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CAMPUS EVENT

Career fair attracts big companies



Kay Sun/The Polytechnic

STUDENTS ACROSS ALL MAJORS SHARE their qualifications and aspirations with recruiters in hopes of landing internships, co-ops, and full-time job offers.

Elisabeth Ryan
Staff Reporter

THE SHIRTS WERE IRONED AND THE shoes were shined all in preparation for Friday, September 25—the morning of the career fair. After countless info sessions, résumé critiques, and mock

interviews, the students of RPI were ready in their best business attire. Upon entering the Mueller Center gym, the temperature rises by several degrees and the line of vision is disturbed by a condensed sea of people. Companies including Google, General Electric, Amazon, Cisco

Systems, and Boeing were present. There were over 200 companies that participated in this two-day career fair—165 on Friday and 70 on Saturday. According to Arjun Sharma '16, co-director of the team that managed the 37th Annual NSBE/SHPE Career Fair, there is a recruiting committee

that handles the invitations of the companies. However, due to the long-standing reputation of RPI's career fair, many simply register themselves. Along with pertinent facts, Sharma also shared his thoughts on the career fair: "It is a great experience. This is just a very well put-together career fair, and this year, our recruiting committee has worked really hard to get together a lot of different types of companies, not just engineering firms, but a lot of business firms for the new majors we have at this school. Business, analytics, more tech companies, and start-ups as well. It's become very diverse over the years."

For many of the upperclassmen, going to the career fair and talking to potential employers is not a daunting notion at all. However, for many freshmen, the idea of presenting themselves with a lack luster résumé and little to no job experience can be a challenge. Many of the alumni job recruiters had advice and stories of their career fair experience to share.

Eric Nill '13 said, "It was pretty intimidating at first, because there are so many companies here," when asked about the first fair he participated in. "A lot of [the companies] are very reputable. We've got Google right down the aisle here, and all the big players are here. At some point you realize they are

See FAIR, **Page 3**

INTERPLANETARY NEWS

NASA discovers water on Mars

Evidence of water in soil found on red planet's surface

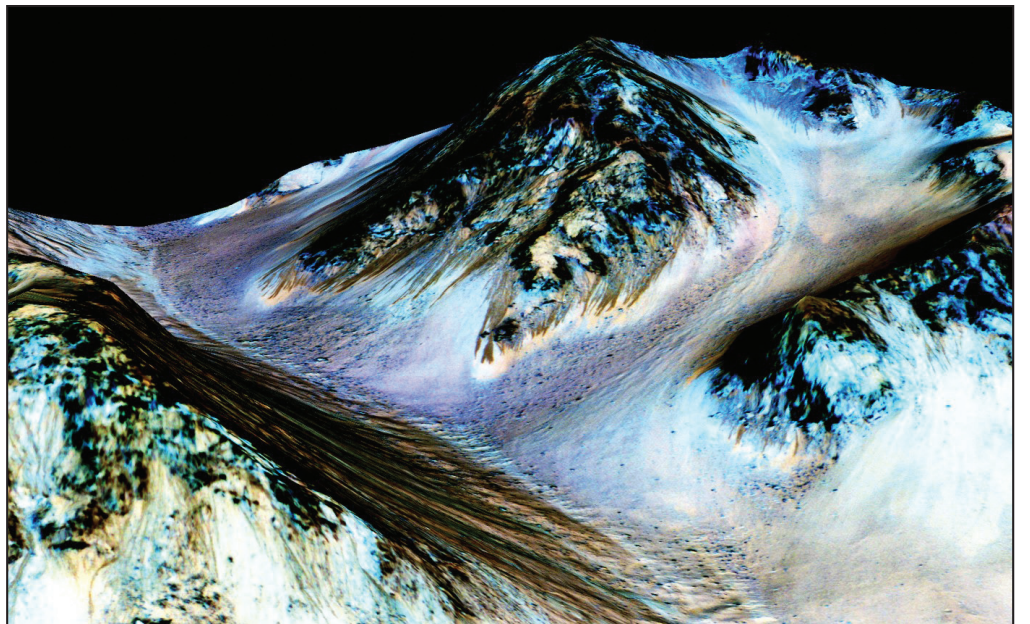
Jack Wellhofer
Senior Reporter

NASA RELEASED A PAPER IN *NATURE GEOSCIENCE* on Monday, September 28, detailing the discovery of liquid water flowing on the surface of present-day Mars, though calling it flowing water is a bit of a misnomer.

Alfred McEwen, a co-author of the paper, said in the news conference that the discovery is only a thin layer of wet soil, likely only a centimeter deep. The discovery of water on Mars is nothing new; however, many in the scientific community believe that liquid water is necessary to support microbial life.

The discovery was made using NASA's Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter, which has an imaging spectrometer that allowed researchers to determine the presence of hydrated minerals on the planet's surface. Images of the planet show dark streaks, known as recurring slope lineae, flowing down slopes.

The reason water is able to be present in liquid form, instead of subliming, is the presence of perchlorates. These compounds, such as sodium perchlorate, magnesium chlorate, and magnesium perchlorate, can



Courtesy of NASA

AN IMAGE FROM NASA'S RECONNAISSANCE ORBITER SHOWS evidence of water on Mars.

lower the freezing point of water by as much as 70 degrees Celsius.

Liquid water being present on the surface of Mars does not suggest that microbial life is any more likely to be found. The evidence

suggests that the water might be as much as 95 percent salt which is, not optimal for most forms of life. There are microbes that

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Serving the Rensselaer community since 1885

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EXECUTIVE BOARD

Stairwell murals approved for purchase

Elisabeth Ryan
Staff Reporter

ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, at 8 pm, the Executive Board meeting was called into order. After greetings to the E-board members and guests, Martha McElligott was invited to begin her presentation. McElligott is part of the financial team that covers the budget for Rensselaer Union clubs and oversees the training of clubs in terms of how to use and request finances. In her presentation, she demonstrated how to navigate the Union website in order to find the financial section. She also detailed the different forms necessary for a club's finances to run smoothly, such as the Club Purchasing Bid Sheet, RCS Guest Account, Reimbursement Form, Student Payroll Authorization, and Union Purchase Requisition Form. These are all available online at the Union website.

After covering these fine details concerning club budgeting, McElligott urged the members of the board to reach out to clubs they are affiliated with, go to their meetings, email them, build a relationship, and to coordinate with the club's Student

Activities Resource Person. She also emphasized the importance of the individual board members' responsibility, along with the club's SARP, for understanding all these details as they pertain to their specific clubs, for they are representing that club.

Committee Chair Chris Hoskins '16 was next to the floor and dove into his presentation on a Marketing, Advertising, and Publicity Committee project. The project is essentially the placement of large graphics along the walls of the stairwells in the Union. The first graphic is of the original *Polytechnic* news article, outlining the Union constitution. It is located in the more narrow east stairwell. The second graphic is a busy image outlining the homes of the Union, which include locations such as the Clubhouse Pub, the Lally building, the '87 Gym, the Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center, the Mueller Center, and Academy Hall. Questions arose if whether or not the East Campus Athletic Village should be included in this graphic since the teams are funded by the Union; it was decided that since its facilities are not managed by the Union, it would be left out. Other ques-

tions arose, such as whether or not there would be adequate lighting where the graphics will be placed, and if there should be a plaque explaining their purpose. Both of those concerns were concluded unnecessary.

The topic transitioned to the McNeil Room and the changes taking place there. Carpet selection was first to be discussed. Five selections were presented, the favorite of which was a dark gray-slate, with red and white accent lines. It was thought to be too dark by the board members, and the solution of having a lighter gray was come upon. After carpet, chairs and tables were discussed. Champion chairs are wooden-backed with a red vinyl seat, while Sate chairs are made of a flexible material with a wooden back. These two options were presented to the board, and the Champion was determined to be preferable. Members of the board came to this conclusion after asking questions such as the durability, warranty, and whether or not the purchase of dollies would be required, which it was. The new table plan was displayed, showing the lack of circular tables, and the tally of 143 powered seats and 180 non-powered seats.



Jack Wellhofer/*The Polytechnic*

E-BOARD REPRESENTATIVES SIGN the motion approving new graphics along the lower stairwell walls of the Union.

The conclusion of the meeting was made with the Senate Report by Andrew Sudano '17, who stated a positive and concise report and the President's Report. President of the Union

Nick Dvorak '16 announced the motion to approve the MAP's project, which are the previously mentioned wall graphics, resulting in a passing 14-0-0 vote.

WORLD NEWS

Volkswagen caught fabricating emissions data



Courtesy of Fabian Bimmer

PROTESTERS HOLD signs outside a Volkswagen building following the discovery of false emissions data for Volkswagen vehicles.

Nathan Dorer
Staff Reporter

SURROUNDED BY A SLEW OF CAMERAS AND reporters, Volkswagen's newly-appointed Chief Executive Officer, Matthias Müller, took the stage to present his upcoming plans for the Wolfsburg, Germany, corporation on Friday. Müller announced his desire to make Volkswagen "an even stronger company," but has assumed the role amidst one of the brand's largest scandals to date.

On September 22, the international automobile manufacturer issued a press release in which they stated that 11 million diesel units shipped worldwide contained software that drastically underreported the

amount of pollutants emitted while running. The software has allowed vehicles to pass emissions testing despite releasing 40 times the allowable amount of greenhouse gases into the environment. Among the affected vehicles are the 2009–2015 Volkswagen Beetle, Jetta, and Golf, the 2014–2015 Volkswagen Passat, and the 2009–2015 Audi A3. As United States inspectors examined Volkswagen engines, the discrepancy between the amounts reported during computer emissions testing and the actual amounts of pollutants released became clear; former CEO Martin Winterkorn has stepped down in light of the events, and has assumed responsibility for the actions of the company.

The reputation-damaging misconduct has proven costly for the German corporation; due to expected fines and class action lawsuits, the manufacturer has announced that they have set aside \$7.8 billion to cover settlements. As per the Clean Air Act, the federal government is entitled to fine the business \$37,500 for each of the 482,000 units shipped within the U.S. However, whether or not U.S. legislators plan to incur the entirety of the fines is yet unclear. Since September 22, the group has encountered a nearly 35 percent drop in stock prices. Meanwhile,

Volkswagen has temporarily suspended numerous employees pending investigation, with a planned restructuring of the North American branch of operations.

As the Obama administration began to tighten restrictions on emissions, many automobile manufacturers encountered strain in their efforts to develop new technologies—Volkswagen's primary strategy for competition included the use of diesel engines in small automobiles. While diesel engines tend to achieve superior fuel economy compared to standard gasoline engines, they also emit greater amounts of smog-forming and lung-damaging nitrates during combustion. In late 2007, then-CEO Winterkorn announced plans to create new Volkswagen-branded pollution control technology; after internalizing the pollution control of the vehicles in the company's fleet, the corporation took the opportunity to misreport their emissions during testing.

Legislators within the U.S. have informed consumers that they should expect much more rigorous road testing of vehicles to determine if manufacturers have employed software to cheat emissions testing. Meanwhile, Volkswagen itself has opted to hire an unnamed American law firm to conduct an internal investigation into the matter, and former CEO Winterkorn is currently facing inquiry.

Despite the unfortunate circumstances of his appointment, Müller has taken his new position in stride. "The same thing must never happen again," Müller reassured consumers as he explained his plans for the restructuring of Volkswagen; changes to the management and decision making within the company are expected. While the company's stock continues to tumble, Mueller is making a conscious effort to stand for the integrity of the brand.

The Polytechnic will be holding special elections on Sunday, October 4 at 4 pm in the Poly office.

INCIDENT BLOTTER

INFORMATION
PROVIDED BY
PUBLIC SAFETY
INVESTIGATOR
TERRANCE BURNS

Friday, September 25

Sage Avenue

Injury: Rensselaer County reported that a student had passed out three times at a house on Sage Avenue. When Troy Fire Department and Troy Police Department responded to the scene, the student was conscious but not alert and that there was no evidence pointing to alcohol or drugs being involved. The student was transported to Samaritan Hospital, and the Dean of Students Office and the Department of Public Safety were notified.

Mars: Water confirmed

From Page 1

have been studied on Earth that are able to survive in such harsh conditions. It is more likely that life, if any, would be found under the surface of Mars. At this time, NASA has no rovers equipped to search for life in this manner. In a Reddit Ask Me Anything, a user by the handle of RZ said, "These features are on steep slopes, so our present rovers would not be able to climb up to them." He also said that NASA considers these to be special locations, meaning that any equipment sent to the location would need to be sterilized to a higher degree to prevent any contamination.

Even if no life is discovered, the presence of liquid water is an exciting one. The water and minerals could be used for future expeditions, significantly reducing the costs associated with rovers and even colonization of Mars. Water can act as both a way to store energy and a source of oxygen and hydrogen, which can be burned as fuel.

At the moment, the next steps are focusing on further data gathering. Only approximately three percent of the martian surface has been covered at high enough resolutions to identify the hydrated minerals. This leaves much undiscovered territory for possible future missions.

Reporters from *The Polytechnic* attended the Student Senate meeting this week. The standard committee reports were presented; however, nothing of substance was discussed.

Fair: Career opportunities abundant for all students

From Page 1

looking for you just as much as you are looking for them." When asked if there was any advice to give underclassmen or students who are experiencing the fair for the first time, he stated, "You have to be willing to take on an internship, or co-op, which of course, the co-op means you'll graduate later, which not everybody's okay with. As a freshman, you should really just be trying to talk to the representatives from the companies, get a feel for what everybody does." One of the more important statements, at least in the view of this author, made by Nill was, "Seek those [companies] out because that's the way to stand apart from the rest of the people. I mean, everybody here at RPI—we're all smart people—so, going to RPI doesn't save you when you go to the RPI career fair."

Many view themselves as an insignificant detail in the bigger picture that is the fair, with the masses of people in attendance. But the reality is that there is great potential here for an individual to stand out. In the case of Peter Fernandes '12, he stated, "Where I'm working at now I found through the career fair my senior year. Basically, I found my boss and one of my coworkers, and we had a conversation that led to an interview, and then I ended up taking a full-time position." In addition to personal stories, Fernandes also had advice for students trying to navigate the tumultuous fair. "I would recommend being proactive in your research. I feel like a lot of students who come here are solely relying on the flash and the company displays. It makes sense. You want to work for a hip company, but sometimes the hippest looking companies aren't always the experience that you're looking for. I would say, 'Study up.'"

Upperclassmen also have advice for the rest of RPI's students. Bria Collins '16 said, "I've always liked the career fair. I know that talking to companies [has helped me to] build up more confidence and feel more comfortable discussing my skills and marketing myself. Classes like Professional Development III have been really helpful."

Even freshmen who were experiencing the fair for the first time had helpful remarks to make. "It was a little overwhelming. The first time you walk up to an employer and you have no idea what to say," said Alexandra Jaro '19. "So, I just said my name, my major, and after we got the conversation flowing, it went a little less awkward. It was easier to ask questions about the company, and I would definitely bring more résumés next time."

Lucas Miller '19 was in awe of the opportunities available at the career fair. "It's a really cool system where you get to talk with recruiters and dialogue, and to start that dialogue. Even for freshmen, just coming in and being able to observe that dialogue between some of the seniors that have more built-up résumés, you can kind of understand what you need to be aiming for and fix anything that you can, and start working now."

Once again, the career fair was a success, with a high attendance rate, and with hopeful attendees. "It's really crowded, but, in general, there's a lot of good companies here, so I'm certainly optimistic," said James Flamino '18.

For more information about the career fair, visit <http://careerfair.rpi.edu/>

Attend our next Co-Term Info Session



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Editorial

Wednesday, September 30, 2015

Alumni achievements

In light of Reunion & Homecoming, *The Poly* has opted to take this moment to make mention of some of the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute alumni who give us the ability to hyper-inflate our school-wide ego every once in a while. The annual homecoming game gives us an opportunity to focus on the people and achievements that have given RPI an exceptional reputation, and *The Poly* Editorial Board feels it's important to tip our hats in their direction every once in a while.

Rick Mastracchio '87 has become a career astronaut and one of RPI's most notable graduates; Mastracchio served on a 13-day mission to the International Space Station and successfully delivered cargo to further construction on the station. After nearly 283 logged hours of flight, Mastracchio has created a career in space travel.

Next up is Aktarer Zaman '14, who managed to develop a service that allows people to find cheaper flights by using connections rather than end destinations. After winning landmark lawsuits against Orbitz and United Airlines last December, Skiplagged gained national media attention as it continued to provide consumers with cheaper flights than offered by airlines. Zaman's stick-it-to-the-man attitude and fearless ingenuity have made him a favorite amongst *The Poly*.

Finally, Sean Conroy '15 also made headlines when he became the first openly gay professional baseball player. After graduating from RPI, Conroy earned a place on the minor league Sonoma Stompers. As a testament to Rensselaer's athletics and a figurehead of the LGBT community, Conroy stands as a progressive and constructive example of what RPI has to offer.

From innovators to astronauts, Rensselaer as an institution has proven itself an alma mater worth being proud of. So, in conclusion, we urge you to take a moment this weekend to appreciate RPI and all that its students—past and present—have accomplished.

EDITORIAL CORNER

Poly finally getting on its feet

Business operations worked out, and we're set to go

I'M BACK AGAIN! FOR THOSE THAT DON'T KNOW, I was Acting Editor in Chief last fall semester and helped direct the organization into a more active position in the community. As of two weeks ago, I was officially elected to the position of Editor in Chief of *The Polytechnic* and I'm still running a tight ship with new additions to our motley crew.

Starting with our printing contract, *The Poly* has had a rough start sailing into the wind this semester by only finalizing our contract in time to print last Wednesday, September 23. For those that do not know, *The Poly* is completely advertisement driven, receiving no money from the Rensselaer Union, save for utilities for the offices that we occupy on the third floor of the Union. It costs about \$1,200 to break even, print, and distribute cop-

ies every single week. This means that running the newspaper every year costs about \$36,000–40,000, which is not a small sum. In fact, in the past, annual costs for 6,000 copies per week used to reach around \$70,000–80,000, the average starting salary of an RPI alum. However, since print media is in decline due to the advent of the Internet, we've had to tighten the belt and only print 3,000 copies a week. Anyone who is interested in working with us to generate advertising revenue can feel free to shoot an email to ad@poly.rpi.edu or poly@rpi.edu. We're working on a system to grant six percent or some amount of commission to those that acquire ads for us, under certain conditions; this system is under works and should be finalized by the end of the semester.

The freshman *Poly* Press Pass event at the beginning of this semester and the Activities fair have been extremely helpful in recruiting those that are interested in improving their writing, leadership,



Chris Leong
Editor
in Chief

and management skills. We already have dedicated freshmen that are part of the editorial board and others that have been attending all *Poly* meetings and also looking to board the *Poly* ship. Every student club or group requires transfer of knowledge from its senior members to its incoming members, but it's even more important for a newspaper group. Some examples are layout experience in Adobe InDesign, proofreading style and accuracy, communication with the Union Administrative Office, negotiating our annual printing contract, article leads, reporter contact information, photo level-

ing experience in Adobe Photoshop, distillation and uploading of the newspaper to the printer, server and website maintenance, and finally, layout style. I have knowledge of almost all of these integral parts of *The Poly*, and bestowing this clearly voluminous amount of information to incoming members is crucial to the future prosperity of *The Poly*.

If you're interested in writing, we hold content meetings every Wednesday at 9 pm in the *Poly* office, Rensselaer Union 3418. If you're interested in laying out or just hanging out with the crew, feel free to stop by on Tuesday nights any time after 4 pm every week; we'll be here all night. One way or another, we are ensuring the *Poly* ship will sail smoothly once again.

EDITORIAL NOTEBOOK

Tech changing at speed of light

Society will face some hard choices in the future

"MOM, DAD, CAN YOU BUY ME A selfie stick, a portable charger, and a new phone case?" is the question likely asked by many young

Black Mirror. To keep this summary short and without me giving too much away, the episode was about a woman who loses her



Maria Kozdroy
Editorial/Opinion
Editor

teenagers today. Many companies are on the rise selling cell phone accessories because of the increase in popularity of cell phones, and the great shift towards technology over the last decade. Technology is advancing at a speed that is becoming quite difficult to keep up with. For example, I wonder how many typical people in society understand

how a cell phone works in general. Not many would probably be able to answer this, besides noting it makes phone calls, surfs the web, and sends text messages; but how it *really* works, is the real question. Technology is advancing to the point where large companies are continuously brainstorming and implementing new ideas, and consumers just continuously keep purchasing what the companies have to offer without understanding how it works. If consumers were able to comprehend the functionality of their cell phone, then perhaps more individuals would realize what direction technology is moving.

Recently, in my 21st Century Risks HASS class, we watched an episode of a TV show called

acts as her husband. This show was highly disturbing, yet made me realize the direction the progression of technology is heading to if not questioned by consumers.

Additionally, many humans seem to be preoccupied by technology. For example, the Apple Watch's and Android Wear watches' main purpose is supposedly to allow users to maintain a better sense of the happenings in one's life. However, these smart watches can be viewed as a distraction, too. For example, when a user receives a new text notification, it will pop up on their wrist and a list of suggested responses will appear. Before you know it, the user taps the desired response and the message sends, perhaps looking

at the watch for a maximum of five seconds. Text messages have always seemed to take away the user from whatever he or she may be doing, buries his or her eyes into a screen to read and send texts, and then return to the activity he or she was doing in-person. Often, the user will forget about or lose track of what was happening. Consumers and users need to understand technology better. It is progressing so rapidly that it is, in a way, brainwashing many to continue purchasing new technologies, without them truly realizing their importance in society. Additionally, when you purchase a new cell phone, do you ever wonder where the old one goes? Yes, it may sit in a drawer back at home, but most likely, it will end up in a landfill around the world, where the materials used to create the phone are extracted. Usually, these locations are in third-world countries suffering from large companies, who exploit these areas with no regard to environmental justice. Am I saying we should stop using our cell phones altogether? No, but take a moment to think of the material, labor, economic, and social dimensions of your cell phone. It may greatly surprise you and inform you, too. Lastly, think of the direction and pace you want technology to advance in the next few years, and how you may want to make a difference.

the polytechnic

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Views expressed in opinion columns provide differing viewpoints to help balance the newspaper and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Editorial Board. These opinion columns, other than those granted to certain student government organizations, are granted on a semesterly or yearly basis by the Editorial Board. Those interested in starting a column should email edop@poly.rpi.edu for details.

Editorial and Business offices are located in Room 3418 of the Rensselaer Union, Troy, New York, 12180-3590. Subscription and advertising rates can be forwarded upon request. Subscriptions are sent via first class mail. Address correction requested.

TOP HAT

Elections on the horizon

HEY RPI STUDENTS,

I hope you all found paths to professional success at the Career Fair! Thank you to all of the students who put in the time and effort to make such a huge event possible! For everyone else, be sure to follow up with any companies that took an interest in you. Don't let the opportunity go to waste!

There's a lot coming up this weekend as we continue to celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the Rensselaer Union! There are a ton of events you can learn about by talking to the Student Activities office in the Union, or by looking at different advertisements inside the building.

Further, Student Government elections are still going on for all freshmen students! Stop by the Student Government Suite to get the information on where to go for an information session, and get out to campaign! It's a great chance to learn how to work in various teams,

conduct meetings, and get in touch with your fellow classmates. To reiterate from last week:

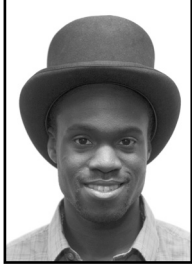
Class council: The group of students who work to exemplify everything that makes your class ideas into a unique and memorable legacy. The council is in charge of hosting events for your class. The class council also manages the funds from your class dues for all your events including your (very far off) Senior Week. Positions for class council are:

Class president, who oversees all class council meetings and represents your class at events. The president will also work with the Undergraduate Council president, who coordinates with all of the class councils.

Vice-president, who assists the president in running meetings and events.

Representatives (8), sit on the council and take standard positions such as secretary, treasurer, etc.

Class senators (4): The Student Senate is the body of student government in charge of representing student rights and serving as a connection between students, faculty, and the administration. Senators serve as members of both the Senate and class council.



Marcus Flowers
Grand Marshal

In other news, the RPI women's hockey team is playing against the University of North Dakota on October 2 in the Houston Field House! Go out and cheer them on to victory!

It's been a few weeks here, so your first exams should be coming up, or may have happened already. Make sure to take full advantage of the academic resources available here on campus, including the

Advising & Learning Assistance Center tutoring, your TAs, your professors, and your peers. Don't be afraid to ask an upperclassman for help in a class either!

Quickly, I'd like to ask you what you think about your time here after the first month of this semester. What do you think was the most exciting thing that happened for you this first month, and what are you looking forward to in the coming weeks?

If you have any ideas, comments, or questions in general, email me at gm@rpi.edu, or stop by my office in the Student Government Suite in the Union.

DERBY

Keep fightin' red and white

Hi RPI!

It seems like we're in the thick of it now, with career planning and classes coming full force, but fear not, the semester will slip away before you know it! I wanted to take a moment to thank all those who volunteered their time to make this career fair a successful one. I know one of

the things that drew me to RPI when applying was the heavy campus recruiting from companies. I couldn't be happier to see the tradition alive and well. For those of you that attended the event, I'm sure you're knee deep in applications to



Nicholas Dvorak
President of the Union

companies and searching for more. I know I've lost count of my own "apply online" ventures at this point. Stay hungry! There is a world of opportunity out there just waiting for you to take it on. Remember to leverage your resources whenever possible. Joblink and the Center for Career and Professional Development have a constant supply of information about upcoming recruitment events and a variety of workshops, from Resumania to mock interviews. Stop down on the Darrin Communications Center second floor to learn to present yourself at your best.

I'm also happy to say that our teams have been absolutely crushing the opposition lately. Men's football and soccer were both able to continue their already strong seasons with wins. Men's soccer beat out Bard with a 1-0 win Saturday and tied 1-1 with Babson on Sunday.

The team has been bringing their A-game this season, and making sure to keep the pressure on the other team straight through to the last seconds of the game. The football team was able to keep the Transit Trophy at its right-

ful home here at Rensselaer with a 28-21 victory over WPI. If you check out the RPI athletics page you'll actually see Executive Board member Nick Schlitz '16 taking flight over an RPI defenseman! To all our athletes, keep up the hard work. I'm looking forward to the men's hockey season opener this Saturday up at the field house. I have my season tickets, do you? LET'S GO RED!

This upcoming weekend is also alumni weekend, and I hope you're as excited as I am. Alumni are some of our most valuable assets at RPI as they stride boldly from

the campus after graduation to make their mark upon the world, but also connect us to the past and times gone by. To those of you who accepted bids last Friday, be sure to share in the lessons and stories of alumni who will surely flock to chapter houses. I implore you to learn about the storied history of Greek life at RPI. The same goes for any club or group on campus which will surely have passionate alumni returning, eager to meet the active members. To all students, come out to the multitude of events going on around campus and enjoy all that RPI has to offer! Dinners, concerts, sporting events... if it is a student passion I can guarantee there will be alumni who will attend, and the Union is no exception! With this being the 125th anniversary celebration, I'm looking forward to meeting some of the Presidents of the Union and Grand Marshalls of yesteryear, and learning about the way things were. Learn, listen, and enjoy the celebration. Remember, you'll be an alum soon enough!

As always, keep a level head and keep on trucking, RPI. Five weeks down, ten to go. If there's ever anything you need, feel free to reach out to me at pu@rpi.edu. I'm always looking to help wherever I can!

ALUM101

Greek life advantages

Tom Keating '75

Special to The Poly

SOME OF THE BEST ADVICE THAT I CAN GIVE you during your time at Rensselaer is to "get involved." You won't regret it. Whether you're a freshman or a graduate student, it's never too late. RPI is fantastic at giving you one of the best opportunities in the country for a great education, but that's only part of the equation.

If you want to be well-rounded and feel as though you truly had a memorable, once-in-a-lifetime college experience, gained beneficial life skills, and made lifelong friends, you need to do more than just go to class, to the library, or study in your room. There are far more opportunities to expand your horizons while attending Rensselaer than you might think.

Whether you play a sport on the college or intramural level, join a fraternity or sorority, get involved in a campus office, join one or more of the numerous available clubs and organizations (including such groups as the RPI Players, WRPI, The Poly, Red & White, etc.), and/or volunteer for a local community organization, you'll be happy you did.

One area where I was personally very involved during my time at RPI was with my fraternity—the Rensselaer Society of Engineers. That participation in Greek life helped shape who I am today, by giving me social and leadership skills that I likely would not have gained had I not been involved. The lifelong friendships and positive feelings from almost forty years ago cause me to remain involved in campus life to this day, as President of the RSE alumni board, a member of the Rensselaer Alumni Association Board of Trustees, and chairman of the Reunion Committee for my class. Even after all these years, I continue many of the friendships from my time at Rensselaer.

Please don't miss this unique opportunity. You will develop some life skills and lasting friendships, and this involvement could even help you foster some

key contacts that could assist you in your chosen career later in life. Some of these affiliations might enhance your résumé to make you the preferred candidate for a position when you and another applicant have very similar skills to offer. Most companies are looking to hire employees who are well-rounded and demonstrate some life skills, in addition to what they learned from books.

It is worthwhile to stay in touch with the school after you graduate. Sure, you may be asked to donate to the Annual Fund from time to time (and that ultimate choice regarding possible participation is yours alone), but this is only part of the overall picture. After you leave, the continued contact with RPI can be very beneficial. For example, the RAA started an Endowment Fund a few years ago, and some of the money from that effort has been used to create the new Rensselaer Career Services office to help both new and older alums find jobs via RPI connections.

Please take advantage of every opportunity afforded you, no matter how small it might seem at the time. You might be surprised by what "getting involved" can lead to for you.

Tom Keating '75 is a member of the Rensselaer Alumni Association Board of Trustees, and an advisor to the RSE fraternity. You may reach Tom at tkeating53@comcast.net.

Founded in 1869, The RAA is one of the oldest alumni associations in the country, and consists of over 100,000 alumni worldwide, represented by an alumni board of trustees who work to empower and engage current and future alumni in meaningful and strategic partnerships with Rensselaer. If you have questions about the Rensselaer Alumni Association and its programs and services, contact the Alumni Office at 276-6205, or raa@rpi.edu.

Alum101 is a program that helps you transition from student life to post-graduation life. Join us for Alum101 events and programs throughout the school year.

ASME
SETTING THE STANDARD

Presents:

Punkin' Chunkin' 2015

Saturday,
October 24th
9am-1pm
@ the '86 Field

Rules Here:

REGISTER NOW! (Scan here)

derlih@rpi.edu
TD 9/28/15

Events

Wednesday, September 30, 2015

WEDNESDAY

September 30

Due to the unanticipated illness of a presenter, The Carl A. Westerdahl Forum Committee is postponing the presentation "Aerospace and Rensselaer: Then, Now and Tomorrow" until next spring.

The Student Health Services is providing free flu shots. Don't let the flu get you; get your flu shot. Cost is \$15 for faculty and staff. It will be held in Rensselaer Union's west lobby from 10 am–3 pm.

Microaggression Webinar taking place at 2–3:30 pm in the Rensselaer Union's Shelnut Gallery.

Freshmen election info session held in Union 3510 from 5–6 pm. All freshmen planning to run for Student Senate or Class Council must attend an information session prior to campaigning.

EMPAC presents "On Screen/Sound: No. 4." This brings together painting, architecture, fashion, dance, and music for an evening of modernist and surreal cinema. It will be in the Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center Concert Hall from 7–9 pm and costs \$6 to attend.

THURSDAY

October 1

Reunion & Homecoming is being held this weekend! Join us as Rensselaer alumni gather to celebrate milestones and enjoy a weekend of fun, entertainment, and education. Highlights include the president's State of the Institute address, Rensselaer Alumni Hall of Fame induction ceremony, FanFest, and an event featuring Rensselaer's NASA connections.

Flu shots are available and accessible in the Darrin Communications Center Great Hall, 9 am–4 pm if you missed Wednesday.

A freshman election info session will be held in Union 3510 from 5–6 pm.

The Biomedical Engineering Seminar, "Self-Assembled Porphyrin Biomaterials for Applications in Drug Delivery and Imaging," will be presented by Jonathan Lovell in JEC 3117 from 2:30–3:30 pm.

EMPAC presents Jennifer West, Michael Ned Holte, and their piece entitled "In Conversation: Film Memory." It will be held in EMPAC Studio 2 from 7–9 pm.

FRIDAY

October 2

October's Lunch & Learn will be held in the Folsom Library Fischbach Room from noon–1 pm. The presentation is entitled "Albany Rural Cemetery in the Civil War."

EMPAC presents vhl, Daedelus, and Ikonika in Studio 1 from 9 pm–midnight. Costs \$6 for RPI students.

SATURDAY

October 3

The ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Rensselaer Collegiate Store will be from 4–4:30 pm. Come be a part of this event's excitement!

MONDAY

October 5

The Biological Seminar Series presents graduate student Divya Shastry. It will be held in the Center for Biotechnology and Interdisciplinary Studies Conference Center from noon–1 pm where refreshments shall be available.

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TIAA-CREF: Lipper's Best Overall Large Fund Company¹ three years in a row. For the first time ever. How? Our disciplined investment strategy aims to produce competitive risk-adjusted returns that create long-term value for you. Just what you'd expect from a company that's created to serve and built to perform.



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¹The Lipper Award is given to the group with the lowest average decile ranking of three years' Consistent Return for eligible funds over the three-year period ended 11/30/12, 11/30/13, and 11/30/14 respectively. TIAA-CREF was ranked among 36 fund companies in 2012 and 48 fund companies in 2013 and 2014 with at least five equity, five bond, or three mixed-asset portfolios. Past performance does not guarantee future results. For current performance and rankings, please visit the Research and Performance section on tiaa-cref.org. TIAA-CREF Individual & Institutional Services, LLC, Teachers Personal Investors Services, Inc., and Nuveen Securities, LLC, members FINRA and SIPC, distribute securities products. ©2015 Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association of America—College Retirement Equities Fund (TIAA-CREF), 730 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10017. C24849B

Consider investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses carefully before investing. Go to tiaa-cref.org for product and fund prospectuses that contain this and other information. Read carefully before investing. TIAA-CREF funds are subject to market and other risk factors.

Sports

Wednesday, September 30, 2015

FOOTBALL

Rensselaer defends Transit Trophy at WPI

Joseph Saulsbery
Senior Reporter

RPI BUILT A FOUR-TOUCHDOWN lead in the first half at rival Worcester Polytechnic Institute. Worcester battled back, scoring three touchdowns in the second half. But it was too little, too late for the other Engineers as Rensselaer ran the clock out on their comeback and emerged victorious, 28-21.

Senior quarterback Jeff Avery completed all four of his passes on the opening drive of the game, finishing it with a three-yard strike to senior wide receiver Logan Gaddar. WPI starter Dan Eckler didn't fare as well on the home team's first drive. After two runs by Worcester running back Zach Grasis for five yards, the home team faced a third and five from their own 38. Eckler looked for an open receiver, but threw too late and senior defensive back Teague Florio stepped in front of the pass and ran it back 61 yards for an RPI score.

Senior running back Nick Schlatz carried the ball 21 times for 108 yards while sophomore running back Mike Tivinis accumulated 56 yards on 13 totes. On Rensselaer's second possession of the second quarter, Tivinis powered the Engineers' offense down the field for their third score of the afternoon, carrying the football seven times for 31 yards during

the drive. This drive was capped off by a second toss from Avery to Gaddar, who snagged five catches for 49 yards to lead the visiting Engineers in receiving.

The next drive featured Schlatz, who ran twice for 18 yards and caught a pass out of the backfield for 13 more. Then, just before halftime, Avery found senior running back Austin Amery in the end zone for a 27-yard score to give the visiting Engineers a 28-0 lead.

The WPI offense came to life on the first drive of the second half. Eckler found fullback Steven Thulin open near the sideline and he sprinted 62 yards to the RPI three. Two plays later, Grasis plowed through a hole in the Rensselaer defense to cut the lead to 28-7.

RPI ran the ball ten times, including six rushes by Schlatz for 25 yards and three more by senior running back Matt Lane for 14 yards, on its first drive of the second half. However, Avery failed to connect on all four of his passing attempts and the drive fizzled out after five and a half minutes at the WPI 27.

With 11:49 remaining, WPI still trailed 28-7. But Eckler wasn't deterred, completing four passes for 62 yards during a touchdown-scoring drive that lasted nearly six minutes. Once again, Grasis finished it off with a short rushing touchdown.

After Worcester failed to obtain possession from an onside



Jack Wellhofer/The Polytechnic

RPI FOOTBALL HELD off a late game comeback attempt by WPI to seal the victory. (File photo)

kick, Rensselaer tallied two first downs and used three minutes of clock before turning the ball back over to WPI at the home team's own nine-yard line with 2:47 remaining.

Once again, Eckler stepped up, tossing a beautiful 70-yard pass to a streaking Brandon Eccher to set the other Engineers up at the RPI 21 with just over two minutes to play. Then, two plays later he found wide receiver Ian McMullen open over the middle for a 21-yard scoring toss to put the home team within seven.

RPI recovered WPI's last ditch onside kick attempt and Schlatz carried the ball twice for 24 yards to seal the Transit Trophy victory for Rensselaer.

Avery played well, completing 14 of his 22 attempts for 155 yards and three touchdowns. Eckler made several big plays for Worcester in the second half but two interceptions in the first half sealed their fate. Nonetheless, he still threw for 291 yards and a touchdown.

In addition to Florio, senior defensive back Philip Lanieri III and junior defensive back Ryan

Buss also had interceptions to help keep the Worcester offense out of the end zone. Sophomore defensive back Bryan Hayes led RPI with nine tackles while senior linebacker Anthony Pilla and junior defensive lineman Malik Joseph each recorded a sack.

Next up for RPI is a showdown against the United States Merchant Marine Academy at East Campus Stadium next Saturday.

SOCCER

Soccer unbeaten

Joseph Saulsbery
Senior Reporter

RPI MEN'S SOCCER PLAYED A PAIR OF ROAD GAMES LAST WEEKEND, ONE AT Bard College on Saturday and another at Babson College on Sunday. After scoring multiple goals in six of the first seven games of the season, the Engineers offense cooled off, managing just one score in each game. This effort was enough to keep the undefeated season intact though, as Rensselaer shut out Bard 1-0 and tied with Babson to improve to an overall record of 8-0-1.

The matchup against Bard was the Engineers' first Liberty League conference game of the season. In the first half, RPI attempted eight shots, four on the Raptors' net, but failed to convert any. In the second half, RPI took control early and in the 52nd minute, junior midfielder Devon Baughen put the Engineers on the board with a 24-yard direct kick that curved its way past Bard keeper Daniel Gagne. The goal was Baughen's fifth of the season.

Meanwhile, the Engineers' defense continued its dominance, recording its sixth shutout of the season. Sophomore goalie Ryan Nealon recorded seven saves, his highest this season, including four down the stretch to maintain the one-score edge.

Senior forward Nathaniel Gunderson squeezed a shot inside the right post to give the Engineers a 1-0 lead midway through the first half against Babson. The goal was his third of the season and was assisted by Baughen.

Rensselaer held the lead through the rest of the first half and well into the second before surrendering the equalizer in the 68th minute. The goal was a header into the upper corner of the RPI net past Nealon's outstretched arms and was just the third he has allowed all year.

The game went to overtime. Each goalie made a save, and Babson blocked two more to maintain the tie. The final score was RPI tied, 1-1. Nealon saved four of the five shots he faced while Babson keeper Stephen Donato corralled one of two that went his way.

Rensselaer will host home games against Hobart College and Rochester Institute of Technology this weekend.

ICE HOCKEY

Women's hockey vanquished

Michael Baird
Kay Sun
Staff Reporters

THE RPI WOMEN'S ICE HOCKEY TEAM COMPETED AGAINST the University of Montreal this past Saturday at the Houston Field House. Although things were relatively quiet in the first period, by the time the second one rolled around, things started to speed up.

Following the faceoff in the second period by senior Alexa Gruschow and Audrey Gariepy of Montreal, the puck moved into our offensive zone at full throttle, but was snatched halfway by Montreal forward Valerie St-Onge and defender Alexandra Paradis. The moment Montreal was about to break into RPI's defensive zone by a long pass, freshman forward Alyssabeth Trembly made a perfect stick check. Despite thirst for a shot in her first college ice hockey match, Trembly took context into account first. Instead of a crude attack with the risk of opponents stealing the puck, Trembly passed it backwards to Gruschow. Surrounded by Montreal's defensive line, Gruschow sped forward alone.

Junior forward Katie Rooney and Montreal defender Kim Poirier rapidly joined the chase. Facing a great check, Gruschow also chose to pass the puck backwards to get a better chance at scoring. Freshman defender Josefina Hanson swiftly approached the puck and made a one-timer which managed to pass by Montreal's defensive pair, yet was checked by the Montreal goaltender.

St-Onge and senior defender Jenn Godin almost simultaneously started chasing after the puck. To the spectators' relief, Godin applied the strategy of separating St-Onge from the puck and successfully snatched it. By this time, all forwards and defenders

were gathering in RPI's offensive zone. The Engineers then started to plan effective and efficient attacks. First, three forwards and a defender formed a zigzag offense line, which extended into Montreal territory. Then, Godin passed the puck at the perfect time through Montreal's defensive line to junior defender Laura Horwood. However, their first try was checked by Montreal defender Maude Laramée.

Hanson picked up the puck, and the Engineers' reformed offensive line launched its second attack by using cherry-picking. Hanson passed the puck backwards to Rooney, who after getting rid of a Montreal defender, also passed it backwards. As the last forward in the offense line, Gruschow was looking for an easy scoring chance with no opponents defending her. She seized her chance for a perfect shot! The Engineers scored 42 seconds into the second period. It instantly ignited cries of joy in the entire venue.

The Engineers took to the offensive strategy in the second period, but Montreal's flexible and versatile defensive strategy effectively stopped the high-spirited Engineers from making more progress. To some extent, they were exhausted both mentally and physically.

In the third period, the physical conditions of our players took a turn for the worse, obviously owing to the intensity of the game. Although the Engineers had possession of the puck for more than 50 percent of the game, Montreal caught the deficit of the Engineers and made four goals in this 20 minute period, two of which happened in one minute. RPI lost 1-4.

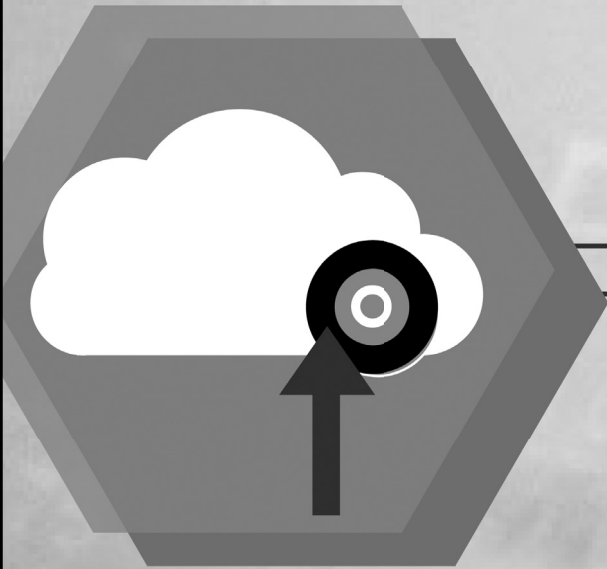
The screaming and shouting that filled the Houston Field House, as well as encouraging music played by the RPI Pep Band, was unfortunately not enough to push the team to victory.

2015 William F. Glaser '53 Rensselaer Entrepreneur of the Year Celebration

software

healthcare

innovation



Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Biotech Auditorium
2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

TOP TEN LIST

Top Ten recruiters at the career fair

10. Vladimir Putin
9. Art school
8. McDonald's
7. Microsoft's ridiculous line
6. Sweaty dudes
5. Donald Trump
4. Not Apple
3. Ashley Madison
2. Volunteers obsessing over attire
1. My pillow

SUDOKU

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

Previous Issue's Answers

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

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

CROSSWORD

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

Bagels

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

- | | | |
|-----------------|--------------|-------------|
| Banana Nut | Flagel | Poppyseed |
| Blueberry | French Toast | Rye |
| Chocolate Chip | Garlic | Salt |
| Cinnamon Raisin | Mini | Sesame |
| Egg | Onion | Strawberry |
| Everything | Plain | Whole Wheat |

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

“Yavm X’p kzgfmj lgf, X
oxmj gb bvvt txov X’p gm
jzfcu. Mgn nakn X jg jzfcu.
Fmtvuu lgf jg jzfcu, xm
yaxsa skuv X jg navp ktt
nav nxpv. Ktt gb navp.”
— Usgnn Qxtczxp
Usgnn Qxtczxp hu. nav Ygztj

DILBERT

by Scott Adams

Panel 1: Dilbert: "I JUST SAW YOUR NET WORTH ON THE INTERNET."
Boss: "WHAT'S THIS MEETING ABOUT ANYWAY?"
Dilbert: "IT'S ABOUT KEEPING EXPENSES DOWN."

Panel 2: Dilbert: "MORE FOR YOU?"
Boss: "THAT'S NOT THE SPIN I WAS GOING TO PUT ON IT."

Panel 3: Dilbert: "WE MUST LEARN TO DO MORE WITH LESS."
Boss: "YOU OWN A YACHT THAT HAS AN 18-HOLE GOLF COURSE, A LANDING STRIP FOR YOUR JET, AND ITS OWN ZIP CODE."
Dilbert: "I GOT A GOOD DEAL ON THAT."
Boss: "THAT'S WHAT THE IDIOT THAT BUYS IT FROM YOU WILL SAY, TOO."

Panel 4: Dilbert: "I'M WORKING TWICE AS HARD AS EVER BEFORE."
Boss: "MOST OF IT IS HAPPENING INSIDE MY HEAD. BUT TRUST ME, MY BRAIN IS WORKING DOUBLE-TIME."
Dilbert: "UM... THAT'S GREAT."
Boss: "OBVIOUSLY, I NEED TO WORK FEWER HOURS BECAUSE OF THE ENERGY DRAIN."

Panel 5: Dilbert: "I USED TO ENJOY POINTING TO MY WATCH AND MOCKING PEOPLE FOR BEING LATE."
Boss: "BUT IT ISN'T AS FUN AS IT USED TO BE."
Dilbert: "IS YOUR STEP COUNT LOW AGAIN?"

Panel 6: Dilbert: "ACCORDING TO MY FITNESS TRACKER, I TOOK 20,000 STEPS YESTERDAY."
Boss: "WHAT? THAT'S DOUBLE WHAT I DID. YOU WON'T WIN THIS! I WILL RUN TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH TO BEAT YOUR STEP COUNT!"
Dilbert: "DO YOU REALLY HAVE A FITNESS TRACKER?"
Boss: "NO, IT LOOKS LIKE A LOT OF WORK."

Panel 7: Dilbert: "I SIGNED UP FOR A MARTIAL ARTS CLASS."
Boss: "IT'S SOMETHING CALLED 'YOGA.'"
Dilbert: "HAVE YOU KILLED ANYONE YET?"
Boss: "NOT ON PURPOSE."

BEER REVIEW

Craft beer tempts palate

Chris Leong
Dan Bruce
Senior Reviewers

Chris's review

THE CAPTAIN LAWRENCE BREWING COMPANY IS BASED out of Elmsford, NY. Since its founding in 2006 by University of California, Davis brewing science graduate Scott Vaccaro, the company has won four craft brew awards and enjoys a wide selection of craft brews. As a nod to the coming fall season, Dan and I decided to review Captain Lawrence's Pumpkin Ale.

After opening the 12oz bottle chilled to about 45°F, I poured the beer into a pint glass and observed its moderately sized head, around two inches in height and quickly shrinking to a thin foam a quarter inch in thickness. Holding the glass to the light, I found the ale to possess an appealing clear but dark amber hue. I swirled the glass to release more of the brew's natural aromas. Breathing in through my nose and then my mouth, I captured a faint toasty and sweet smell. I've had other pumpkin brews before; the Captain Lawrence's pumpkin ale aroma was much lighter in comparison. As for taste, the craft beer yielded a clean, nutty flavor with a foamy and crisp mouthfeel. It also had sweet undertones, probably resultant of the pumpkin puree being directly added to the mash. Though my favorite type of beer is an India Pale Ale, I did appreciate the pumpkin ale's balance of flavors.

Overall, I enjoyed the beer, but would have liked more of a pumpkin punch. For light beer drinkers, I would consider this flavor to be on the safer side, being light and subtle, like its aroma. If you're new to the field of craft brews, I suggest this as a seasonal starting point. Otherwise, my score, just like the one I gave it on untappd, is 3.75/5.

Dan's review

I hate twist-tops. That said, Captain Lawrence excels in this facet of beer production, as I needed an opener to enjoy the beverage. The brewery's pumpkin ale was a refreshing way to start the fall season, with its ever-so-slightly hoppiness and a pronounced scent of pumpkin. Popping the top off the bottle evokes strong feelings of autumn's signature crispness, and sweet-smelling overtone makes this beer easy on the nose.

The beer is moderately cloudy, but it's not (as far as I can tell) considered an unfiltered beer. The head—in my kitchen's fluorescent lighting—was



Dan Bruce/The Polytechnic

CAPTAIN LAWRENCE BREWING COMPANY'S PUMPKIN ALE RECEIVED moderately high ratings from our reviewers.

faintly orange, possibly due to the inclusion of pumpkin in the recipe. The main flavor of the beer is pumpkin, which shares the spotlight with the standard fall spices—cinnamon and allspice, especially. Unfortunately, there was a consistently lingering coffee flavor in the center of the tongue—something I am not a fan of. As the beer went back, it was dry on the tongue with a hint of fizz.

I'd give Pumpkin Ale a 3.5/5. It was refreshing to have a pumpkin beer at the beginning of pumpkin spice season, and the aromas and tastes alone bring about the warm and cozy feelings of snuggling up next to a fireplace and watching the New England Patriots dominate the Jacksonville Jaguars. Pumpkin Ale is something I would definitely drink again, but likely only between October 1 and Thanksgiving.

Chris' rating: 3.75/5
Dan's rating: 3.5/5

Lake: Outing full of camping, relaxation

From **Page 12**

Unfortunately, being the late waker that I am, I missed the activities, and spent the day wandering the island with newfound friends (time lapse and chill, anyone?), and even having a five hour long '90s and 2000's jam session. But that's the beauty of Fall Lake George: this trip is the perfect chance to do what you want, whether that involves hardcore nature lovin' of the athletic variety or the lazy stargazer variety. Everybody just did what they wanted and grouped together to make friends with others who did the same.

Now, I'm not saying it was the perfect experience—the trip wasn't the most organized (or at least information wasn't communicated well). Meal times were not announced to everyone clearly. I found myself waiting well over an hour for the boat ride back to civilization; Nathan discovered that he was obligated to canoe on the way back as well, despite there being more than enough time for the boat to make extra trips, which would have been good to know before choosing to canoe. It definitely felt like things would've been chaotic if there were 150 people, which is apparently the attendance that they saw last year. But, in the end, it was a good experience which I would strongly recommend to anyone who doesn't hate nature. Simply keep in mind that the same rule that applies to the rest of RPI applies to ROC as well: the opportunities are there for you to take, and it's up to you to decide what you make of it.

Affinity: Looking for interested students

From **Page 12**

co-founder and Deputy Director of Clean and Healthy New York, an environmental health advocacy group focused on removing toxic chemicals from everyday life. Wilding has over 15 years of experience in the environmental health movement and is also on the advisory board of the NYS Pollution Prevention Institute. She previously worked for Citizens' Environmental Coalition, which focused on toxic waste cleanup.

In addition, the Chapel+Cultural Center and the Student Sustainability Task Force are running several other events this week. On Thursday, October 1, at 2 pm in the C+CC auditorium, is "Changing Global Lifestyles to Preserve the Planet," featuring RPI professors Kim Fortun, Mike Fortun, Amir Hirsra, and Abby Kinchy. Also in the C+CC auditorium on Friday, October 2 at 7 pm is "The Yes Men Fix the World," with a discussion after featuring RPI professor Igor Vamos. I saw an advance screening of "The Yes Men Fix the World," and it is quite entertaining, yet it illustrates environmental problems and the importance of solving them in a serious light. On Saturday, October 3 from 9 am–noon is SSTF's "Eco-Mixer: The Volunteering Edition." Those who are interested can sign up at: <http://poly.news/s/51az8/>.

CLASSIC MOVIE REVIEW

Old school comedy still as good as first time

David Raab
Staff Reviewer

AIRPLANE! IS A MOVIE THAT I CAN WATCH time and time again and find it funny each viewing. Simply put, it is a spoof of the domestic American air travel experience. It's funny to note how the jokes hit on the realities of air travel, despite the fact the movie was made almost two decades before 9/11 permanently altered air travel. For instance, the spoof of airport gate security resembles the true state of modern TSA security that in the 1980s was only a pipe dream. However, the days of smoking on airplanes are long gone, so the smoking ticket gag loses some meaning looking back from a modern perspective. I hate to explain jokes, because in the process they inevitably stop being funny, but I can say that anyone who has been on an airplane can identify with them. No aspect of typical airport and airline operations go without a cruel mockery being made of them.

In the mix, there is a rekindling of love between Ted, a post traumatic stress disorder affected war veteran and Elaine, an airline flight attendant. In fact,

they meet in a nightclub during what is only ever ominously referred to as "The War," and quickly fall head over heels in love. Yet, their relationship crumbles almost as quickly as it was built up after a failed air mission where Ted saw himself as responsible for the deaths of the rest of his squadron. They meet again when Ted finds out which flight Elaine is working on a last ditch effort to save their relationship. Ted manages to get a ticket at the last minute and the premise for the relatively short movie is set.

A rancid in-flight meal of fish which takes out the entire pilot crew sets the stage for the rest of the movie to occur. The kind and soothing manner of flight attendants is parodied when they are looking for someone to fly a plane. Eventually, it becomes clear the only person with any sort of flight experience is the PTSD plagued Ted, who had just barely gotten over his fear of being in an airplane at all, never mind the cockpit. He eventually gets over his fear of flying and takes over the controls from an inflatable autopilot (literally an inflatable balloon). He eventually lands the plane with the help of Kramer (who just so happens to have been his Captain during



Courtesy of Paramount Pictures

LESLIE NIELSEN AND ROBERT HAYS PORTRAY Dr. Rumack and Ted Stricker, respectively, in the 1980 comedy Airplane! that is filled with timeless jokes.

the ominous "War") and in true cinematic bravado manages to get back with Elaine.

Ultimately, this is a movie that you watch when you've had a long week and just want to kick back and relax. There's not a whole lot of deeper meaning and substance to this

movie but sometimes that isn't what viewers are looking for. Most people I've talked to at least are familiar with it (probably because it's been out so long) and if nothing else, watch it just because you'll be able to make fun of it with your friends.

TV SERIES REVIEW

Violent TV pilot surprises with gore, blood

Olivia Fiscaletti
Senior Reviewer

RYAN MURPHY IS UNDOUBTEDLY A GENIUS when it comes to creating amazing television series. *Nip/Tuck*, *Glee*, and *American Horror Story* are some of the best series I've watched. The newest Murphy series, co-created with Brad Falchuk and Ian Brennan, *Scream Queens*, promises to offer a death in every episode, while also providing comedic relief. The pilot episode premiered this past Tuesday night, and it was a bloody mess.

Scream Queens centers on a group of women who are sisters of the Kappa Kappa Tau sorority. Back in 1995, a mysterious death at a party leaves sorority KKT with some skeletons in their closet. Fast forward 20 years, and Dean of Students Cathy Munsch, played by Jamie Lee Curtis, forces the sorority to accept anyone who is interested in joining. Emma Roberts revives her mean girl skills from *American Horror Story: Coven* as KKT president, Chanel Oberlin, who is the quintessential rich privileged sorority girl. Chanel, along with her minions, referred to as Chanel #2, #3, and #5, are furious because they don't want the "fatties and ethnics" becoming sisters. Big surprise, the pledges consist of outcast women who are desperate to make friends. Soon after, sisters are being murdered one by one by a deranged serial killer dressed in a cheap devil costume, à la Ghostface in *Scream*.

About halfway through the premiere, I realized that the only reason that I was still watching was because of one interesting character (shout out to the pledge played by Lea Michele for rocking a neck brace and being creepily obsessed with death), along with wondering which terribly shallow character was going to be killed



Courtesy of Fox Broadcasting Company

THE RED DEVIL REVS a chainsaw in a scene from the pilot episode of *Scream Queens*. The show follows the story of a sorority that is being attacked by the Red Devil as he violently kills off girls and the drama surrounding the murders.

off next. The only time the show was mildly captivating was when Michele was on screen, or when someone was getting murdered. I was genuinely surprised at how grotesque some of the deaths shown were, especially since the show is part of Fox's primetime lineup.

This spoof of spoof comedy left me unimpressed. The characters are completely self-aware of how awful they are, and no one is safe from being confined to a stereotype. The Greek students are

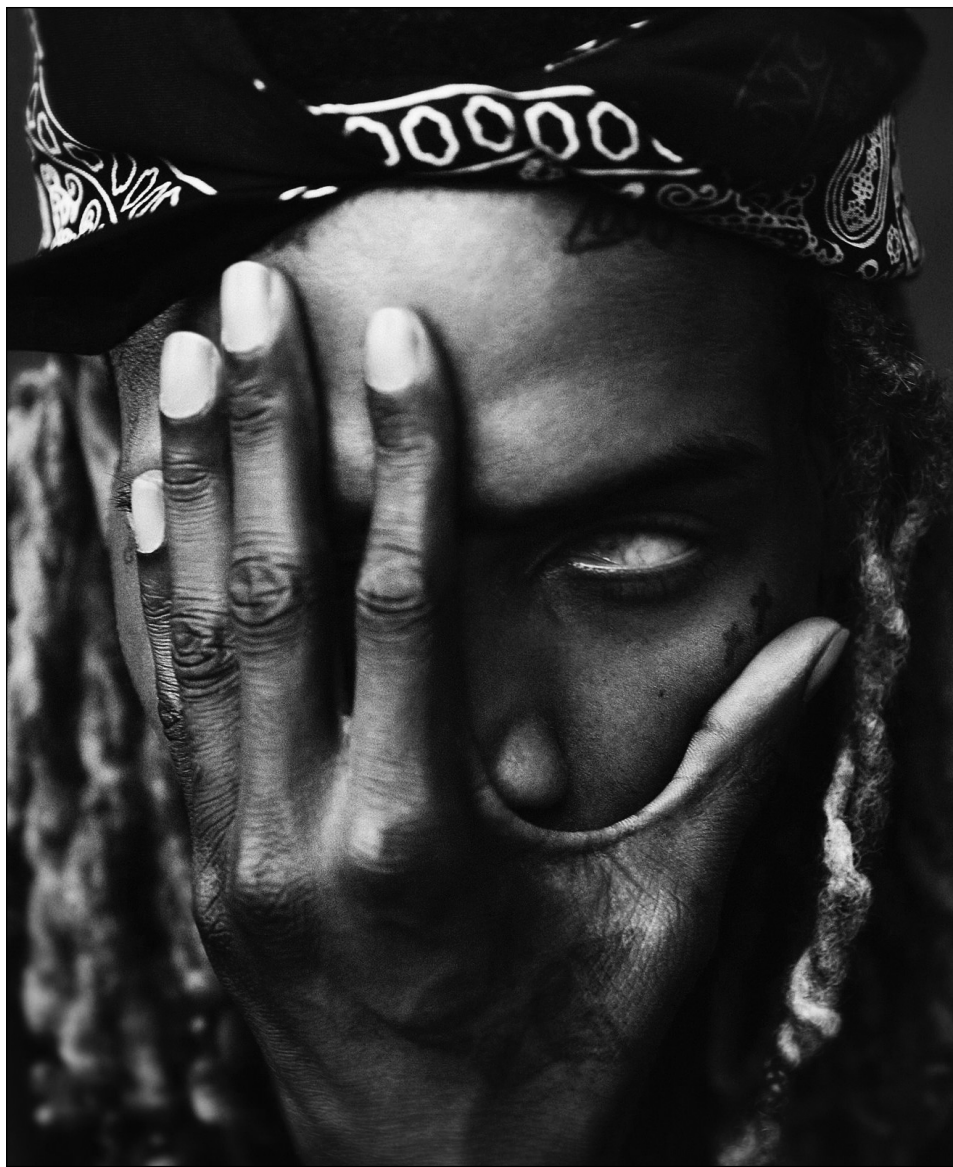
superficial and elitist, the pledges are frumpy and borderline pathetic, and Dean Munsch is basically an angry feminist cougar. I even struggle to find a connection to the girl-next-door character who is most likely the main target of the serial killer. Rather than being comical, these characters just come off as trying too hard to be entertaining.

Maybe I had high expectations for *Scream Queens*. I wanted it to be satirical, with comical horror thrown in. Instead,

I got a show with an unoriginal serial killer, pretty awful characters, and cheap comedy complete with lame attempts at referencing classic horror films. I will probably give it another chance and watch this week's episode, but only because I feel like I owe it to Murphy to trust his process.

Olivia's rating: 5/10

Fetty: Breakout rapper releases solid first album



Courtesy of Fetty Wap

FETTY WAP DROPPED his self-titled album *Fetty Wap* on September 25. The album features a mix of high-energy party and slower tempo songs.

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uploaded to Soundcloud in December 2014, "My Way" was remixed by Drake in June 2015, receiving over 100 million hits on YouTube, pushing the RemyBoyz headliner once again into the spotlight. Just like "679," the song features Wap's catchy hook over a bass-dominated beat but also includes a distinct piano-sounding riff. Drake naturally kills it in his part of the song, endowing the track with his smooth voice and clever lines. Wap's fourth single "Again" is more of a romantic song, trying to get his ex-girlfriend back. We know that he's talking about her because he reuses two lines from his first single "Trap Queen." Starting off slow and with a classic "yah, baby," "Again" employs the artist's familiar bass backing and vocal harmonies.

In his more than one year of spectacular popularity, Wap hadn't even put out his own album. He relied on his fans and internet presence on Soundcloud, YouTube, and WorldStar to bring him to concerts, such as Billboard's Hot 100 Music Festival and a huge record label, Atlantic Records. Also supporting the Hip Hop and trap music community, Wap has been featured in 15 songs, lending his easily adaptable voice to other artists such as Lil Dicky, DJ Khaled, and Baauer. Though he has involved himself with these famous artists, he has chosen to only feature Monty and M80 on his debut album.

Fetty Wap does not feature Drake's remix of "My Way" and removed P. Dice's verse from "679." Wap's thinking in only including small name artists and producers

in his first album is to produce an album that is truly his. This pays homage to his humble beginnings and "Trap Queen," which put his hometown, Patterson, NJ on the map. Listeners can get a true feel for the Trap King's slurred, sing-song lyrics and signature "yah, baby."

Wap, in his own way, represents the American dream. Rising to stardom in almost a year after starting to rap in 2013, Wap came from humble beginnings and no music experience. He doesn't explicitly rap, per se, but instead uses a sing-song, syncopated style that is truly his. "Trap Queen" has elements of hip-hop, voice, and R&B that are similar to artists Rich Homie Quan and ILOVEMAKONNEN, but also includes trap, with its distinctive drop during the catchy hook.

Personally, I listened to the entire album on my couch with big headphones and my eyes closed and just kind of lost myself. The album's deep bass beats combined with Wap's smooth cadence give a relaxed feel, save for "679" and "Jugg." I think that in general, *Fetty Wap* gives a real description of his unique musical style and independent beginnings. Songs that I recommend listening to other than his singles are "RGF Island," "D.A.M.," and "No Days Off." These stand out to me from the rest of the album. I can't wait to see what the Trap King has in store next.

Chris' rating: 9/10

Features

Wednesday, September 30, 2015

SUSTAINABILITY

SustainAffinity plans new events

Elizabeth Anderson
Special to The Poly

THIS WEEKEND, SEVERAL ENVIRONMENTAL events will take place on RPI's campus. One of these is SustainAffinity's first event. SustainAffinity is an affinity group that I started with the goal of connecting sustainability-oriented RPI students and alumni. The goal of the group is three-fold: to provide a network to help RPI students and alumni interested in sustainability oriented careers discover their options, to create a sustainable community that reaches beyond RPI, and to mentor current students, particularly environmental club leaders, to reach their goals at RPI and beyond.

On Saturday, October 3, from 2–4 pm, the Inaugural SustainAffinity Panel and Reception will take place in Russell Sage Laboratory 3303 with four amazing panelists who are leaders in diverse environmental fields: Jodi Smits Anderson '89, Kathleen "Kathie" Brosemer '85, Gavin McIntyre '07, and Bobbi Chase Wilding '97. After half an hour of networking with refreshments (vegan and gluten-free options will be available), the panelists will talk about their experiences working on sustainable solutions and give advice about paths current students and fellow alumni might take in environmental fields. Audience questions will be accepted, and after the panel there will be more opportunities for networking. This event is open to current students, alumni, faculty, staff, and their guests.

Anderson received her Bachelor of Architecture from RPI and is now the Director of Sustainability

Programs at Dormitory Authority of the State of New York and a Master Green Professional Building Skills Training Instructor in Fundamentals as well as Operations and Maintenance. Anderson has served in various roles with the US Green Building Council, including Board Chair of the New York Upstate Chapter in 2012 and national Chapter Steering Committee member from 2011–2014.

Brosemer received her Bachelor of Science in Geology from RPI and is now the Environmental Program Manager for the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. Through her work and that of many others, the tribe was one of two tribes recently selected as White House Climate Action Champion communities. Brosemer is also the President of Northwatch and has run for Member of Parliament for the Green Party in Canada. She was recently awarded the Taimi Lynne Hoag award for environmental stewardship from Environmental Protection Agency Region 5.

McIntyre's degree is in Mechanical Engineering and Product Design. He is one of the co-founders of Ecovative Design and is the Chief Scientist there. McIntyre also serves on several boards, including those of the NYS Pollution Prevention Institute and the Rensselaer Center for Automation Technology and Systems. McIntyre and fellow co-founder Eben Bayer made Forbes' 30 Under 30 earlier this year.

Wilding received her Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science and Master of Science in Ecological Economics, Values, and Policy from RPI. She is the

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EVENT REVIEW

Trip provides ultimate escape



Courtesy of Asiah Reynolds '18

MEMBERS OF THE OUTING CLUB CLIMB Black Mountain in the Adirondacks during a day trip. The club spent the weekend on their annual Fall Lake George trip with 87 people in attendance.

Rex Hu
Staff Reviewer

LAST FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, WAS TROY NIGHT Out—sure, the town is quaint and there's a lot to do there, but that happens once a month. I was going somewhere even more special. I was attending Rensselaer Outing Club's traditional first trip of the year to Lake George, which is appropriately dubbed as "Fall Lake George." For this trip, ROC rents an entire island (it's called Turtle Island, how cool is that?) and allows participants free reign.

On Friday afternoon, I found myself sitting in a Mini Cooper in the middle of traffic. Nathan Dorer '18 (a fabulous driver who likes to congratulate himself on his driving stunts) bounced in his seat to the music while driving, which was only the start to a weekend full of throwback songs. In a short hour, we arrived at the mainland check-in, where people went their separate ways. There were two options for transportation to the island. First, you could paddle your own canoe with two friends (the brave and bold), which took an hour and some serious tricep workouts. Otherwise, you could take a powerboat with five others (lazy bums, like myself), which would only take 20 minutes at most, though there was a chance of getting wet, but

who doesn't love that? Once I arrived, I was informed that I could settle anywhere on the island, which has a perimeter that takes about 25 minutes to walk. Naturally, I settled for a campsite that was two thirds of the way down the island (oh, so far). Just about every campsite on the island had a gorgeous view of the lake, other islands, and moon (disclaimer: only at night). I quickly discovered that the scenery was not the only gorgeous thing—the food that ROC prepared was beautiful to my hungry eyes and stomach as well.

While we were there, we feasted on grilled hamburgers, hot dogs, entire ears of corn (so juicy! so sweet!), steak, chicken, and for the final breakfast, eggs and sausages that we cooked ourselves. But for those who aren't solely preoccupied with food like myself, there were also two very fun day trips on Saturday: hiking, canoeing, and rock climbing. Participants were shuttled to shore where there was a terrain suited for the activity, and spent most of the time between lunch and dinner scaling mountains. Rock climbers clambered up 85 feet of stone, and, according to Nathan, some hikers made a 2.75 mile hike to the top of a mountain, where everybody took an hour-and-a-half long nap before descending, for a round trip of 5.5 miles.

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LUNAR ECLIPSE



Jack Wellhofer/The Polytechnic

AN ECLIPSED SUPERMOON RISES over the Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center. The picture is a composite of two separate photos taken September 27, 2015.

ALBUM REVIEW

Self-titled debut album hits it off

Chris Leong
Senior Reviewer

HAILING FROM PATTERSON, NJ, TRAP&B ARTIST WILLIE MAXWELL, MORE famously known by his stage name Fetty Wap, released his self-titled debut studio album *Fetty Wap* on Friday. His first single "Trap Queen" dropped in early 2014, but didn't become popular until nearly three months after its music video was uploaded to YouTube in November 2014. This song led to his meteoric rise and following three singles, for a total of four songs that hit top 33 in Billboard's Hot 100 chart; this hasn't happened since a certain English rock band hit America in the 1960s.

Reviewing Wap's debut album without delving into his background would leave out key parts of its allure. After "Trap Queen," Wap released his second single "679" and its accompanying music video on WorldStarHipHop.com before the 2015 summer season in early May. With its upbeat pace, catchy synth riff and Wap's powerful hook, "679" instantly found itself on my party playlists and peaking at number 7 on Billboard's Hot 100. On July 17, 2015, the "Trap King" officially released his third single, "My Way," featuring Montana "Monty" Buckz which also peaked at number 7. Originally

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