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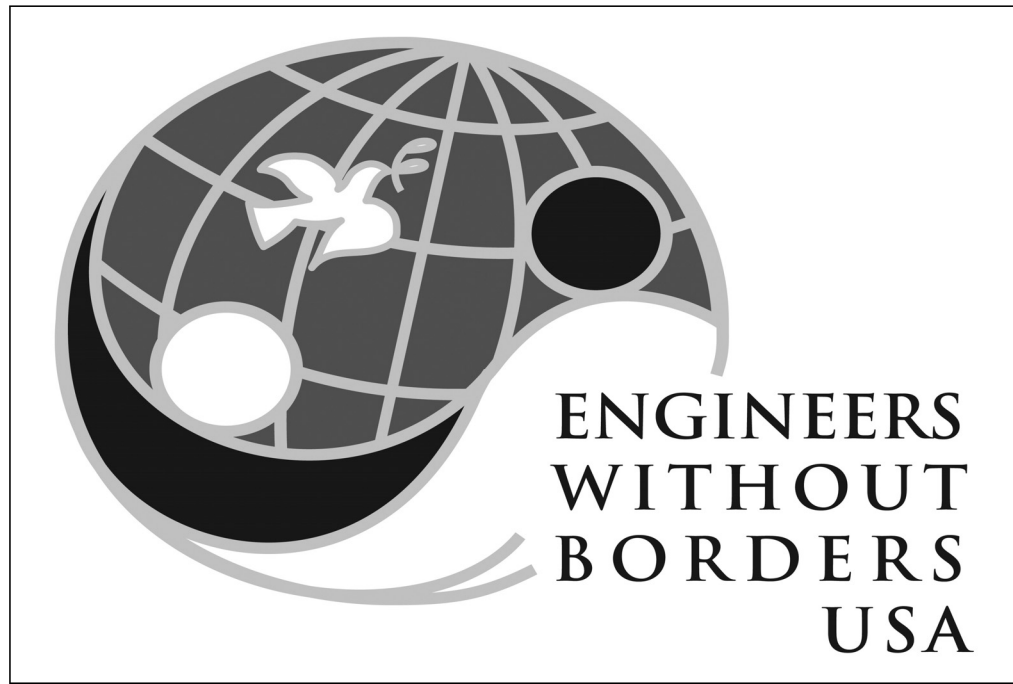
New update to *The Binding of Issac*

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Staff Editorial	Student government a force for good at RPI

**STUDENT ORGANIZATION**

# EWB attends Northeast Regional



Courtesy of Engineers Without Borders USA

**ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS SEEKS to create sustainable projects around the world.**

**Elisabeth Ryan**  
Senior Reporter

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, AT THE CHIPPER HOUR of 5:30 am, members of Rensselaer's Engineers Without Borders Chapter loaded into two cars and drove to the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, where the Northeast Regional Conference would take place. In attendance was Project Leader and mechanical engineering major Mike Kubista '17, Vice President and civil engineering major Alison Luongo '17, Professional Liaison and materials science and engineering major Tom Rebbecchi '16, secretary and biomedical engineering

major Kyra Dauwalder '17, treasurer and chemical engineering major Elizabeth Kwon '18, fundraising coordinator and electrical engineering major Frank Sokolowski '18, membership coordinator and mechanical engineering and design innovation and society major Tim Andrews '18, mechanical engineering major Jonathan Blumers '17, environmental engineering major Paige Shovelton '19, and chemical engineering major Elisabeth Ryan '19.

The event began with a continental breakfast and led into a general body address which consisted of welcomes and presentations by noteworthy speakers. These speakers focused on the purpose of EWB and its flourishing impact

in the world today. EWB's mode of operation is focusing on a community in a developing country, determining what can be changed to improve the lives of the people in the community, and implementing solutions through engineering projects which members of the community partake in and eventually take over. The different chapters across the nation have individual projects that they maintain for years, building a strong connection with the people. There are currently over 660 projects taking place in 45 different countries. These development projects center around water supply, civil works projects, sanitation, agriculture, energy sources, and the building and maintaining of structures. The most in-demand of these is a clean water supply. In regions of sub-Saharan Africa, water is scarce and the water that is present is often contaminated. Nearly 70 percent of these development projects focus on providing communities with clean drinking water. RPI's chapter is among that percentage.

The general body presentations were periodic throughout the weekend and were counterbalanced with what they dubbed "break-out sessions." Break-out sessions were smaller-sized lectures and workshops with a variety of options going into greater detail over the topics mentioned above. Some covered the managing portion of EWB: fundraising, event planning, and recruitment. Most were lectures about the different solutions EWB has made, and can make in the future. Others displayed the innovative ideas and projects of chapters throughout the region, one of which was presented on Sunday by Rebbecchi and Luongo. Their presentation informed attendees of the

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**STUDENT SENATE**

# Summer Arch forum postponed

**David Raab**  
Senior Reporter

PATRICK CELENTANO '18 AND S. JOHN Trombley '17 from the Rensselaer Orchestra presented to the Senate about how a steam pipe burst in the ceiling of their instrument storage room, causing thousands of dollars in damages to instruments. On Monday, November 2, Celentano explained how he walked into the room to put his instrument away, and saw "pools of water on the ground" and that the humidity in the room was extremely high. Orchestral instruments are designed to be stored in climate-controlled conditions, and West Hall has had consistent climate control issues which recently climaxed with the burst steam pipe, according to the presenters. To add further insult to injury, the RPI FIXX service did not even address the problem until the following Wednesday, and did not determine that a steam pipe had burst until Friday, November 6.

They also told the Senate that orchestra has no budget to buy new music; only copy

existing pieces and that any successful program needs to be able to expand their repertoire. Trombley said, in regard to the facility's issues, that each day the issues aren't resolved will lead to more student property damage. Celentano and Trombley wanted advice from the Senate on how they might best air their grievances over the situation to the right people in administration in order to make sure a similar situation never happens again. They shared a letter they drafted, which they intend to send to the School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Science's Dean Mary Simoni and President Shirley Ann Jackson.

Senators Bill Mehner '16 and graduate Jen Church suggested that orchestra students speak to staff closer to the issue before directly communicating with either Dr. Simoni or President Jackson, because that could be seen as trying to work around established processes. Church also said that the Graduate Council would be glad to share contacts as



Sidney Kochman/The Polytechnic

**PATRICK CELENTANO '18 DISCUSSES instrument storage woes.**

they underwent a similar effort with student stipends. Discussion then moved to which Senate committee the work will officially be charged to. It was ultimately decided that the Student Life Committee, under the leadership of Paul Ilori '17, will be

the one to take on this issue through a motion passing 17-3-1.

The discussion on the appointment of freshmen to the Executive Board was brought up again as the Rules & Elections committee issued their

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# Senate: Orchestra talks about steam pipe leak

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official recommendation that the appointment of the two freshmen members at-large would be unconstitutional. A quick addendum was made to the state that RnE believes the constitution should be changed to allow freshmen appointments at the time of freshmen elections. Senator Justin Etzine '18 stated that the concern of a President of the Union stacking E-Board to vote in their favor of their opinions is unfounded because the Senate has to confirm all E-Board nominees. It was noted that PU Nick Dvorak '16 decided to appoint the two freshmen in question as E-Board officers, meaning that they do all of things an E-Board member can do except for the actual act of casting a vote on motions. Ultimately, the Senate decided to indefinitely postpone the original motion to formally appoint the two freshmen, seeing how they are already de facto members of E-Board.

The petition to ban Andrew Sudano '17 from all student government positions was discussed further as well. Austin Miller '17 asked if the Senate was even allowed to ban students from student government. Grand Marshal Marcus Flowers '16 told the Senate that he does not believe such a move is possible because student

government is meant to be open to all students, and the motion would constrain next year's group of elected student leaders. Graduate senator Timothy Krentz motioned to postpone the motion to outright ban Sudano indefinitely from all student government positions, and it passed 14-5-2.

Flowers ended the meeting by telling the Senate that the student panel with administration to discuss the Summer Arch program has been postponed until sometime in February. He said the decision was made because the administration didn't get back to him on time with attendance, and he was also told that more details would be forthcoming after winter break. When asked about having a smaller forum now, and a larger one later, he said he would be open to the idea of having a student committee formed exclusively to deal with feedback on the implementation of Summer Arch. He said he wants to have a time and place for students to express their concerns without the pressures of having administration members present. Flowers said to expect more details in the near future about student participation, and that he is looking for any interested student to be involved.

## EWB: Conference attended

From **Page 1**

conference about RPI EWB's project in Panama. In brief, for several years, RPI EWB has been returning every January to the community of Isla Popa II to build and maintain a rain water harvesting system that provides the community with water. They will return again this coming January to continue improving it.

Personally, the members of RPI EWB were impressed by the speakers, the facilities, and the conference in general. "I would say that NERC was a really enjoyable and educational experience. It was great being able to learn about what other chapters are doing and how they operate. I think this will allow our officers and members to

greatly improve our chapter and its effectiveness, both locally and in our projects abroad," said Blumers. "I thought it was great to meet the staff of EWB-USA headquarters who advise all chapters on their proposed designs and to learn more about how they manage and guide the many chapters across the country," said Kubista. Overall, it was an educational experience and a great opportunity to meet with different members of the EWB community who are making strides in the successful development of communities around the globe. Those interested in making a difference, travelling, or working with people are welcome in EWB.

## WORLD NEWS

# Sierra Leone leadership aims for a future free of Ebola for all

**Nathan Dorer**  
Senior Reporter

AFTER 17 MONTHS OF WIDESPREAD EBOLA INFECTION, THE African country of Sierra Leone has been deemed Ebola-free by the World Health Organization. WHO Director Anders Nordström stated in a recent release that the country had gone 42 days without any new cases of the infectious blood disease, which goes to satisfy the criteria that the WHO uses to declare an area free of an outbreak. The community of Freetown, the nation's capital, responded to the news by holding a large demonstration both in memory of those lost to the disease, and as a reminder to survivors of the disease to stay vigilant.

The ceremony began with a speech given by citizen Yusuf Kamara, a healthcare worker who

lost 16 members of his family to the disease and survived it himself. Kamara took his opportunity on stage to remind Sierra Leoneans that although they may have conquered the battle with Ebola, it is important for the state to remain adamant about preserving the health of its people. "For us, Ebola is not over. We need your help to treat the many, many health problems we still suffer from. And remember those who died at the hands of Ebola, and especially the children who have been affected by this outbreak," said Kamara.

During the outbreak, Ebola is believed to have created as many as 12,000 orphans throughout continental Africa. In Sierra Leone alone, 8,704 cases

Visit **poly.news** for the full article

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

# Time Capsule, Arch Forum discussed

**Elisabeth Ryan**  
Senior Reporter

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING COMMENCED THURSDAY, November 5, with a discussion of E-Board policy changes. The discussion centered around the dilemma of long-term club budgeting. The alterations to the current policies were voted in to take effect immediately.

President of the Rensselaer Colleges Against Cancer Chris Hoskins '16 returned after funding was denied for the Relay for Life fitness event last week. This week, he had a proposal for a kick-off event that would take place in early February as a promotional event for Relay for Life. He mentioned that this would be one of a series of promotional events that would lead up to the Relay for Life. The theme for this year is the Olympics, in reference to the 2016 Summer Olympics, therefore the events will promote fitness and good health practices. The event will include smoothies, fitness classes, ROTC boot camp, massages, and more. In the first proposal, the kick-off event had been a footnote to the Relay for Life event and had been encompassed in the budget; the new budget was strictly for the kick-off event, causing it to be more grandiose with requests for \$100 for wood, \$20 for paint, \$400 for decorations, and \$50 for cardboard. After questions were asked, it was discovered that the purchase of these materials would not go solely to the kick-off event, but to events throughout the year and towards the Colleges Against Cancer supply reserve. Board members argued that RPI Colleges Against Cancer were essentially asking for the same thing in this proposal as they were in the last. Other board members suggested going to local hardware stores for donations (due to the worthiness of the cause) or reusing the supplies they currently possess. Hoskins informed the E-Board that the supplies the club currently has are in a state worse than disrepair. In allusion to the policies previously discussed, the board finally concluded that Colleges Against Cancer would need to include these events in their budget, and the motion to provide them with funds failed in a 4-7-1 vote.

Via video chat, Class of 2015 president Erin Amarello '15 answered the E-Board's questions over the highly debated topic of the Class of 2015's time capsule. Ideally, the class would like the capsule to be stored in the Rensselaer Union in the Rathskeller; however, the Alumni House would be willing to take it on, or it could even be buried, according to

Amarello. The time capsule would be placed under the care of two Class of 2015 council members who reside locally. One concern with the time capsule was the "precedent" it would set for classes to come. Amarello assured the E-Board that members of her class would be taking care of the capsule's transportation and handling. The members were agreeable as it was class council money being spent and the motion to allow the funds to be used for this purpose was approved.

Grand Marshal Marcus Flowers '16 paid a visit to the meeting, looking for approval to reserve the McNeil room so that the Summer Arch forum could take place there. It

had originally been planned for November 10 from 6-9 pm, but has been pushed to February. The forum will consist of a panel of student government officers, faculty, and other professionals. The first hour would be focused on other issues while the final two hours would be dedicated to Summer Arch. Students would have a chance to ask questions and voice opinions at this forum. Flowers inquired over the procedure to reserve the McNeil room for a later date that is still to be determined. The E-Board supplied him with the information and expressed their support of the Summer Arch forum.



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# INCIDENT BLOTTER

INFORMATION  
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TERRANCE BURNS

**Friday, November 6**

## Sharp Residence Hall

Medical: A student was diagnosed with pneumonia the day before by the Student Health Center. He was coughing up blood and having difficulty breathing so he was transported by RPI Ambulance to Samaritan Hospital for further examination.

**Saturday, November 7**

## Burdett Avenue Residence Hall

Medical: A student was suffering from a panic attack and called after taking two doses of their medicine with no relief of symptoms. She was transported to Samaritan Hospital by RPI Ambulance for examination.

## Beman Lane

Harassment: A student's ex-partner was hiding in their closet and they got into a fight. The Department of Public Safety and the Troy Police Department responded and one person was arrested by TPD. DPS filed a report with the dean on duty at the time.

## The Quadrangle

Harassment: A student was found in his ex-partner's room after a no-contact order was placed for both parties. By the time DPS arrived, the student was gone so a report was filed with the dean on duty at the time.

**Monday, November 9**

## Department of Public Safety

Harassment: An employee came to the DPS Office accompanied by her boss to file a report about their ex-spouse coming onto campus to harass them.

## Off Campus Address

Assault: A student was mugged in the parking lot of McDonalds on 15th Street and Hoosick Road. DPS filed a report with TPD detailing the incident.

## Colonie Apartments

Fire Alarm: A fire alarm was activated, and the cause was determined to be burnt popcorn. The alarm was reset by Troy Fire Department.

**Tuesday, November 10**

## H-Building

Harassment: An employee's ex-spouse was found in the parking lot, and they are in the process of a getting a restraining order. By the time officers arrived, the suspect had left, but was later found by the Folsom Library. The suspect was advised to leave the employee alone and to stay off campus.

## CITY OF TROY

# Bomber's closed, to reopen

## Justin Etzine

Senior Reporter

THOSE LOOKING FOR DINNER ON SUNDAY NIGHT FROM BOMBERS BURRITO BAR IN TROY WERE greeted with an unexpected sign outside the restaurant. The restaurant, which has other locations in Schenectady and Albany, was closed abruptly after the franchisers, Tami and Damon Dzembo, decided to terminate the franchise agreement.

*The Polytechnic* reached out to the principal owner of Bombers, Matthew Baumgartner, for an explanation as to why the store was closed, as the sign only explained that the circumstances were "out of our control."

Baumgartner explained that the location was going to become directly controlled by the owners of the restaurant chain, which was intended to occur at the start of the new year. However, after the franchisees decided they did not want to continue running the location, the transfer of ownership was initiated earlier than originally anticipated.

Although the location will be closed while the permits are in progress, Baumgartner is confident that the restaurant will be reopened as soon as possible.

Have information that you think  
*The Poly* should investigate? Email  
[leads@poly.rpi.edu](mailto:leads@poly.rpi.edu) with all leads!

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# Editorial

Wednesday, November 11, 2015

## Politics with a purpose

As the Student Senate at RPI continues to play politics, the campus community has begun to question the relevancy of student government. To be fair, the group has struggled to implement changes, and it's reasonable for the student body to question the group's relevance. However, we at *The Poly* feel it is important to mention that student government serves several integral roles in the life of students on campus.

To begin, student government often serves to provide a balance between the administration and the students who have grown to call this place home. While students are here to earn an education, they certainly deserve input on how the Institute they have devoted four years of their lives to is run. In the face of administration, student government has traditionally served as the voice of the students.

In a campus community as complacent as Rensselaer's, our elected officials serve as the primary group of people that are willing to make changes in the lives of students. It wouldn't be fair to suggest that the work done by student senators and other officials is easy—the elected students have sacrificed themselves to hours of bureaucracy in the name of improving the lives of the students. Students at RPI get genuinely angry about the decisions made by the administration, but it is rare that any actual demonstration of our concerns happens; consequently, we are subject to the whims of the administration. We rely on government to provide Rensselaer with the changes that will keep us evolving and pertinent to modern society.

Additionally, as a newspaper, we live for controversy. If it weren't for student government, we would never have the opportunity to report on a breaking story. The Student Senate has afforded us an opportunity that we would never have otherwise: to be the first source for the Rensselaer. As petty as it might sound, we're thankful to the student government for keeping our campus interesting and dynamic.

We can understand the frustration that students feel with the current status of student government, but our elected officials stand as our best bet to make changes in the Rensselaer community that will ultimately benefit the Institute as a whole.

## EDITOR'S CORNER

# Our modern Greek tragedy

## Ancient history can play a relevant role today

THESE DAYS, IN MY FREE TIME, I find myself playing *Sid Meier's Civilization V*. Even though the new game—*Civilization: Beyond Earth*—came out, I can't bring myself to play it. I just love the ancient world and the dawn of human civilization. That we came from nothing and built the human race on slowly progressing technology blows my mind. Even in the wee morning of human existence, we managed to construct wonders such as the Colossus of Rhodes, the Pyramids of Giza, and the fabled



**Chris Leong**  
Editor in Chief

Hanging Gardens of Babylon. Considering the technology available at the time, historians and architects still do not know exactly how these structures were built. But as sad as I am to admit it, not many people nowadays have a burning interest in the ancient world or even mythology, from which almost all fantasy literature attributes inspiration from.

I don't know if American public schools are still teaching *The*

*Odyssey* or other mythological stories anymore, but when I was in elementary and middle school, I read all these stories on my own. My favorite tale begins with Perseus and his quest to slay the Gorgon Medusa, a hideous human-like figure with living snakes instead of hair. Other tales include the coming of Ragnarok and Set's conniving plot against Osiris. These stories, imbued with heroic ideals, instill courage and greatness in those that read them. I'll admit, I was a bit of a nerd when I was in summer camp. I was that kid that read books outside, and when we played tag, I pretended I was Heracles on a quest to tag someone. I also loved the real time strategy game, *Age of Mythology*, which included all these mythological figures for me to use in battle. The game even included in-depth descriptions for units in the game that I wouldn't have otherwise known about.

In my defense, I'm not the only one influenced by Greek or ancient

ideals; most of society has adopted them in one form or another. Modern architecture, philosophy, and even scientific thinking, derive their origins from major Greek figures, such as Aristotle, Pythagoras, Archimedes, amongst a sea of others. Now, I'm not saying that we need to emulate these ideas or beliefs directly, but that we should understand what they are so that we can find inspiration within them. I mean, almost all Greek epics are centered on this mighty hero that can fight off powerful mythological beasts. However, they all have a certain character weakness, in most cases, hubris or an actual physical weakness on their body, like the Achilles heel. And if you pick any modern young adult novel, they usually include a protagonist that must fight off some evil and must overcome some weakness they have, as in *The Hunger Games* or *The Maze Runner*. Whether or not people realize it, these stories contain the essence of Grecian tales, and I think it's pretty interesting that something so ancient could still be relevant in modern times.

## EDITORIAL NOTEBOOK

# WebTech has new projects

## Elections site, Shuttles 2, voting suite, more in store

ALTHOUGH YOU MAY KNOW ME AS THE CONTRIBUTING editor of *The Poly*, I have another group that I hold near and dear: chairman of the Web Technologies Group. WebTech, as it's commonly called, is the committee of the Student Senate tasked with creating technological solutions that will benefit and serve as useful tools for the student body. As the committee approaches its tenth anniversary next year, I wanted to reflect on some of the services that WebTech has created for RPI students, along with a sneak-peek into what's coming soon.

Many projects have come out of WebTech over the years, of which I'm sure you've used at least once in your time at RPI. Members of WebTech created the Concerto digital signage, an open-source application that allows for all kinds of content to be displayed on screens across campus. The system, which has since been spun off into a company by WebTech alumni, is leaps and bounds above the system previously used.

Aside from Concerto, have you ever been waiting at a campus shuttle stop and wanted to know how far away the next shuttle was? Chances are you pulled out your laptop or smartphone and visited <http://shuttles.rpi.edu>. You guessed it—the shuttle tracking system was also created by and is managed by WebTech. Some other projects that the group created were MyRPI Space, a system providing free server hosting to students; RPI Petitions a service that allows for students to directly petition Student Government; and Flagship Docs, a document management system for publicly accessible student government and club documents.

Those are some big shoes to fill! This semester, WebTech has a couple exciting projects in the works. In addition to adding new features and updating some of the older services offered, Erica Braunschweig '17, Robert Russo '17, Ylonka Machado '17, Jason Lee '19, and I are creating a

brand new elections website, which will serve as the one-stop-shop for all information on Grand Marshal Week elections!

Former chairman and longtime member Gabe Perez '16 is working with his Rensselaer Center for Open Source team to produce a brand new iteration of the shuttles service with a bunch of new features! Additionally, Perez, Michael Cuzzo '17, and other RPI TV members are working on the deployment of Concerto 2, which will further enhance the already-useful system.

David Raab '19 and Mason Cooper '17 are working on creating a voting system that will allow for student government and clubs to make motions and officer elections, respectively, more efficiently. Dan Bruce and David Sparkman '18 are building a fresh website and management system for RPI Ambulance, the student-based emergency medical service agency on campus. As you can see, there are many new projects in the pipeline!

Outside of WebTech, there are many interesting projects going on in the other committees in the Senate and Executive Board. You should definitely check out <http://stugov.union.rpi.edu/> for information on the different committee and their projects, or email [gm@rpi.edu](mailto:gm@rpi.edu) or [pu@rpi.edu](mailto:pu@rpi.edu) for details on how to get involved!

If you're interested in keeping up to date on our progress, or if you want to find links to all of WebTech's services, you should definitely check out our recently-refreshed landing page, which can be found at <http://www.rpiwtg.com>. If you'd like to help us produce open source projects and benefit our peers, or if you have an issue with any of the services, please feel free to shoot me an email at [webtech@union.rpi.edu](mailto:webtech@union.rpi.edu)!



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## TOP HAT

# Senate rejects GPA boost

Marcus Flowers  
Grand Marshal

HELLO RPI STUDENTS,

Last week's Student Senate General Body Meeting had a lot of discussion on the agenda items; so if you're interested in viewing it, you can view it on <http://rpitv.org>, RPI's student-run, volunteer television club. The former Senate-Executive Board Liaison resigned voluntarily and has chosen not to pursue future student government positions. This means that we are currently looking for someone to act as the Union Annual Report Committee Chair. The UAR is a document detailing the budgeting changes for Rensselaer Union-funded clubs and organizations. Further, this person will also serve as the Senate-Executive Board Liaison, which entails having the full rights and responsibilities of a member of the E-Board, including being in charge of managing several clubs. Lastly, the Liaison is also required to attend all Senate meetings and all Senate cabinet meetings, which take place at 7 pm on Tuesdays and 8 pm on Thursdays, respectively. It is a large commitment, but it is a great way to work towards benefiting students at RPI.

The Senate also discussed a motion on proposing a minimum GPA requirement for all elected senators. This topic has always been passionately discussed amongst students, with new purposes and defenses arising each time. While the motion did not get passed, it's important to understand that, regardless of being able to vote at general body meetings, all students are able to be full members of our committees, where we get all of our work done.

As part of my administration, the Senate holds a vested interest in the academics of students on campus, and who

better to build a relationship with than the faculty themselves? As part of our continuing collaboration, we had Dr. Hirsra, the Recording Secretary for the Faculty Senate, attend our meeting and explain to students what the Faculty Senate is working on, as well as what opportunities there are for future projects between our organizations.

This is the perfect time to plug a new resource available for students: the online syllabus catalog. As we are in the middle of registration season, this should prove to be a helpful resource in selecting your next classes. Go to <http://www.provost.rpi.edu/syllabus-display/>, log in, and you'll be able to see recent syllabi for the classes being offered. This project is the result of work from the Senate's Academic Affairs Committee and we're happy to see it being used. Check it out, tell your friends, and register on time!

Star Wars VII comes out December 18! This is relevant because the Senate's Student Life Committee is re-establishing the shuttle service to the Crossgates Mall from the Union! We have three dates for the service to be running: November 14, December 12, and December 18, the opening night of Star Wars VII. The shuttles start leaving from the Union at 4 pm, and continue on every hour to 9 pm. The shuttles leave Crossgates at hourly intervals starting at 4:30 pm, and continue until 9:30 pm. After that, there is a "last call" shuttle leaving from Crossgates back to the Union at midnight. There will be a sign-up sheet at the welcome desk of the Union, so be sure to take advantage of this service being offered!

As always, I'm available for contact via [gm@rpi.edu](mailto:gm@rpi.edu). Don't forget about those end-of-semester projects!

## DERBY

# Union seeks representative

Nicholas Dvorak  
President of the Union

HEY RPI!

I hope your week is going well! First and foremost, I would like to inform you of the ongoing open call for Senate-Executive Board Liaison and Union Annual Report Committee Chair. As of last Tuesday, Andrew Sudano '17, the former holder of these positions, resigned from Student Government. As such, Marcus and I have been seeking applicants for his replacement. If you are interested, please fill out the application, which can be found here at <http://poly.news/s/u2qzo/>. It's due by Friday, November 13. The Senate-Executive Board Liaison is the main point of contact between two of the major bodies of Student Government. You will be tasked with attending all E-Board (Tuesdays at 7 pm) and all Executive Board Meetings (Thursdays at 8 pm), and reporting to one body what occurred at the meeting of the other. You will also have the duties of an E-Board Member, however, I have reduced the amount of clubs you would be representing to allow you to fully focus on the *Union Annual Report*. As stated in the by-laws of the Senate, the Liaison must also chair the UAR committee, which is responsible for creating one of the most important

documents put out by the Union.

The *Union Annual Report* is a summary of all the major financial operations and changes that the Union undergoes each year. It includes a breakdown of all Union sources of revenue and where your Student Activity Fee dollars are spent. It outlines major fiscal changes from year to year, as well as including an overview of budgetary policy. Last year's UAR can be found here: <http://poly.news/s/xb2b0/>. So I encourage all students interested in the position to apply! I can ensure the experience will be a rewarding one, and if you have ever wanted to get to know the Union and Student Government inside and out, this is a great opportunity. Once more, applications will be due by Friday, and interviews will follow afterwards. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to me at [pu@rpi.edu](mailto:pu@rpi.edu) and we can set up a time to talk.

In other news, I would also like to encourage all members of the student body to come out to the 125th Anniversary Gala Event this Saturday! The Union is turning 125, and we want you there to celebrate with us. The event will be semiformal with a buffet dinner starting at 6:30 pm. Registration (which is free!) can be found here: <https://union125thanniversarygala.eventbrite.com/>. After dinner, there will be a celebratory lights show

at 8:30 pm outside the welcome lobby near the horseshoe. After the lights show, there will be casino games set up in the McNeil Room as well as DJs from the PULSE group! This is guaranteed to be an awesome time, and I hope to see you there!

In the world of sports, I encourage students to also take the trek out to Schenectady this weekend to watch our RPI Engineers decimate the Union Dutchmen. That's right, it's the annual Dutchman's shoes game where we face off against Union. Kickoff is Saturday at noon at Union, and with a win the RPI Football team would share the Liberty League title and also have a shot at an NCAA Playoff Bid. Your support of New York State's oldest rivalry would mean a lot to the guys on the team. So, let's get out there and show our support by embarrassing Union's home crowd from the Red Zone! LET'S GO RED!

If your organization would like to be featured in my Derby, please feel free to shoot me a message at [pu@rpi.edu](mailto:pu@rpi.edu). As always, let me know if there's any ways I can help you out. I am your advocate along with the GM to the Institute leadership, and your voice will be heard. Have a great one!

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# Masking our culture

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

On October 30, 2015, Associate Master of Silliman College at Yale University Erika Christakis sent an educated, analytical email addressing Halloween costumes to her residents and faculty. Christakis acknowledged the concern from students about Halloween costume guidelines and stated that there is no easy answer to address culturally or morally offensive costumes on Halloween. Is there an age limitation to when a costume is offensive or not? Is it offensive solely based on the fact that you're not from the background/creed/race that the character represents? Where is the line drawn? The answer is that it cannot really be drawn. In the United States of America, where freedom of speech is one of the most significant founding ideals, the only solution is to tell those that are dressing offensively how you feel. Building upon this ideal, Christakis suggests that the administration should not be the ones to dictate what students are supposed to wear. Students demonstrate emotional intelligence and strength in character when they tolerate offense and meet it with a level head.

And what kind of reaction does this elicit from Yale University, a research university, and one of the leading education institutions in the United States? *Outrage*. Outrage from more than 750 students, alumni, and faculty in an open letter telling her that her response was *wrong*. This was followed by an attempt by Master of Silliman College at Yale University Nicholas Christakis to seem personable and explain the motives behind his wife's statement. After hours of engaging with students, Christakis stated, "I apologize for causing pain, but I am not sorry for the statement. I stand behind free speech. I defend the right for people to speak their minds." Thereafter, angry students confronted him and demanded an actual apology. They complained that the college was not providing a "safe place" for the students by not censoring Halloween costumes and called for both Christakis' resignations. One protestor expressed that being Master is "not about creating an intellectual space," but "creating a home." When students realized he was not going to give an apology, they began to leave.

The whole situation seems too surreal. How could people that attend a research university be so narrow-minded? College institutions encourage self-growth and maturation; clearly those Yale students could not understand the ideals of emotional strength, and need the administration to tell them what to do. They do not understand that by desiring these Halloween restrictions, they are calling for restraints on their right to free speech. By demanding the Christakis' resignations, the students are embodying the characteristics and points analyzed in *The Atlantic's* story, "The Coddling of the American Mind," which they ironically denounced in their open letter. It seems that they do want to be coddled along and told what to think. What happens when they graduate and realize that the rest of America just doesn't think like they do?

We all have a right to free speech, and the Master of the college only looks to uphold that right. To call for censorship and resignations only displays conservative and weak ideals. Strength lies in meeting offensive ideals with understanding and resilience which, as a result, will make the individual well-rounded and reasonable. I value the growth of emotional intelligence and inner strength, and the idea of actively repressing this vital development infuriates me. I admonish anyone reading this letter to understand what being American truly means: to embrace the ideals of the First Amendment to the United States Constitution and the inherent fortitude it instills.

Hubert J. Lecuyer '16

# Posters our big mistake

STATLER & WALDORF WOULD like to sincerely apologize for any endorsed posters that have recently appeared on campus which might have offended anyone or caused undue harm. When the decision was made to put up said posters, we had a momentary lapse of judgement and in

hindsight, we realize that hanging these posters was a poor decision. At this time, we are currently revising our publishing policies to prevent any similar incidents from occurring in the future.

Statler & Waldorf

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

# Release of new Online Syllabus Catalog just in time for scheduling

IT IS MY PLEASURE TO ANNOUNCE THAT THE ONLINE Syllabus Catalog is available on the Student Information System. The syllabus catalog may be found under the "Announcements" section or at <http://provost.rpi.edu/syllabus-display/>. The purpose of the catalog is to assist in the selection of courses during registration by giving students access to prior syllabi which may be used to get a better idea of what a course will consist of. This information may include course content they should expect to be covered, the type of

assignments that may be given, and what kind of grading plan the course may follow.

This project is the result of ongoing collaboration between the Student Senate Academic Affairs Committee, the Office of Undergraduate Education, and the Division of the Chief Information Officer. The project was directed and shaped by feedback received from students regarding the availability of information related to course content and the structure prior to and during registration.

The syllabus catalog allows for course syllabus lookup based on the department and course number or based on the faculty member, providing excellent functionality for students who may want to determine which section of a course to take or even if a course is a good fit for them.

I believe that it is important to remember that this project only offers syllabi from previous semesters, so the syllabi for current courses may vary, which may also result in some courses being unavailable in the current semester. The

catalog will continue to improve as the project matures and the syllabus collection becomes more complete. I would like to urge students to utilize this service as I feel it offers valuable information regarding the registration process.

If students would like to get involved with projects similar to this, please consider attending the Academic Affairs Committee meeting, which is held on Mondays from 7-8 pm in Rensselaer Union 3150.

Spencer Scott  
Graduate Student

# Features

Wednesday, November 11, 2015

## GAME REVIEW

# Isaac experiences rebirth in Afterbirth

Chris Leong

Senior Reviewer

ON OCTOBER 30, A DOWNLOADABLE CONTENT PACK CAME OUT FOR the little known indie game called *The Binding of Isaac: Rebirth*. The update, *Afterbirth*, features a new Greed Mode, Daily Runs, Online Leaderboards, more than 1,000 new room designs, items, transformations, and achievements, amongst a sea of countless other features. This is a much needed update to *Rebirth*, which came out almost a year ago, on November 4, 2014. Though the original game contained hundreds of hours of gameplay, most people that have the game don't just sit down and play one run; they play for hours. I am a huge fan of *Rebirth*, and this DLC provides more content than I know what to do with. I have more than 200 hours clocked into the original, and still haven't unlocked everything.

First off, for those that do not know, *The Binding of Isaac* is a roguelike style of game that employs several random elements in a top down style of gameplay. Players control a tear-shooting baby that picks up items and fights through enemies in a *Zelda*-dungeon-like manner. Every time the game is played, a new map and items are generated; however, there are more than 10 stages that the player must advance through with each play. With *Afterbirth*, the most notable feature is Greed Mode, which is a variation on the previously described style of play. In Greed Mode, each of the seven stages has the same layout: a double-sized arena style room, two treasure rooms, a shop, a curse room, and a devil or angel room. Players can hit the button in the middle of the arena room to start spawning enemies and gold coins; if the waves become too overwhelming, the player can hit the button again to stop the spawns, at the cost of a half a heart. In the treasure rooms, the protagonist can pick up power-ups that increase its survivability and strength, while the shop provides additional power-ups at the price of gold coins. The mode, in general, encourages a high intensity,



Chris Leong/The Polytechnic

**AN ANGERED BOSS COMBATS an infantile character in the final stages of the new greed mode from Afterbirth.**

fast-paced gameplay, rewarding greed over conservative play. The amount of gold that a player acquires correlates to their ability to win and overcome each level.

Greed Mode is my favorite addition to the base game. It provides endless hours of dynamic play, and even features an epic boss on the final level. I won't spoil its name, but the hulking figure possesses a callipygian and robust figure. Like I mentioned in my last review, *The Binding of Isaac* is the perfect roguelike game; its

randomly generated maps, curses, enemies, bosses, and even character statistics allow the most skilled players to flourish where others may falter. And with *Afterbirth* including new transformations, items, pool generation, and challenges, I can confidently say that I will be playing this game well into the next year, even with titles like *Fallout 4*, *Overwatch*, and *Star Wars: Battlefront* coming out in 2015.

## MOVIE REVIEW

# French indie film sparkles with wit and humor

Kay Sun

Senior Reviewer

PEOPLE WHO HAVE READ MY REVIEWS and notebook know that I never assess actors' and actresses' performances. However, I cannot help but remark on the acting in *Amelie*—I know a cute girl whose name is Amelie, and I want to tell you her story.

*Amelie* is a 2001 French romantic comedy movie directed by Jean-

Pierre Jeunet. Written by Jeunet and Guillaume Laurant, the film depicts the story of contemporary Parisian life, set in Montmartre.

I should have started by talking about the techniques used in this film, but I can't; I want to share personal feelings for this film, and I don't want readers' interests to be exhausted by the boring and distorted plot description. "Amelie is an innocent and naive girl in Paris with her own

sense of justice. She decides to help those around her and discovers love along the way," is the plot summary on the IMDb website. I, however, will not use any word, like justice or morality, during my review. From my perspective, it is the story of a knight who starts the journey of seeking true happiness by following her heart. The leading character Amelie, played by Audrey Tautou, is just an ordinary, weird girl, who is angry when a fruit

shop owner shouts at the dedicated assistant she likes. She feels a sense of achievement when able to recollect a middle-age man's childhood, and who gains satisfaction when enabling a blind old man to "see" the occupied and noisy streets. It is neither so-called morality nor the sense of justice that drives Amelie to help others, but the simple happiness she acquires when making others' lives a little bit better. This pushes her to do what she wants, which turns out to be a virtuous circle—the more she helps others, the happier she is. Everyone feels satisfied and joyful when they are able to give others a helping hand. The movie casually, as well as interestingly, displays this beautiful aspect of human nature. The movie is not trying to persuade you; it is just telling a story.

It's no wonder that *Amelie* is a really good movie with highlights everywhere. My favorite elements in this movie are the hue of the motion pictures, background music, and the method of narration. This film uses the technique of voice-over to give the audience a stronger sense of narration of life with everything, no matter comedy or tragedy, to be said in the same plain tone. Time flies, while memories fade. No force can stop life from moving forward. A bright color dominates this movie, which exactly demonstrates the naivety and colorful soul of *Amelie*. Also, the hue of images corresponds to her eccentric imagination of the

world. Red and orange are able to stimulate emotions, which facilitate spectators' immersion into the film. The background music definitely wins over my heart. It so perfectly matches the quick-witted little girl who is always full of various ideas and imaginations. Instruments like harpsichord, banjo, bass guitar, vibraphone, and even a bicycle wheel are all included in the background music, perfectly blending with each other, and creating a French country atmosphere that melts my heart.

The cinematography is worth mentioning as well. Symmetrical configuration, close-ups, and high angle shots are ubiquitous in this film. The frequent use of close-ups offer the audience a chance to really look into the performances of actors and actresses, and deeply feel their moods and minds. Moreover, the use of symmetrical configurations and high angle shots provides the movie with the feeling of whims and unorthodoxy. The great use of lighting also relates scenes in the movie with Amelie's imagined world.

Elements are so harmonious that this film can be counted as a cohesive masterpiece. There are so many other things in this movie that I would like to talk about, but I have to stop now. I want to leave my opinion there, and let you readers discover the wonderfulness of this movie by yourselves.



Courtesy of Miramax

**LEADING CHARACTER AMELIE PLAYED by Audrey Tautou takes the audience on a lighthearted journey.**

## MOVIE REVIEW

## James Bond movie arrives in theaters

Lorne Nix

*A special to the Poly*

IT MUST FIRST BE SAID THAT *SPECTRE* cannot be the first James Bond movie that someone new to the franchise watches. In fact, this movie makes a fleeting attempt to justify the storylines of the most recent films with Daniel Craig as Bond, so all of them become a prerequisite. Going into this movie cold would leave an individual confused, misguided, and unlikely to watch any more films from the franchise.

If this is the case, then what does it do for the die-hard Bond fanatics? Frankly, nothing good. The first 51 minutes of the film are squeamishly uncomfortable to watch and can only be likened to the comedic antics of the Roger Moore era. Unfortunately, it did not stop there; to follow was the subtle sampling of ideas throughout the film from several previous movies: *GoldenEye* (1995), *On Her Majesty's Secret Service* (1969), *From Russia with Love* (1963) ... the list goes on. At first it is taken as the recycling of ideas, but it is in fact a purposeful echoing of Bond's past as the franchise attempts to reconcile the chronological issues caused by having six actors play Bond over a span of five decades. The reconciliation

weaves a Möbius strip of a timeline that, when juxtaposed with certain previous films, makes one's eyebrow raise quizzically.

Everyone is asking if *Spectre* is better than *Skyfall* (2012). The only answer is no. Were expectations higher for Christoph Waltz as a villain? The only answer is yes. Could more have been done with the essential elements of the Bond formula (henchmen, gadgets, Bond women, etc.)? Yes, yes, and yes. It cannot be said that *Spectre* is Daniel Craig's worst installment, nor can it be said that it is the worst installment of the franchise. It is simply a dense movie for Bond fans that has far reaching implications.

The last topic worth discussing is Bond's demeanor towards love. Bond has been infamously, and aptly, described within the franchise as a "sexist, misogynist dinosaur." For better or for worse, the mentality that "men want to be him and women want to be with him" has proven to be financially beneficial to the franchise. Historically, any deviation from this mantra is met with ridicule by fans. The Daniel Craig films have been an attempt to humanize Bond and move him into the modern era of thought; *Spectre* pushes this boundary significantly. In fact, the final



Courtesy of Sony

**DANIEL CRAIG GRACES** the screen in his performance as the infamous James Bond in the film *Spectre*.

act of the film has love as such a prevalent theme that it casts doubt on Bond's ability to maintain the ruthlessness required to be an assassin; effectively alienating the Bond the world has come to know.

For fans that are unsettled by this addition to the franchise, the only solace that can be provided is the recommendation that you stay in the theater all the way through the credits, where you

will be given four simple words any Bond fan has surely seen before, and you will learn to cherish the franchise once again.

## ENTREPRENEURSHIP

## The change of promotion in the world today

Andrew Rainville

*A special to the Poly*

IF I DIDN'T CATCH YOUR ATTENTION WITH THE TITLE OF THIS column, I've lost my only chance of acquiring a reader. That's how fast marketing can make or break you, as a person or as a company. The world of selling things is complex. There are advertising mediums ranging from print to virtual reality, and advertisers are getting more clever by the minute; many big corporations have mastered this maze, and yet you have to pick what works for you. But what if you, dear reader, were a corporation and you had a product to sell? You might feel overwhelmed. This is what startup companies face: being a small fish in a big pond full of competitors that have millions of dollars to throw at the best in the field of marketing and advertising.

When it comes down to it, the landscape of business is changing, allowing for smaller names to gain more traction in hotly-contested spaces. The award no longer goes to who has the most money and can simply shout louder than their competitors. Rather, the most successful ventures are those that can appeal to customers in creative ways. Fifteen years ago, Facebook, DropBox, and Pepsi Perfect were just ideas, if even that. Yet, somehow, they each found a way to "hack the system" in their own unique style.

Facebook used the power of the public and iterative success. First, they drew the crowd. With minimal paid advertising, they created a service that everyone "simply had to have." Its social platform became the standard for online communication. As it grew, they listened to what the users wanted and made adjustments to allow for more content, more interactions, and more general usage. Today, one in five people in the world is on Facebook, so they must be doing something right. But think: when was the last time you saw a Facebook advertisement? TV, radio, or newspaper, it doesn't matter... if you're like me, you can't even remember. Facebook successfully managed to leverage the power of the basic human desire to be involved and connected. Brilliant!

Dropbox took a similar, yet different approach. They saw a need in the market and set out to address it. File sharing developed into a huge market toward the end of the last decade, as collaboration became faster and more vital to businesses and individuals alike. They didn't stop there, though. That free 2 GB that you get just for signing up is all part of the initial marketing plan. Using their "freemium"

model, 2 GB is the bait: for just \$10/month or \$100/year, you can upgrade and get a whole terabyte. Dropbox's marketing approach banks on you finding the 2 GB to be critically useful yet insufficient for your needs.

In contrast with Facebook and Dropbox, Pepsi Perfect is the perfect example of exclusivity. This year, Pepsi decided to release the Back to the Future soda in limited edition. This created a huge demand for the hard-to-get product. After two production rounds of 6,500 units each, bottles are selling on eBay for hundreds of dollars, with little to no advertising cost. Pepsi put the product on the market—collectors, Pepsi enthusiasts, Back to the Future enthusiasts, and others made it huge.

These three examples of modern marketing exemplify the changing of marketing strategies. In parallel with the changing

marketing methods, the personnel type are also changing. Coders, engineers, and other creative minds (think: your peers here) will be integral in making those marketing aspirations a reality. Competing with the "big guys" is not an impossible task. It just takes some creativity combined with technical skill to find that overlooked edge. Also, as you think about how to apply these skills to businesses, think about how to apply them to yourself. We all try to market ourselves to recruiters, business partners, and many other people, so a number of the same principles apply. The inspiration and examples for this article came from Growth Hacker Marketing by Ryan Holiday, former Director of Marketing for American Apparel. To learn more about entrepreneurial promotion or to check out the book, visit the Severino Center in the Pittsburgh Building, right next to the Lally Galley.

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THURSDAY & SATURDAY  
STARTING AT 9PM

**BIRTHDAYS**  
GET ONE FREE WITHIN 7 DAYS OF YOUR BIRTHDAY  
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\$5 PBR OR ROLLING ROCK  
WITH ANY WELL SHOT  
ALL DAY, EVERY DAY!

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2 FOR 1 WELL DRINKS  
\$2.50 LABATTS, MICH ULTRAS  
& MILLER LITE BOTTLES

**WEDNESDAY**  
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\$4 JAMO SHOTS & \$6 JAMO DOUBLES  
**KARAOKE**  
STARTING AT 9PM

**FRIDAY**  
**RECOGNIZE**  
STARTING AT 9PM  
\$3 RECOGNIZE SHOT  
\$6 RECOGNIZE DRINK DOUBLE  
\$10 RECOGNIZE MARTINI

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## ALBUM REVIEW

*Lorde's debut album provides keen insight*

**Nathan Dorer**  
Senior Reviewer

BETTER KNOWN BY HER STAGE NAME, LORDE, ELLA YELICH-O'Connor released her breakout album, *Pure Heroine*, on September 27, 2013 to critical success. Originally, the album gained success in Yelich-O'Connor's native New Zealand, peaking at number one on the Billboard 200 for Australia and New Zealand. However, the success quickly spread across the globe as the album gained the number one spot in the United Kingdom and the number three spot in the United States; by the end of 2013, the album had sold more than 1.5 million copies worldwide. Although Lorde was only 16 at the time of the release, her album impressed reviewers with its unique sound and well-written lyrics.

The most striking aspect of the album is its simple relatability; the piece is aggressively suburban, remarkably hip, and delicately poised in such a way that it appeals to a huge subset of young adults. Lorde targets a primary audience of confused and angry teenagers who are just developing the sense of self-awareness that makes an adult, and she takes the opportunity to express mainstream culture in a refreshingly insightful way. She is representative of the group of people going through the adolescent angst that allows people to create so many powerful and formative opinions that they carry through adulthood.

Lorde first caught the attention of large audiences with the release of her single "Royals"—a testament to the difference in lifestyles that she perceives between the average person and the famous. She makes the discrepancy in lifestyles clear; "we're driving Cadillacs in our dreams, but every song is like gold teeth, grey goose, tripping in the bathroom." "Royals" is a forceful explanation of how the standard image of luxury is simply not attainable for the average person, set to a background of heavy, consistent bass and perfectly layered harmonies.

However, Lorde transcends aggressively political messages in later songs; much of the album is a simple musical reimagining of what it means to be young. In "A World Alone," Lorde creates an incredibly tactile narrative of two teenagers falling in love. The song plays



Courtesy of Liliane Callegari

**ARTIST LORDE TAKES the music scene and listeners by storm, presenting soulful lyrics and electric stage presence.**

at the ostensible dejection of being alone with someone you genuinely care about. "A World Alone" is designed to play on delicate imagery and a careful, angry ideas of young adults. Gossip and backstabbing play an important part in creating the jaded, introspective voice that contributes so strongly to the character of Lorde's music.

Also on the album is the song "400 Lux," which serves as Lorde's romantic interpretation of growing up in a suburb. The song embraces the careful elegance of "these roads where the houses don't change/where we can talk like there's something to say." "400 Lux" is

borderline poetic in its description of the careful art of seeming blasé, but is also ineffably approachable when the chorus resonates with the words that every young romance has revolved around: "I like you."

The album created by Yellich-O'Connor proves itself to be gracefully cohesive in both themes and sound. Lorde has developed a keen awareness to today's youth that makes the music she creates unique, and consequently *Pure Heroine* is masterfully crafted, immensely perceptive, and notably relevant.

Where: The Union  
When: Friday, November 13th  
Time: 8pm-12am

TOP TEN LIST

# Top Ten Uses of RPI Bandwith

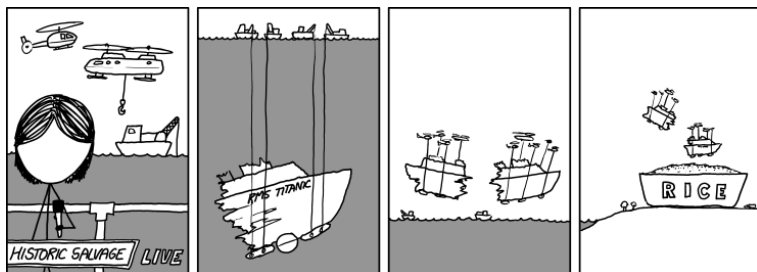
10. Browsing /r/rpi
9. Yik Yak in class
8. League of Legends
7. Checking if LMS is up
6. Syllabus(10).pdf
5. Emailing your mom
4. I'll tell you when you're older
3. Torrenting legally
2. Chegg
1. Netflix and chill

**XKCD**

by Randall Munroe

NOW THAT AMAZON IS ADVERTISING ONE-HOUR DELIVERY OF BOTTLED WATER,

I VOTE WE START CALLING MUNICIPAL PLUMBING "ON-DEMAND HYPERLOOP-STYLE WATER DELIVERY" AND SEE IF WE CAN SELL ANYONE ON THE IDEA.



**WORDFIND**

by Shane O'Brien

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

### Unique Colors

J	D	X	J	X	J	S	P	U	F	W	L	J	A	G
T	R	Q	M	E	J	Q	T	H	C	G	Z	E	I	O
U	L	J	M	C	S	F	F	R	R	H	O	V	O	L
R	D	T	Z	P	K	U	H	S	N	F	J	J	Z	D
Q	T	D	Z	E	W	L	E	H	S	I	U	S	S	E
U	B	L	Z	R	R	V	Y	R	I	U	Z	W	O	N
O	P	A	Q	U	E	O	I	F	T	G	G	Z	K	R
I	T	V	T	S	K	U	L	W	V	R	W	I	U	O
S	F	E	M	T	Q	S	Y	C	Y	C	A	W	E	D
E	C	N	T	N	Q	G	Y	Z	L	H	G	H	T	U
I	N	D	I	G	O	L	V	E	A	D	E	G	C	N
H	V	A	Q	T	V	X	A	S	R	O	U	N	Q	B
M	P	R	X	D	D	A	N	O	O	T	E	Q	L	B
N	I	D	N	O	S	M	I	R	C	A	V	A	H	C
U	H	K	F	Q	O	R	R	D	V	R	U	J	R	T
I	P	J	A	D	E	N	A	C	T	E	A	L	S	X
Y	M	L	U	D	R	L	H	I	V	R	M	H	F	M
H	M	P	G	T	O	C	I	L	E	U	Q	O	C	U
V	K	R	V	I	Z	J	T	T	I	F	A	H	D	F

- |            |           |           |
|------------|-----------|-----------|
| Charcoal   | Goldenrod | Navy      |
| Chartreuse | Indigo    | Opaque    |
| Coquelicot | Jade      | Rose      |
| Coral      | Lavender  | Rust      |
| Crimson    | Mauve     | Teal      |
| Fulvous    | Mikado    | Turquoise |

**DILBERT**

by Scott Adams

# The Love of Three Oranges

By Hillary DePiano

Friday	November 13th at 8:00 PM
Sunday	November 15th at 2:00 PM
Thursday	November 19th at 8:00 PM
Friday	November 20th at 8:00 PM
Saturday	November 21st at 8:00 PM

@ The RPI Playhouse  
\$5 with RPI ID  
\$8 Students and Seniors  
\$10 General Admission

# Events

Wednesday, November 11, 2015

## WEDNESDAY

November 11

**Phi Gamma Delta, Alpha Omega Epsilon, and the Philippine American League sponsor** the American Red Cross Blood Drive. Donors can give a pint of blood every 56 days, or double red cells every 112 days. Walk-ins are welcome. It will be held in the Mueller Center from 11:30 am–5:30 pm.

**The Douglas Mercer '77 ECSE Lecture Series continues** with Professor Ehsan Afshari from Cornell University. The title of his lecture is "Terahertz: The Last Untapped Spectrum." It will be held in Darrin Communications Center 324 from 4–5 pm. Refreshments served at 3:30 pm.

**The Department of Physics, Applied Physics and Astronomy Colloquium presents** Dr. Carl Ventrice. His seminar is titled "Synthesis of Device-Quality Graphene Films." It will be held in DCC 337 from 4–5 pm.

**The Ski and Snowboard Club host** their annual fall general body meeting. They will have free Bootleggers catered food, a raffle for a 4.0 season pass, a raffle for Monster swag and gear, a movie premiere, and general club information. It will be held in DCC 318 from 6–8 pm.

## FRIDAY

November 13

**Master's Theses and Engineering Projects are due** to advisors.

**Dr. Frank E. Ross, Vice President of Student Life, leads** a conversation about this year's community theme of Resilience over coffee & doughnuts. He will talk about why the institute has developed the theme and what it means to build resilience in our lives. It will be held in Mother's Wine Emporium from 9–10 am.

**The Friends of the Folsom Library host** Lunch & Learn for November. Michael Halloran will read "Stories of the Revolution, As Told on the Walls of the Saratoga Victory Monument." It will be held in the Folsom Library Fischbach Room from noon–1 pm.

**The Rensselyrics host** the Fall Invitational A Cappella Show with two guest groups at the Chapel+Cultural Center from 8–10 pm. The main attraction will be (un)Lucky in Love performed by the Rensselyrics. Cost is \$5 at the door.

**Union Programs and Activities Committee Cinema presents** *Mission Impossible: Rogue Nation*. Screenings will be in DCC 308 at 7 pm, 9:30 pm, and midnight. The cost is \$2.50.

## MONDAY

November 16

**The Biological Seminar Series presents** Dr. Nancy Carrasco from Yale University. Her seminar is titled "The sodium/iodide symporter (NIS): from patient to molecule and back." It will be held in the Center for Biotechnology and Interdisciplinary Studies Conference Center from noon–1 pm where refreshments shall be available 15 minutes prior to the seminar.

**The School of Architecture presents** Peter Testa and Devyn Weiser. They founded the Los Angeles Architecture and Design Studio. The studio is known for conceptual and technical breakthroughs integrating advanced material processes. Testa and Weiser are co-founders of the MIT Emergent Design Group. It will be held in EMPAC Concert Hall from 6–7 pm.

## Tuesday

November 17

**The Archer Center for Student Leadership Development hosts** Slice of Leadership: Financing for the Future. It is the fifth of five leadership events as part of a series of leadership events held by the Union and LEAP. Come to an informative workshop on smart budgeting for your organization. It will be held in Union 3606 from 4–5 pm.

**James DiCarlo gives** a talk titled "Neuroscience and Cognitive Computing." It will be held in EMPAC Concert Hall from 4:30–5:30 pm.

## WEDNESDAY

November 18

**The Isermann Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering presents** Brian Pflieger from the University of Wisconsin. His speech is titled "Sustainability via Synthetic Biology – A Growing Role for Biotechnology in the Chemical Industry." It will be held in Ricketts 211 from 9:30–10:30 am.

Have an event that you want included here? E-mail us the details at [poly@rpi.edu](mailto:poly@rpi.edu)



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## WOMEN'S ICE HOCKEY

# Rensselaer delivers first loss to Clarkson

Michael Baird  
Senior Reporter

WHILE IT MAY HAVE SEEMED LIKE IT WAS GOING TO BE A disappointing weekend for the Engineers after Friday's 2-0 loss against the St. Lawrence University's Saints, it turned out to be quite the contrary when the number four nationally ranked Clarkson University was taken down on Saturday night at the Houston Field House. In a 2-1 upset of the Clarkson Golden Knights by the RPI women's ice hockey team, RPI jumped to 4-5-1 for the season, and Clarkson fell to 10-1-2. This is the Golden Knights' first loss of the season, having won ten times so far and tied only twice.

No goals were scored during the first period of play on Friday. Freshman goaltender Lovisa Selander managed to defend RPI's goal all the way to the timer for the first break to begin. However, as soon as the second period rolled around, the Saints came in on top of their game.

A pass by the Saints' Kennedy Marchmont to teammate Kailee Heidersbach, who was located conveniently in the goal zone, enabled Heidersbach to dump the puck with ease at 11:49 into the period. This was the first of two points the Saints would earn that evening.

Despite three shot attempts each by senior Alexa Gruschow and junior Katie Rooney, the Engineers didn't score during the second or third periods. Saints' Brooke Webster, with help from Heidersbach, increased St. Lawrence's lead at 4:52 into the third.

Enter Saturday. A fresh rink gleamed bright white before the Engineers, full of new hope and promise for a better day. Little did they know when they took their first rounds on the rink that they would be the team to relinquish the Clarkson grip on victory.

Golden Knights' Cayley Mercer may have scored the opening shot of the game with 3:30 left in the first period, but it wouldn't be long before the Engineers would give

them a taste of their own medicine, and then some. Credited with giving Rensselaer their first goal of the evening, at 12:43 into the second period, was junior Lindsey Hylwa, who assisted a shot by senior Mari Mankey to help it past Golden Knights goalkeeper Shea Tiley.

Things really picked up for the Engineers after Hylwa's important goal. At 12:49 into the final period, Mankey captured the puck from the rebound off a shot by senior Jenn Godin. This game winning goal was just what the Engineers were looking for to break the 1-1 tie formed in the second period.

Selander performed a record 45 saves during the game, beating out her previous record of 41 from the October 3 match against North Dakota.

Next up for RPI will be matches against Hartwick and Dartmouth on Friday and Saturday, respectively, both of which will be away.

## SWIMMING &amp; DIVING

# Yamashita conquers in 100 butterfly at invite

Michael Baird  
Senior Reporter

AT THEIR HOME POOL ON SATURDAY, Worcester Polytechnic Institute hosted the first non-dual meet for the Rensselaer swimming and diving teams this season.

No overall score was recorded at the invite. In attendance were the RPI Engineers, the WPI Engineers, the Wellesley College Blues, the Keene State Owls, the Tufts University Jumbos, the Assumption College Greyhounds, the Simmons College Sharks, the Wesleyan University Cardinals, and the Roger Williams University Hawks.

As Wellesley and Simmons are women's colleges, only women's teams represented them in the water.

In total, 38 events took place that day, three of which were taken by Rensselaer women. Sophomores Jessica Sauve and Danielle Sauve and juniors Barb Long and Siena Sara championed in the 400 yard freestyle relay with a time of 3:42.55. The 200 yard medley relay was won in 1:51.57 by the team of sophomore Michaela Yamashita, Sauve, Long, and Sara. Yamashita also pulled off RPI's sole individual victory of the meet when she sped to the front in the 100 yard butterfly,

finishing in 1:00.33. Victoria Weber of Assumption College clocked in at a mere seven hundredths of a second behind her.

Although the men spared their competitors the humility of losing, freshman Dan Hendricks went for a top spot in the 400 yard individual medley. Hendricks garnered second place finish just under a second behind the leader from WPI. He sprinted in the final lap, swimming a fast 28.42 in the last leg to try and catch up.

Freshman Charly Blazy took third in the 50 yard breaststroke at 28.24. Also taking third in their races were freshman Noah Pan in the 200 yard freestyle, sophomore Brandon Koo in the 100 yard backstroke,

and freshman Mavin Liu in the 100 yard breaststroke. Pan arrived three seconds after the leader from Tufts, while Koo came in 1.5 seconds behind the leader from Wesleyan, and Liu finished about 2.5 seconds after the leader from WPI.

The Vassar Brewers will travel to Rensselaer territory on Saturday to compete in a dual meet at Robison Pool beginning at 1 pm. The next day, the men's and women's teams will hit the road, bound for Hartwick College in Oneonta, NY, to compete in their second dual meet of the weekend. The Hartwick Hawks will be in for a treat starting at 1 pm on Sunday.

Take Down 11/14

contact: lyrics@union.rpi.edu

(un) Lucky in Love

with the

Rensselurics

Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>  
November

\$4 Pre-sale,  
\$5 At the door

Tickets on sale Mon 9th - Thurs 12th  
DCC 10-2  
Union 11-2

8:00pm C+CC

2125 Burdett Ave, Troy  
(across the street from BARH)

# Sports

Wednesday, November 11, 2015

## MEN'S ICE HOCKEY

# Miller scores game winning goal in overtime

Sean Beacham  
Staff Reporter

THE RENSSELAER ENGINEERS HEADED TO POTSDAM, NEW York for a 7 pm game last Friday night against Clarkson University. Coming off of a sweep against Union College last weekend, RPI skated out ready to play. They started the game off right with junior Riley Bourbonnais taking the first faceoff and sophomore Mike Prapavessis taking the first shot of the game. After about seven minutes of intense play, senior Travis Fulton put up a goal assisted by freshman Meirs Moore. A minor penalty for each team later, the period ended with the Engineers' goal having gone unanswered.

Only five minutes into the second period, junior Jake Wood scored another goal for Rensselaer assisted by Bourbonnais and junior Parker Reno. Just a few minutes later, Clarkson's Brett Gervais answered RPI's goal and made the score 2-1, having put one by senior goalie Jason Kasdorf. The teams battled it out for the rest of the period with the score remaining at a standstill. Tensions heightened, leading to Riley Bourbonnais receiving a roughing penalty in the last second of the period.

Late in the third period, Clarkson scored again, tying the game up. Freshman goalie Cam Hackett had just been put into the game only to be scored on before he even had enough time to warm up. The game stayed tied for the rest of the regulation and through overtime. Clarkson dominated the game's faceoffs, winning two-thirds of the 66 and putting 38 shots on net to the Engineers' 27.

On Saturday, RPI played the St. Lawrence Saints in Canton, New York. After the previous night's heartbreaking tie, the Engineers needed a win. The game did not start the way they wanted; the game stayed at a hard fought 0-0 until the last minute of play in the first period when the Saints scored on Hackett. This was the Saints' only goal of the period despite their three power play opportunities.

The Engineers went into the second period hungrier for the win than before and scored a goal in both the 13th and 14th minutes of play. The goals were put up by sophomores



Jack Wellhofer/The Polytechnic

**RPI REFUSED to settle for a second tie over the weekend when they scored during overtime on Saturday. (file photo)**

Jared Wilson and Drew Melanson respectively. It wasn't more than a few minutes before the score was tied up by the Saints at two apiece. At this point in the game, the RPI goalie, Hackett, had seen twice as many shots as the Saints' goalie, but managed to keep the score even.

The Saints scored another in the early third period giving themselves a one point lead and stepping up the intensity of the game. The Engineers were able to rally and Bourbonnais scored 13 minutes into the third period assisted by Prapavessis.

Just like the night before, the game went into overtime. After a weekend of travel, the Engineers would not stand for bringing home two overtime ties or a loss; they brought home a win thanks to the game winning goal by senior Mark Miller assisted by Melanson and Reno. Congratulations to Hackett on his first full Engineers' game played and won. Rensselaer's next game is this Friday at 7 pm against Yale and is the Class of 2018 Hockey Night.

## FOOTBALL

# Springfield Pride pummeled on Senior Day

Joseph Saulsbery  
Senior Reporter

IN A MANNER FITTING FOR SENIOR DAY, SENIOR quarterback Jeff Avery found senior wide receiver Logan Gaddar for a 44-yard touchdown to give the Engineers the lead late in the fourth quarter against the Pride of Springfield College. Avery passed 185 yards along with his 19th touchdown pass of the season, and Rensselaer won 17-14 to improve to 7-2 in 2015.

Early on, Springfield's pistol offense, which featured a heavy supply of quarterback keepers, threw the Engineers' defense off-balance. On Springfield's second drive of the game, quarterback Jake Eglintine sprinted through the RPI defense for a 60-yard touchdown run to give them a 7-0 lead.

The Engineers responded with a nine-play, 56-yard scoring drive on their next possession. Avery rolled out and rushed for 15 yards on third down and three, near midfield, to

move the chains. Later, he threw to senior wide receiver Pat Hogan for 16 yards, to move the ball to the Springfield 5-yard line. Senior running back Austin Amery capped off the drive with two runs for five yards and a touchdown, tying the game at seven.

In the second quarter, senior defensive back Brad Gahagan made a key stop on a Springfield fourth and one, tackling Eglintine for no gain at the RPI 33. Later in the quarter, Gaddar returned a Springfield punt 13 yards to place the Engineers at the Springfield 44. A 10-yard run by senior running back Matt Lane and catches by Gaddar and sophomore running back Johnny Ramsdell moved Rensselaer to the Springfield five. A pass interference penalty on Springfield gave the Engineers first and goal at Springfield's 2-yard line. However, Springfield didn't yield another yard and an incomplete pass by Avery on fourth and goal gave the Pride the football back.

The Engineer defense forced Springfield into a quick three and out, giving the offense another shot at the end zone with two minutes remaining in the first half. On third and six at the Springfield 26, Avery eluded the pass rush and picked up the first down. Just before the half, sophomore kicker Christian Kapp nailed a 30-yard field goal to give Rensselaer a 10-7 lead at the break.

Midway through the third quarter, Eglintine broke away from several RPI tacklers and ran down the right sideline for an 88-yard Springfield touchdown, giving the Pride a 14-10 lead. Then, the defenses took over, forcing two straight punts each.

With 6:38 left in the fourth quarter, the Engineers took over at their own 48-yard line. Sophomore running back Mike Tivinis took

two carries for 18 yards to move the ball into Springfield territory. A holding penalty then moved the Engineers back to the Springfield 44-yard line. On first and 20, Avery looked down field for his favorite target. Gaddar broke free from his defender, and Avery threw the ball high, allowing Gaddar to haul it in for a 44-yard go-ahead score.

The Springfield offense stalled quickly on its next drive as the Engineer defense clamped down on the elusive Eglintine. On fourth and three, junior defensive lineman Thomas Bennett and senior linebacker Mark Grimes surged through the Pride offensive line and wrapped up Eglintine for no gain, effectively ending the game for Rensselaer.

The backfield committee of RPI totaled 114 yards rushing, led by senior rusher Nick Schlitz, who compiled 57 yards. Gaddar finished with six catches for 95 yards and a score to lead all receivers.

Eglintine led all rushers with 192 yards on 24 attempts for Springfield. Springfield only attempted two passes the entire game, completing one of them for 12 yards.

Pride linebacker Dominic Traversa led all defenders with 11 total tackles, while senior linebacker Mark Grimes led the Rensselaer defense with nine. Junior linebacker Alex Greenidge added eight tackles while senior defensive back Philip Lanieri III had seven in his last home game. Lastly, sophomore defensive lineman Diego Cuitino recorded the only two sacks of the game for the home team.

RPI will compete for the Dutchman's Shoes Trophy against upstate rival Union College in its final game of the season next Saturday, in Schenectady, New York.



Sidney Kochman/The Polytechnic

**A FIELD GOAL BY SOPHOMORE KICKER CHRISTIAN KAPP BROKE the 7-7 tie just before halftime to give Rensselaer a 10-7 lead going into the second half of the game.**