Elections continue amidst controversy

ERICA SHERMAN
Senior Reporter

Although the Grand Marshal Final Election was held last Thursday, several events have occurred leading to the invalidation of the race by the Rules and Elections committee.

At the time of publication, the election results, originally set to be announced last Friday night at Relay for Life, have been impaired by pending a Judicial Board appeal regarding RNE’s Decision 12, which cited several reasons for nullifying the election.

Decision 12 lists several violations that occurred or were discovered on the day of elections, April 22. Specifically, they detail violations made by Ben Hunt ’10 with regards to incorrectly reporting finances, overspending his budget, and campaigning. Hunt has appealed the decision to the Judicial Board, whose membership includes students, faculty, and staff.

The Judicial Board will be hearing the Review Board, whose membership can be appealed the decision to the Judicial Board, whose membership includes students, faculty, and staff.

nullify the first GM primary that was held as planned on Tuesday and that the results would be announced on Wednesday. Additionally, the candidates would have a budget of $150 for this extended campaigning period, but Hunt’s poster privilege would be removed based on the violations listed in Decision 12.

GM Candidates Michael Zwack ’11 and Ben Hunt prevailed in the GM Primary Election, which was held on April 15 following the Judicial Board’s decision to nullify the first GM primary that was held on Monday, April 12. The Judicial Board had declared that Hunt was not in violation of the Honor Code, as reported in RNE’s Violation 11, and that integrity of the April 12 Primary had been compromised.

BROTHERS OF FIJI WALK around the ’86 Field in the 2010 Relay for Life on Friday night. Ninety-four teams participated in the 12 hour event, involving over 1,200 members of the RPI community who raised more than $81,500 for the American Cancer Society. The Relay schedule kept participants busy all night and included an Opening Celebration Ceremony & Survivor Lap, a performance by the Rusty Pipes, and a Rock-Paper-Scissors Tournament. FIJI is listed as the top fundraising team, with $4,937.30 collected. Relay for Life began in 1985 when Dr. Gordy Klatt, a colorectal surgeon in Washington, ran and walked around a track for 24 hours to raise money for the American Cancer Society. This is the fifth year that RPI has hosted Relay for Life.

Lease revisions progress

JULIA VAN CLEVE
Staff Reporter

Over the past few months, Campus Habitat has worked with the Rensselaer Union to address alleged New York State law violations found in the student housing company’s lease by Student Legal Services. They have recently made more revisions to the lease and are awaiting feedback.

A fax from Student Legal Services (Martin, Shudt, Wallace, DiLorenzo, & Johnson) which outlined the violations was received on January 21 by Director of Community Relations Erin Crotty. Student Legal Services explained that they reviewed the lease with various members of the RPI community and felt the lease did not sufficiently protect the tenant and suggested that students not sign “unless drastic changes had been made.”

Since then, there has been at least one more revision; after changes were made, the lease was much improved, but problems were reported as still present. Campus Habitat and Student Legal Services are still in the process of revising the lease.

Executive Vice President of Operations for Campus Habitat Rob Martin stated that many of the comments referred to vague terminology, which was used because the lease was a national lease that was supposed to satisfy the laws of multiple states.

One of the main concerns mentioned in the fax had to do with Paragraph 20, “Default/Landlord’s Remedies.” The lease had originally stated that the tenant, by signing the lease, waived his right of due process if evicted from the premises and allowed the landlord to trespass, remove the tenant, and remove the tenant’s personal property from the premises. R. Martin clarified that the original intent of that paragraph was to ensure that Campus Habitat could reclaim properties and find a new lessee if a tenant, with or without notice, left for a prolonged period of time, and make sure the original tenant isn’t held responsible for rent payments due during that period. Campus Habitat has cooperated with Student Legal Services to address their concerns with Paragraph 20.

Other violations that were addressed included charging the students for utility fees accrued from common areas (Public Service Law section 52) and asking tenants to waive their right to be notified of a default in rent payments (three days notice is required by law before the eviction process can begin).

“We want to show the university that we are very serious about having this type of relationship with residents in Troy. One that gives the residents tools and us tools to have a great relationship throughout the term of the lease,” explained R. Martin.

It was also mentioned that Assistant Vice President for Administration Paul Martin requested that Campus Habitat have all current tenants re-sign the new lease once it has been finalized. He agreed to help Campus Habitat contact all residents regarding re-signing.

R. Martin and Crotty have been having monthly meetings regarding this lease and will be having their next meeting on May 1.

Editor’s Note: Be sure to check back next week for more detailed information regarding the lease revisions.
Wal-Mart faces massive class action suit

A sharply divided federal appeals court on Monday exposed Wal-Mart Stores Inc. to billions of dollars in legal damages when it ruled a massive class action lawsuit alleging gender discrimination over pay for female workers can go to trial.

In its 6-5 ruling, the Ninth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals said the world’s largest private employer will have to face charges that it pays women less than men for the same jobs and that female employees receive fewer promotions and have to wait longer for those promotions than male counterparts.

The retailer, based in Bentonville, Ark., has fiercely fought the lawsuit since it was first filed by six women in federal court in San Francisco in 2001, losing two previous rulings in the trial court and again in the appeals court in 2007.

Wal-Mart successfully convinced the appeals court to revisit its 2007 ruling made by a three-judge panel and appoint a larger 11-judge panel, arguing that women who allege discrimination should file individual lawsuits.

Israel halts east Jerusalem building

JERUSALEM (AP)—Israel’s prime minister has effectively frozen new Jewish construction in east Jerusalem, municipal officials said Monday, reflecting the need to mend a serious rift with the U.S. and get Middle East peace talks back on track.

The move comes despite Benjamin Netanyahu’s repeated assertion he would never halt construction in east Jerusalem and risks angering hard-liners in his government. One lawmaker from Netanyahu’s Likud Party warned the governing coalition could collapse over the issue.

Still, the de facto freeze appeared to offer the promise of reviving peace efforts derailed after Israel announced plans for a major Jewish housing development during a visit by Vice President Joe Biden last month.

That set off the worst diplomatic dispute between the U.S. and Israel in decades—and prompted the Palestinians to call for a new round of U.S.-brokered peace talks.

Court considers ban on violent video games

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Supreme Court will decide whether free speech rights are more important than helping parents keep violent material away from children.

The justices agreed Monday to consider reinstating California’s ban on the sale or rental of violent video games to minors, a law the Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco threw out last year on grounds that it violated minors’ constitutional rights.

However, the judge who wrote the decision overturning the law said he was pleased the high court would review the appeals court ruling.

The financial overhaul bill is a priority of President Barack Obama and, after health care, its passage will be an important political accomplishment for a major Jewish housing development during a visit by Vice President Joe Biden last month.

That set off the worst diplomatic dispute between the U.S. and Israel in decades—and prompted the Palestinians to call for a new round of U.S.-brokered peace talks.

WASHINGTON (AP)—Seizing on Americans’ anger at Wall Street, Democrats are growing increasingly confident they’ll be able to break through Republican opposition and approve the most sweeping new controls on financial institutions since the Great Depression.

The Democrats needed 60 votes Monday to proceed on the regulatory overhaul, and GOP leaders predicted Republicans would succeed in a blocking effort. But that was just part of a legislative ballet keeping bipartisan talks alive.

Democrats believe that public pressure and the scent of a Wall Street scandal have given them the upper hand. Republicans themselves have taken up the Democrats’ Wall Street-bashing rhetoric and have voiced hope that a bill will ultimately pass. In that light, the path to final approval seems clearer than it ever did during the contentious debate over health care.

The financial overhaul bill is a priority of President Barack Obama and, after health care, its passage would build on his legislative successes—an important political consideration in an election year. The House has already passed its version of new bank regulations.

Less than an hour before the scheduled vote, the White House issued its official endorsement of the bill, saying Obama would oppose adding any loopholes.

Both the House and Senate bills aimed at heading off any recurrence of the near collapse of the financial system in 2008, would create a mechanism for liquidating large firms that get into trouble, set up a council to detect systemwide financial threats and establish a consumer protection agency to police lending. The legislation also would require investment derivatives, blamed for helping precipitate the near-meltdown, to be traded in open exchanges.

Senate Republicans have been solidly opposed to the legislation so far, but Democrats are determined to force them to block the bill until their rule-making is over.

“Don’t think it’s a tenable political position for the Republicans to be in,” White House spokesman Robert Gibbs said.

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid mocked the Republicans’ cohesion in the Senate.

“As far as I can tell, the only thing Republicans stand for is standing together,” he said.

Richard Shelby, the top Republican on the Banking Committee, said Monday before the vote, “Most Republicans want a bill, but they want a substantive bill.”

The Alabama senator has been negotiating with committee chairman Chris Dodd, D-Conn.

Shelby aides said he wants to tighten language that he believes would give the Federal Reserve and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. too much flexibility to assist large banks and their creditors.

Polls show the public is increasingly eager to slap restrictions on financial institutions.

Severe storms inflict damage in Mississippi

YAZOO CITY, Miss. (AP)—Some Mississippi residents cracked jokes Monday to keep from crying while they looked for salvageable items among the rubble left by severe storms that killed 12 people over the weekend.

State officials were tallying the cost of the damage so they could ask for an emergency declaration from President Barack Obama, along with federal funds to help clean up the mess. The latest figures Monday were grim: In Mississippi alone, nearly 700 homes were damaged, 49 people injured, and 10 killed. Two others died in storms in Alabama.

Nancy Luke stepped carefully through fallen cinderblocks, cracked mirrors and a broken disco ball in what used to be the Yazoo City bar she managed, Wendy’s On the Hill. The bar was in the center of the mile-wide swath of destruction.

Luke said she and the owner, Wendy Douglas, have been joking with each other to fend off tears.

“Shes’s a neat freak. This is usually the cleanest bar in town, I tell you,” Luke said.

Most of the bar was obliterated, but the office and the restrooms still stood. Luke said she found three rolls of toilet paper still stacked in a pyramid on a tray in the women’s room.

The tornado flung a blue metal trash container from outside the bar three-miles away while dumping most of its contents next to the slab of the building: Dozens of brown Bud Light and Miller Lite beer bottles, most of which were broken.

Miss. Gov. Haley Barbour was spending part of the day in neighborhoods of his native Yazoo City talking privately with residents.

“When you know everybody, it’s harder,” said Barbour, whose home was undamaged in Saturday’s tornado.

The storm system began in Louisiana before cutting a path some 150 miles long through Mississippi and continuing to Alabama. Storm surveys were working Monday to determine whether the damage was caused by a single tornado or multiple twisters.

National Weather Service meteorologist Ed Agre said tornado winds have been measured at 160 miles an hour along much of the path, with some areas hit with even stronger winds. By comparison, the scale used to measure hurricane intensity tops off at 155 mph and above.
Hunt responds to final election violations

Grand Marshal Candidate Hunt disputes violations with RNE Chair Khan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RNE violation</th>
<th>Ben Hunt’s argument</th>
<th>Haris Khan’s response</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Hunt argues that Khan approved the expensing of only 15 plots due to posters allegedly ripped down by Environmental and Site Services or “beguirding students.”</td>
<td>Hunt states Violations 1 and 2 are the primary reasons for invalidating the election. 1. Khan says that he only approved replacing one poster without expensing the reprint, not 15. 2. According to Khan, Hunt incorrectly expensed the plots as “draft” quality, while the plots were actually “normal” quality. 3. Khan additionally states that Hunt said only one plot was not used for campaigning.</td>
<td>1. Khan stands by the claims made in the original violation, and believes that the calculations made by RNE were correct. 2. Khan, “The role of the Rules and Elections Committee [is] to pick apart all actions deemed illegal by the GM Week 2010 Elections Handbook. The handbook deems going over an expense limit as illegal, whereas it does not deem pooling party resources together to be illegal. It is as simple as that.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Hunt states that his budget cuts were calculated incorrectly by RNE.</td>
<td>1. Khan states that candidate assistant forms allow RNE to protect the integrity of the election process by holding active campaigners to the standards of the Honor Code. 2. In Decision 11, RNE ruled that no candidate has been found in violation of e-mail list abuse and that no candidate may campaign on the basis that e-mail lists have been abused. Any further reports of candidates campaigning on that basis would result in Honor Code violations.</td>
<td>1. Hunt cites a clause in the The Rensselaer Handbook of Student Rights and Responsibilities guaranteeing free speech, and states that this defends many of the students supporting him. 2. Hunt believes this violated a precedent set by RNE by not punishing Zwack for having a campaign e-mail forwarded by unaffiliated students.</td>
</tr>
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<td>3. Furthermore, Hunt believes that the party finances available to candidate Michael Zwack made RNE’s decision to “pick apart” his budget “ridiculous and unfair.” (Zwack’s available party funds totaled $700, and his personal funds were $210.)</td>
<td>1. Khan states that candidate assistant forms allow RNE to protect the integrity of the election process by holding active campaigners to the standards of the Honor Code. 2. In Decision 11, RNE ruled that no candidate has been found in violation of e-mail list abuse and that no candidate may campaign on the basis that e-mail lists have been abused. Any further reports of candidates campaigning on that basis would result in Honor Code violations.</td>
<td>1. Hunt argues that, as stated in the violation, Khan gave him permission to use the grill. 2. After being warned about the propane, Hunt says he turned off the grill until he was able to replace the propane.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Khan additionally states that Hunt said only one plot was not used for campaigning.</td>
<td>1. While acknowledging that he allowed the use of the grill, Khan argues that the grill’s expense was grossly underestimated on Hunt’s expense sheet. 2. Khan states that the propane was replenished too late.</td>
<td></td>
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As of last week, areas around the Low Center for Industrial Innovation have been blocked off for construction crews. The work being done is Phase I of a four-year, $10 million project to replace the 60,000 square feet of white brick on the exterior of the CII with a ventilated terracotta rainscreen. The problem is not structural and the building has been, and will continue to be, safe.

The CII building is cast-in-place-concrete, meaning it is a robust structure of steel bolted onto concrete. According to Director of Campus Planning and Facilities Design Bruce Kunkel, “There have not been problems with that side of things.” Issues lie with the red and white brick of the veneer, which thaw repeatedly during the winter, sometimes many times in one day. The brick has deteriorated over the years and Kunkel expects that it will only get worse. Replacing the brick with a ventilated terracotta rainscreen is a permanent fix, and in the meantime, netting has been used to prevent chunks from falling.

Set up of Phase I will be completed by June 1, at which point demolition of the existing brick will begin. Installation will begin in early July, to be finished by December. Building occupants will be affected by the construction, but will be kept up-to-date on relevant information. On April 14, there was a Town Meeting to explain the upcoming construction, and these will continue on a regular basis until the project is complete. Any questions can be directed to Building Coordinator Dave King at 518-276-2938.

A study of the problem began in 2007. It was decided that the institute needed an option which would last for 60 years, be low maintenance, and energy efficient. Many options were considered before choosing the ventilated terracotta rainscreen, including replacing the white brick with red brick, stone or metal panels, but these other options were ultimately rejected because of cost, maintenance, and energy performance issues. Despite being new to the United States, Arrien Cartrette of architecture+ insists that, “the system has already proved itself in Europe.” One of United States, Arien Cartrette of architecture+ insists that, “the system has already proved itself in Europe.” One of the multiple European suppliers was chosen over the only American supplier due to various factors including color selection, technical support, and cost.

CONSTRUCTION ON THE CII BEGINS as part of a four-year project to replace the white brick façade with a more energy efficient terracotta rainscreen. The new material has been used across Europe and will provide the building with the latest technology to prevent deterioration during the harsh winters in Troy.

The construction process requires that the parts of the building covered in white brick be stripped to the concrete substrate and covered with a high quality air and weather membrane. This spray-on product will stop airflow across the boundary, which will decrease heating and cooling costs while still allowing moisture to equalize on either side. A layer of aluminum will be placed between this membrane and the mineral wall insulation. In total, this insulation will triple the amount of insulation that is currently used on the building, making the building more efficient. It is also noncombustible for safety.

Finally, the terracotta panels will both eliminate the “freeze-thaw” problem and make the building aesthetically pleasing. The panels allow air to flow freely, which does not create the suction that would hold water to the building. They are designed in a stackable pattern which drains 99 percent of rain water. The construction process requires that the parts of the building covered in white brick be stripped to the concrete substrate and covered with a high quality air and weather membrane. This spray-on product will stop air flow across the boundary, which will decrease heating and cooling costs while still allowing moisture to equalize on either side. A layer of aluminum will be placed between this membrane and the mineral wall insulation. In total, this insulation will triple the amount of insulation that is currently used on the building, making the building more efficient. It is also noncombustible for safety.

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While the project has been planned with the goal of making the building more efficient, Kunkel said, “estimates for energy reduction are not available at this point, but the project will result in a much more energy efficient building.”
Lazy Dog
NAPERVILLE, Ill. (AP)—Three suburban Chicago firefighters rescued a small dog that became trapped inside a mechanized recliner chair by sawing the piece of furniture apart.

Eighty-seven-year-old owner Kee Makris says his terrier, Ebonysyr, has nerve damage following his Thursday night ordeal but that he is “coming along fine.” Firefighters who responded to an emergency call from the Sunrise of Naperville assisted living center Thursday arrived to find a nurse’s aide hanging onto the chair to relieve the pressure on the dog and allow him to breathe. Firefighter and paramedic Scott Bolda says the chair’s electrical controls stopped working once Ebonysyr become wedged inside.

Makris says the 5-year-old pooch is on painkillers but that he was able to go out for a walk Monday.

911 Taxi Service
NEW HAVEN, Conn. (AP)—Police in one Connecticut city have a warning for nightclub patrons: Don’t call 911 for a ride home.

New Haven police say that’s what 28-year-old Quandria Bailey did, calling the emergency line six times to request a ride from a nightclub back to her Meriden home.

Bailey was charged with six counts of misuse of the 911 system early Saturday. She was released on a $1,000 bond and is scheduled to appear in court May 5.

A telephone number for Bailey could not immediately be located Sunday and it was unclear whether she had an attorney.

Lovers’ Quarrel
NEW YORK (AP)—Was it a lovers’ quarrel or a stunt? Jeff Ragsdale attracted media attention this week after he planted a sign that said, “I was verbally abusive. I’m sorry, Megan.”

But don’t expect the girls to wear matching dresses to go with their matching dates. Adrian and Jerimiah will wear white, while Hannah and Josh will go to the prom wearing black.

Fire Hydrant Lunacy
SAN BERNARDINO, Calif. (AP)—A Riverside County man was arrested for allegedly stealing dozens of fire hydrants to sell for scrap. The man, 45, was arrested Wednesday and remained jailed on Friday.

Authorities in San Bernardino and Riverside counties say they suspect the man stole 45 hydrants. They believe he posed as a repairman, shut off the water, unbolted the 80- to 100-pound hydrants and hauled them away in broad daylight.

Authorities said they got a break when a water district employee in San Bernardino became suspicious of a man in an orange safety vest driving a white utility truck—the description witnesses gave for the hydrant thief.

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Advancement VP well accomplished

ERICA SHERMAN
Senior Reporter

President Shirley Ann Jackson announced the appointment of the new Vice President for Institute Advancement Brenda Wilson-Hale on Tuesday. Wilson-Hale will begin her term on July 1.

In a press release regarding the announcement, Jackson commented on the breadth of Wilson-Hale’s experience, stating that “for more than two decades, she has demonstrated strong leadership, creativity, and tremendous business acumen in helping to raise funds and direct campaigns at a broad spectrum of organizations.”

Currently serving as chief executive officer of the Washington University in St. Louis Office of Advancement, Wilson-Hale oversaw the two most successful fundraising years ever there, with about $250 million raised during the 2008 and 2009 fiscal years. She first joined the WSU Foundation in 2007 as the senior vice president. She also has served in several capacities at the Eli Broad School of Business at Michigan State University, DePaul University, Morehouse School of Medicine, the National Black Arts Festival, and other organizations.

Wilson-Hale will be responsible for directing the Institute’s fundraising and alumni relations activities. The Office of Institute Advancement lists several ongoing fundraising priorities and initiatives on its website, which include student and faculty support, the Center for Biotechnology and Interdisciplinary Studies, research, athletics, and the Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center.

The position has been vacant since the previous VP for Institute Advancement Robert Schlesinger resigned in November 2009.

Senate benchmarks CLASS

ERICA SHERMAN
Senior Reporter

Students met on Thursday to discuss the results of the Clustering Learning, Advocacy, and Support for Students (CLASS) initiative. The Senate, led by President Shirley Ann Jackson, met to review the findings of the benchmarking trip that took place in May.

The study included visits to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Middlebury College, and Yale University, as well as a review of RPI. Major points of comparison between the colleges were student life, dining services, and various aspects of student life.

Zwack reflected that one of the key points discussed was Residence Life, specifically finding a lottery process that builds the community. The CLASS initiative seeks to create and provide programming services which allows students to create a culture without being limited by it. Additionally, Zwack mentioned the importance of connecting and utilizing student resources available for advising students, such as academic advisors, professors, and the dean.

Hannah DeLisle ’10 participated in the meeting and enjoyed the opportunity to give feedback on the benchmarking results, stating that, “I think that more students should be aware of how easy it is to get your voice heard in student government, and I would encourage more student body participation in these types of meetings.”

Students of varied backgrounds participated in the trips to different colleges, including members of the Elder Senate, Residence Life Interfraternity Council, and the Panhellenic Council. All of the colleges visited have different residential models, academic priorities, and student life challenges unique to their institution. The visits were funded by the Office of the President and visitation coordinating support was provided by Chief of Staff and Associate Vice President for Planning and Public Affairs Deb Coblenz, Vice President for Student Life Eddie Aide Knowles, and Director of the Career Development Center and Acting Assistant Vice President for Student Life Tom Tantarelli.

RPI TV is currently in the process of compiling and editing video footage of the meeting in addition to the material collected during the benchmarking trips to maintain the benchmarking study and conclusions. Zwack anticipates presenting the final video and a report to President Shirley Ann Jackson in the upcoming week and will also share the findings with the student body toward the end of the semester.

Money crisis worsens in Greece

ATHENS (AP) — Europe’s government leaders ominously Tuesday that Greece’s credit rating was downgraded to junk status and Portugal’s debt was lowered on fears the trouble could spread.

The Portuguese downgrade was a sign that the European Union’s fears of the debt crisis spreading beyond Greece—and further undermining the euro currency—might be coming true.

For its part, Greece has already admitted it can’t pay debts due shortly and reached for a bailout. But the reluctance of the largest country using the euro—Germany—to fund the largest share of the 45 billion euros rescue by European government and the International Monetary Fund is sending shudders through markets.

Greek Finance Minister George Papakonstantinou said on Greek television that the country will “absolutely and without any doubt” be able to service that debt.

“Everyone now understands that there is no more time for delay,” he said, adding that there was no chance Greece would restructure its debt, a concept he called “outside every negotiation.”

“Am categorical on this point,” Papakonstantinou said.

The minister said Athens was close to reaching an agreement with the IMF, the European Central Bank and the European Commission on details of the rescue package, and that talks could “easily” be completed by Sunday.

The FTSE 100 index of leading British shares closed down 2.6 percent, Germany’s DAX slid 2.7 percent and the French CAC-40 index ended 3.8 percent lower.

On Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrial average was down 132.35 points, or 1.2 percent, to 11,072.78 around midday New York time while the broader Standard & Poor’s 500 index tumbled 18.17 points, or 1.5 percent, to 1,193.34.

Greek and Portuguese shares were pounded, down 6.7 percent and 5.4 percent. The interest rate gap, or spread, between Portuguese and benchmark German 10-year bonds trading on financial markets—a key indicator of market skepticism—rose 57 basis points, or more than half a percentage point, to 5.86 percentage points. The higher the gap, the less confidence in Portugal — and it was the widest gap since the shared currency was introduced, which Portugal and 15 other nations use, came into circulation.

Both governments have imposed budget cutsbacks and political resistance from unions at home. Markets have been skeptical that a new government crisis worsted, given political resistance, to put their finances in order.

The government spokesman Giorgos Papatolias, speaking to AP after news of downgrade, said, “This shows that the problem is broader, and concerns all the other countries and not just Greece. As a country, we are doing everything necessary to overcome this difficult situation—whether it is taking any damage or decisions that have been asked of us for some time now.”

“Any request that downgrade news means bailout negotiations need to be speeded up, Papatolias answered, “I think the need to them speed up, is something everyone can assess.”

Portugal’s finance minister said the downgrade would only make things worse.

“Europe is a decisive moment,” Finance Minister Fernando Teixeira dos Santos said in a statement, urging political parties to prevent his minority Socialist government to help swiftly enact debt-reduction measures he has outlined in his austerity plan.

“Regardless of the opinion we have in relation to the fairness and update of the rating, the fact is that this decision will not help markets to calm down, but will, on the contrary, contribute for their turbulence,” Teixeira dos Santos said.

The spreading trouble threatens more woes for the shared euro currency, and raise the possibility of a Eurozone government, or European Commission, would seek further to Spain, whose economy is far larger than that of Greece or Portugal. Eurozone governments, themselves facing higher debt levels from the global recession, would be hard pressed to find enough money to bail out Spain if it comes to that.

The crisis has highlighted the inability of the rules set up to support countries facing trouble and keep governments from undermining the currency by running up big debts. Those rules limit the deficits to 3 percent of gross domestic product but have been widely flouted, and EU officials are talking about ways to strengthen them.

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Elections drag on

After the decision by the Rules and Elections Committee to invalidate Thursday’s Grand Marshal election, the Poly staff has heard many expressions of confusion from the students. Many have already observed, Grand Marshal Week happens through the spring and the GM you elect will represent us throughout the year. We hope other students follow their lead.

While members of the Editorial Board hold a diverse set of opinions on the recent events, we are united in a few criticisms of RNE. Our main concern stems from the decision to invalidate Decision 12, which contained several violations by Hunt and stated that the elections were nullified. A knowledge of the outcome of the election should not mean RNE’s role is to leave the elections unfair. Even if they claim the knowledge did not affect them, it sends the wrong message to the voting body that has already lost much faith in RNE’s impartiality.

In addition, The Poly believes that the current party system should be reviewed. While Zwack and the Vector Party, to our knowledge, did not violate any financial rules, we feel that the ability to pool fi-

ances from all candidates in his party gave Zwack an unfair advantage. While Hunt had the ability to form a party, it should not be necessary to do this to be on equal footing in a democratic election. Additionally, forming a political party is not fair to running for incumbents, who can more easily locate and persuade students who are running or re-running for student government positions. Given that political parties do not typically respected a clear and coher-

ent political agenda—for instance, the Vector Party purports to ‘be the student’s party, as our agenda will be calculated and graphed by the community of the general goal that will have a long-term large agreement to—a do not seem to be much more than a campaigning technique. We therefore hope that this drawn-out election will make it a priority to review the elections process, paying particular attention to political parties and the rules governing RNE.

Editorial Notes

I have a complaint to make. I was cheer-

fully completing my Sunday night routine: browse reddit, check Facebook, make sure nothing new came up on reddit while I was on the couch, confab, or apart from students. As many have already observed, Grand Marshal Week is dragging into Grand Marshal Month, and the contentious violations cited by RNE have left many students in a haze of bureaucracy they can’t quite sort out. We recommend these students peruse the GM Week 2010 Elections Handbook and the pages of this paper, as well as ask questions of RNE Chair Haris Khan and both candidates to help reach a conclusion. We also hope students remain patient and involved throughout the week, and remember to vote in next Tuesday’s election (pending the results of the Judicial Board hearing).

Most of all, The Poly hopes supporters of both candidates remain civil. We’ve heard reports of one candidate being spit on and another being told to die in a fire. This kind of antagonism is appalling, and we’re disgusted to see this kind of behavior. The joint statement from Ben Hunt ‘10 and Max Zwack ‘10 on page 10 sets a more appropriate tone for the coming week, and we hope others will follow their lead.

The Poly supports both candidates in today’s election. The Poly believes that the current party system should be reviewed. While Zwack and the Vector Party, to our knowledge, did not violate any financial rules, we feel that the ability to pool fi-

ances from all candidates in his party gave Zwack an unfair advantage. While Hunt had the ability to form a party, it should not be necessary to do this to be on equal footing in a democratic election. Additionally, forming a political party is not fair to running for incumbents, who can more easily locate and persuade students who are running or re-running for student government positions. Given that political parties do not typically respect a clear and coherent political agenda—for instance, the Vector Party purports to ‘be the student’s party, as our agenda will be calculated and graphed by the community of the general goal that will have a long-term large agreement to—a do not seem to be much more than a campaigning technique. We therefore hope that this drawn-out election will make it a priority to review the elections process, paying particular attention to political parties and the rules governing RNE.

Excerpts: the people you love

1. “I love you Max, but not in a gay way.”
2. “No, you love me in a ‘gay’ way, with an ‘H’.”
3. “What does that even mean?”
4. “It means ‘Not get me topless time’ with Kelly. But krazy Kelly tells Ben that she ‘[has] a crush on Chu,’ and doesn’t know what to do about it.
5. At least, that’s what their e-mail messages/aim logs tell each other.
6. “I talk about Max. A lot. Even on the phone, my Mom gives me a deep-throated ‘ugh’ as if to remind me constantly mention my friend at RPI. My Mom jokes and calls me ‘Max-Not’ because we’re physically opposites: I am short. He is tall. I am skinny. He is strong. I have brown eyes. He has blue eyes. I have good eyes. He has glasses.
7. “My Mom keeps my bedroom untouched. I tell my family they can use the room for something else, like a puppy (this would make my sisters very happy). But she tells me she wants to keep it just the way it is for me, ‘for whenever [I] return home.’”
8. “My ‘other home’ and ‘other family’ at RPI are nutty.

My other home and family at RPI are nutty.

The Poly staff got so tired of me stealing their messaging devices that they stuffed me in a recycling bin, taped the lid shut, and sent me down the elevator to the basement of the Union.

However, before they did that, they stole my cell phone and sent the following message to Grand Marshal Michael Zwack: “Hey baby, meet me under the footbridge for some fun. Gay, baby, gay.”

11. This is a placeholder for all the people I love but I didn’t have the space to fit into this piece. <3 Michael Chu

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New PU gets to work, meets with E-Board

Hello everyone; one of the uses of this Derby column for the next year will be to inform readers on the weekly activities of the Executive Board. I will also try to use this medium of communication to plug Rensselaer University Athletics. By now many of you are aware of the decision to cancel the Rugby team, and have formed an opinion about it. I am personally appalled at the continuing disgrace of this entire election process at RPI. Avoiding a statement of what I believe about the violations against Ben Hunt ‘10, I will like to comment on the current election result, that, in my opinion, the decision will likely have and the inequity that has been a part of this whole process.

First of all, I wonder why this decision was released only prior to the election announcement. Similar to Violation 11, which was overturned by the Judicial Board, the timing reeks of bias (whether or not the decision actually was).

The results of the election were known before this decision was issued and thus this prompts me to wonder: why bother counting the votes if the violation was going to be pursued anyway?

This decision has thrown the entire student body into a state of frustration or apathy—two extremes that are not exactly conduci-ble to running an effective student government. Whether frustrated or apathetic, students want this election to be over. I’m sure every-one is sick of being bombarded by posters proclaiming why you should vote for each candidate (though, since Hunt lost his ability to poster, the campus will only be covered with “Zwacktions”).

The main difference that will result, however, between those who are frustrated and those who are apathetic is their likelihood to vote in a fourth round of elections. How many students do you know that only vote to get their free mug? I would argue that those mugs are gone and students have lost faith in the entire system, how many do you think will still vote?

And thus, RPI will still be left with a compromised election as it doesn’t accurately represent the views of the entire student body; only those personally invested in the election for whatever reason will vote and also recall who is a member of a party with a decent sized membership.

With that said, my next problem is with party politics. This is not specific to the Vector Party, but with the party system in general. There have been many questions raised about the expenditure limit for Hunt versus Michael Zwack ‘11, which is different because parties can pool their financial re-sources. While it is true that Hunt could form a party, I think that party politics in general have no place on a college campus. When you are trying to reach an entire student body in an election, it makes the electorate feel as if their voice—so not so much for a campus that spans a few blocks in a small city. The system only encourages the popularity vote, which I’m sure we all hated in high school and don’t like to see repeated.

A further problem with party politics is that it leaves Zwack very out-of-the-loop in terms of campaigning. I have seen Charlie Emala ’10, graduate student Andrew Armenia, and Corey Stall ‘10 campaigning for him, but barely have I seen Zwack. As a student leader, it is incredibly vital to interact with your constituents. This was something that has continually been a complaint about Zwack and yet I haven’t seen any improve-ments in his visibility over the past few weeks. This is another downfall of the party system as a whole, it is too easy for any student going for an office to make the claim that their opponent was a “fly-by-nighter”.

Also, regardless of who wins this election, the new GM is going to have a very tough task ahead of him: making students believe that Student Government can actually be effective after all of this.

The extension of the election is a vain attempt to create a “fair” vote, which is honestly impossible at this point. I would urge RNE to release the results of this last vote and sanction Hunt in some other way for his violations. Please see GM Month 2010.

Cara Riverso ’10

CHME

Election nullification creates apathy, frustration

To the Editor:

This year has been the most ridiculous example of a Grand Marshal Week that I’ve had the displeasure of experiencing. By now everyone is aware of the decision to cancel the Rugby team, and I have formed an opinion about it. I am personally appalled at the continuing disgrace of this entire election process at RPI. Avoiding a statement of what I believe about the violations against Ben Hunt ‘10, I would like to comment on the current election result, that, in my opinion, the decision will likely have and the inequity that has been a part of this whole process.

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Cara Riverso ’10

CHME

Greeks represent at Relay For Life

JORDAN ALLEN

VP For Public Relations

Greeks filled the RPI track this past Friday for the 2010 Relay For Life. Tents scattered the field as students traversed the track throughout the night, all in the name of cancer awareness and raising money for research. Over 1,200 students and faculty participated in the nightlong event, with about half of the participants being greeks. Of the teams participating, 25 were fraternities and sororities. On average, greek teams each raised $1,218.60. Phi Gamma Delta raised more money than any other team, with a total of $4,857. FIFH brother Adam Gold single-handedly raised $2,750 in his efforts to battle cancer. Alpha Gamma Delta came in second, with over $4,000 gathered. Overall, almost $70,000 was raised and the rain held off for the walkers and runners on the track. Fun was had by all, and a huge American Cancer Society was im- dense. Thanks to each and every one of the volunteers and donors who came out for making this year’s Relay For Life a successful event.

Interfraternity Council

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Interfraternity Council
**RNE Chair: Decisions are well thought out**

The Rules and Elections Committee runs elections and ensures fair and honest campaigning by all of the candidates. This is as defined by the rules laid out in the GM Week 2010 Elections Handbook approved each year by the Student Senate. Decisions are then reached through the process of discussion and voting within the Committee. If a complaint has been voiced, the Committee generally has to act quickly before the rules has too much of an effect on the elections process. Ultimately, our role is to make sure there are fair elections. That is our most important objective: not equal elections, but fair elections. Is it fair when a candidate is not accurately reporting his finances? Is it fair when a candidate goes over his finance limit? And I'm not just talking about a couple of dollars. These two violations were the most important in our decision to nullify the election, but they were just two out of five violations that we had to deal with on the day of elections.

Many people have claimed that the Rules and Elections Committee is partial to one candidate. However, I claim that we are not partial to any candidate. The Rules and Elections Committee is made up of representatives from all aspects of student government. We have a nearly complete Committee—we only lack a Graduate Council Representative. Not everyone is from the Senate and not everyone should be. Can the Rules and Elections Committee decide elections solely with only your help. So, volunteer to be on the Committee.

Another complaint that the Rules and Elections Committee has received is that our decisions have been made without much thought. These complaints come from people who are largely unfamiliar with our decision making process. First, we decide on whether an action committed by a candidate is in fact a violation. This is typically the easiest part of our process, usually only taking 30 minutes to an hour to complete. Next, the Committee decides whether the violation has affected the fairness of the election. If the fairness hasn’t been affected, we typically sanction a candidate with community service hours. It is always on a case-by-case basis. If instead we decide that the fairness of the election has been affected, we need to further discuss our plan of action. In the case of Decision 12, we had a debate and discussion for more than six hours before coming to a consensus. So please, if you have complaints, that’s fine, but don’t say we don’t think our decisions through because that is definitely not the case.

People have argued that voter turnout will not be as great as it has been in the past elections. I can argue that and I won’t. I will make every effort to make sure people are informed about their responsibilities to vote on Tuesday. I understand that people are tired of voting, but just think about where the GM Week 2010 comes from. If you always just have to fill in your RIN, bubble it in, open the flap, vote, and return with your ID. The Committee has to poll-sit all day and has to spend the night counting votes. If we didn’t feel that it was important to have another election, we would not have done that. So please come out to vote, it’s important that you do. Finally, I would like to thank everyone who has already voted during this long election season and hope that you vote just one more time.

Haris Khan
CSYS ’11

**Our View**

**Hunt, Zwack comment on GM Month craziness**

Students at RPI participate in a unique experience through the Rensselaer Student Union, one of the few entirely student-run unions in the United States. Since the election of the first Grand Marshall in 1965 and the formation of the Student Union in 1890, the student body has played a role in the scope and direction of our campus community. Our impact as leaders is only as strong as the support of the entire student body.

We both would like to thank our family, friends, and supporters who have been with us throughout our campaigns. What originally was GM Week has now turned into GM Month, a result certainly neither of us could have predicted. We, however, have had plenty of great experiences during this process meeting more students, getting our message out there, and coming up with new ideas to improve the student experience here at RPI. During this election process, there has been plenty of student involvement, but there recently have been pockets of negativity among all of us. We understand you are stressed, and we are too, for neither of us hoped for or predicted extra weeks of this election season.

In light of recent events, we need to recognize the importance of student government as the cornerstone of our Union; without it, we would be unable to manage clubs and their budgets, self-legislate, or generally organize improvement.

We urge supporters on all sides to stay respectful and understanding through this process; please be patient as we move forward toward a fair process. We ask that all students stay informed and actively participate in the continuing election. Listen to the facts and ask the questions you have; we’re both willing to answer them.

After this all is over, we as a student body must reunite to work together. Both of us as candidates want to see a better student government and a better student experience in the coming year, but we need all of your help and support. We each bring our own ideas and unique platforms for what to do next year, but we both can agree that there need to be changes to the election process to ensure an ultimately fair and democratic process.

The role of Grand Marshall is difficult, but we both welcome the challenge. Our goal follows the mission statement of the Student Senate: “We, as agents of change, will identify student concerns, and take action on critical student issues, and work together with the Institute and surrounding community to enhance the Rensselaer experience of today and tomorrow.”

Let us all move forward together to keep improving the student experience at RPI.

Ben Hunt
STSS ’10

Michael Zwack
MGMT ’11

**MECL Joe**

**Show appreciation for friends ‘no matter what’**

As we grow older, people will consistently walk in and out of our lives. The real good and true friendships are the ones that help improve our quality of living. We don’t always have control over the people that walk into our lives, but we do have control over the friends that we choose to make. I am not suggesting that siblings and spouses can’t be friends. The friends we choose to make are those that are unrelated and have no legal ties with you. The friends I speak of are the people you encounter by chance and who you forge strong connections with. The dictionary defines a friend as “one attached to another by affection or esteem.” I like to call a friend as “one attached to another by affection or esteem.”

So, all in all, show some appreciation to the friends that always support you no matter what. As we mature into established adults, appreciation for having and being a true friend will become apparent.

Zach Cross
SCCI ’10

“The right decision, if Hurt were sanctioned, he would have won the resulting J-Board case. If the results had been released, the Vector Party would have won the resulting J-Board case. It seemed Hurt was being picked on too much by RNE, but we have to know that the Vector Party got very few complaints because they knew the handbook pretty well. Because Haris Khan is close friends with some members of the Vector Party, it causes suspicion. If we both sides all gone some distance during the elections. I think J-Board did a pretty good job of being objective and checking the power of RNE.”

Alex Nolet
ELEC ’12

“I think people need to chill out about it. It’s an inconvenience to have another election.”

Bernard Kang
CHME ’13

“Each side has its own standing and reasoning. I think Decision 12 was the right decision. If Hurt were sanctioned, he would have
Hunt compiles a table of GM candidates

Comparison of the way the Rules and Elections Committee has treated/punished Hunt vs. Zwack in this 2010 GM Week election cycle

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Hunt</th>
<th>Zwack</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>My comments:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winner Code Violation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Posting by unknown students</td>
<td>A “Hunt for GM” poster is found in windows on April 9th before elections.</td>
<td>Vector party member posts on Facebook, “Ben Hunt should die in a flow.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free speech by unknown student supporters</td>
<td>Students at Hunt’s final election rally held “Vote Ben Hunt” signs in the windows on April 9th before elections.</td>
<td>Vector Party has final posters found in the Television Center, three days before final election.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free speech by unknown student opponents</td>
<td>Any unaffiliated, unregistered supporter of Hunt’s campaign, under a mask (and a shirt),Ben Hunt for GM (With the Hunt Team) signs, is found in the windows on April 9th before elections.</td>
<td>Michael Zwack (10) holders of five different signatures, and asking for “good words to be passed on to the house in regards to these different unregistered campaign assistants. These unregistered campaign assistants then went on to harass vector campaign assistants, sending derogatory messages to everyone on campus.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negative free speech by unknown student opponents</td>
<td>An unaffiliated, unregistered supporter of Hunt’s campaign, under a mask, is sent a message to delete his/her window and I get punished. Someone sŝŽůĂƟŽŶ moves his/her window and I get punished.</td>
<td>No violation. Zwack did not find evidence of either of the above.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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- Large Cheese Pizza & 20 Wings $19.99+ (Cooper Express23/10)
- 2 Large Cheese Pizzas & 1-2 Lt Soda $19.99+ (Cooper Express23/10)
- Med. Ch. Pizza & 12 Wings & 2 Can Sodas $15.99+ (Cooper Express23/10)
- 2 Ziti /Spaghetti w/Meatballs & Garlic Bread $13.99+ (Cooper Express23/10)
- 2 Large Cheese Pizzas & 30Wings & 1-2 Lt Soda $29.99+ (Cooper Express23/10)
- Pizzas by Slice
- X-Large Cheese Pizza & 1-2Lt Soda $12.99+ (Cooper Express 23/10)
- 2 Meatball or 2 Chicken Parm Subs & 2 Can Sodas $12.99+ (Cooper Express 23/10)
- Two X-Large Cheese Pizzas (Each 12-cut) $20.99+ (Cooper Express 23/10)
- Large Cheese Pizza & 2 Gyros $17.99+ (Cooper Express 23/10)

- easy walk to campus
- 4 very large bedrooms
- washer/dryer on premises
- fully furnished
- brand new kitchen

The following is an open letter to President Shirley Ann Jackson.
On April 15, we, the students of RPI, hosted a rally to demonstrate our solidarity with the Sodexo employees on our campus. Knowing that Sodexo has had 16 charges for unfair labor practices in eight states, and that current American labor law has often been insufficient to protect workers, we asked the administration of RPI to publicly acknowledge the workers’ rights to openly engage in the process of forming a union if they choose. We demanded that this open forum be allowed to take place in an atmosphere free from intimidation by either your administration or Sodexo.

In our efforts to clearly demonstrate the community’s support for the Sodexo workers’ movement, we invited students, employees, alumni, and concerned community members to our event. We had intended to walk, as a group, to the Troy Building to deliver our message to you personally. However, approximately 24 hours before our event, your Dean of Students Mark Smith informed us that we would need prior approval before we would be allowed our first amendment right to peacefully assemble. Additionally, we were told that we would not be allowed to personally meet with you, and instead would have to deliver our message via a proxy. Finally, despite all efforts to comply with school policy, we were informed mere hours before our demonstration was to start that community members, including alumni and RPI Sodexo workers, would not be allowed to stand with students in showing their support on the grounds of the RPI campus.

These decisions were encouraged by RPI’s campus security with, what we feel, was a clear overreaction. Security attempted to restrict our rally with the use of no less than 15 bright orange barricades. When community members attempted to come onto campus to coordinate their support, which was taking place concurrently on 15th Street, they were met with open hostility by security and administrative staff. According to several students, the omnipresence of campus security and the administration was intimidating and acted to dissuade them from participating. We hope that incidents (like what occurred on April 15) will not happen again, and that, in the future, our local community members will be welcomed to come in open discussion on our campus.

It has now been 13 days since we presented the voice of over 600 signatories (representing nearly one-tenth of the RPI student body), as well as that of members of the City Council, to the Dean of Students. He had promised to provide written confirmation when he had conveyed our message to you. This confirmation has yet to be received. Thus, we submit this address asking that you publicly recognize the community’s interest in the Sodexo workers’ movement. Further, we request that your administration, being a client, unequivocally reject any efforts by Sodexo to subvert the workers’ rights to an open forum at our school. Our recent coverage in the Troy Record and The Polytechnic should serve as an indication of our commitment to this cause.

Laura Easterling
ENVS ’12
Sodexo Employee Students for Workers’ Rights

My View

Students look for response to Sodexo petition
On Earth Day (Thursday, April 22), the RPI Student Sustainability Task Force hosted the Rensselaer Sustainability View Point. Updates on the past year’s “green” accomplishments—accompanied by a Terra Café dinner—brought together students, faculty, staff, and alumni to the second floor of Russell Sage Dining Hall.

President of SSTF Anusha Cunningham ’12 opened the event by congratulating Rensselaer for being one of Princeton Review’s 286 green colleges. This achievement is thanks to all the sustainability efforts on campus, especially this past year.

One of the main green ideas is the redesign of the ‘86 Field. Project Manager for the Campus Planning & Facilities Design Department Barbara Nelson said that the renovated field would be a “landmark opportunity to make a statement of commitment of Rensselaer for environment.”

The concept is to make use of the field that the East Campus Athletic Village replaced. The general consensus is to utilize the space as a central point on campus. It would be a place for people to meet, share ideas with each other, and possibly even have class outside.

The next update was from RPI Engineers for a Sustainable World about their Haiti Classroom program. A group of students made a trip to Haiti in January, where they worked on building a classroom and installing a 24-kilowatt solar system to power about a dozen computers that RPI donated to the effort.

Kevin Luczak ’12, vice chairman of the Green Greeks Program, shared details on how the green community is helping make the campus greener. The goal is to become “more efficient as a household,” and Luczak also mentioned that about 50 percent of the fraternity’s are on recycling programs and each house is coming up with more elaborate innovations. One example is Delta Tau Delta, who is going to install a solar array on its house. On May 10, the program will be holding its first event, Green Greek Weeks, at the Helfferich Alumni House. All the endeavors by the greek system are going toward making the campus more sustainable one house at a time.

Class of 2010 President and Class Gift Co-Chair Sam Pinhoud-Smith ’10 spoke about the green roof for the Rensselaer Union. The original idea for the green roof is credited to Kyle Madison ’11, who suggested it to Ben Hunt ’10, who in turn brought it to the attention of the 2010 Class Council. The green roof will be multi-purpose, serving a functional purpose while being “plant-based to absorb water and sunlight” as well as “aesthetically pleasing” said Smith. Green benefits of this gift are that it is low maintenance, reduces carbon dioxide and nitrogen oxides in the air, reduces the temperature drastically, and doubles the lifespan of the roof.

The green efforts are being recognized on campus. Farmer’s Market organizer Beverly Bendix ’10 spoke of SSTF’s market plan going into action. Starting July 1, the Union will be hosting a farmer’s market on Thursdays from 10 am–2 pm. With the basic foods of bread, cheese, fruit, and vegetables covered, the market will consist of six vendors to start out. The intent of the market is “to enhance and bring a whole new aspect to campus community,” said Bendix.

Greenhouses are also in the works to help the campus become greener. A chartered organization, the Greenhouse Committee, is working with Terra Café to learn different cultivation methods, and in the future is hoping to work with the Capital District Community Gardens to utilize “their expertise and have Troy community interaction,” said Dan Corda ’10, SSTF secretary. The greenhouses will be open on Wednesdays from 11 am–1 pm.

RPI Formula Hybrid is contributing to the green efforts by designing and building a hybrid racing car. With newly gained support from RPI, the team will enter a competition in two weeks that “focuses on the sustainability of the car,” according to Michael Kessler ’12, brake team lead. The “green” car consists of a continuously variable transmission, regenerative braking, and lithium-ion battery packs with the idea in mind to “strive to focus on efficiency,” said Kessler. The car was presented on Monday, April 26 in the Jonsson Engineering Center, and it looks very promising for a good outcome in the upcoming competition.

Other green ideas floating around campus are a bike share, the current “Face the Waste” campaign, and Rensselaer Energy Display, which is already in effect in Nason Hall. In the spirit of sustainability with all these successful programs and the bright ideas for the future, hopefully students, faculty, and alumni alike will continue in their work to paint RPI green.

This Old Troy

This Old Troy is a column granted to John Nehrich ’72 of the Rensselaer Model Railroad Society by the Editorial Board to discuss the history of Troy, N.Y., and the surrounding area.

On the practical side, the railroad provided a transportation method that was superior to that of the stagecoach, and before the days of cement and tarmac, cars had to struggle riding and walking on paths that were designed for horses and carriages. It was not until the mid 1920s that driving roads would see improvements.

Before the days of cement and tarmac, cars had to struggle riding and walking on paths that were designed for horses and carriages. It was not until the mid 1920s that driving roads would see improvements.

In 1816, Scottish engineer John Loudon McAdam studied using gravel to cover roads. He realized the smaller the particles in the gravel the more compact it would be when the weight of a vehicle passed over it. He developed a technique for “crushed” gravel roads that would be called a macadam.

Later the gravel was mixed with tar before being applied. (Tar was made from coal and wood and was the equivalent of asphalt.) The result was a surface that was smooth enough for horses to walk on but was too hard for wagons to get stuck in. This was a tremendous improvement over the dirt roads, which were adapted to by customers. The railroad continued to thrive until the 1970s when it was slowly redeveloped for use as a park and trail.

This Old Troy

New York State’s Erie Canal was so successful, it even diverted traffic away from the distant port of Baltimore, Md. Yet the rugged Alleghenies there precluded a competing canal. In 1827, merchants organized the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, one of the earliest rail lines. To them, a “tree road,” was a “road that the larger trees had to be removed.”

Horses would be the B&O’s intended motive power. Before the railroad was completed the railroad was 80 miles long and cost $8,000 per mile to build. The railroad was completed in 1830, and the first year it carried 10,000 bushels of wheat.

Looking back, we have little idea of just how awful roads were. People referred to two seasons: winter and the mud season. On dirt roads, low spots and runs collected water. Horse-drawn vehicles had narrow rims that cut deepest in these soft muddy areas, a positive feedback loop that magnified unevenness. Hand-felled logs placed side-by-side, perpendicular to the traffic, was called a corduroy road. Riding on this was like jouncing over never-ending speed bumps. And this was considered a smooth ride by today’s standards. The surface became as lumpy as the largest stones in the batch. McAdam’s solution was simple—use stones all the same size. Workmen were instructed to reject stones bigger than what would fit in their mouth!

Railroads dominated transportation for the next century. Highway innovations ceased, and macadam, the name given to the road building technique, was laid to the side. Busy urban streets got paved with brick or stone blocks. By the 1920s, however, increased numbers of speedier autos raised dust clouds on macadam and fast-rotating tires created a partial vacuum, lifting the loose stones. Highway crews began spraying oil to help. Later the gravel was mixed with tar before being applied. (Tar that was cheap enough was a petroleum industry byproduct.) Americans continued calling this improved version just “macadam.” English called it “tarmacadam,” “tarmac” for short. American fighter pilots during WWII used British airstrips, and the pilots brought home the term “tarmac,” but generally limited for paved areas at an airport. And planes certainly go a lot faster than 12 mph.

Roads develop from muddy, hole-ridden mess

This Old Troy

New York State’s Erie Canal was so successful, it even diverted traffic away from the distant port of Baltimore, Md. Yet the rugged Alleghenies there precluded a competing canal. In 1827, merchants organized the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, one of the earliest rail lines. To them, a “rail road” simply meant the type of roadway, like “dirt road” or “paved road.”

Horses were the B&O’s intended motive power. Before the tkinter型中可以看出，这张图片的内容是关于RPI学生可持续性委员会的活动和成就的描述。RPI Student Sustainability Task Force在4月22日的地球日活动上，展示了Rensselaer Sustainability View Point的更新。他们更新了过去一年的“绿色”成就——伴随的Terra Cafe晚餐——汇集了学生、教师、职员和校友。还提到了一个新项目，由2010届的总统和校礼金委员会主席Sam Pinhoud-Smith ’10提出，旨在为Rensselaer Union建设绿色屋顶。这项绿色屋顶位于2010年委员会的关注之下。来自6月份的市场将从周日开始，每周三下午11点至1点开放。

RPI Formula Hybrid团队正在致力于绿色努力，设计并建造了一辆混合动力赛车。该团队得到了RPI的大力支持，他们将在两周后参加一项赛事，该赛事专注于“汽车的可持续性”。由Michael Kessler ’12领导的刹车团队的“绿色”汽车由一个连续可变的变速器、再生制动器和锂离子电池包组成，它拥有以效率为目标的电池与动力系统概念，以“strive to focus on efficiency”为目标。

其他绿色想法正在校园蔓延，包括自行车共享、当前的“Face the Waste”活动以及Rensselaer Energy Display，这已经在Nason Hall生效。在所有成功项目和未来想法的推动下，学生、教师和校友将继续进行他们的工作，以使RPI绿色化。

This Old Troy

This Old Troy是一个由John Nehrich ’72授予的Rensselaer Model Railroad Society的专栏，由编辑部授予，用于讨论Troy, N.Y.及其周边地区的历史。

在实际方面，铁路提供了比马车更好的运输方式。在1816年，苏格兰工程师John Loudon McAdam研究了使用碎石覆盖道路。他意识到小石粒越小，马车经过时就更有效。他开发了一种“碎石”覆盖道路的方法，被称为“macadam”。

随着石头混合上沥青后被应用，结果是形成了一个表面足够光滑，供马车行走但不太硬，供马车行走但不太硬，而不至于陷到低洼处的路面。这种路面被称为“corduroy road”。在1830年，彼得·库珀造出了一个小巧的火车，“Tom Thumb”，来证明蒸汽的实用性。他制造的火车不仅能以超过12英里/小时的速度行驶，还能以比在土路上更少的力量拉动更大的货量。

后来的碎石与沥青混合物在这些软泥泞的区域内形成正反馈循环，从而放大了不平处。手砍的原木被按侧边放置，与交通方向垂直，被称为“corduroy road”。在1830年，彼得·库珀造出了一个小巧的火车，“Tom Thumb”，来证明蒸汽的实用性。他制造的火车不仅能以超过12英里/小时的速度行驶，还能以比在土路上更少的力量拉动更大的货量。

Editor’s Note: “This Old Troy” is a column granted to John Nehrich ’72 of the Rensselaer Model Railroad Society by the Editorial Board to discuss the history of Troy, N.Y., and the surrounding area.
I was amazed at the sheer volume of food that Katrinella’s managed to fit on the plate. The eggplant was rolled with ricotta cheese, spinach, broccoli, and roasted red peppers, then topped with mozzarella cheese and baked in their marinara sauce. It was absolutely scrumptious and had a wonderful flavor that reminded me of my mom’s cooking; only better (sorry, Mom!). The part that always kills “Italian” food for me is the overwhelming marinara, but Katrinella’s had a full and hearty flavor to theirs without being too heavy; it was perfection, really. I was only able to finish about half of the dinner so that I could save room for dessert (and the carry-out box still weighed about a pound!).

The lobster ravioli that my boyfriend ordered was sautéed with mushrooms, broccoli, and sun-dried tomatoes in a creamy pink vodka sauce. The ravioli themselves were huge and very good. Although he didn’t enjoy the large amount of mushrooms, he found that the sundried tomatoes were notably good. The vodka sauce was easily the best part of the dish for him, and he found the dish to be the perfect portion size, polishing off the whole thing (minus the mushroom rooms which took up a good chunk of the bowl!). Finally, dessert was a tuxedo mousse cake for me and a triple chocolate cake for my boyfriend. Though the portions looked small at first glance, I realized it was the perfect size within the first two bites since the cake was so rich and dense. I’m not one for really sweet chocolates, so the tuxedo cake was absolutely perfect. Offering a darker chocolate, it was absolutely delicious and left me completely satisfied with the meal. Since my boyfriend has a sweet tooth, he thoroughly enjoyed his choice of the triple chocolate cake, which was a little sweet for my taste. It seems that the owners strive for the small atmosphere so that they can ensure every aspect of the meal is done to perfection, which it was. Overall, I think this is one of the best restaurants that I’ve been to in the Capital Region and would recommend it to anyone in need of a good Italian dish (or even just a good sauce). For the quality of the food, the $20 prix-fixe menu is a steal and you really can’t beat it for a date night. Trust me guys, your date will be swooning over you after a meal at Katrinella’s!
Sustainability

Conserve electricity, unplug unused items

ERIN HANSEN
Staff Columnist

EcoHall Challenge is already half-way over! Congratulations to the residence halls who have reduced their energy footprint and shown that they can make a difference by unplugging those unused electronics and turning off that one more light. Speaking of electronics...

This week, Hey Red! Go Green is focusing on energy conservation. America is one of the largest energy users on the planet—only 5 percent of the world’s population uses 25 percent of the world’s energy. And much of it we don’t even know we are consuming!

Look around your room and think about what’s using electricity. You’ll probably see a refrigerator, a television, a cell phone charger, and a couple of lights. Maybe you have alarm clocks, or sound or game electronics. It may seem trivial to turn off the lights or television when you leave the room, but how many of those appliance systems it may seem trivial to turn off the lights or television when you leave the room, but how many of those appliance systems do you unplug when you leave? Many electronics will continue using electricity even though they are turned off—the typical plug-in cell phone charger can draw up to 20-times more energy than is stored in the battery, even when the cell phone is not plugged in. Unplugging these devices when you’re not using them can severely decrease your energy usage.

What about your laptop? 40 percent of the energy your laptop will use in its lifetime will be consumed when it is in “stand-by” mode. Instead of setting your laptop to sleep, think about shutting it down when you are not using it. Now look up into the sky—even when it’s covered by clouds, the sun provides an amazing energy and light source. So turn off the lights and open the blinds and study in the natural light. Enjoy the sunshine! And when it gets too hot? Open the window and use the natural cooling the winds provide instead of turning on your fan or air conditioner.

Remember three important words: turn it off. Don’t leave the video game on pause or the computer in sleep mode. Those electronics are still using energy, even when you aren’t using them. Make it easy: simply plug them into power strips and turn the power strips off when you’re not using the electronics.

Did you know: If everyone in the United States changed out just one light to one that is a Compact Florescent Bulb we would save enough energy to light 7 million homes and prevent greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to 1 million cars. Imagine if that change started on RPI’s campus. Imagine what one room, one residence hall, one campus can do to save the planet. Why can’t that change start with you? Why not change the Earth?

Editor’s Note: “Sustainability” is a column granted to the Student Sustainability Task Force by the Editorial Board to discuss issues of sustainability on the Rensselaer campus and around the nation.

MICHAEL CHU
Senior Reporter

I really don’t like writing about performances that already occurred. I question the purpose of such an article—what can the reader get out of a review if the show already happened? But I guess the purpose of these post-performance articles is to give credit to the people who put their time and effort into producing something so great and enjoyable, and that’s something that needs to be said for the Rensselyrics and the other a cappella groups for their show last Saturday.

The first visiting group, Some Like it Hot from SUNY Fredonia, added a lot of flair to the night. The all-female a cappella group sang a variety of exciting songs, including “Shoop” by Salt n’ Pepper, “Heaven,” by Melinda Carlyle, and “I Will Survive,” by Gloria Reiner. However, the group really shined with their “90s Medley,” which featured a variety of love songs all spliced together, with all the soloists being spot-on with their parts. I had never listened to an all-female a cappella group before (as one doesn’t exist at RPI), so this was an exciting change from the all-male or mixed-gender groups at our school.

The second visiting group also provided RPI with a unique singing experience. The Racing City Chorus of Saratoga Springs provided a lot of charm and cuteness to the night. I use the word “cute” in the old-person sense, because the group was composed of just that; delightfully fun old guys [with a couple of young fellows in between].

There were a lot of things I enjoyed about the chorus: they all had some kind of beach-related object while singing “Under the Boardwalk” by The Drifters, ranging from umbrellas to goggles to colorful leis; during their Beach Boys Medley they all wore sunglasses; they even had a barbershop quartet tutorial to explain each person’s vocal part in the group. They were all so full of life and fun, and they successfully shared their cheerful disposition.

Finally, the Rensselyrics finished off the night for their home crowd. Songs in their repertoire included “Viva La Vida” by Coldplay, “Grace Kelly” by MIKA, “I Want It That Way” by the Backstreet Boys, and a Lady Gaga medley. Kudos should be given to the soloists, which included Howie Lien ’13, Adam Miller ’12, Paul Calhoun ’12, Connor Ahlborn ’11, and Kathleen McDowell ’13.

Like I said, it’s weird to write about articles just to say “You should have been there!” But let this be a note for the future: go to performances from any of these groups, as they each have something special to offer.

Editor’s Note: For more information about upcoming shows from Some Like it Hot and The Racing City Chorus, visit http://fredonia19th.weebly.com/index.html and http://racingcitychorus.org/joomla/, respectively.
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Bad News! We don’t know how to build a nationwide wireless network!

The company is happy to announce that compared to previous years, we improved our rate of revenue decline.

We’ve been doing great since we redefined success as a slowing of failure.

Moving on, who has a status report?

I improved my rate of doing nothing.

Tina, I’m lending you to our executive offices to help write press releases.

Your job will be to tell investors we’re sitting on coal and trying to make diamonds.

By clenching, I got it!!

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Wednesday, April 28, 2010

**TOP TEN LIST**

**Top Ten Write-in Votes for GM**

10. Arthur Galpin
9. Puckman
8. Garetta Vassel
7. LXA Vice President
6. Bob for the Job
5. MMOC Laban Coblentz
4. Anonymous/RPInsider
3. President Shirley Ann Jackson
2. Anarchy
1. Haris Khan

**WORD FIND**

**Major Bodies of Water**

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

**ANSWERS**

These are the answers to the previous week’s Crossword Puzzle and Cryptoquote.

*You boys best stop complaining all these veggies... I’d shut up for you’re two’... never up like the others... quirks.*

—Jake Sully

**Altemative Methods For Game Master (GM) Selection**

**Laser Tag Death Match**

**Whose Wizard Reaches Epic Level First**

**Breath-Holding Contest**

So we’re getting mixed opinions on Pop Culture... you people like it? Send us an e-mail at comics@poly.rpi.edu with what you think.

**PILED HIGHER AND DEEPER**

*You have a choice, either in death senseless with a projectiles by animals, or go shoot a fragile rooster.*

—for the polycomics • 17

Serving the RPI Community Since 1885
The Community Calendar

**WEDNESDAY**  
April 28

Try some of Troy’s finest pizza and wings and vote for the best, from 4–7 pm. Participating pizzerias include Defazio’s Pizzeria, Carmine’s/New Yorker Pizza, Gino’s, I Love NY Pizza, Papa John’s, Red Front, and more! $3 in advance, $5 at the door.

**THURSDAY**  
April 29

The RPI Players present Urinetown: The Musical, a play written by Mark Hollman and Greg Kotis. The performance will play Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 8 pm. Admission is $5 with an RPI ID; $8 for seniors and general students; and $10 for the general public.

OMSA hosts its 31st annual award ceremony from 5–7 pm in Russell Sage Dining Hall. This event honors Rensselaer minority students who illustrate both scholarly achievement and outstanding leadership in the community. Tickets are free, but must be picked up in Academy Hall room 4600 prior to the event.

**FRIDAY**  
April 30

EMPAC welcomes the onedotzero adventures in motion festival’s opening soiree from 8–11 pm. Explore the installations, wander in-and-out of the screenings, and get a snack + drink with onedotzero, EMPAC teams and artists before the sold-out Diplo performance. Three-day passes will be $10.

Girl Talk Dj Gregg Gillis performs a sold out show at ECAV, hosted by UPAC Concerts and the Office of the Vice President for Student Life. Doors open at 8:30 pm. Don’t pay any more than face value ($10) for scalped tickets.

Students show off their talents in the Rensselaer Christian Association’s talent show from 8–10 pm in the McNeil Room in the Rensselaer Union.

**SATURDAY**  
May 1

A cappella group Rusty Pipes sing in DCC 308 as part of their Spring 2010 Show. The event starts at 7 pm. Tickets are $5 in advance and $6 at the door.

**SUNDAY**  
May 2

The Rensselaer Music Association presents a night of music consisting of the Brass Quintet, Symphonic Band, Woodwind Quintet, and Percussion Ensemble. The performance will be at EMPAC Concert Hall from 2–4 pm. Admission is free.

Meet artist Heidi Story in the Folsom Library from 3–4 pm and be entertained by her husband, Dr. Jonathan Story (Marusi Chair of Global Business in the Lally School of Management), who will sing two songs from “God’s Trombones,” Heidi’s latest multimedia project. Admission is free.

Witness the grand opening of the Social Cognitive Networks Academic Research Center in the Biotech Auditorium. The welcome session will begin at 9 am with scientific sessions at 10:15 am and 2:15 pm.

**MONDAY**  
May 3

Know of any exciting events going on? E-mail them to features@poly.rpi.edu if you’d like to see them here.
Women’s LAX keep postseason dreams

SARA MELIKIAN
Senior Reporter

RPI women’s lacrosse remains in the Liberty League playoff hunt after its win this past weekend over conference rival Vassar College. The Engineers barely squeaked away in the 11-10 victory over the Brewers, which now places Rensselaer 7-5 overall on the season, and 4-3 in league play. Vassar drops to 6-8 overall and 1-6 in conference action after the loss at Rensselaer Field on Saturday. Junior Afton Marshall netted a game-high six goals—three in each half—to propel the Engineers to their second-straight win.

The Brewers opened up scoring in the back-and-forth game with a 4-1 lead at in the opening 15 minutes of play, backed by a pair of goals from sophomore Elizabeth Pelzich. However, Marshall responded with three goals, and with another coming from senior Sam Fennessey, the Engineers found themselves in a four-all tie with just over 10 minutes remaining in the half. The two teams would swap goals, but a goal from junior Brewer Sarah Warner pulled Vassar ahead 6-5 heading to the intermission. Marshall was named the League’s Co-Offensive Performer of the Week after collecting six goals on a mere eight shots. Following the match, Marshall was presented with a pair of goals from sophomore Heather Kesselman, who made two saves in just over eight minutes of relief. The final four minutes of the match proved to be a real crunch for the Engineers as the Brewers capitalized on several errors in RPI’s zone to pull within one. With 22 seconds left on the clock, Vassar won the final draw control, but a smart play by junior defender Tracy Bredlin resulted in a turnover, giving RPI control of the ball as the clock ran out.

Senior goaltender Ariana Hood kept the Engineers in the game with seven saves on the day, improving her record to 7-5 overall on the season. For the Brewers, junior Nicole Engelhardt took the loss, stopping six shots on the day before giving way to sophomore Heather Kesselman, who made two saves in just over eight minutes of relief.

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RPI women’s lacrosse remains in the Liberty League playoff hunt after its win this past weekend over conference rival Vassar College. The Engineers barely squeaked away in the 11-10 victory over the Brewers, which now places Rensselaer 7-5 overall on the season, and 4-3 in league play. Vassar drops to 6-8 overall and 1-6 in conference action after the loss at Rensselaer Field on Saturday. Junior Afton Marshall netted a game-high six goals—three in each half—to propel the Engineers to their second-straight win.

The Brewers opened up scoring in the back-and-forth game with a 4-1 lead at in the opening 15 minutes of play, backed by a pair of goals from sophomore Elizabeth Pelzich. However, Marshall responded with three goals, and with another coming from senior Sam Fennessey, the Engineers found themselves in a four-all tie with just over 10 minutes remaining in the half. The two teams would swap goals, but a goal from junior Brewer Sarah Warner pulled Vassar ahead 6-5 heading to the intermission. Marshall was named the League’s Co-Offensive Performer of the Week after collecting six goals on a mere eight shots. Following the match, Marshall was presented with a pair of goals from sophomore Heather Kesselman, who made two saves in just over eight minutes of relief. The final four minutes of the match proved to be a real crunch for the Engineers as the Brewers capitalized on several errors in RPI’s zone to pull within one. With 22 seconds left on the clock, Vassar won the final draw control, but a smart play by junior defender Tracy Bredlin resulted in a turnover, giving RPI control of the ball as the clock ran out. With 22 seconds left on the clock, Vassar won the final draw control, but a smart play by junior defender Tracy Bredlin resulted in a turnover, giving RPI control of the ball as the clock ran out.

Senior goaltender Ariana Hood kept the Engineers in the game with seven saves on the day, improving her record to 7-5 overall on the season. For the Brewers, junior Nicole Engelhardt took the loss, stopping six shots on the day before giving way to sophomore Heather Kesselman, who made two saves in just over eight minutes of relief. The final four minutes of the match proved to be a real crunch for the Engineers as the Brewers capitalized on several errors in RPI’s zone to pull within one. With 22 seconds left on the clock, Vassar won the final draw control, but a smart play by junior defender Tracy Bredlin resulted in a turnover, giving RPI control of the ball as the clock ran out. The final four minutes of the match proved to be a real crunch for the Engineers as the Brewers capitalized on several errors in RPI’s zone to pull within one. With 22 seconds left on the clock, Vassar won the final draw control, but a smart play by junior defender Tracy Bredlin resulted in a turnover, giving RPI control of the ball as the clock ran out.
Rensselaer sets up Burgdoerfer for pro career

Defensman finishes collegiate career with three games in ECHL, readies for action next year

SARA MELIKIAN
Senior Reporter

When collegiate hockey players join the ranks of the Division-I level, they are often much older than their peers of the same class year due to extra time spent in junior leagues. The opposite is the case for senior Erik Burgdoerfer, who will graduate from Rensselaer this spring at the young age of 21—much below many of his underclassmen teammates. Burgdoerfer's celebrated hockey career began at the young age of three, when he started skating with his identical twin brother Greg, who transferred to RPI at the start of the school year. Hockey quickly became a love for the pair, even though their parents were not originally fans of the sport. "They never really went to a lot of games. They grew up in Philadelphia so they were Flyers fans," according to Burgdoerfer, but they quickly shifted their focus onto the careers their sons had begun.

The defenseman came to Rensselaer after fielding offers from several different schools, but felt the "time was the best fit for him. Little did he know that over his 3.0 career games, Burgdoerfer would become one of the most fabled defensemen in school history. The move to Division-I hockey was "about what I expected," said Burgdoerfer. "I was young, so there was a little bit of a transition for me my freshman year." The move worked, as Burgdoerfer collected seven goals and 12 assists during his time posted on the blue line. Although Burgdoerfer was disappointed about how the season ended, he was pleased with how the team performed in several aspects. "We definitely had our sights set on bigger things than what we were able to accomplish," he said, "but at the end of the day when you looked back, this was the first year we finished over .500 in a while." He continued, adding that should the team see increasingly more success in the coming years, he and his fellow seniors will be able to look back at this season as "the year we helped turn it around." He lists the toughest parts of the season as losing to Union College in the final minutes of the RPI Holiday Tournament, the team's matches against the United States Military Academy at West Point and Niagara University, and, of course, the playoff losses to Brown University.

Burgdoerfer who early on in the ECAC playoffs wasn't how Burgdoerfer wanted to end his career in an RPI jersey, but he already had his eyes set on bigger goals. The East Setauket, N.Y., native spent a portion of his spring break in Las Vegas—playing professionally in the ECHL for the Bakersfield Condors in a three-game set against the Las Vegas Wranglers. Head Coach John Apport has already gotten several calls from other professional teams interested in Burgdoerfer, setting up for a "successful pro career," according to Burgdoerfer. "I'll never forget that, skating around the ice and had our names called. The relationships I've made this season will last me the rest of my life," he said.

Having his brother around for his senior year was a great experience for Burgdoerfer. "They call me Burgs. Having his brother around for the whole season was a great experience. I usually go to the games alone when he's not around. It was definitely a great experience that I could share with him," he said.

Burgdoerfer will miss his friends, classmates, and teammates the most when he graduates in May, noting that "the relationships I've made over the last couple of years will last me the rest of my life." Although the road to every young skater's dream is already being paved for Burgdoerfer, "he'll never forget how his time at Rensselaer helped shape him into the person he is now. "I've grown up a lot in my time here. I obviously have the diploma with me, and hockey-wise, I'll be playing professionally, and I wouldn't be there without having gone here."

State Meet: Institute prepares to defend status at NYSCSTC

From Page 24.

another record to an impressive career, senior Justin Metzer re-set his own school mark in the pole vault with a height of 4.86 meters and also earned an NCAA Provisional mark in the process. Also on the track team, sophomore Erik Whitning notched his third-straight NCAA Provisional mark in the hammer throw, taking the event with a distance of 53.16 meters and placed fourth in the discus with a mark of 43.07 meters. Sophomore Sage D’Aprelle took top honors in the javelin with a distance of 51.63 meters, while senior Mike Cipollone rounded out the field events with a win in the high jump (1.95 meters).

On the track, senior Kyle Barden won the 400-meters hurdles in a time of 55.13 seconds, blowing away the competition in the final turn, while sophomore Casey McEvoy won the 110-meter event with a time of 10.04 seconds. Both Barden and McEvoy were members of the first-place 4x100 relay team. Freshman Lindsey Ruppleyea has continued her strong performance, winning both the long jump with a distance of 5.12 meters, and the triple jump with a 10.72 meter mark. Fellow freshman Kirwin Orrell took first place in the shot put with a throw of 12.43 meters, while also placing second in the discus (37.47 meters), although the University of Albany women dominated the track, senior Rachel Guilot managed to finish second in the 100-meter hurdles; she was also part of the first-place 4x100 relay team.

For select individuals of both the men’s and women’s team this wasn’t the only meet of the weekend Burgdoerfer helped enough to over the University of Rochester to compete in the NYSCSTC Decathlon/Heptathlon on Sunday and Monday.

Trailing first-place by three points after day one, Harms capped up the points column with a total of 5,539 points above second-place finisher and teammate sophomore Alex Morin. Harms won five of the ten events in the Decathlon, including the 110-meter hurdles run in a time of 4.29.45, the javelin (49.97 meters), pole vault (3.71 meters), and the discus (31.51 meters). Morin also won the shot put and the javelin with a throw of 10.40 meters. He placed second in the 400-meter dash and third in the 100-meter dash, the long jump, and the high jump. Morin also topped his performance and finished second overall after ending Sunday in third-place. Scorning a total of 5,539 points in the Decathlon, Morin won the 110-meter hurdles with a personal record of 15.63 seconds, and placed second in the pole vault with a height of 3.11 meters.

Also claiming the Engineers were freshmen David Kastner and Kieran Davis, who finished sixth and seventh, respectively. Kastner finished second in the 110-meter hurdles, while Davis finished second in the 1500-meter distance.

For the women, sophomore Lindsey Dubas had the highest finish for RPI in the Heptathlon, placing fifth with a total of 4,559 points above second-place finisher and teammate senior Missy Steciuk also had a strong performance, finishing ninth overall with a total of 3,088 points.

The points earned by the Rensselaer athletes will apply to the team total at this weekend's NYSCSTC Outdoor Championships. The men will bring points 23 points, while the women will carry four into the State Meet, which will begin at 1 pm on Friday at Harkness Field and continue on to Saturday with a 10 am start.

State Meet: Institute prepares to defend status at NYSCSTC

Sara Melikian(The Polytechnic)

SENIOR ALLISON WRIGHT NABBED the team’s Most Valuable Player award for her efforts this season. Also recognized were sophomore Kristen Jakubowski as the team’s Most Improved Player, and freshman Taylor Horton as the best newcomer. Also honored were two members of an all-tournament team, including fellow senior and co-captain Laura Gersten, was named recipient of the Bill Cahill Memorial Award, given to the player that displays high character, ability, and dedication to the program. Rounding out the awards was senior Alyson Weidner, who won the Willie Stanton Award, given to the player who best demonstrates leadership, sportsmanship, hard work and a genuine love of the game.
Baseball:

Engineers sweep Brewers in second twinbill at Poughkeepsie in home and home series

SARA MELIKIAN
Senior Reporter

RPI women’s tennis closed out the season on a high-note, winning two of its final three matches of the season. The Engineers topped Union College in their final game of the regular season before heading to the Liberty League Tournament. At the tournament, Rensselaer fell in its first game to St. Lawrence University, but bounced back to defeat the Dutchwomen for the second time this week. The Engineers finish 6-7 on the season, while Union dropped to 3-11, and SLU improved to 11-4.

The Engineers defended Sharp Courts on Thursday, taking down Union by a score of 6-3. This was RPI’s first win over the Dutchwomen since the 2006 season. Leading the way for Rensselaer was senior Kimberly Viles, who won at fifth singles, and teamed up with classmate Jeanette Carillo to take a home victory in third doubles. Also winning in multiple matches was sophomore Zoisa Casterline, who won at third singles and at second doubles with freshman partner Brianna Dickie.

Junior Jessica Sitzer defeated Union freshman Elise Malkin at second doubles, and freshman Hael Bama rounded out the wins at fourth singles.

Unfortunately for the Engineers, that momentum didn’t carry over to the Liberty League Tournament, hosted by St. Lawrence. Rensselaer, seeded fifth in the tournament, took on the No. 4 Saints in the first match of the day, where SLU proved to be the victor in the 8-1 win. Bama earned the only victory for Rensselaer at second singles, while all the other competitors were narrowly edged in close matches.

Playing for the fifth-place position, RPI took on Union for the second time in three days. Sitzer paced the Engineers with wins at both second singles and first doubles for the 6-3 victory. Again earning two wins was Casterline, who took both third singles and second doubles with Dickie. Sitzer was paired with senior Christine Roe for their win at first doubles. Viles also earned another win at fourth doubles, as did Dickie in the fifth position.

Rensselaer finished out its spring season under new Head Coach Eric Hollet with a promising outlook to next year’s fall schedule. With several young aces on the rise, RPI should return as a dominant force on the tennis courts for the upcoming school year.

Men’s Tennis

The men’s tennis team suffered an 8-1 slam in its final game of the season against Hartwick College. The Hawks took all five singles matches in Oneonta, N.Y., to cap off a 1-7 year for the Engineers. Hartwick, on the other hand, finished 6-5 overall.

Junior James Fitzgerald earned the lone victory for Rensselaer with sophomore partner Patrick Russo at third doubles. Seniors Alex Franz and Matthew Asher both fell at first and second singles, respectively, as did juniors Adam Generale, Evan Creer, and Eric Polesky at the third, fourth, and sixth spots. Sophomore Kyle Potter put up a strong effort at fifth singles, but ultimately fell to senior Matt Whitty.

With the exception of Fitzgerald and Russo, the teams of Franz and Generale, and Asher and Creer could not hold down the court in doubles play.

The Engineers finish off a disappointing season in which they only saw one victory—a 7-2 win over SUNY Cobleskill earlier this month.

Golf

Freshman Linkman Jesse Brandt brought home some hardware after the Engineers placed third out of a field of seven schools at the Oswego State Spring Invitational. Brandt shot scores of 72 and 70 at the tournament for an overall score of an even-par 142 and a second place finish.

At Hartwick, the men’s tennis team fell to a 6-3 score, giving up two wins to their most successful fall campaign this upcoming school year.
Senior Whitney Naslund prepares for graduate work in biomedical engineering next year

SARA MELKIAN
Senior Reporter

If you ever happen to be in women’s hockey Head Coach John Burke’s office, be sure to not borrow any of his peanut butter. Senior Whitney Naslund learned that the hard way. “I sampled some of coach’s peanut butter from his office, and he retaliated by filling both my hockey gloves with peanut butter the next day. Even though I scraped out as much of the peanut butter as I could, the scent persisted.”

Naslund kept a few in the back of her mind over the years, and her teammates, whether it was during workouts, in the locker room, or at practices and games. “Whatever you can think of that we did as a group I’m sure I’ll miss it,” she said. As far as her career ending how she’d like to, Naslund admits that she didn’t want to leave, and how much she loved the RPI hockey program. “One of my friends once told me that no matter what you do, you will be happy when your career is over because there was not one more thing you could have done, there was not one more shot you could have made, there wasn’t any energy left at the end of the game. I believe I ended my career on that way.”

Casting aside dreams of Division-I hockey championships, Naslund wouldn’t have wanted her hockey career to end any other way, “because of the girls I played with and the memories of the times we were in. There was no one more thing any of us could have done,” she said.

Naslund won’t be seen too far from the Houston Field House in the coming years, as the senior is staying to attend graduate school in biomedical engineering, continuing her undergraduate degree. Although the technical program is in her future, Naslund doesn’t cast off the idea of coaching, believing her experience, gained playing with the RPI women’s team, would help other young skaters to become the best they can be. “I’d like to help other young skaters to become the best they can, which includes 23 goals and 41 assists this past season. RPI is ranked second in goals against average with 5.59. With the Liberty League, he ranks second in both categories.

The Engineers will host the Union College Dutchmen on May 1 at the East Campus Stadium at 7 pm to close out their season. Currently, Union is holding the second seed position with two games remaining on the season, including Saturday’s match against RPI. Leading the Engineers is Billy, who has 23 goals and 41 assists on the season, good for 37 points. He has scored 120 shots on goal this season for RPI, playing 751.06 minutes through 13 games this year. He has stopped 20 shots, posting a 5.59 goals against average, and has posted a 0.632 save percentage.

They will be playing for the No. 1 seed in the Liberty League tournament, which will be held late next week.
Men’s hockey dishes out year-end awards
Senior class recognized for contributions over past years, Polacek earns second-straight MVP

SARA MELIKIAN
Senior Reporter

This past Friday, the Heffner Alumni House played host to the annual RPI men’s ice hockey banquet. Several student-athletes were recognized for their contributions to the program and the Rensselaer community over the season, as were members of the senior class and Assistant Coach Jim Montgomery.

Following a keynote address from President Shirley Ann Jackson—in which she pointed to the two NCAA Championship banners hanging above her head and proclaimed that she “wants another banner”—Head Coach Seth Appert came to the podium to share his remarks on the team this season and to begin the awards ceremony and senior speeches.

Junior captain John Kennedy presented Jackson and Vice President for Student Life Eddie Ade Knowles with awards for their commitment and support of the Rensselaer hockey program before a quick highlight reel of the 2009-2010 season was shown to the audience. Seniors Christian Jensen and Mark Zarbo were the first to give their speeches, thanking all those that contributed to their hockey development throughout their entire careers.

The first award handed out was Most Outstanding Freshman, given to Jerry D’Amigo. D’Amigo collected 10 goals and 24 assists for 34 points over 35 games played this year, finishing third in points, second in assists, and fourth in goals. The Binghamton, N.Y., native’s top highlights were his gold medal for Team USA at the World Junior Championships, being named the ECAC Rookie of the Year, and earning a spot on the InsideCollegeHockey.com Freshman All-America Team.

Zarbo earned the team’s Top Scholar Athlete after posting a 3.86 GPA and forgoing his final year of NCAA eligibility to pursue graduate school in physical therapy.

Next, senior Garett Vassel was awarded with the Community Service Award, while Vassel took the Best Academic Award. Also recognized was Mark Zarbo, who forwent his final year of NCAA eligibility to go to graduate school for physical therapy.

SENIORS PAUL KERINS, CHRISTIAN JENSEN, ERIK BURGDOERFER, GARETT VASSEL, AND PETER MERTH CAPPED off their careers with an awards ceremony at the Heffner Alumni House this past weekend. Kerins earned both the team’s Most Improved Player Award and the Most Inspirational Player Award, while Vassel took the Community Service Award, and Burgdoerfer was named Best Defensive Player. Also recognized was Mark Zarbo, who forwent his final year of NCAA eligibility to go to graduate school for physical therapy.

Rounding out the awards was junior Chase Polacek, who earned his second-straight Most Valuable Player honor. Polacek was named the ECAC Player of the Year, a National Reebok All-America First Team, and a finalist for the Hobey Baker award among many others. Despite an early exit from the playoffs, Polacek finished fifth in the nation in points and sixth in goals scored, while also placing third overall in power play goals. He also finished eighth in goals per game, seventh in points per game, and 10th in shorthanded goals.

Burgdoerfer and senior Peter Merth closed out the speeches from the seniors, as Montgomery was recognized for his contributions to the program over the past four seasons. Next year, Montgomery will be head coach and general manager of the Dubuque Fighting Saints of the USHL, where he will be in charge of two future RPI recruits for this upcoming season.

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Serving the RPI Community Since 1885
**Track & Field stays solid**

**SARA MELIKIAN**  
Senior Reporter

RPI track & field has continued its dominance in the collegiate running world this past weekend with strong performances at the Capital District Classic and the NYSTC Multis. Junior Garrett Harms earned another title in the NYSTC Decathlon, earning an NCAA Provisional score of 6,098 points over two days, just another highlight of an impressive weekend of track and field action.

Saturday afternoon, Harkness Field played host to the Capital District Classic, featuring multi-divisional rivals from area schools. Adding to RPI's success, sophomore Kyle Barden soared over the hurdles in the 400-meter event at Saturday's Capital District Classic held at Harkness Field. Barden won the event with a time of 55.13 seconds.

**Sluggers split twinbill at home with Brewers**

**JESSICA LOCKERY**  
Staff Reporter

The Rensselaer baseball team split a Liberty League doubleheader with Vassar College last Saturday afternoon at Robinson field, winning the first game 10-1, but dropping the second, 9-7.

In game one, RPI senior starter Andrew Mondo gave up just one run and the Engineers' offense combined to score 10 runs on 11 hits, including at least one run in every inning but one.

After Mondo threw just six pitches for a one-two-three top of the first, RPI came to the plate swinging in the bottom of the frame. Sophomore Kyle Lavigne led off with a single to left field to get things going. Senior captain Patrick Reardon also reached on an error by the shortstop, giving up another two runs in the second inning and one in the third to the first three runs of the game.

Vassar pitcher sophomore John MacGregor continued to struggle, giving up another two runs in the second inning and one in the third to make the score 6-0. He was chased from the mound in the fourth inning after giving up two more runs and then loading the bases. Vassar freshman Zander Mrlik came on to pitch in relief, giving up one more run before the end of the inning: RPI junior outfielder Billy Nikolski drove a ball deep to center field for a sacrifice fly, scoring senior Scott Robinson from third for a 9-0 lead.

Mondo ran into trouble for the first time during the fifth inning, when he gave up back-to-back singles to juniors David Ringold and Mike Plade, then a walk to junior Joe Babar to load the bases with no outs. The Brewers took advantage, plating their first run of the afternoon on a sacrifice fly to left by sophomore Liam Lee. Mondo then settled back down, getting the next two Vassar batters to strike out and foul out.

Rensselaer added a 10th run in the bottom of the fifth, bringing the final score to 10-1. Lavigne paced the Engineers with three runs scored, and Scott Robinson went 2 for 3 with two runs scored. Ringold led the Brewers, going 2 for 3 with a run scored.

Sophomore reliever Jeremy Lockwood-Menard came on to pitch for Mondo in the sixth inning. He pitched a hitless 2.0 innings and struck out five, enabling RPI to get the win.

**Sophomore Nick Billy races down the field during the Engineers’ non-conference game against Middlebury College last week. RPI clinched the No. 1 seed in the Liberty League Tournament to be held next week.**

Sara Melikian/The Polytechnic

**No. 14 Engineers clinch conference title**

AMANDA OLYHA  
Senior Reporter

The men’s lacrosse team currently stands at 11-2 with one game left in the regular season. The No. 14 Engineers lead the Liberty League scoreboard with a 5-0 record, their next opponent, Union College, is firmly holding onto second. With their win this past weekend, the Engineers have clinched the league title, and will be playing in the Liberty League tournament late next week.

As mentioned last week, the team suffered their second loss this season against No. 15 Middlebury College in a non-conference match on April 20. RPI junior Nick Billy scored the first goal of the day 11:31 into the match, but the Middlebury Panthers scored before the end of the quarter, tying the game as the teams went into the second period. The Panthers took the lead halfway through, but the Engineers were not ready to give up so easily. A goal by freshman Wes Rudy, assisted by sophomore Chris O’Neil, and another goal by senior Paul Cerone gave the Engineers a slight advantage going into the second half.

Cerone added another goal midway through the third quarter, giving the Engineers a 4-2 lead over the Panthers. Middlebury quickly took control of the game, however, going on a 4-0 run to end the third quarter 6-4 in their favor. The fourth quarter opened up with another goal by the Panthers, but the Engineers regained ground when senior Bryant Johnson received a pass from Billy to bring RPI within two points at 7:41. Johnson would follow less than two minutes later to give the Engineers a two-point advantage as they headed into the second half of play.

Continuing their momentum, the Saints tied the game at 6-6, but freshman Max Blair was quick to retaliate, scoring only 14 seconds after the tying goal. Billy would follow less than two minutes later to give the Engineers a two-point advantage as they entered the final quarter. After both teams exchanged goals to bring the score to 9-7, sophomore Andrew Miller added another with 4:43 remaining. Two last-minute shots by the Saints brought them to within one point, but the Engineers’ defense held firm, earning their second loss this season against No. 15 Middlebury College in a non-conference match against Middlebury College last week. RPI clinched the No. 1 seed in the Liberty League Tournament to be held next week.