best barbecue places in the Northeast. There, I enjoy a Julius with a solid rack of ribs. So I guess maybe I'm biased because I've been to the place before, but clearly, it's a great experience. ♦

Chris's Rating:  
4.75/5



Chris Leong/The Polytechnic

BEER CONNOISSEUR CHRIS LEONG SAMPLES a favored sweet beer that pairs well with barbecue.

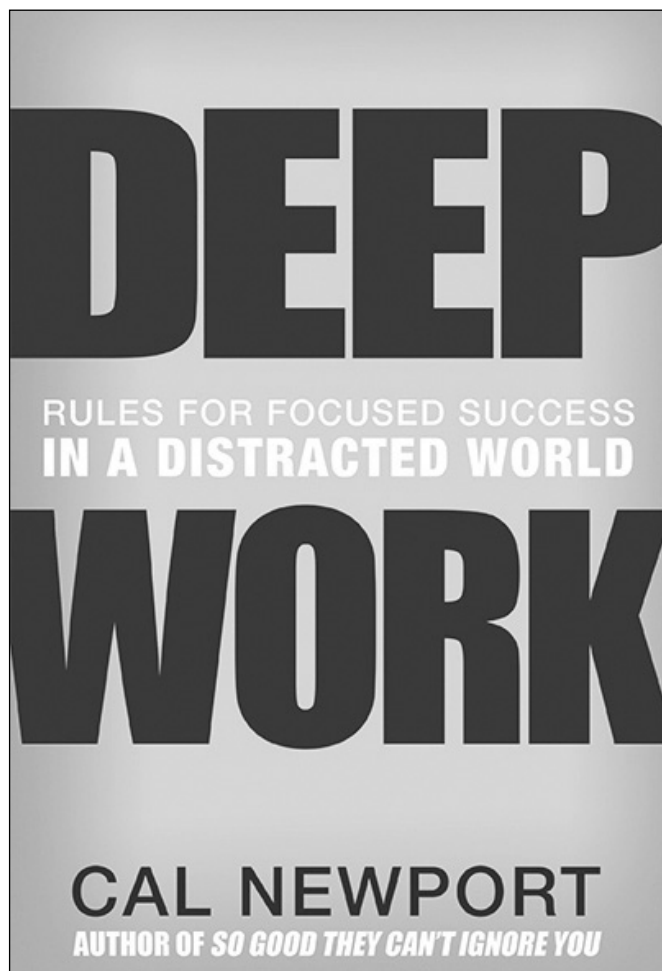
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# Work: Introspective look on making a hardworking person

From **Page 16**

elite level, in terms of both quality and speed.” Both of these skills are built upon the ability to intensely focus on the task in front of you — in other words, both require deep work.

So how can one start developing this skill? Newport argues, “the key to developing a deep work habit is to... add rituals to your working life designed to minimize the amount of your limited willpower necessary to transition into and maintain a state of unbroken concentration.”



Courtesy of Cal Newport

NEWPORT'S BOLD COVER CONVEYS brilliance found within.

Out of the four working philosophies presented, the one most easily adapted to by students is what Newport calls the “rhythmic philosophy of deep work... The easiest way to consistently start deep work sessions is to transform them into a simple regular habit.” One such way to do this is to deliberately practice intense concentration: choose a high priority, cognitively demanding task (aka a “deep task”), estimate how long it would normally take, set a new deadline that is significantly less, and try to complete the task in the time allotted. Newport recommends starting with just one of these sessions a week and then increasing the frequency once you are comfortable with trading concentration for completion time.

To aid in cultivating more and deeper work, Newport borrows a framework from *The 4 Disciplines of Execution*. The first discipline tells us to apply deep work to just a few “wildly important” tasks. As Confucius said, “He who chases two rabbits catches none. Find the one or two things that would make the most impact and cut out everything else.”

“What gets measured, gets managed” is a famous quote by Peter Drucker for a reason. Track the number of hours you work deeply for and keep a public, physical scoreboard in your workplace.

The last discipline to hold yourself accountable: review weekly how many hours you worked deeply, “celebrate good weeks... understand what led to bad weeks... and figure out how to ensure a good score for the days ahead.”

The last chapters are dedicated to providing actionable steps you can take to work more deeply. Some of the more notable ones are entirely quitting social media, turning off your phone during the day, and not doing any work after 5:30 pm. While these may seem crazy for today’s world—at least one certainly is; I can’t find much benefit in memorizing a deck of cards—not all of them need to be done to reap the benefits of deep work. Test them yourself one at a time and you’ll be well on your way to producing better results in less time.

The above has just been a nibble of all that *Deep Work* has to offer. It is poised to become one of the most sought after skills in the near future and you’ll be doing yourself a disservice by not reading a copy of this original and compelling book. ♦

# Masa: Young artist rises

From **Page 16**

Radio 1. Zane Lowe, Annie Mac, Huw Stephens, and Phil Taggart all played the song on their shows.

The song “Lotus Eater” is perhaps one of the most unique and beautiful songs I’ve heard. It delightfully combines modern elements of trap music, like 4x4 claps and heavy hitting bass, with classic instruments and oriental influences. But perhaps my favorite song off the LP is “I’ve Never Felt So Good”, which serves as the concluding track on the record. Gorgeous drum patterns and piano layer over a grieving and remorseful vocal sample. The tone is a somber one, not soon forgotten.

As a follow-up to a stellar LP, Crossan released *Someday Somewhere EP* in April 2015. As a general rule, the best music is made with emotion. The emotion helps the listener truly feel what the producer was going through. Crossan’s recent breakup can be felt with just one listen. “I recently went through my first really terrifying breakup, and I can’t express how powerful that is for me,” he stated in an interview with *The Guardian*. “It’s not something to be shy of or try and avoid; catharsis is so healthy. I feel like a lot of really seminal records come from being deeply upset.” The awareness has led to a phenomenal EP, highlighted by songs such as “Are U There?” and “Lovesick Fuck”. “Are U There” starts off slow and builds into a gorgeous combination of vocals and synths. “Lovesick Fuck”, on the other hand, starts off strong and never lets up. Just one listen to this track and it will be hard to stop hearing the infectious melody and catchy vocals.

Luckily, Crossan isn’t near the end of his musical journey as Mura Masa. Just last October, Crossan released what appears to be the first single from his sophomore LP. The single, “Love For That (feat. Shura)”, features a beautiful violin lead that transitions into a plucky, emotional R&B/electronic track. Accompanied with a meaningful and extremely well produced music video, “Love For That (feat. Shura)” is a strong opener for his next record.

It’s hard to tell exactly what direction this wunderkind will go next, but this reviewer is extremely excited for what is to come. ♦

## DOWNTOWN TROY

# Latest contemporary food court stuns reviewers

THIS IS A COLLABORATIVE REVIEW BETWEEN three reporters who attended the grand opening of Troy Kitchen; an upscale food court in downtown Troy. There are currently three dining options: Troy Lobster—seafood restaurant focused on lobster, K-Plate—Korean food truck-turned-restaurant, Magdalena’s—Mexican food vendor from the Farmer’s Market. A vegan vendor is to be announced.

### Maria Kozdroy:

Walking into the Troy Kitchen, two things quickly caught my attention: the weird smell and the interesting lack of lighting. The whole place was packed, all types of people: young, old, and college students. Out of the three food court options, I decided on the Troy Lobster and to order the Connecticut Style Lobster Roll. The price was marked 11-15. I realized I had to pay extra for chips and a pickle; the final total came out to \$17.28! The lobster roll was quite small and no coleslaw was included either. The environment was very different from that of your usual food court or casual restaurant. I enjoyed the unique upbeat music! Just the experience was very different altogether. Troy is trying its hardest to change its reputation to become a bit more updated to assimilate to the modern age; I believe the Troy Kitchen is a big step in that direction, yet it’s a bit soon for it.

### David Raab:

When I first agreed to do this review with the rest of the *Poly* staff, I really had no idea what I was getting myself into. At the end of

my newfound culinary experience, I still had no idea what I got myself into. Neither did a friend from my hometown who was visiting RPI for the weekend. Troy Kitchen attempts to be a new, revitalized food court that features some of Troy’s unique street food businesses. I certainly enjoy street food, but it really seemed out of place in a dimly lit hipster style bar venue. In fact, the bar looked to be the best part of this venue, but being underage I obviously couldn’t partake.

For this review, I got nachos from Magdalena’s Menu, which appears to be a small food stand serving Mexican food. It was more reasonably priced than Maria’s lobster so my complaints are not centered around the price of my meal. In fact, the nachos were not bad, but they certainly were not remarkably good either. It did seem that all the places were swamped by the large crowd of people that came to Troy Kitchen on its opening night. I would certainly encourage people to give the place another chance once it gets running for a couple of months to fully work out all of the kinks inherent in an operation of its size.

### Rex Hu:

Let me be brief: this place needs to decide what vibe it wants. The lights and the walls of the entrance painted elegant sophistication; the restaurant stalls had a street market feeling to them; the dining area had a hipster or alternative atmosphere; and the music that was blasting had a young, boisterous energy to it.

The restaurants had quite a nice variety, as promised in interviews and news reports. Not all lines, however, were moving equally—in



Sidney Kochman/The Polytechnic

SIZZLING KOREAN HOT PLATES CAN BE ENJOYED by visitors of the Troy Kitchen.

the line for K-Plate, I was moving at about the same rate as my friends in the line for Troy Lobster, but the ones in line for Magdalena’s were about five customers behind. Just when I arrived at the counter, I was greeted with a five-minute wait on rice, and I ended up being the last of my friends to arrive at the table.

Furthermore, menus were not balanced either. Troy Lobster had tasteful but pricey dishes, K-Plate had (only) three items at a great price point—I had the spicy K-plate, a sizeable portion which was tasty in a home-cooked way—and only Magdalena’s held a fair middle ground between price point and menu offerings. Perhaps it’s because they’re new, so I’m hoping these restaurants can figure out the proper prices and selections to keep customers

coming back for more. The grand opening was the busiest scene I’ve witnessed in downtown Troy; after the break-in period, I expect great things from this food court. ♦

**Maria's Rating:**  
2/5

**David's Rating:**  
3/5

**Rex's Rating:**  
3/5

## GAME REVIEW

# Strategy game frustrating yet entertaining

Chris Leong  
Senior Reviewer

MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE I'M A PERFECTIONIST or just not used to this type of game, but *XCOM 2* is as hard as trying to juggle a bowling ball, an orange, and a six sided die—and I can't even juggle three regular juggling balls. For the uninitiated, the more recent *XCOM* series consists of turn-based style strategy games. If you've ever played *Fire Emblem* or *Final Fantasy*, many of the elements in those games are present in *XCOM 2*. The backdrop is 20 years after aliens have invaded and taken over the world. Resistance fighters have stolen an alien warship and are currently on the run. Employing guerrilla tactics and stealth mechanics, the player—or commander, as you are known in game—can drop a four to eight person squad into the battlefield. Most of the time, the soldiers drop in concealed, giving the player a chance to set up effective ambushes. Then, there are certain objectives to achieve, such as securing a certain number of civilians, gathering intel from a data point, or destroying a base.

Turns alternate between human and alien forces, and all shots taken have a percentage chance to hit. Based on distance to target and relative cover, the hit chance can increase. However, what frustrates me about this game is that, even though I move my soldier to one meter behind an enemy, there will only be an 85 percent chance to hit. Only 85 percent! From certain angles, it actually looks like



Courtesy of Monkeybite via Wikia

**PLAYERS CONTROL** soldier avatars and must use not only quick reflexes, but wise decision making in this involved video game.

the gun is touching the target. But, since I'm so unlucky, when I order my soldier to fire, he or she will aim directly at the target, *purposely* turn the gun away, and then fire. I guess I mean that's where the difficulty of the game stems from; there are many opportunities to flank smartly in cover and position the rest of the squad accordingly. But still, I just can't get over how unforgiving the game is. If one of my troops is overextended even slightly and a pod of aliens are discovered, they can all gang up on that one soldier. A single alien turn later

and my captain-ranked soldier has bitten the dust. Soldiers are one of the most valuable assets in the game; higher ranking ones have better abilities and take a while to level.

Outside battle, the player manages research, production, and soldiers in the alien airship. Resources such as *supplies*—the main in-game currency—alien alloys, and corpses are used to purchase research projects, weapons, and armor. Parts of the ship can also be excavated, and specialized rooms built in order to gain an advantage or increase production power. In the geoscape, the player

chooses where the ship travels in the world to complete missions and make contact with other regions. Supply drops and sites can also be traveled to and scanned to collect resources. I like this part of the game because it allows me to focus my manpower on my strengths. I'm really good at combat, so I research weapons and military tactics first. Additionally, I prioritize supply drops so that I always have money to spend on buying those weapons.

All in all, *XCOM 2* is well put together, though excruciatingly difficult. I love out-maneuvering the enemy and planning ambush-

es, but afterwards I always feel mentally drained. Two or three hours is all I can play at a time. After more than two weeks of playing, I can safely say I haven't jumped the gun on this review and that I understand exactly what playing the game entails. If you haven't tried the game, I suggest watching someone play it, whether it be a friend or on twitch.tv. ♦

Chris's Rating 8/10

## BSA: Fashion takes over the Union, excites students



Sidney Kochman / The Polytechnic

**ANNUAL FASHION SHOW EMPHASIZES** students' culture and individuality through various lines.

From **Page 16**

complemented the models' clothing choices.

Following a brief intermission, brothers from the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity took the stage for a special presentation. Following that, models showed off a line of Japanese-inspired outfits. I was very impressed by the diverse styles found just within the Japanese culture. The organizers must have agreed with me because the following line exhibited the wide range of cultures in a show of RPI's diverse student body. Every inhabited continent was represented in this line—sorry, Antarctica—and a couple of outfits paid homage to popular American trends, including Starbucks coffee and selfies. This theme carried through to the next "model's choice" line, which allowed models to express their cultural creativity.

The final line of the night focused on couples and had models come out in pairs wearing matching or complementary outfits. I thought the themes conceived were creative and showed off the playful personalities of students.

Overall, the show was definitely entertaining and run well. I would have loved to see more details about the lines and the designers in the program, but the descriptions provided prior to each line also did the job well.

Throughout the event, *The Poly* posted photos of the models and presentations live to our Twitter account. These tweets can be found on our profile at <http://poly.news/s/0r473/>. ♦

## BEER REVIEW

## Fruity flavored hops

Chris Leong  
Senior Reviewer

IF YOU'RE A BEER CONNOISSEUR, maybe you've heard of it, but in an unassuming, small town in central Massachusetts, there exists a small brewery called Tree House Brewing Co. About an hour and a half away from Troy, N.Y., Tree House offers a different variety of beers Thursday to Saturday; however, their brews are only available on site. Their most famous offerings are Julius and Good Morning, both of which are top rated beers on the website Beer Advocate. Unfortunately, only Julius was available amongst the selection of beers when I went.

When it's poured into Tree House's Rastal Teku goblet glass, the beer gives a frothy, healthy head, about four centimeters thick. Immediately, I smell fresh, citrusy aromas; the notes are crisp but not overpowering. The scent whisks me away to the brewery in midwinter. Feeling the brisk morning breeze against my cheek, I open the front door and am met with a familiar, warm, welcoming hoppy smell, complimented by the venue's décor: wooden wall siding adorned with Tree House paraphernalia. I hold a glass of Julius up to the sun, and it shines in almost the same color. Back in my room, I examine its golden, orange-yellow hue, unfiltered and cloudy. The beer really

does look like the sun and deserves to be poured into a glass to be admired.

As one of the top rated beers in the Northeast, Julius tastes as good as it looks. I taste crisp citrusy hop flavor with not too much bitterness, if at all. Though it is an India Pale Ale, the drink does not adhere to stereotypes, as it is also sweet, but not too sweet, and fresh. Hints of mango and passion fruit are hidden in the background and the liquid itself just rolls off the tongue. There is light carbonation and crisp mouthfeel; each sip is like freshly squeezed and chilled orange juice. If you didn't quite get it, I meant this in a "your sweet 70 year old grandmother just got back from her orange grove and hand-squeezed you a nice glass" kind of way.

Overall, Julius is a smooth beer. With an attractive hue, fresh smell, and unique taste, this drink is an experience. If you have not visited or tried Tree House brews, I suggest you go while you are still in the Northeast. Earlier this semester, I left at 8 am with friends and arrived around 10 am; the brewery opens at 11 am. It was nearly -10 degrees Fahrenheit out with wind chill, but there were 70 people in front of us in line, with nearly 100 behind us when the doors opened before 11. They only brew a small amount so

See JULIUS, **Page 13**

# Features

Wednesday, March 2, 2016

## CAMPUS EVENT

# New designs, new ideas on BSA runway

Justin Etzine  
Senior Reporter

LAST SATURDAY, THE BLACK Students' Alliance hosted its annual BSA Fashion Show. The event, which is held each February to celebrate Black History Month, provides participating students with the opportunity to express themselves through a means that is not commonly celebrated in the RPI community: fashion.

The show opened with welcoming remarks from members of the planning committee for the show, followed by a video presentation. The first line, which the announcer described as "black is the new black," featured outfits consisting of black clothing items to form chic styles. These outfits were definitely well-composed, since I could definitely picture people wearing them in a variety of settings, most prominently cocktail parties.

The second line featured styles created by designer Laura Andrighetti. The outfits were created by reusing and repurposing fabrics into creative styles. The outfits had a vintage look that featured bold patterns and muted colors that, I believe, were the most unique seen at the show. The styles played with the idea of different cuts, and the designer framed each model differently and in ways that best suited them.

For the first "models' choice" line of the evening, the models were given the opportunity to choose clothing that fit into the common criteria of blue jeans and a t-shirt. As I said in a tweet during the event, results may—and did—vary. Models also wore a choice of sunglasses made by Coast Designwear, which is run by Glenn Rothwell '16 and Mark Olivier '16. The glasses were stylish and

See BSA, **Page 15** A MODEL STRUTS confidently onto the BSA runway in her outfit for the fashion line for individual cultures.



Sidney Kochman/The Polytechnic

## CAMPUS EVENT

# Well-done RMA performance

## Rensselaer Music Association play Broadway numbers

Elisabeth Ryan  
Senior Reviewer

ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27 AT THE EXPERIMENTAL Media and Performing Arts Center Concert Hall, the Rensselaer Music Association presented *Broadway: Rensselaer's 8th Annual Pops Concert*. A total of five separate musical groups performed that evening, led by conductors Joseph Bonville and Robert Button.

The first to perform was the Symphonic Band, conducted by Joseph Bonville. They played two pieces: "Overture to Candide" by Leonard Bernstein, and "Highlights from The Music Man." With such a large and full band, that brassy, old Hollywood sound was achieved easily. "Overture to Candide" was a lively and grand arrangement with contrastingly light portions dispersed throughout. "Highlights from The Music Man" was a smooth, big band rendition of the famed Broadway play's score. "Till There was You," which would be performed again later in the evening by the 8th Street Swing Band, was sweetly portrayed with the passing of the solo between the woodwinds and the pass swelling to a grand finale.

The Percussion Ensemble, also directed by Joseph Bonville, performed "Mambo" by Leonard Bernstein, "Maria" by Steven Sondheim and Leonard Bernstein, "One Hand, One Heart" by

Sondheim and Bernstein, and "America" by Leonard Bernstein. The Percussion Ensemble is composed of a series of mallet instruments: marimbas, xylophones, glockenspiels, and bells. Accompanying these were a timpani and bass player, offering a full bass support. The renditions of the songs listed above were dreamlike, some even evoking a mournful feeling. These moments were offset by lively and rapid portions, especially in "Mambo." Something rather comedic to note was the accompaniment to the solo in "Maria," as it sounded like the Wii theme song.

After a brief intermission, The Concert Jazz Orchestra took the stage, directed by Robert Button. They played in the classic big band style, with a large brassy sound. Their set included "Choo Choo Ch'Boogie" by Denver Darling and Milt Gabler, "Is You Is, Or Is You Ain't (Ma'Baby)" by Billy Austin, and "Calidonia" by Fleecie Moore. These performances were highlighted by solos from Alex Quigley '17 in "Choo Choo Ch'Boogie," the conductor Robert Button in "Is You Is, Or Is You Ain't (Ma'Baby)," and Devin Glenn '16 in "Calidonia." All of these songs were lively and upbeat, with a rocking tempo in the piano and bass instruments. While the solo by Button was well done, it seemed like this director

See CONCERT, **Page 13**



Courtesy of Erin Lazar

THE RENSSELAER SYMPHONIC BAND PERFORMS its pieces on the stage of EMPAC's concert hall.

## ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

# Defying isolation

## Artist overcomes lack of diversity

Shane O'Brien  
Senior Reviewer

SOMETIMES, THE BIGGEST SOUNDS COME FROM THE SMALLEST PLACES. THIS IS certainly true for Mura Masa, an indie electronic music artist born on the island of Guernsey, a small island located in the English Channel with fewer than 70,000 residents. Despite this, Alex Crossan (as he was known before his Mura Masa project) didn't let this small island isolate him from the world of music. After picking up guitar, bass, and the drums at a young age, he started producing at 16. Just two years later, he released his first full length project known as *Soundtrack To A Death*.

Not much usually comes from an artist's very first LP, but Crossan released what is one of the most unique albums this reviewer has ever heard. And I'm not the only one who thinks so. Shortly after releasing *Soundtrack To A Death*, a single from the album, "Lotus Eater," was picked up by BBC

See MASA, **Page 14**

## BOOK REVIEW

# A new work ethic

## Cultivating "deep work" in daily life

Charlie You  
*A Special to The Poly*

"TO BE EVERYWHERE IS TO BE NOWHERE," wrote Seneca in one of his famous *Letters from a Stoic*. Warren Buffett, Steve Jobs, and Bill Gates, when asked about what trait they most attribute their success to, all gave the same answer: focus.

In *Deep Work*, Georgetown professor and author Cal Newport presents a compelling argument for what he calls "deep work" and offers actionable advice for cultivating it in our own working lives.

The following describes Deep Work according to Newport: "Deep Work: Professional activities performed in a state of

distraction-free concentration that push your cognitive capabilities to their limit. These efforts create new value, improve your skills, and are hard to replicate."

Newport cites the influential 2011 book *Race Against the Machine* and argues that the rise of digital technologies is bringing about a new economy, one where "the talent market is made universally

accessible, [and] those at the peak of the market thrive, while the rest suffer." He further says that to thrive in the

new economy, there are two core abilities one must possess—"The ability to quickly master hard things [and] the ability to produce at an

"To be everywhere is to be nowhere."

— Seneca

See WORK, **Page 14**