

Inside

Editorial/Opinion 4
Events 10
Features 12

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FEATURES Page 12



Clubs advertise during Union Activities Fair

FEATURES Page 11



Upstate New York is hostile to Uber

EDITORIAL Page 4

Nathan Dorer	Breaking out of the engineering current
Peter Begonja	Thriving in an age of new technology
Staff Editorial	Taking a minute to appreciate our campus

FIELD HOCKEY

Field Hockey tames Holyoke Lions

After a close call with the Hartwick Hawks, Engineers find redemption



Sidney Kochman/The Polytechnic

THE WOMEN'S FIELD HOCKEY TEAM MANAGED to come out ahead in their game against the Mount Holyoke College Lions last Saturday.

Michael Baird
Senior Reporter

AFTER A CLOSE LOSS TO THE HAWKS of Hartwick College in their season opener away on Thursday, the Engineers rebounded to conquer the Mount Holyoke College Lions 3-2 in their follow-up game on Saturday, September 3. RPI now stands at 1-1 for the season, while the Hawks jumped to 1-0, and the Lions fell to 0-1.

Sophomore Taylor Clink scored the first and only time for the Engineers at 22:39 into play, eight minutes after Hawks captain Maxine

Dunn earned the first goal of the game. Clink's successful shot on goal came straight off of junior attacker Megan Jones' penalty corner award.

After halftime, the Engineers flooded the offensive zone in search of a tiebreaker, only to have their efforts repeatedly severed by the Hawks defense. Taking advantage of the situation, the Hawks penetrated through Rensselaer's attackers and sent the ball straight down the middle into the goal. Hartwick forward Sarah Ryan charged ahead, passing to forward Allyson Quirk, who slammed the ball past sophomore goalie Kayla Bell. Unable to recapture a tie in the remaining 30 minutes, the score froze at 2-1.

On Saturday, RPI challenged Mount Holyoke in a home game, which ended in their favor. In their first victory of the 2016 season, the Engineers exited the first half behind 0-1, tied the game five minutes into the second, trailed again with 26 minutes left, then attained victory with two goals made within 1:18 of each other seven minutes before the close of play.

Midfielder Colby Newsham scored the only goal of the first half for the Lions. Following the break, Rensselaer sophomore attacker Mikaela DiBello carried the ball down the right side, passing to Jones, who sent it through the empty net. A goal from Kristina

Ramsden returned the advantage to the Hawks, but the Engineers fought to be the team to ultimately soar.

Junior attacker Jane Edgington made the first shot to tie the game 2-2. Just one minute later, DiBello repeated her maneuver down the right side, sending the ball to freshman attacker Nessa Costa to earn her first collegiate goal, sealing the win.

Hamilton College is next in line to face the Engineers on Wednesday, September 7 at 7 pm at Harkness Field. Coming up on Saturday, September 10, RPI will travel to Kean University in Union, NJ, for their second away game of the season. ♦

CROSS COUNTRY

Cross Country Conquers

Men take first at opening meet

Michael Baird
Senior Reporter

FIVE CAPITAL DISTRICT SCHOOLS raced at the opening meet for the Engineers' 2016 season last Thursday, hosted by Siena College. Heading the men's team in the 5,670 meter race were senior Ben Fazio and sophomore Grant O'Connor, who crossed the finish line together in third and fourth place with times of 18:28. Overall, the men captured first at the meet, while senior team co-captain Mary West led the women's team to a second place finish. Placing 11th in the 4,000

meter race, she ran the course in 15:20.

Three others from RPI in the 5,670 meter race also packed up to finish together in the top ten with a time of 18:45: freshman Jordan Kolpak in seventh, senior Matthew Cicciu in eighth, and junior Matthew Stewart in ninth. All five scoring runners completed the race in strong position, and even RPI's sixth and seventh finishers, senior Garrett Davis and sophomore Sean O'Connor,

See COUNTRY, **Page 3**

SOCCER

Engineers and Gators play out to a draw

Michael Baird
Staff Reporter

OPENING THEIR SEASONS WITH A GAME LASTING 110 MINUTES, THE Rensselaer Engineers and the Sage College Gators men's soccer teams ultimately surrendered to each other in a draw after the 1-1 tie could not be broken in two ten minute periods of overtime.

Just two minutes into play, senior forward Gabe El-Ghandour gave RPI a 1-0 lead that would last well into the second period. The Engineers refused to allow Sage to boomerang back from their deficit in the first half, limiting their shot attempts to a mere two. Meanwhile, RPI managed eight shot attempts during the 45 minute timespan. Two came close, both flying high: one from senior midfielder Devon Baughen, and one from sophomore midfielder Danny Corridan.

See SOCCER, **Page 3**

Sports

Wednesday, September 7, 2016

FOOTBALL

Engineers come alive against Norwich University



Sidney Kochman/The Polytechnic (file photos)

THE ENGINEERS GRABBED a 31-17 lead over the Norwich University Cadets during their first game of the season last Saturday. They will play Alfred University this coming Saturday.

Joe Saulsbury
Senior Reporter

THE RPI ENGINEERS FOOTBALL TEAM OPENED THEIR 2016 SEASON with a road game at Norwich University in Vermont. After Norwich scored a field goal early in the second quarter, Rensselaer scored 24 unanswered points to take a commanding 21-point lead, which they did not relinquish. The final score of the game was Engineers 31, Cadets 17.

With 12 minutes remaining in the first half, senior defensive back Ryan Buss intercepted a pass by Norwich quarterback Philippe Bazinet and ran it back to the Norwich 48-yard line. On the ensuing drive, junior running back Ethan Wells rushed twice for a total of 24 yards, setting up a 47-yard field goal by junior kicker Christian Kapp.

On the next kickoff, junior defensive back Oliver Kaija made a terrific tackle on Norwich returner Dayvon Medina to pin the Cadets deep in their territory. Then, after a Norwich three and out, a short punt gave the Engineers great

field position at the Norwich 43. This time junior running back Mike Tivinis took over, carrying the ball four times on the drive for 32 yards. Junior running back Johnny Ramsdell capped off the drive with an 11-yard touchdown run to put the Engineers up 10-3.

Norwich's offense stalled after only three plays again on its next drive, and Rensselaer earned an even better field position after a 12-yard return by sophomore wideout Conor Davies put them at the Cadets' 32-yard line. Three running plays later, the last four-yard rush by Wells positioned the Engineers up 17-3.

Early in the second half, RPI junior defensive back Sean Egan intercepted Bazinet's pass near the sideline and ran it back 15 yards for a third Rensselaer touchdown.

Norwich found the end zone on its following two possessions to trim the lead to 24-17 RPI. The first successful scoring attempt was an 11-yard pass from Bazinet to wide receiver Pierre Noel. The second was a 36-yard rushing score by freshman running back Patrick Brown, who compiled 117 yards on 19

carries, including 87 yards on the Cadets' two scoring drives.

Less than a minute into the fourth quarter, junior defensive back Bryan Hayes picked off Bazinet at the Norwich 38 yard-line and returned it inside the 30. Just over a minute later, Tivinis punched the rock into the endzone from two yards out to give RPI a two-score lead that they would retain for the final 13 minutes of the game.

Tivinis led Rensselaer with 22 rushing attempts for 110 yards and Ramsdell led the Engineers with one catch for 31 yards. While Brown led the Cadets with 117 rushing yards, he tied with Noel for a game-high of 53 yards.

Senior linebacker Alex Greenidge tallied nine tackles, while junior linebacker Brandt Beck got eight. For the Cadets, defensive backs Tyler Oppelt and Derek Lotito each had eight as well.

Next up for the 1-0 Engineers is their first home game of the season on Saturday, September 10, against the Alfred University Saxons. ♦



Soccer: Rensselaer ties up 1-1 with the Gators



Jack Wellhofer/*The Polytechnic* (file photo)

THE MEN'S SOCCER TEAM MANAGED to take a lead in the first half of their game, but ended with a tie.

from **Page 1**

The sides were more equally matched in the second half, but at 77:34 of play, the Gators collected a goal thanks to a kick from Sarpong Adjei off of Paul Reynoso’s drive up the right side. The resulting tie remained fixed through overtime with each team on par with each other. The closest the Engineers came to reclaiming the lead was through a shot from Corridan, which carried wide of the right post.

On Saturday, the men found greater fortune in their match against the Pioneers of Utica College. Posting a 2-0 victory, the Engineers improve to one win, one tie for the season, dropping Utica to 0-2.

Baughen, the game’s top scorer, fired his first goal as a penalty kick in the second half of play following a scoreless first period. One minute later, he turned around to perform the same tactic, scoring the final goal of the day. Twenty four shots overall were attempted by the Engineers to Utica’s zero. Playing defensively did not pan out well for the Pioneers.

This weekend, the City of Oneonta’s Mayor’s Cup will feature several men’s and women’s teams competing in the two-day tournament. RPI will enter the competition against Manhattanville College in Oneonta, N.Y. at Wright National Soccer Campus on Friday, at 1 pm. On Saturday, they will face Dickinson College at 1 pm. ♦

Country: *Men* take first at Siena

from **Page 1**

clocked in with times just outside of the top 10. They placed 11th and 12th overall respectively, each with a time of 11:46.

Victorious in the men’s race was the pack of Nick Cornine and Paolo Fiore from Siena. Crossing within one second of each other at 18:20 and 18:21 respectively, Cornine and Fiore helped their team rank a close second behind RPI 31–34. A five-woman pack from Siena led the 4,000 meters to give their team a huge 59-point lead over RPI’s women, who finished with 74 points. Continuing in the trend of teammates finishing together, sophomore Karina Bolton and senior Allison Thayer crossed the line simultaneously in 16th and 17th, respectively. Both received a time of 16:02.

In August, junior Allison Thayer and seniors Maddie Dery and Mary West were named team co-captains for 2016. Dery is serving her second year in this capacity, while Thayer and West are new to the role. The men’s team captains are seniors Matthew Cicciu, Brian Crowley, Garrett Davis, and Ben Fazio.

Recent additions to the RPI cross country coaching staff include Kailyn Balzano, a two-time cross country NCAA Championship qualifier, runner, and cum laude graduate in exercise science, and Nick Marcantonio, a four-time cross country NCAA Championship Meet competitor working towards a Master of Science in Management of Leisure Services.

This Saturday, the Engineers will race in the Ronald Stonitsch Invitational at Vassar Farm in Poughkeepsie, New York. Events will begin at 10 am. ♦

The Polytechnic will be holding open elections on Sunday September 18, at 4 pm in the *Poly Office*.

Scores from the Week

Thursday, September 1

Field Hockey at Hartwick College	L 1-2
Men's Soccer vs The Sage Colleges Union Classic	T 1-1
Women's Cross Country at Siena College with Union, Saint Rose, & ACPS	2nd of 5
Men's Cross Country at Siena	1st of 5

Saturday, September 3

Golf at Transylvania University	10th of 16
Women's Soccer at Farmingdale State College Rams College	W 1-0
Field Hockey vs Mount Holyoke College	W 3-2
Football at Norwich University	W 31-17
Men's Soccer vs Utica College Union Classic	W 2-0

Sunday, September 4

Women's Soccer vs Western Connecticut State Rams Classic	W 1-0
Golf at Transylvania University	11th of 16

Upcoming Events

Home

Women's Field Hockey vs Hamilton College on September 7, at 7 pm
Men's Football vs Alfred University on September 10, at 12 pm
Women's Soccer vs Wilkes University on September 10, at 4 pm

Away

Men's Soccer vs Manhattanville College at the Wright National Soccer Campus in Oneonta, New York on September 9, at 1 pm
Men's Tennis at the Villanova Invitational in Villanova, PA on September 10, at 9 pm
Women's Tennis at the Mary Hosking Invitational in Geneva, NY on September 10, at 9 pm
Men's and Women's Cross Country at the Ron Stonitsch Invitational on September 10, at 9 am

Editorial

Wednesday, September 7, 2016

EDITORIAL NOTEBOOKS

Stepping into another school

RPI offers more than just superb engineering courses

WHENEVER I TELL SOMEONE THAT I GO TO RPI, I’m constantly told that RPI is a great school. However, this sentiment is usually expressed with one particular qualifier; “RPI is a great school—for engineering.” I agree with this sentiment on some level, but it always strikes me as odd that the education I am receiving is meant to be uni-

faceted. Is it possible that the school I’m going to is some sort of one-trick pony? Is it possible that I’m going to enter the job market with a very particular set of skills with a very particular application? It’s frustrating to me that we, as students, are only expected to contribute to the hard sciences. I realize that I’m coming from the unique perspective of a social science major—it’s admittedly a boutique group of students at RPI. But the point of the matter is that I feel like I’ve gotten a huge amount out of my education, and I feel like the faculties of this school have targeted to encourage students to explore the subjective are grossly underused. Last semester, I took a course that had three students in it. While it was great to get that sort of intimate class setting, I couldn’t help but feel disappointed that there weren’t more students taking advantage of an excellent course.

RPI students are interesting in that they tend to be fiercely intelligent, but single-tracked. Coming into this school, I never would have guessed that I would have joined the School of Humanities, Arts,

and Social Sciences; I showed up to RPI as a bright-eyed and hopeful engineer, and this school is known for chewing up those types and spitting them out into successful careers. I wish I could say that it was meant to be, but something didn’t click when I was studying engineering. Sure, I was capable of doing the coursework, but I felt sick to my stomach when

I thought of spending the rest of my life crunching engineering problems.

Economics piqued my interest because I thought of it as a union between social understanding and math. The thing about the economics curriculum was that the farther I got in the courses, the more engaging I found the course material. It got to be the kind of material that I was excited to study, and my grades have only improved as I’ve gotten to take more difficult courses. It seemed like the universe had finally told me that I wasn’t

in the wrong for going to college, and I came out of my classes feeling like I got effective skills that I could take to the work force.

I guess what I’m saying is that this school offers you opportunities that can extend way beyond the range of your decided discipline. RPI creates a unique campus atmosphere in that its students usually have a precisely premeditated idea of what they want to study, but where does that leave room for self-exploration? Take a chance on your education while you’re here, and try something new; you might not have an opportunity like this again. ♦



Nathan Dorer
Contributing Editor

Millennials aren't the only ones affected by technology

Peter Begonja
Business Manager

MANY YEARS AGO, WE USED TO rely upon rotary phones to make phone calls to loved ones and VHS tapes to watch our favorite movies. Chances are, many of us don’t remember all of these old technologies. As technology advanced, electronic systems became smaller and more powerful with the ability to do things that were inconceivable many years prior. Now, it seems that we can almost do anything with modern-day technology.

Technology makes our daily lives easier. From the time we wake up, technology is a constant presence in our lives. It controls many aspects of us, ranging from our social circle to the way we learn in school. From the 18th to the 19th century, the Industrial Revolution changed the course of history. New machines were invented to make production of goods easier,

and more time progressed, new technologies were invented. Around the mid-1900s, the first computers were becoming more present and TVs were becoming more popular. Soon enough, these technologies have become normal parts of our daily lives.

However, as these technologies tend to help us, they also seem to hurt us as well. As I walk around campus, I see many people walking around and looking down at their phones or other devices. I have read stories of many people putting themselves in dangerous situations by losing concentration while on these devices, too busy being involved with whatever is on their screen. Using your phone while driving seems to be an epidemic that cannot be resolved. It now seems that, whenever you drive, you see someone who is on their phone, not paying attention to the road. Technology has put a great amount of stress in our lives as well. We are constantly checking our phones or computers

for updates. Even when we aren’t expecting anything new, we still check social media, messages, or emails to make sure we are up to date with everything in our lives. These habits can stress people out because they are compelled to know everything. Privacy has become an issue as well. Now, it seems that whatever we do online has a direct effect in our daily lives.

As I conclude, I would like to reiterate that technology has both positive and negative effects in our lives. We have grown to rely upon technology to make our lives easier. We often see the positives of technology but find that the negatives are harder. To notice the way we use technology is up to us; it can be a powerful tool to help many, but it can also harm others. We must be responsible while using it to make sure that, when we go to sleep at night, we know that we have a positive influence on others. ♦

STAFF EDITORIAL

Improvements all around campus awe students

DURING THE SUMMER, A LOT OF WORK HAPPENS BEHIND THE SCENES TO MAKE campus better by the time students return. The Editorial Board of *The Poly* wanted to take this week to show our appreciation for the efforts that have been undertaken to improve campus for the entire Rensselaer community.

The most high-profile and visible project this summer was the renovation of North Hall and E-Complex in order to provide enough housing for this year’s record-breaking large freshman class. Buildings that were declared uninhabitable last year have been improved to the point where students can comfortably live in them. Construction happened throughout the entire summer and ended with the inside of the two residence halls being completely redone.

Other spaces on campus also received updates during the summer. A few of our editors have noticed the new chairs and desks installed in the Russell Sage Laboratory 3303 lecture hall. They are more comfortable and quite an improvement from the old chairs. Additionally, all students on campus have most likely noticed the new tables and chairs in the McNeil Room of the Rensselaer Union. The previous furniture was over a decade old and while it served its purpose well over the years, it was definitely time for an upgrade.

The Mueller Center has also seen its fair share of improvements: pads under all machines on the second floor and a TRX Suspension Trainer on the first floor.

Finally, a number of improvements have been made to the outside grounds of campus as well. First, the walkway between the Department of Public Safety building and the Union has been redone. In fact, that work just ended in the past week, but it’s something we all notice whenever we cross the 15th Street footbridge to the main academic campus. Additionally, new bricks have been put into the walkway that goes from Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center to the parking garage past Cogswell Labs and the Materials Research Center. Finally, those of us walking up the Approach from downtown Troy and Blitman have noticed the new retaining wall installed by the Carnegie Building. ♦

the polytechnic

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

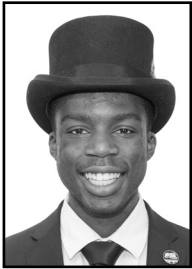
Editorial and Business offices are located in Room 3418 of the Rensselaer Union, Troy, New York, 12180-3590. Subscription and advertising rates can be forwarded upon request. Subscriptions are sent via first class mail. Address correction requested.

The Polytechnic Senior Board apologizes to Paul Ilori '17 for the publication of the article titled “Allegations suggest R&E behind freshmen election negligence” in the December 2, 2015 issue of *The Poly*. An updated version is available at <https://poly.rpi.edu/s/sbf>. The investigation did not yield any results that support the allegations.

TOP HAT

Take advantage of free rush events, open to all

THIS PAST WEEK MARKED THE beginning of a couple of significant annual events on the Rensselaer calendar. On September 6, Hockey Line started. For the next week, student teams will stay in line outside the Rensselaer Union, in pursuit of the first opportunity to buy hockey season tickets. A tradition that's decades old, Hockey Line was born out of an organic line inside the Union, where season tickets were originally sold. It has since been moved outside on the Union patio and formalized. Even if you don't think you're interested in getting season tickets or don't think hockey is your thing, you should still go and check out Hockey Line. There are cool activities going on with the event, including movie screenings, free food, and much more. Hockey Line finishes at 8 pm on September 12, when the students in the line will march up to the Houston Field House. There will



Paul Ilori
Grand Marshal

be open skate on the ice that night, along with opportunities to meet the men's and women's hockey teams, and a few other things that night, so you should definitely drop by. My personal suggestion would be to buy tickets with the Red Army, our student section, who always get a pretty good spot in line and help plan out Hockey Line. Another event, which kicked off last Friday, was Interfraternity Council Rush. While I definitely have my own minor bias here (CLAMS), you should definitely drop by some rush events if you don't have other obligations that prevent you from doing so (yes, and you don't have to worry, girls can come to rush too). They tend to be a great opportunity to meet some new friends, hang out with chill people, and you might even end up finding a group of guys who you'll be friends with for the rest of your life. There's been a lot of interest in Greek

life within the incoming class. You can find all the IFC Rush calendars on the IFC website at <https://poly.rpi.edu/s/iqp38>. If you're interested in joining a sorority, Rensselaer Panhellenic Association recruitment will be taking place during the weekend of September 10. You can find the registration form for recruitment at <https://poly.rpi.edu/s/8tlba>. Big shout out to Katie Todd '17 and Nate Rosengrant '18—the Panhel and IFC Vice Presidents of Recruitment—for all the work they've done preparing for the recruitment period. In terms of Student Senate news, we didn't have a meeting this Monday; despite it being named Labor Day, it is designated as a day where there is a distinct lack of labor. Sylvia Vo '17 is the new Senate secretary, and we had a lot of interest at the Activities Fair this past week. Email me at gm@rpi.edu if you have any questions about when Senate committees meet, or how you can get involved with or start a project you're interested in. ♦

DERBY

E-Board wants YOU

Open positions await applications

HELLO AGAIN RPI! I HOPE EVERYONE had a great first week of classes and a good start to the school year. The Activities Fair last Thursday was an outstanding success with over 200 clubs from across campus present. With the help of all of our club officers we also managed to stay below the occupancy limit for the duration of the fair.

The Activities Fair began as a method of accountability for Rensselaer Union-funded clubs on campus. Each club needed to participate to prove that they were active and inclusive of the entire student body. This is still true today for Union-funded clubs and Union-recognized clubs, but the fair has grown into much more than what it was when it first began. The Activities Fair is the main source of recruitment for almost all clubs on campus and an important outreach tool for other organizations. Each year, first-year students attend to meet the groups they are interested in and most ultimately become part of one of our many, many clubs on campus. It's an essential tool for the longevity of most organizations. Next year, however, we need to focus on reevaluating the planning and details of the Activities Fair to ensure that all students who are interested and all club members who recruit have no restrictions. The Executive Board along with interested club officers will tackle this challenge and continue to improve our Activities Fair for the 2017–2018 school year.

Speaking of the Executive Board, we are currently seeking applications from first-year students for two available positions on the Board. The Executive Board is the chief financial body in the Union completing budgeting for the entire organization. Every penny spent by a Union club or by the Union itself is approved by the Executive Board. Our committees work on improving accessibility to all student clubs through marketing and advertisement, improving Union facilities and business operations, and providing the campus with incredible extracurricular activities like Union After Dark, concerts like the one last semester with the Chainsmokers, and weekly movies in the Darrin Communications Center. The Executive Board is an amazing opportunity to get involved on campus and a great way to gain professional exposure to budgeting and organizational management.

If you are interested please apply at <https://poly.rpi.edu/s/94rsq> or email pu@rpi.edu and I will send a printable copy of the application to you. You may also email me with any questions or comments you have regarding the application of the Executive Board. Time commitment for members is 2–3 hours per week in Executive Board meetings, 1–2 hours per week in committee meetings, and one hour a week working with student groups. ♦



Chip Kirchner
President of the Union

Correction: Chip Kirchner '17's Derby article was misprinted in last week's issue. The correct version can be viewed online at <https://poly.rpi.edu/s/f57b>.

poly snapshots

Photos and interviews by Maria Kozdroy, Stephanie Tan, and Sidney Kochman

The Question:

Do you use a pencil, mechanical pencil, or pen to take notes during class?



Aurora Freedman
ELEC '19
"Mechanical pencils because I can erase things and I don't have to sharpen it inconveniently during class. It's not permanent and pencils are better because I make a lot of mistakes."



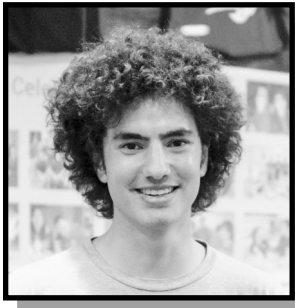
Rico Martinez
MECL '17
"A pen because it glides, it's easy to write with and the hand doesn't cramp because of pressing down. There's no time to erase when taking notes and 0.5 mm is the best size."



Sam Kasura
GSAS '17
"Pencils because they're a lot cheaper like 10 cents for a five pack. I don't use mechanical pencils because their tips break a lot."



James Flamino
PHYS '18
"Mechanical pencils; they're rather easy to use, don't need to sharpen them. You can use a single mechanical pencil for a long time because lead is cheap."



Peter Craig
PHYS '18
"Mechanical pencils; they're superior."

My View

Suicide minimized with thoughtful interactions

Tips for bettering the mental health of close friends for a happier, brighter future for all

SEPTEMBER 5–11 IS NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION WEEK. This seems like a good time to share factual information about suicide, as well as discussing how each of us can recognize when someone is at risk for suicide, and become familiar with the best ways to react to someone at risk. We will also touch on the ways the suicide of someone we know, particularly someone we are close to, can affect us.

In 2014, the latest year for which statistics for the United States are available, a person died by suicide every 12.3 minutes, which was the 10th leading cause of death in this country. For those in the age range of 15 to 24, it was the third leading cause, only trailing accidents and homicide.

When we discuss “preventing” suicide, I always stress the word “minimize,” since sometimes no matter what we do we cannot prevent the suicide from taking place; no matter how hard we try, we can miss the warning signs, or, in spite of our best efforts, the suicide may still occur.

Most of us have had, or will have, fleeting thoughts of death as a means of escaping from an unpleasant situation at some point in our lives. It is when the thoughts are more than just fleeting that there is a need for concern.

Surveys have found that as many as 10 to 11 percent of college students have seriously considered attempting suicide during the preceding year.

Many bouts of depression are moderately short-lived, and if the person can be helped through the episode they have a good chance of recovery. Here we are talking of severe depression, not the transient feeling of sadness all of us experience from time to time.

Some of the warning signs of suicide include the following according to Mayo Clinic: talking about suicide, “I’m going to kill myself,” “I wish I were dead,” or “I wish I hadn’t been born;” getting the means to commit suicide; withdrawing from social contact and wanting to be alone; having mood swings, such as being emotionally high one day and deeply discouraged the next; being preoccupied with death, dying, or violence; feeling trapped or hopeless about a situation; increased use of alcohol or drugs; changing normal routines, such as eating or sleeping patterns; doing risky or self-destructive things, such as using drugs or driving recklessly; giving away belongings or getting affairs in order when there is no other logical explanation for why this is being done; saying goodbye to people as if they won’t be seen again; and developing personality changes or being severely anxious or agitated, particularly when experiencing some of the above warning signs.

Those at risk of suicide are feeling depressed, hopeless, and isolated. You can help someone break this pattern by approaching them with a show of genuine concern. For example, “I’ve noticed you’ve been feeling down for a

while. I’m concerned about you. Is there anything I can do to help?” If they dismiss your impression as being inaccurate, just respond with something like “Good, I’m glad you’re okay. If there ever is something upsetting you I’m around if you need me.” Just knowing that someone cares can make all the difference.

If they do admit to feeling depressed, don’t be afraid to ask, “Are you thinking of killing yourself?” The more specific a plan one has for suicide, the higher the risk. Contrary to what many people believe, you will not be putting the idea of suicide into the person’s head—or in any way be increasing the risk of suicide—just by talking to them.

If the person does sound like they are considering suicide, the first thing to do is just listen, encouraging the person to express their feelings. It is important to acknowledge your understanding of their feelings. Don’t try to minimize what they’re going through by voicing platitudes such as “things will get better,” “look at the bright side,” “you have so much to live for.” Such statements will make the person feel that you haven’t understood what they are experiencing, which will add to their feeling of isolation. Try, instead, to put into your own words what you hear them saying about how they feel (i.e. “You’re saying it hurts so badly you’d rather not wake up in the morning”).

Remove, or get them to give up, anything that could be immediately lethal. This will reduce the likelihood of an impulsive suicidal act, and communicates your concern and willingness to intervene.

If you find the person has a timetable or a plan, take it seriously. Don’t leave them alone, or be brushed off by “I’m okay now.”

Keep the person talking about what is bothering them and direct them towards getting professional help right away. If the person is a Rensselaer student, have them call the Counseling Center (518-276-6479), or call our office yourself. Someone can be reached from the Counseling Center 24 hours a day by calling the Department of Public Safety at 518-276-6656. If it is during office hours, walk the student over to us. If the person is not a Rensselaer student, contact someone in their community (emergency mental health line, family, clergy, doctor). It is better to risk the person being angry at you for violating a confidence, than to have the person kill themselves.

When a suicide does occur, it can evoke a wide range of feelings, including grief/sadness, guilt, anxiety, anger, numbness, or even no emotional reaction at all.

Any and all of these reactions can occur, and they are all equally “normal.” For some people, the emotions triggered by a suicide include a return of emotions

experienced through past losses, or stir up one’s own feelings of depression. The most valuable supports at such times are each other—loved ones, friends, family, etc. Just being there for each other, expressing feelings, and sharing memories of the person who has died can be tremendously helpful.

If you find that your emotional reaction is disrupting your life and you need more than the support of friends and family, the Counseling Center is just one of the many supports available for students on campus. We are located on the fourth level of Academy Hall (Suite 4100). Appointments can be made by calling ext. 6479 or walking in. A staff member from the Counseling Center can also be reached after office hours by contacting Public Safety (6656) and asking to speak to the counselor on call. Other helping resources include class deans, chaplains, and residence hall staff.

The Counseling Center website (<http://studenthealth.rpi.edu>) contains self-administered mental health screening surveys for depression, alcohol, bipolar disorder, and generalized anxiety disorder. To find these self-evaluators, use the left menu to navigate to the “On-line Resource Page” of “Counseling Services.” In the list of resources, Ulifeline and Stop a Suicide Today have screening surveys available.

Depression is not the only issue college students deal with; stress, academic issues, relationships, and anxiety are just a few of the variety of college-related issues. If you would like to make an appointment to talk about any mental health issue, please give us a call.


In addition to the above, you can help those who work to prevent suicide, such as The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, by participating in fundraising community walks. Our area will have a community walk later this month, on September 25 (Capital Region Walk for RITA). I have organized a team to walk that day, as I have done for the past few years. If any of you would like to participate in the walk, you are welcome to join our team: Jonathan Starfish. Just email me (alberj@rpi.edu) and I will give you more information, including how to join the team and register for the walk.

Joe Albert, Ph.D.
Psychologist, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institue


Joseph Albert, Ph.D., (Dr. Joe) received his B.A. in psychology from Antioch College ('61) and his MA ('66) and PhD ('69) in Clinical Psychology from the University of Illinois. Joe, who has been licensed as a psychologist since 1971, also has an active private practice.

DIVERSITY. INCLUSION. CULTURE. INTERSECTIONALITY.

SUCCESS THROUGH UNIFIED PERSPECTIVES.



Rensselaer



Matt Roloff

actor/author/farmer/business entrepreneur


Tuesday, Sept. 13th

7:30pm / EMPAC Concert Hall

College students face tremendous struggles in today's world, stresses from within the campus life and beyond. It is imperative for student success to have strategies for moving through challenge to create systems for them to achieve greatness.

Matt Roloff is best known for starring in the hit TLC reality show "Little People, Big World." His resilience has led him to overcome the challenges of everyday life. He operates a successful farm, has authored two books, and currently owns a manufacturing company specializing in mobility equipment designed for little people. Roloff has made three humanitarian trips to the Middle East to facilitate life-saving medical efforts for little people in Iraq. He has served as national President of Little People of America and has since co-founded a non-profit organization that supports little people across the nation.


For more information contact 276.6505 or activities@rpi.edu

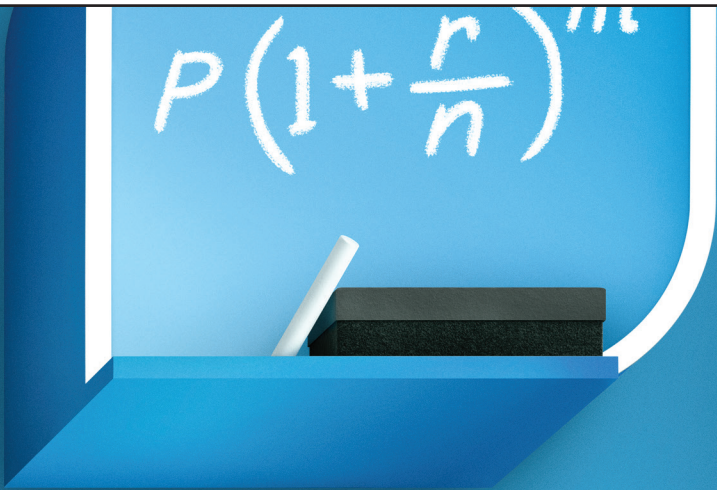


RENSSELAER
UNION

image repurposed from Horia Varlan, 2008

SPEAKERS
FORUM





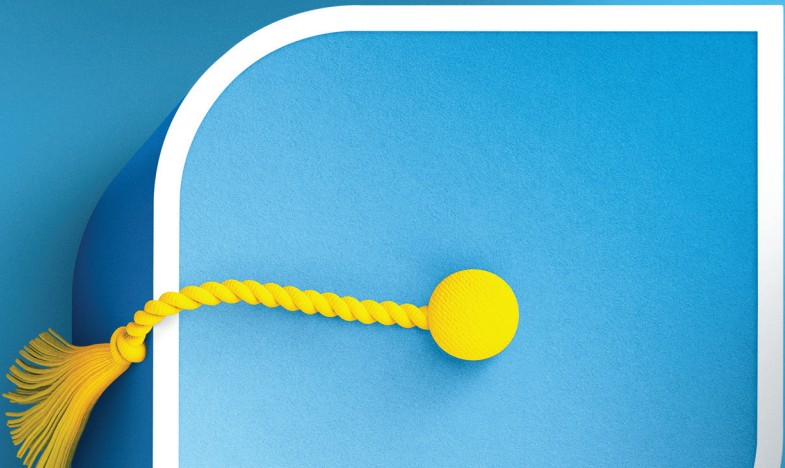
A FULFILLING
CAREER
SHOULDN'T
LEAVE YOU
EMPTY
HANDED.



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a different kind of financial
partner at the new TIAA.org >



INVESTING | ADVICE | BANKING | RETIREMENT



BUILT TO PERFORM.

CREATED TO SERVE.

C28791

DILBERTby Scott Adams

WE'RE GETTING INTO THE ELECTRIC CAR BUSINESS.

WHY?

BECAUSE IT SOUNDS IMPRESSIVE AND IT WILL TAKE YEARS FOR ANYONE TO FIGURE OUT WE DID IT WRONG.

WE'LL HAVE NEW JOBS BY THEN.

DID YOU JUST TURN MY JOB INTO A CRIMINAL CONSPIRACY?

WELCOME TO THE FIRST MEETING OF OUR PROJECT TO DESIGN AN ELECTRIC CAR.

WE'VE NEVER TRIED TO BUILD AN ELECTRIC CAR, BUT HOW HARD COULD IT BE?

IT'S VERY HARD.

IT DOESN'T FEEL THAT WAY. MY PART IS MOSTLY TALK.

OUR EXECUTIVE TEAM DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO ABOUT WEAK SALES.

SO THEY REORGANIZED THE COMPANY AND GAVE THEMSELVES NEW TITLES AND BIG RAISES.

THEY STILL DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO ABOUT WEAK SALES, BUT THEY REPORT BEING HAPPIER ABOUT THE SITUATION.

YOU NEED TO GET YOUR CAPITAL BUDGET APPROVED BY ALL OF THE DEPARTMENT HEADS.

WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF A REORG, SO GET APPROVAL FROM BOTH THE OUTGOING AND THE INCOMING MANAGERS.

SOMEDAY I HOPE TO SOLVE A PROBLEM THAT IS NOT CAUSED BY LEADERSHIP.

YOU'LL NEVER GET THAT FAR.

I TRIED TO GET APPROVAL FROM THE HEAD OF MARKETING, BUT THE REORG MAKES IT IMPOSSIBLE.

THE OUTGOING DIRECTOR SAYS I NEED TO ASK THE INCOMING DIRECTOR, BUT THAT PERSON HASN'T BEEN NAMED.

BRING ME SOLUTIONS, NOT PROBLEMS.

FORGERY IT IS.

YOU STAND ACCUSED OF FORGING AN EXPENSE APPROVAL FROM THE HEAD OF MARKETING.

YOUR MALFEASANCE CAUSED THE PROJECT TO FINISH ON TIME AND UNDER BUDGET.

NEXT TIME, JUST GIVE UP AND LOSE HOPE LIKE EVERYONE ELSE.

WILL DO.

SUDOKU

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

TOP TEN LIST

Information Sources

10. /u/transparentaluminum

9. Convocation

8. Morning Mail

7. Pamphlets in Pub Safe

6. @RealDonaldTrump

5. Inside Rensselaer

4. Random Posters on the DCC

3. /r/RPI

2. The Poly

1. Not S&W

WORDFINDby Giri Srinivasan

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

Obscure Sports

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

Bossaball	Hemp Olympics	Sheep Counting
Bo-taoshi	Hoover-Ball	Shin Kicking
Cheese Rolling	Jolleyball	Two-Handed
Extreme Ironing	Makepung	Tennis
Faceball	Poohsticks	Vertical Soccer
Fierljeppen	Reaganomics	Zorbing

UPAC

UPAC

UPAC

C · I · N · E · M · A

C · I · N · E · M · A

C · I · N · E · M · A

Batman vs. Superman: Dawn of Justice

Friday • September 9, 2016
7 pm, 11 pm • DCC 308 • \$2.50

The Prestige

Saturday • September 10, 2016
7 pm, 9:30 pm, midnight • DCC 308 • \$2.50

Do you like drawing comics?
Draw comics for The Poly!
Email us at comics@poly.rpi.edu

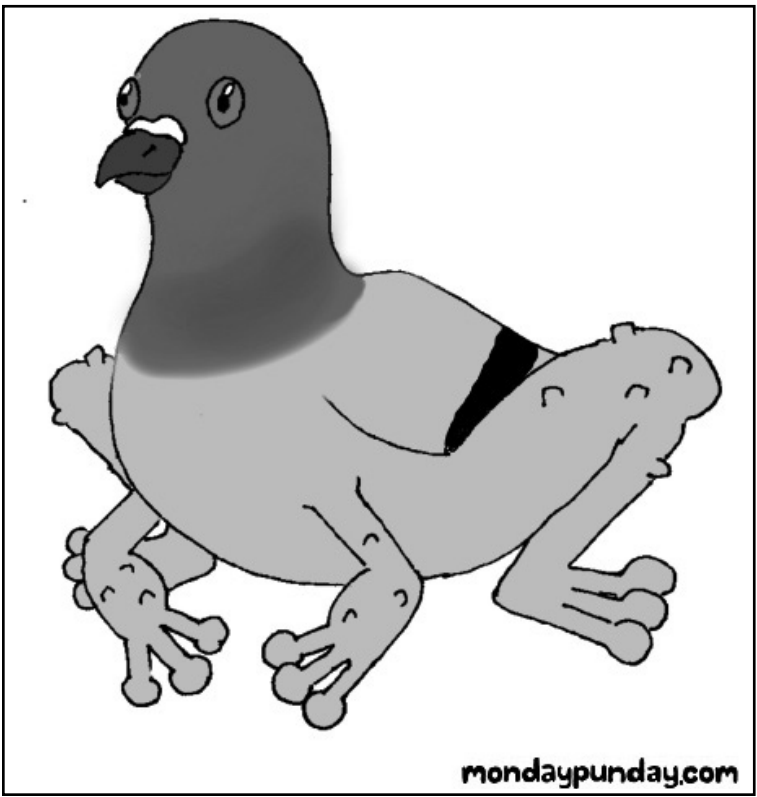
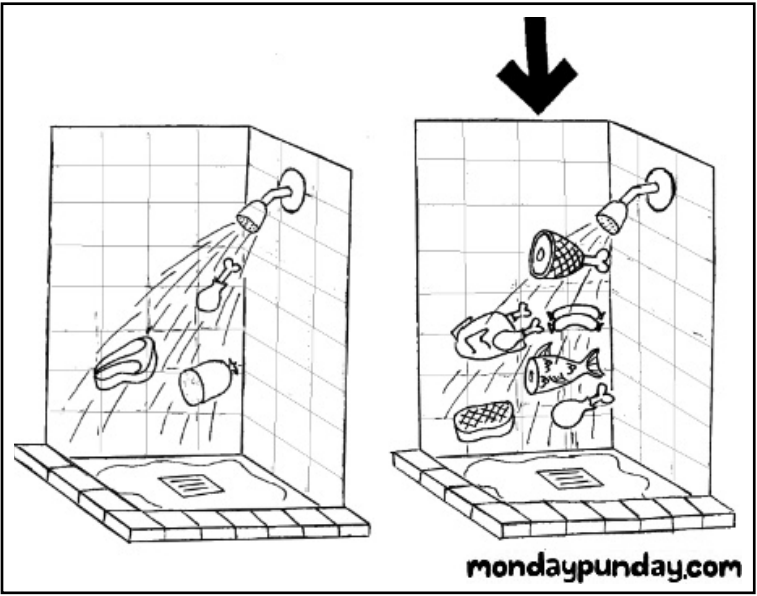
CRYPTOQUOTE

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

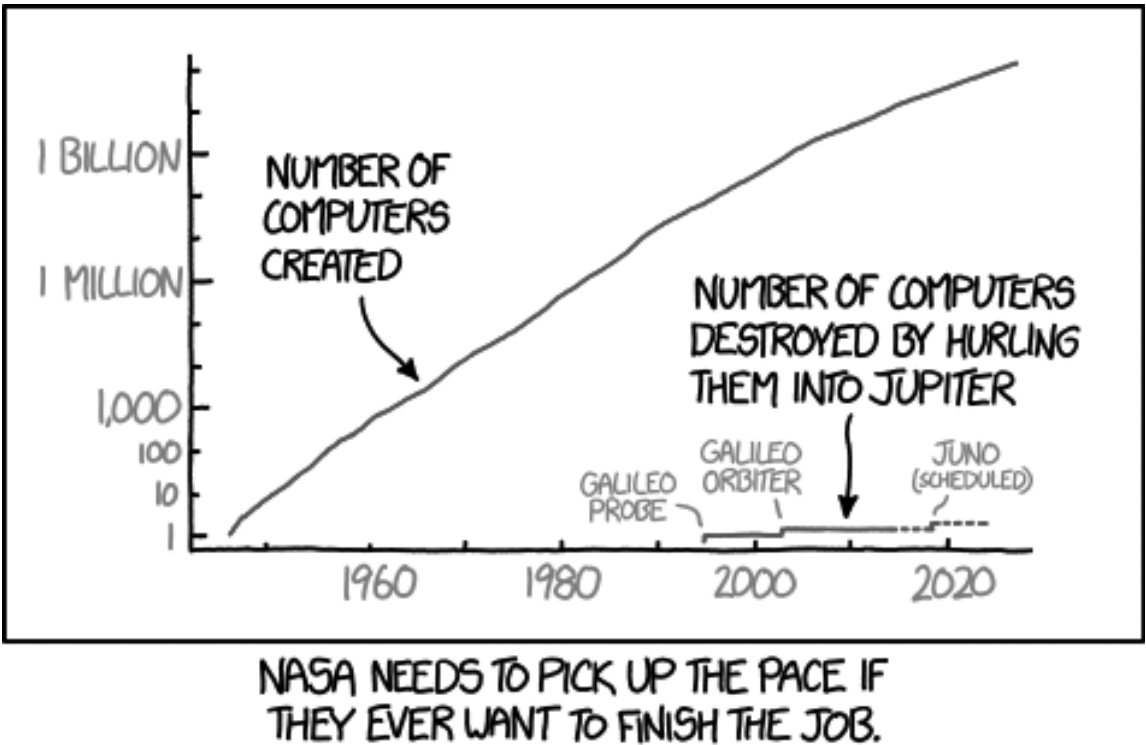
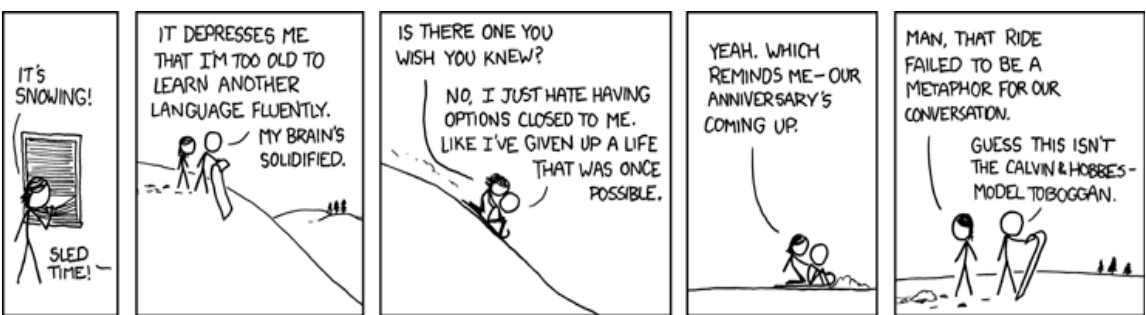
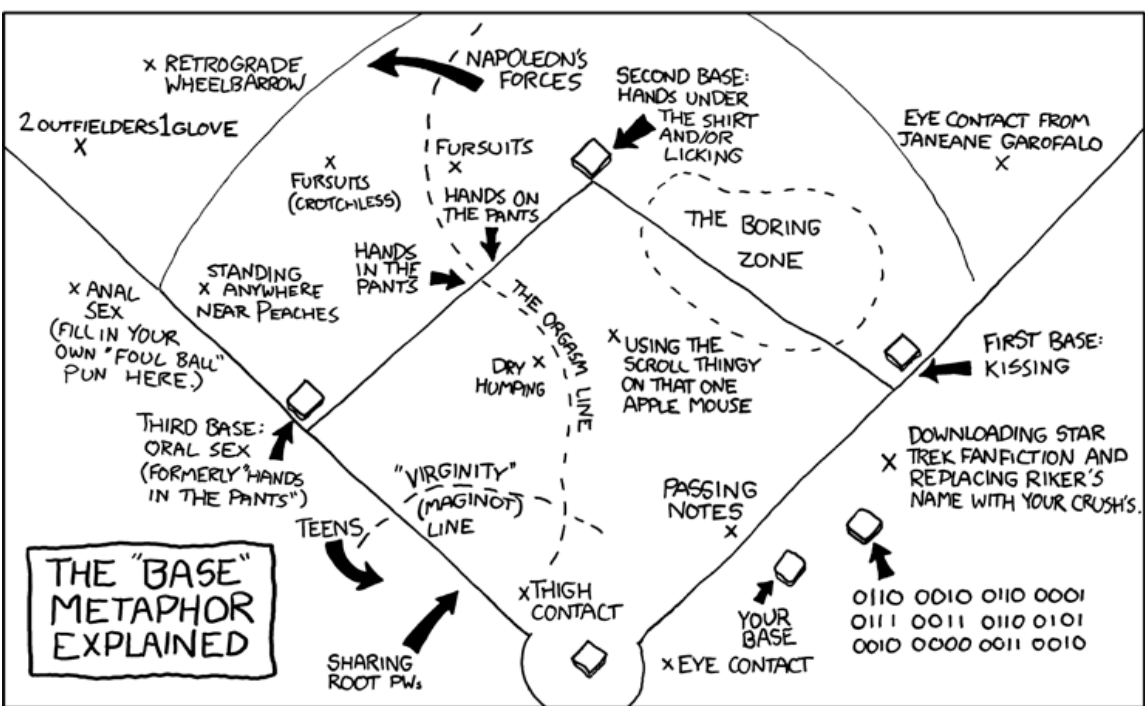
“ES, M’w ceyyq
jbzz tq! Tev lqa jlb
jqzbyj je gbdewb
q ceeaa umcljbo,
gvj myxjbqa eu
jlqj, tev gbdewb
q zbcgobqsbo je
xewb dlbqn, xbdeya
oqjb zeqyxlgos!”

—Wmdsbt
Oedst

MONDAY PUNDAY by Matthew Broussard



XKCD by Randall Munroe



Events

Wednesday, September 7, 2016

WEDNESDAY

September 7

Co-Terminal Informtion Session

Union 3202; Noon–1 pm

Learn more about completing a bachelor’s and master’s degrees in 5 years. Registration is recommended, available at <https://poly.rpi.edu/s/ncf64>.

Lally School Speaker Series

CBIS Auditorium; 2–3 pm

The Lally School of Management will host a Center for Financial Studies Industry Speaker Series, “Non-Traditional Sources for Intelligence Analysis,” with Maria del Pilar Ryan, Ph.D., Colonel, U.S. Army (Retired) and Consulting Historian.

Physics Colloquium

DCC 337; 4–5 pm

The Department of Physics, Applied Physics and Astronomy host Dr. Kyungeun E. Lim, from Yale University. The lecture is titled “Search for neutrinoless double-beta decay with the CUORE experiment.”

Jonah Bokaer “Three Cases of Amnesia”

EMPAC; 7:30–8:30 pm

Dancer, choreographer, and media artist Jonah Bokaer will combine three of his iconic solos—False Start, Charade, and Nudedescendence—in a 60-minute performance titled “Three Cases of Amnesia.” Rarely performed in the United States, the program showcases Bokaer’s pioneering work with choreographed, computer-generated animations. The cost of attendance is \$6.

“The Outlook for Energy, a View to 2040”

CBIS Auditorium; 10:45 am–12:15 pm

Dr. Vijay Swarup, Vice President for Research and Development at ExxonMobil will discuss a long-range energy outlook forecast as a bottom-up, data-driven analysis. This outlook is used to develop business strategies to guide investment decisions and help people better understand the world of energy. The focus is on future consumers of energy and energy choices that people and nations will make, considering all the factors that go into such choices.

FRIDAY

September 9

Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice

DCC 308; 7 pm and 11 pm

Fearing the actions of Superman left unchecked, Batman takes on the Man of Steel, while the world wrestles with what kind of hero it really needs. The cost of attendance is \$2.50, presented by UPAC Cinema.

SATURDAY

September 10

The Prestige

DCC 308; 7, 9:30 pm, and midnight

Two stage magicians engage in competitive one-upmanship in an attempt to create the ultimate stage illusion. The cost of attendance is \$2.50.

SUNDAY

September 11

Scaredy Cat Dinner

Mother’s; 10–11 am

Destination Imagination’s first Scaredy Cat Dinner of the semester. Support the RPI Destination Imagination Team with their first fundraiser. The cost of attendance is \$6.

MONDAY

September 12

Fall 2016 add deadline

Biological Sciences Seminar

CBIS Bruggeman Room; Noon–1 pm

Dr. Jean-Ju Chung, Yale University, will present “Molecular Basis of Sperm Navigation in Mammalian Fertilization.”

TUESDAY

September 13

Rensselaer Union Speakers Forum

EMPAC Concert Hall; 7:30–9:30 pm

Matt Roloff, is best known for the TLC show “Little People, Big World”. In life, he operates a successful family farm, authored two books, was a top salesman for Fortune 500 companies, and currently owns a manufacturing company specializing in mobility equipment. Matt will share experiences that can help students find strategies through a challenge to create and achieve greatness.

THURSDAY

September 8

Academy Hall Visitor’s Lot Closed

Study Abroad Information Session


Academy Hall 3627; 2:15–3:15 pm

The Office of International Programs will be holding an information session for students who wish to learn more about the available international programs and opportunities. Students who want to study abroad in the Spring 2017 semester are strongly encouraged to attend. Program options and application procedures will be reviewed, and students will have an opportunity to ask questions.

Biomedical Engineering Seminar

CII 4050; 2:30–3:30 pm

Dinggang Shen, Ph.D., Professor at University of North Carolina, will present “Machine Learning in Medical Imaging Analysis.”



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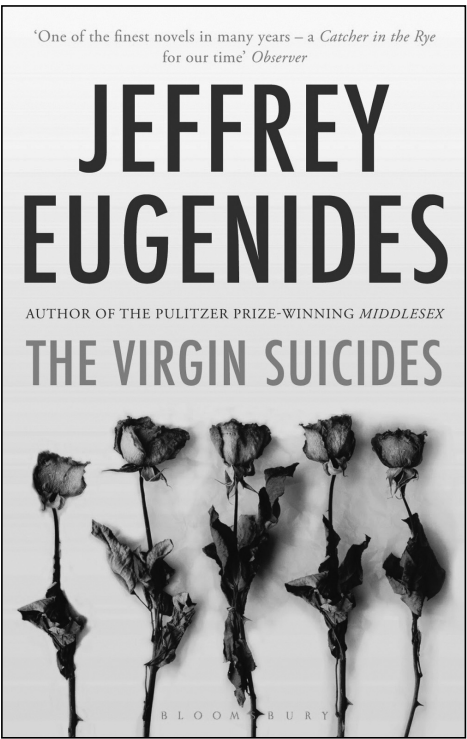
BOOK REVIEW

The Virgin Suicides delves in youth, sex, and death

Nathan Dorer
Senior Reviewer

UPON ITS RELEASE IN 1993, JEFFREY EUGENIDES’ debut novel, *The Virgin Suicides*, gained critical attention after the first chapter was published in *The Paris Review*. Following the consequent international reception and success, Eugenides extended the chapter into a 250-page novel that explores the concepts of youth and sexuality through a filter as grim as it is romantic. The book initially caught attention with its decisively poetic prose; in an interview with *The Paris Review* following the book’s full-length publication, Eugenides described *The Virgin Suicides* as “a lyrical novel.” In any case, the piece proves itself to be original and captivating—in both prose and content matter.

The novel is written from the perspective of a group of boys who lived in Grosse Pointe, Michigan during the 1970s, but have now grown into successful professionals in varying fields. Through their writings, the communal narrators create a retrospective



Courtesy of Farrar, Straus, Giroux
EUGENIDES’ STYLE CAPTIVATES readers.

manifesto for a group of girls that lived on the same street as them when they were younger. These girls—the illusive Lisbon sisters—served as idealized muses for the boys when they were younger. The men freely admit their deep-seated affections for this group of girls that they never knew personally.

Eugenides crafts a quietly perfect suburban atmosphere for this story to take place, only to have it shatter when the youngest Lisbon sister commits suicide. Quickly, the novel devolves into a slew of neighborhood gossip assimilated by the narrators; because they were never offered the opportunity to know the Lisbon sisters in an intimate sense, they learn everything that they can about the girls through the form of neighborhood hearsay. *The Virgin Suicides* is largely an exploration of the boys’ grapple between their idealized versions of the Lisbon sisters and their grim reality. In pursuit of understanding why one of their perfect Lisbon sisters would kill herself, they find themselves struggling to insert their presence into the lives of the surviving sisters.

While the story itself serves as an intriguing narrative where Eugenides excels is in his writing, the novel is written entirely in the form of first person plural, and by having the reader experience the story through the eyes of several different narrators. Eugenides manages to add a sense of community to the tragedy, with a sense of poetry, and oftentimes his sentences have a sense of rhythm and meter; *The Paris Review* wrote that *The Virgin Suicides* “comes across as a sort of prose poem.” Between these two characters of writing, the novel takes on a completely ethereal quality, and the author welcomes the reader to experience something horrible through the veil of a dream.

The Virgin Suicides stands out as a novel that took the quiet and complacent life of a Midwestern suburb and sculpted it into an introspective drama. Within the novel, the narrators struggle between their infatuation and their understanding of death, and Eugenides deserves commendation for his skill as an author. Ultimately, the novel stands out as an original and unique read. ♦

LOCAL

Uber yet to come to Upstate NY

Sidney Kochman
Senior Reviewer

RIDE SHARING IS A CONVENIENT OPTION FOR STUDENTS who do not have a car but need to travel. Taxis are often more expensive, less clean, and, in the Capital District, unreliable. Uber and Lyft are two of the most well-known ridesharing companies and they seem to be everywhere these days. However, there is one glaring gap in their coverage: Upstate New York.

Uber drivers can operate in New York City by obtaining a Taxi and Limousine Commission license, which allows commercial drivers to pick riders up. Additionally, New York State law requires each driver to obtain a commercial insurance policy. This is unusual, as most markets in which Uber operates allow Uber to insure drivers with a more cost-effective group policy. Because of this, Uber’s prices in New York City are some of the highest of all the cities it serves, and it does not operate upstate.

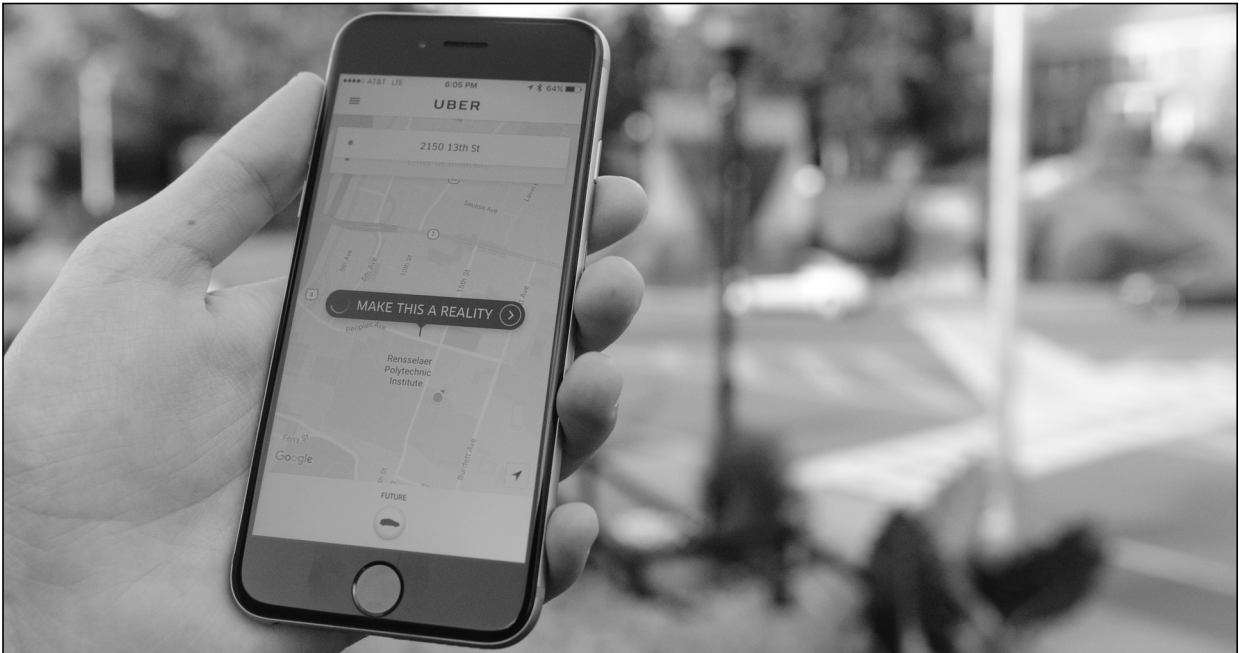
Bills have been introduced to committees of the New York State Legislature to modify the law to allow the type of group insurance that ride sharing companies would like to use. However, none have panned out. Senate Bill S4108 (<https://poly.rpi.edu/s/q29yq>) and Assembly Bill A8195 (<https://poly.rpi.edu/s/w4yjb>) would have allowed transportation network companies (e.g. Uber and Lyft) to obtain group insurance policies. After discussion over whether drivers in New York City would be allowed to be part of the new group insurance policies, it passed the Senate Insurance Committee and the Senate, but was not voted on by the Assembly before the conclusion of the 2016 Legislative Session.

Bills S4280 (<https://poly.rpi.edu/s/bj9e5>) and A6090 (<https://poly.rpi.edu/s/w3qjm>) are more broadly-scoped than the above bills that focused on group insurance. However, these bills have not moved out of committee, possibly due

to their larger scopes. Insurance companies, taxi companies, ridesharing companies, and drivers are all looking for something specific in these bills, and they want their interests protected. The Democratic-controlled Assembly was pushing for higher minimum liability limits than the Republican-controlled Senate. It will likely take time for a compromise to be reached between the two houses.

In the meantime, municipalities have been given the ability to place the Capital District Transportation Authority in charge of administration of their taxi services after the passage and signing into law of Bills S7359 (<https://poly.rpi.edu/s/j4vvq>) and A9878 (<https://poly.rpi.edu/s/cj003>). Senator Neil Breslin remarked in the bill’s memo that it aims to “streamline administrative processes with the goal of providing improved taxicab service to those visiting the Capital Region.” CDTA would provide a “unified complaint process” and administrative services to “improve the customer experience.” If local governments choose to opt-in to CDTA administration, the quality of upstate taxi services may improve enough to lessen the impact of the lack of ride sharing services.

To raise awareness of its absence in the Capital District, Uber offered free ice cream delivery on July 15, 2016. Using the Uber app, people could request three chocolate-covered ice cream bars to be delivered to their current location. Additionally, Uber offered free ice cream at three restaurants, including Little Peck’s in downtown Troy. In a press release, the company said it offered ice cream “to give local residents in upstate cities a taste of what Uber can offer their city.” A Siena College poll (<https://poly.rpi.edu/s/c7h30>) conducted from May 22–26, 2016 found that 70 percent of New York state registered voters support legislation that would allow ride sharing companies to operate in their areas. Hopefully, by next spring, the legislature will be able to pass a bill that reflects the desire for residents to have Uber, Lyft, and similar services operate in upstate New York. ♦

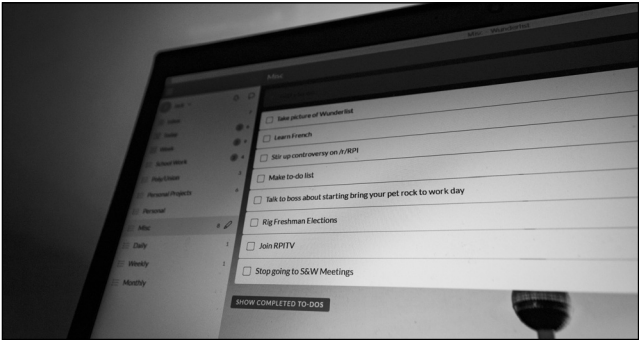


Stephanie Tan/The Polytechnic

THE UBER APP HAS a chance to expand its services to the residents in Upstate New York in the near future.

APP REVIEW

Wunderlist ends procrastination



Sidney Kochman/The Polytechnic

WUNDERLIST ASSISTS students with time allocation.

Jacob Kaplan
Staff Reviewer

AS THE ACADEMIC YEAR BEGINS TO RAMP UP, MANY STUDENTS find themselves at a loss as to how to properly organize their assignments, chores, appointments, and other obligations. Academic planners and agendas seem to serve some well, but can be cumbersome and leave out tasks without specific due dates. For others, to-do lists are the way to go, but they often fall short as people tend to overestimate or underestimate the amount of work they are capable of in a single day. Luckily, information technology has attempted to fix these shortcomings. At the moment, there are thousands of productivity, to-do, and calendar apps on the market. But how does a student go about picking the right app for them? Although it depends on the person for many, Wunderlist may be exactly what they are looking for.

Wunderlist’s appeal is its ease of use and intuitive design. Users can create to-do’s, which can be part of a larger list and grouped into folders. To-do’s can be assigned due dates, reminders, and subtasks. Files and short notes can be attached to each to-do. To-do’s and reminders can automatically repeat in any kind of configuration the user can think of. This feature makes the app perfect for regular tasks like laundry and shopping. If there is a to-do with no specific designation, Wunderlist’s inbox allows users to input any to-do where it can be stored indefinitely until being assigned. Wunderlist also lets users view all to-do’s due within the week, giving them a great idea of what their upcoming workload will look like.

Benefits aside, Wunderlist does have some disadvantages that may prevent it from being the right app for some. Although it features calendar-like qualities, it can only display to-do’s due within the week, and due dates can only be assigned a single value instead of a range like some calendar apps. There are also only three layers of organization possible: to-do’s, lists, and folders. This means that lists cannot be stored in other lists, and folders cannot be stored in other folders, which makes the app less comprehensive than others on the market, like Omnifocus.

Work habits and organization techniques vary from person to person, but Wunderlist’s simplistic design yet robust capabilities make it an asset to anyone looking to stay on top of their work. Currently, Wunderlist is available on iOS, Android, Fire OS, Microsoft Windows, Windows Phone, OS X, Chrome, and Apple Watch OS. ♦

Features

Wednesday, September 7, 2016

CAMPUS EVENT

Clubs showcase athletics, arts, amusement



Jonathan Caicedo/The Polytechnic

ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, OVER 200 CLUBS PARTICIPATED in the annual Activities Fair hosted by the Rensselaer Union Executive Board to attract new members.

Kay Sun
Senior Reviewer
Jonathan Caicedo
Staff Reviewer

AS THE 2016 UNION ACTIVITIES FAIR kicked off on Thursday, September 1, over 2,100 RPI students flocked to the Armory to explore over 218 clubs and organizations that well presented themselves.

Wearing colorful club shirts, different club members had been setting up their stands since 4:30 pm that afternoon, bringing numerous project boards and even various items to give away in order

to attract more students' attention. By 6 pm, most clubs were already ready for this largest-annual club showcase. Student associations expressed the spirits of their cultures with food and accessories. Athletic clubs showcased their skills with members interacting with other students, throwing balls and displaying equipment, the physical actions delivering the essence of those distinctive sports. Arts clubs presented their core themes and aesthetics through exhibitions of their art work and live performances. Other clubs, such as UPAC lights, that chose

a live light show to draw people's focus, all developed plans that fit them the best.

Additionally, the science and engineering organizations have always been one of the most popular club categories among Rensselaer students. RPISEC; Design, Build, and Fly; Embedded Hardware Club; and more had lines of students trying to sign up in front of their stands. However, the most popular clubs were the gaming clubs. A gaming screen at the side of the arena turned out to be the most crowded space. Swarms of students gathered around the screen

to either wait to play the game or simply enjoy watching others play.

In the Rensselaer Union Executive Board's early planning period, concerns were expressed about the Armory's capacity, and the ability to handle RPI's largest freshman class yet of over 1,700 students. To address the issue, only three representatives were allowed for each club, which was followed by clubs, though the restriction was later relaxed. Help from both student and Union staff made the Fair, as President of the Union Chip Kirchner '17 put it, an "overwhelming success."

Despite that some students mentioned at the end of the Activity Fair that, due to their schedules, they were not able to come until the very end, many first-year students and upperclassmen all expressed the helpfulness of the Activity Fair. Adam Sequera '20 described it as a "very useful outlet for finding new opportunities, and sifting through the many things Rensselaer has to offer." Despite the Activity Fair coming to a close, the Union hopes that students keep exploring different opportunities and experiences on campus. ♦



Stephanie Tan/The Polytechnic

RENSELAER MOTORSPORTS CLUB PREPARES their vehicle for the Activity Fair.



Stephanie Tan/The Polytechnic

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS MEMBERS TALK with attendees.