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NEVER
LET
ME GO

Never Let Me Go captures readers

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Cross country breaks 21-year record

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The Editorial Board

Thoughts on the upcoming election

Staff Editorial

Reflecting on the Fall Town Meeting

CAMPUS EVENT

New capital campaign coming in 2017



Jack Wellhofer/The Polytechnic

PRESIDENT SHIRLEY ANN JACKSON DISCUSSED upcoming changes with students in EMPAC Theater during the annual Fall Town Meeting.

Jack Wellhofer
Peter Gramenides
Senior Reporters

PRESIDENT SHIRLEY ANN JACKSON ANNOUNCED several key strategic initiatives during the Fall Town Meeting that will be culminated during the coming year while celebrating recent successes in institutional research and enrollment management.

Beginning her speech at Wednesday’s meeting, Jackson stated that “there is a great deal of evi-

dence that the world appreciates the work we do here,” noting that Rensselaer intended to enroll only 1500 incoming freshman, yet welcomed 1691, and that the university’s ranking rose to 39th amongst national universities in the most recent edition of the U.S. News and World Report. “We try to remain focused on outcomes,” Jackson continued, citing salaries of recent grads and graduate school acceptances as indicators of the “impact of research and teaching” at Rensselaer. “Those outcomes speak for themselves.”

Jackson remarked that the Institute’s finances are “fundamentally sound, with a stable market position and improved operating performance.” Further, Jackson cited the successful completion of a \$1.4 billion capital campaign in 2008, continued improvement of existing facilities, and intent to continue expanding tenured and tenure-track faculty positions across the Institute.

Jackson also announced her intent to mount an expansive new capital campaign beginning in 2017

See TOWN MEETING, **Page 2**

CAMPUS EVENT

Nobel laureate kicks off lecture series

Tom Cech speaks on contemporary biology research, relevance of telomeres

Jacob Kaplan
Staff Reporter

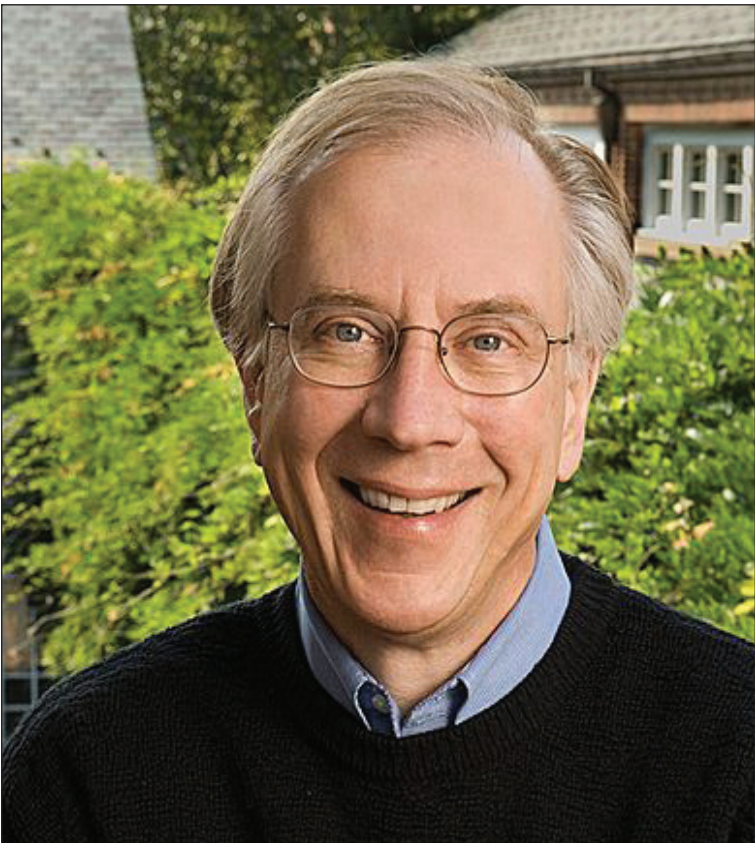
LAST WEDNESDAY, TOM CECH, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, gave the second of two inaugural lectures in a new series, “Life at the Interface of Science and Engineering” at Rensselaer’s Center for Biotechnology and Interdisciplinary Studies. The first lecture, also given by Cech, was at the University of Albany on Tuesday. This new lecture series was established thanks to the work of Dr. Marlene Belfort and Dr. Georges Belfort, professors at the University of Albany and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, respectively. The series concerns itself with topics requiring collaboration with the life sciences and engineering.

Cech’s lecture on Wednesday, “CRISPR Genome Engineering Gives New Insights about Telomerase and its Role in Cancer,” drew a large crowd of

both Rensselaer students and faculty. There was not a single empty seat in the auditorium and all late-comers had to stand for the entire lecture.

First to the lectern was Rensselaer’s Dean of Engineering, Shekhar Garde, who explained the purpose and importance of the new lecture series then introduced Rensselaer’s President, Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson. Jackson summarized the credentials of Cech and his research into the catalytic properties of RNA that eventually earned him the 1989 Nobel Prize in Chemistry along with Sidney Altman. Jackson introduced Cech and he began the lecture.

The lecture mostly covered three important topics of research in contemporary biology research, telomeres, telomerase, and CRISPR (Clustered regularly interspaced short palindromic repeats). In brief, telomeres are caps of non-coding DNA found



Courtesy of Jane Gitschier

See BIOLOGY, **Page 3**

NOBEL LAUREATE TOM CECH SPOKE at RPI on Wednesday. (file photo)

Serving the Rensselaer community since 1885

CAMPUS EVENT

High schoolers visit Rensselaer for taste of STEM

Engineering Ambassadors provide students with hands-on experience in research settings

Jack Wellhofer
Maria Espinosa
Senior Reporters

ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28, A GROUP OF students from Hoosick Falls High School came to visit Rensselaer. In order to inform the students about Rensselaer and what engineers do, some members from the Engineering Ambassadors made a couple of presentations for the students. The first presentation was on the “Future of Light.” During this presentation, ambassadors talked about the different types of lightbulbs and their respective efficiencies, as well as the difference between diodes and photodiodes. During and after the presentation, the presenters gave the students the opportunity to try several hands-on activities, which included finding light spectrums and connecting wires to create different colored lights.

Next, Michael Wentworth ’17 presented “My College Experience.” In the presentation, Wentworth talked about his college experience as a whole and he mentioned things like the clubs he is part of and the different co-ops he has done. This presentation had the purpose of giving the students an insight on college life at RPI.

The students were then taken to the Center for Industrial Innovation to view the work of researchers. In one

room, students observed demonstrations on visible light communications. The research team is using lasers for wireless data transfer, up to one gigabyte per second. So far, the team has managed only to transfer data a few feet but they aim to connect campus buildings using the lasers.

In the Smart Conference Room, researchers are using color sensors to detect light and movement within the room. Students were able to see themselves represented as color levels on a screen and watch as the artificial lights adapted to natural light changes.

Finally, students took a walk through the horticultural lighting lab. Researchers are studying the effects of varied lighting on plant physiology and development. The aim is to observe the impact on plant growth and the nutritional value of the plant.

The Engineering Ambassadors regularly visit schools in the area to present on the newest technological breakthroughs. Through their work, the group aims to inspire middle and high school students to pursue education in STEM fields. ♦



Jack Wellhofer/The Polytechnic

STUDENTS FROM NEARBY HOOSICK FALL HIGH SCHOOL LISTEN as research on visible light communication is demonstrated.

Biology: Lecturer talks research in telomeres

from **Page 2**

at the end of chromosomes that protect genes from damage. Telomerase is the enzyme that helps produce and repair telomeres. CRISPR is a strand of DNA taken from bacteria that can be used to make incredibly precise cuts in any kind of DNA thus making gene editing faster, cheaper, and more accurate.

Cech’s research concerns all three of these topics. Telomerase is vital for repairing telomeres which in turn repairs cells and slows the process of aging. Logically, it would seem, the more telomerase there is, the healthier cells would be. However, as Cech said, cancer cells produce their own telomerase which allows them to replicate indefinitely, resulting in malignant tumors. The upside, as Cech puts it, is that knowing this allows for more research into the relationships between the amount of telomerase and cancer malignancy.

This is what Cech’s current research is on. He and his team of researchers use CRISPR to edit human cells to better observe how telomerase and telomeres function within the cell and the possible interactions that could cause cancer cells to form. This is done by using CRISPR to insert bio-luminescent genes into cells for more accurate bio-imaging and thus a better understanding of what takes place within a cell. Cech’s research concluded there is not only a positive correlation between amount of telomerase and cancer malignancy but also positive correlation between amount of telomerase and how quickly a patient will die if they already have cancer.

Cech concluded his lecture by stressing the importance of collaboration between the biological and physical sciences. Saying, that had those fields not collaborated the research he presented would not have been possible. The lecture then opened to questions from the audience of which there were many, especially from Rensselaer students. After questions concluded, Cech was thanked by a resounding round of applause. ♦

Daylight Savings Time ends this
Sunday, November 6. Remember to set
your clocks back one hour at 2 am.

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Robin
Curtis

Robert
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...and
more!

Editorial

Wednesday, November 2, 2016

EDITORIAL BRIEFS

For this week's editorial page, editors were asked to prepare a short summary of their opinions on the 2016 Presidential Election.

No matter what the results, policy decisions will be made



Jack Wellhofer
Editor in Chief

IN THE PAST 20 YEARS, WE HAVE SEEN AN INCREASE IN PARTISANSHIP IN U.S. POLITICS, and it has manifested itself in the 2016 election. It is impossible for any candidate to acknowledge the validity of an opponent's view without receiving backlash. A stark divide has been driven between opposing viewpoints — it is political suicide to cross it. This election season is more analogous to an RPI vs Union hockey game than a meaningful, impactful decision about the future of our nation. The reality is that, come January, Hillary Clinton or Donald Trump will be the president of the United States. Like it or not, at some point there will be policy decisions that must be made. Nothing will ever get done when both sides continually paint the other as the enemy. ♦

Arguing for the rights of non-voting population

WHEN I TELL PEOPLE THAT I DON'T PLAN on voting in this election, the first thing they usually express is outrage. I've heard plenty of things ranging from, "It's your duty as a citizen to vote," to, "How dare you not care about our country!" The reality of the situation is that I don't want to choose between the lesser of two evils. Both candidates are fundamentally flawed in my eyes, and without getting political, I wouldn't

want to call either my president. I wanted my first presidential election to feel special—to feel like my vote actually mattered in the grand scheme of things. Instead, I'll be spending this November 8 like any other Tuesday: sleeping and finishing up CompSci homework. Well, there's also the fact that I missed the absentee ballot deadline by a significant amount of time. ♦



Serge Piskun
de facto Features Editor

Major difference between “I voted” and “I support”



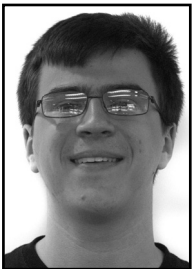
Maria Kozdroy
Editorial/Opinion Editor

THIS IS IT—THE FIRST PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION MANY OF US WILL BE VOTING IN! However, this is not the type of election I was thinking I'd be voting in. Both the Republican and Democratic candidates stink in my eyes. It's amazing that both of them have come this far in the race. Recently, I sent in my absentee ballot, something which I hope many people have done or are in the process of doing, and voted for a candidate, and simply just voted for a candidate. By no means does this signify I agree with everything in their platform, and it also does not mean I support the candidate with 100% confidence. I voted for them, and that's it. I feel more like an adult now having voted in this presidential election, but I don't feel too confident in the election as a whole. It'll be interesting to see how both the election results and the next four years play out. ♦

Fed up with partisan politics

THIS PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION CYCLE HAS been quite the polarizing experience for the American public. The two major party candidates could not be more opposite to each other if they tried. In fact, there seems to be little common ground between the Democratic and Republican parties this year with partisan politics ruling our nation. A perfect example is President Obama's unconfirmed appointment of Merrick Garland to the Supreme Court. The Senate has refused to confirm him, claiming that the next president should have the opportunity to appoint their own candidate. Of course, who's to say that the

promise of Senate Republicans will be kept if the president is a Democrat and Republicans manage to retain their control of Congress. Ultimately, people in this country, and especially in our political establishment, need to take a step back and realize that they are all in office to serve the American people. Personal partisan squabbles should be minimized, as they are directly contrary to the above goal of public service. Unfortunately, this election cycle has proven to continue the cycle of vicious partisanship that has been the landscape of American politics for the last few years. ♦



David Raab
Associate News Editor

STAFF EDITORIAL

Disappointment in attendance at Fall Town Meeting

EARLIER THIS YEAR AT THE SPRING Town Meeting, the Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center Theater was packed to capacity. It was so full, in fact, that members of the community were forced to wait outside. At the time, there were questions as to why the Spring Town Meeting was not held in the main concert hall, as to accommodate everyone. Last week, we were reminded of the answer. The attendance at this past Fall Town Meeting was disappointing. It's no wonder that President Shirley Ann Jackson chose to hold the meeting in the smaller EMPAC Theater—one of our editors had an entire row all to

himself for the entire meeting. At best, the room was half full. So, after one successful event, are RPI students back to apathy? The Fall Town Meeting is one of the best ways to demonstrate how much the student body cares about the well-being of the Institute. The lack of attendance sends the wrong message. It says: we're a community that loves to come out and protest, as long as we can yell and shout about how angry we are—but when it comes to following through with the message and showing passion for our institution, we look down at our notes and pretend to deeply consider the question. ♦

the
polytechnic

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Jack Wellhofer
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The Rensselaer Polytechnic is published weekly, except during holiday and examination periods, by the students of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute as authorized by the Rensselaer Union. Opinion pieces in this newspaper do not necessarily reflect the views of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute or the Rensselaer Union. All submitted material becomes the property of The Rensselaer Polytechnic. The Editorial Board reserves the right to edit for reasons of space, clarity, libel, or style and to compose headlines for all articles printed. "Letters to the Editor" must be typed, signed, and fewer than 500 words in length. "My Views" must be typed, signed, and between 500 and 700 words in length. The telephone number of the author is required for letter verification. All letters are due by 5 pm on the Friday prior to publication, and can be sent in a Word document attachment via email to edop@poly.rpi.edu.

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 semestery 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.

DERBY

Comment cards outside StuGov Suite

HELLO AGAIN RPI! THIS WEEK I AM EXCITED to announce the return of the Rensselaer Union Comment Cards, similar to comment cards in other areas of campus like the Clubhouse Pub and Commons Dining Hall. Our cards are available outside of the Student Government Suite on the third floor of the Union (room 3120). There is a large box with cards next to it for writing and submitting comments about anything in regards to the Union. Comments can range from tangible issues having to do with dining services, Father’s Marketplace, the Collegiate Store, the games room, questions about being in a club, getting in touch with staff or E-Board representatives, or even starting a club, just to name a few. This new comment card program is headed up by the Executive Board’s Business Operations Committee, which is responsible for reviewing the comments and providing answers. Once a comment card has been answered, it will be placed on the bulletin board to the left of the comment box. If you have any feedback about our comment cards, please fill one out and we will take it into consideration!

This week the Executive Board will be interviewing with finalist candidates for the position of Business Coordinator on the Rensselaer Union administrative staff. Hopefully, we will find the perfect person for the job and can get them on-board as soon as possible. As many of you know, the administrative staff in the Union has several vacant positions and this will alleviate

our already overworked staff members who do an exceptional job at keeping all the gears turning. We all look forward to meeting with candidates for the position and continuing to fill the two remaining vacancies on the administrative staff.

The Executive Board has also begun to take a close look at the way our club officers are trained and which trainings are available to them. Just last week we received bystander intervention training from staff in the student health center. This was, in part, due to the “Enough is Enough” legislation recently passed by the New York State Legislature. Starting this year, all club officers will be required to attend a bystander intervention training. The Executive Board, Union administrative staff, and the Health Center will be coordinating on the best methods for delivering this training and ensuring that all clubs participate.

The discussion surrounding bystander intervention training has prompted a larger discussion about the current financial and travel workshops that all club officers attend. The Executive Board will be working with staff members and other students to review the training program and adapt them to new campus environments. We will update all members of the Union and campus moving forward as we develop concrete plans on these issues.

As always, feel free to reach out to me at pu@rpi.edu if you have any questions, comments, or concerns. ♦



Chip Kirchner
President of the Union

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Staying on campus decision made yet again

“Uprise at Five” protest practically forgotten as Greek students cannot stay

STUDENTS AT RENSSELAER POLYTECHNIC Institute once had the option to move off-campus for their sophomore year. In 2009, the administration opted for a new policy requiring sophomores to live on campus starting in fall 2010. This decision sparked the “Uprise at Five” protest on March 12, 2009 where over 500 students stood together against the administration’s overreach (<https://poly.rpi.edu/s/22e2c>).

A key point of contention was requiring Greek students to live on campus, away from their Greek houses. After negotiations with the administration, an addendum was added that students who join a Greek society in their freshman year may live off campus in their respective Greek houses after freshman year.

Six years later, the administration has once again decided that students are not fit to decide where they are to reside. As part of the new Summer Arch initiative, Greek students must abandon their Greek communities and move back to campus for “community building.” This decision was unilaterally made by the administration; fraternities and sororities were only informed of the new policy after it had been finalized. It’s outrageous that we are turning our back on the decision made six years ago. Community building doesn’t only occur in on-campus residence facilities: it happens in Troy, it happens with friends apple-picking

in autumn, and it happens off-campus in the Greek community. RPI students are adults, not children in need of protection from the world that lies beyond the Tillinghast Gate. How can students be expected to truly change the world when they cannot even be left to make the simple decision of where to live?

The average cost for on-campus housing is slightly over \$8,700 per year and meal plans cost roughly \$5,470 per year, making the total cost about \$14,000 per year (<https://poly.rpi.edu/s/redx2>).

Meanwhile, some Greek students pay \$6,200 per year for housing and \$3,200 for a meal plan, totaling \$9,400 per year. The almost-\$5,000 difference per year is significant at an Institute where the cost of attendance is among the priciest in the nation, an amount its matriculates’ families could financially struggle with. These are funds students can be using on travel costs to visit family, purchase expensive required textbooks and other materials for classes, and activities that serve the supposed goal of the new initiative, building community. Then again, perhaps this decision was not made to foster long-standing goals and tradition, but rather as a means to increase profit and balance budgets.

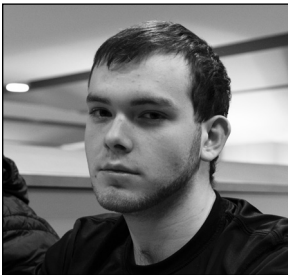
Michael J. Gardner II
CSE 2017

Poly Snapshots

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

The Question:

What are you most looking forward to?



James Hicks
ELEC '19

“Winter Break because it’s when I get to see my girlfriend.”



Varun Rao
CSYS '18

“I am looking forward to finishing my Introduction to Electronics homework. The Homework this time is not too bad.”



Sam Kasura
GSAS '16

“Thanksgiving break, when I can stuff my face with delicious food.”



Lindsey Zadunayski
CSCI '19

“Chocolate always. It’s delicious.”



Katie Kalish
CIVL '19

“Christmas, it’s the most magical time of the year.”



Greg Cowan
CSCI '19

“Thanksgiving, it’s fun to go home because family and eat thanksgiving food.”



Evan Abreu
BIOL '20

“To next Tuesday for the presidential election. It might be so sad, there’s going to be so many different emotions.”



Dan Rowland
CSCI '16

“Graduation, once school’s over I will have my degree and I can finally do things.”



McKinney Contest

first call for entries



undergraduate and graduate divisions



electronic media
using language

essay / creative
nonfiction

fiction or drama

poetry / spoken word



Prizes in each category!

For more information: www.cm.rpi.edu/pl/mckinney

Questions? Contact Barbara Lewis at lewisb2@rpi.edu

Submissions Due Tuesday, March 21, 2017, 4:00 p.m.

1st: \$300.00

2nd: \$175.00

3rd: \$75.00

2017-03-22

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Events

Wednesday, November 2, 2016

WEDNESDAY

November 2

Lally School of Management Speaker

LOW 3051; 2–3 pm

Ms. Paula Stopera, President/CEO of CAP COM Federal Credit Union, presents a lecture titled “CAP COM, A Case Study for Success.”

EMAC and Communication Majors Meet and Greet

SAGE 4711; 5–6 pm

Come out for free pizza and a chance to get to know your fellow EMAC/Communication majors and faculty mentors.

Engineering Dean Office Hours

JEC Ansell Lounge; 5–6 pm

Meet and talk with Shekhar Garde, Dean of Engineering. There is no set agenda.

FRIDAY

November 4

Doctoral Dissertations Due

Downtown Transportation for the Benefits Fair

Parking Office; 9:30 am–2:30 pm

Provided by Northeast Shuttle, there will be continuous loops from/to ECAV, Chasan/Proctor’s Buildings and the Gurley Building.

Jlin + Qrion

EMPAC Studio 1; 9–10 pm

Jlin and Qrion each create dance music perfectly suited to the contemporary moment, when regional flavors and the tension between sampled material and self-composed sounds are finding common otherworldly ground.

SATURDAY

November 5

Fall Festival Small Groups Concert

C+CC; 1–3 pm

The performance is free to attend.

Diwali, Festival of Lights

Mothers; 7–10 pm

Diwali, the Festival of Lights, is a Hindu Festival for all. Join the students of the Indian Students Association as they celebrate with performances, dinner, and dancing. The cost of attendance is \$10.

The Intouchables

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

After he becomes a quadriplegic from a paragliding accident, an aristocrat hires a man from the projects to be his caregiver.

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¹Our assumption of: \$100K, with a 6% rate of return, over a 30-year time period, with fees at a constant (.52%), saves an investor \$92,523.91 — versus paying fees at the mutual fund industry average (1.25%). This is a hypothetical illustration. These returns are for illustrative purposes only and do not reflect actual (product) performance, which will fluctuate. TIAA-CREF Individual & Institutional Services, LLC. TIAA-CREF products are subject to market and other risk factors. C32769


DILBERT

by Scott Adams

I'LL APPROVE THIS IF YOU GET BUY-IN FROM THE REST OF THE DEPARTMENT.




WHAT VALUE ARE YOU ADDING IN THAT SCENARIO?




I'M NOT FIRING YOU.

IN THAT CASE, KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK.

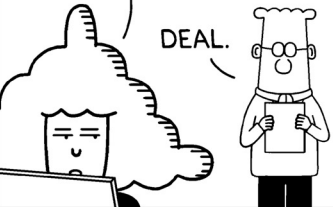


OUR POINTY-HAIRED BOSS ASKED ME TO GET EVERYONE'S BUY-IN ON THIS.



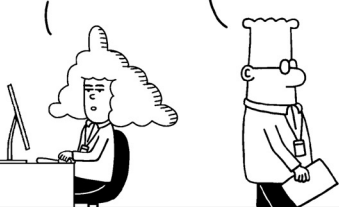
I'LL AGREE TO YOUR STUPID IDEA IF YOU SUPPORT MY GREAT IDEA LATER.

DEAL.




SHOULD I READ IT?

I DON'T SEE WHY.




TOPPER

I ONCE SIGNED MY ENTIRE FIRST NAME TO A DOCUMENT.




THAT'S NOTHING! WATCH ME SIGN MY ENTIRE **FULL** NAME TO THAT DOCUMENT!



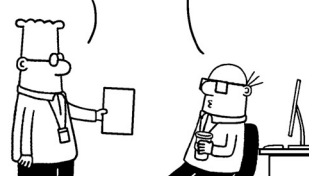
SOME-TIMES YOU CAN BE PREDICTABLE.

THAT'S NOTHING! I DON'T EVEN HAVE FREE WILL!

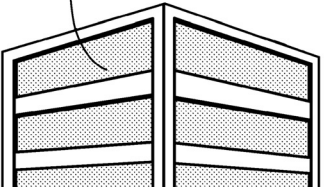


I NEED EVERYONE'S BUY-IN ON THIS.

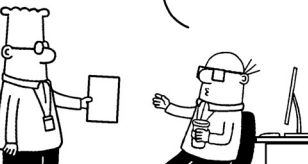
DO I HAVE TO READ IT?




NO.



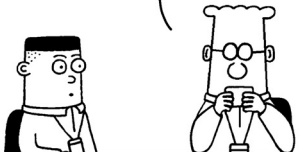
THAT'S THE SORT OF IDEA I CAN GET BEHIND.



I HEAR YOU NEED EVERYONE'S BUY-IN TO PROCEED WITH YOUR PROJECT.




EVERYONE EXCEPT YOU. NO ONE CARES WHAT INTERNS THINK.




MAY I PLEASE APPROVE IT SO I FEEL ALIVE?


WELL... OKAY. BUT YOU OWE ME ONE.



I NEED EVERYONE'S BUY-IN ON MY PROJECT.

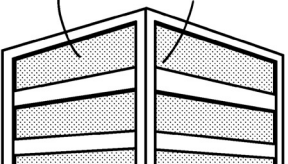


YOU CAN HAVE MY BUY-IN FOR \$25.



TED ONLY CHARGED ME \$15.

IT ISN'T MY FAULT THAT TED IS A BAD NEGOTIATOR.



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

Instructions

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

Last Week's Solution

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

TOP TEN LIST

Throwback Songs

10. "Potential Breakup Song"

9. "Dirty Little Secret"

8. "Sk8r Boi"

7. "All Star"

6. "Unwritten"

5. "Numb"

4. "1985"

3. "Stacy's Mom"

2. "Fergalicious"

1. "Welcome to the Black Parade"

WORDFIND

by Ana Wishnoff

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

U.S. Presidents

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

Carter

Cleveland

Clinton

Coolidge

Fillmore

Garfield

Harding

Harrison

Jefferson

Johnson

Madison

Monroe

Pierce

Polk

Roosevelt

Washington

Wilson

UPAC C I N E M A

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The Intouchables

Saturday • November 5, 2016

7 pm, 9:30 pm. midnight • DCC 308 • \$2.50

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CRYPTOQUOTE

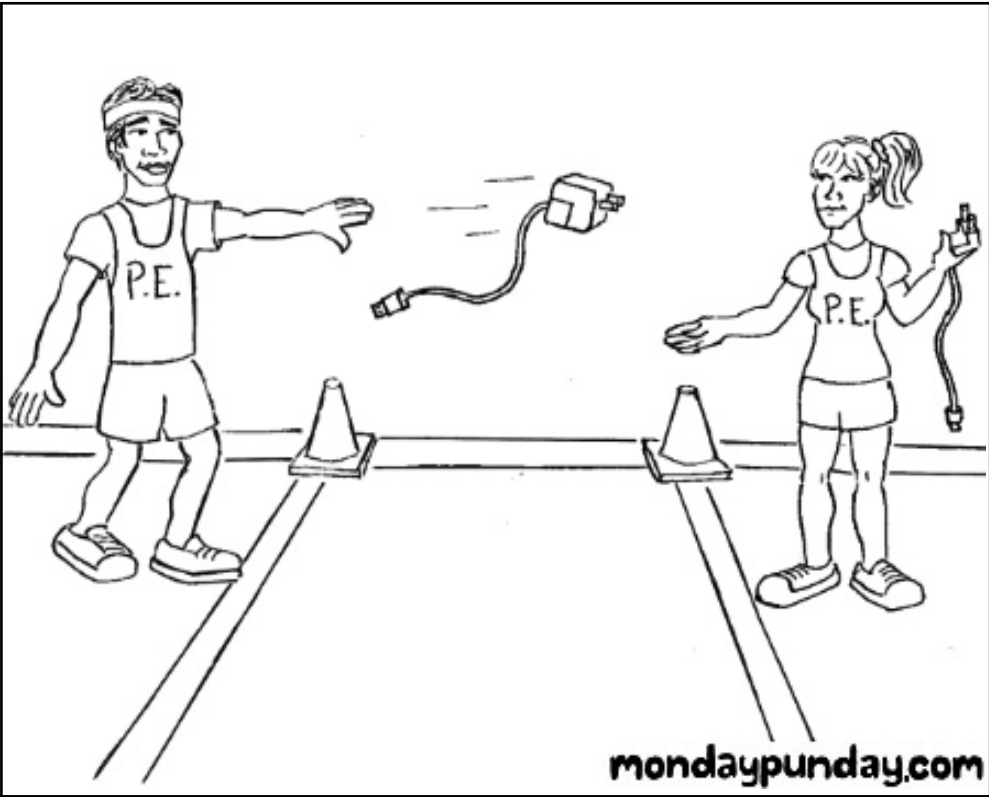
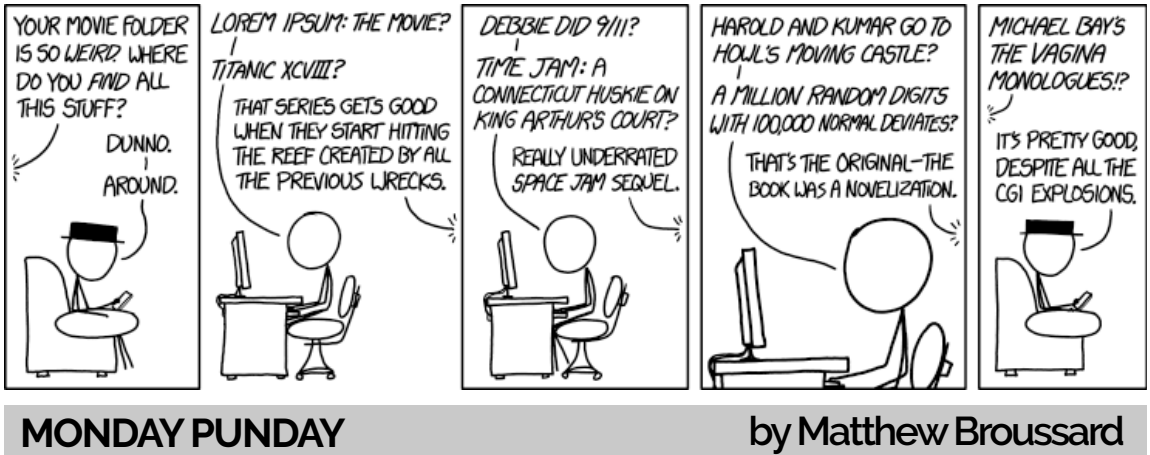
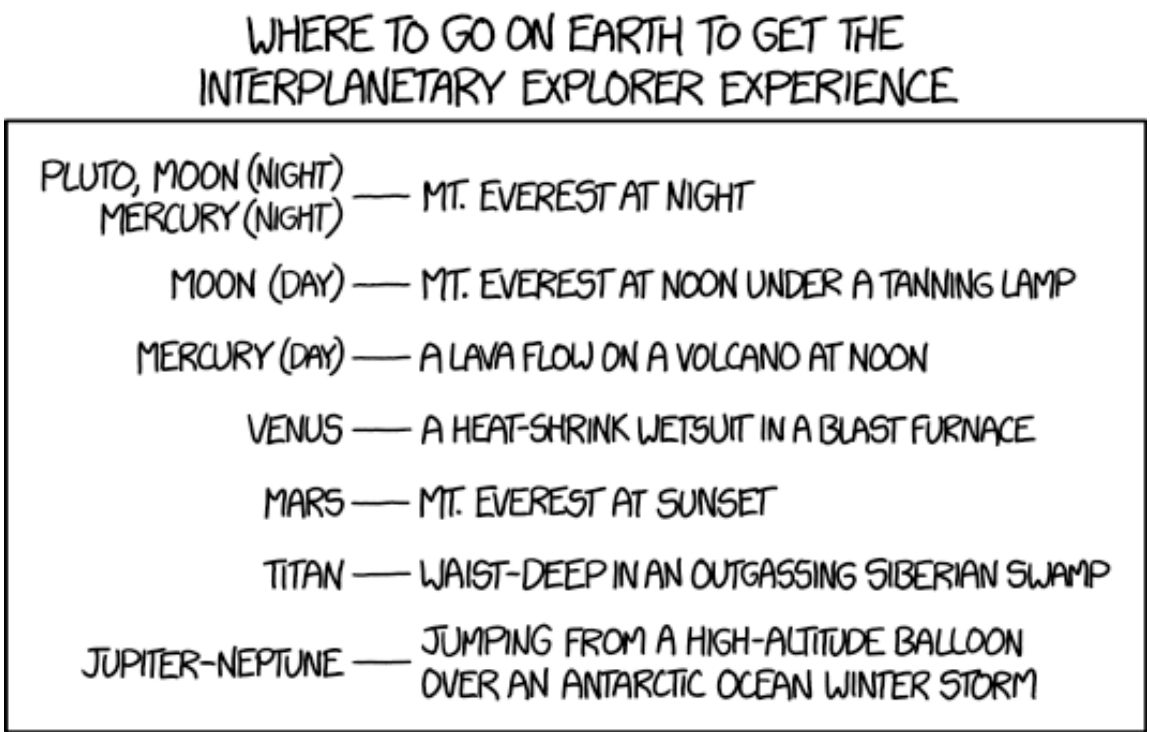
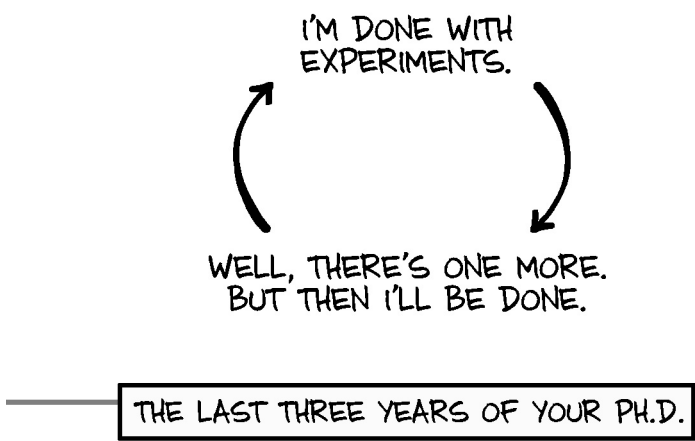
XKCD

by Randall Munroe

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

“Svciqv mev qja
icc jar uizavr fev
xzqxym, mev gjm
waiga jm Rq.
Ejqnvva Lyzahvn.
J bmtxezjfqzmf
jf Jqwejo
Jmtnyo. Mev
gjm jmmzkavr
fi fev xniga
ezomvnc. Mev
feiykef mev gjm
xyqzak ezo, syf
mev gjm cjnnzak
za nidv. Fjnw
jsiyf j giqwbnjxv
qiojaxv kiav
gqiak.”
-Jojarj Gjnnvq
Myzxzrv Mlyjr

PILED HIGHER & DEEPER by Jorge Cham



Features

Wednesday, November 2, 2016

BOOK REVIEW

Ishiguro captivates readers, never letting go

Nathan Dorer
Senior Reviewer

NAMED AS ONE OF *TIME MAGAZINE*’s All Time 100, Kazuo Ishiguro’s novel *Never Let Me Go* received critical attention for its strange, romantic atmosphere and delicate, artfully constructed prose. Over the course of his career, Ishiguro has made broad strokes in the field of writing, with his work being noticed in songs, short stories, screenplays, and novels. Ishiguro has developed a discreet style to his writing that manages to be both concise and incredibly descriptive; in many ways, Kazuo uses unique word choices that make his work distinct, but has developed a deliberate readability that keeps his work fully engaging. *Time* describes *Never Let Me Go* as being “told with a dry-eyed, white-knuckled restraint.”

The plot of *Never Let Me Go* revolves around an unusual boarding school, Hailsham, where students live from birth until 16 without parents. Set in an alternate version of England, the novel is told from the first-person perspective of a student named Kathy, and the first part of the

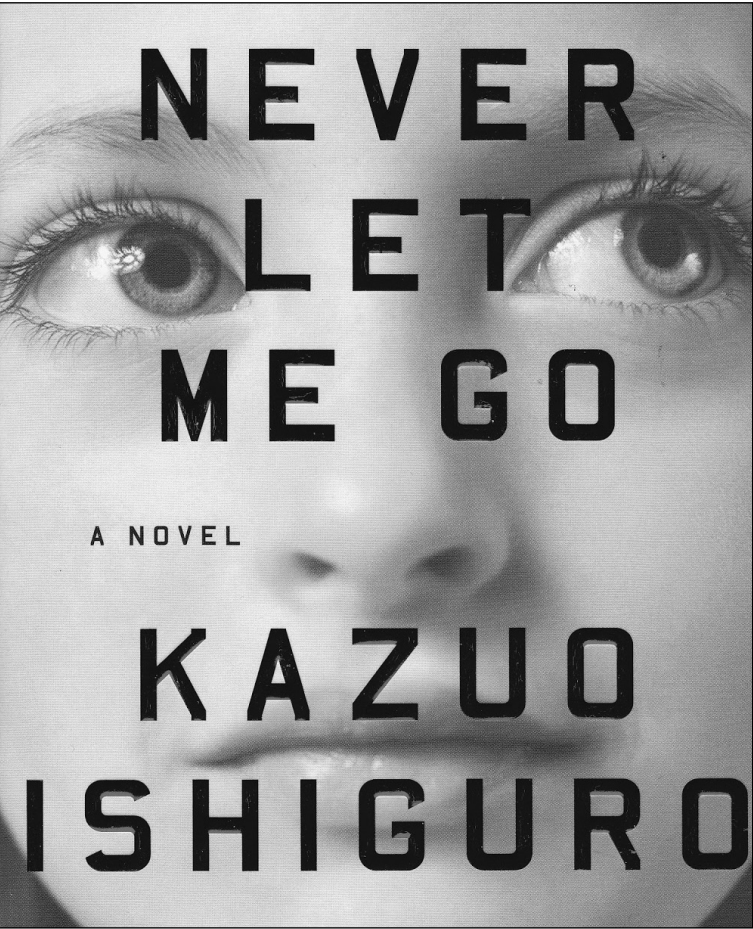
book is largely a picturesque retelling of her adolescent years. Kathy builds relationships with teachers and fellow students, and experiences a relatively normal childhood in the school. There’s something decidedly romantic about the years that Kathy spends at the school; she develops close friendships and falls in love for the first time during this period.

However, the story becomes notably darker when the students turn 16, and the reader begins to understand why the experience at Hailsham was so unique. The students at the boarding school are clones, and have been raised to adulthood for the sole purpose of having their organs harvested for people that need donations. The novel then follows Kathy through her adult life as she comes to terms with the reality of her situation, and struggles to grasp where her humanity begins and ends. The novel’s theme is one of the bounds of the human experience; these are people who are afforded the opportunity to love and learn, but are ultimately slated for death as a matter of their being. *Time Magazine* stated that “the human drama of *Never Let Me Go*, its

themes of atrocity and acceptance, are timeless and, sadly, permanent.”

The prose of the piece is ultimately a very clever literary device; as Kathy is forced to explain her experiences coping with her unfair death, she does so with a careful dignity that Ishiguro reflects through his writing. Kathy never falls into the pattern of self-pity that the reader would expect, but she never manages to thrust her head too far into the clouds either. It’s all decisively real in the scope of emotion, and Ishiguro manages to contribute something compelling to the raised-chin narration of the story.

Ultimately, *Never Let Me Go* stands out as a novel because it has made something completely unexpected; it’s a sci-fi dystopian novel that manages to bring something tangible to the scope of the human condition. In many ways, the simple construction of the narrative sounds bizarre, but reads flawlessly through Ishiguro’s intricately constructed voice and diction. The nature of the novel is unique, and leaves the reader with a sense of poetry in acceptance. ◇



Courtesy of Faber and Faber

NEVER LET ME GO CONTRASTS idealistic fantasy with grim reality.

GAME REVIEW

Civilization VI *highlights improved gameplay*

Jack Wellhofer
Senior Reviewer

SID MEIER’S CIVILIZATION HOLDS A SPECIAL PLACE in my heart. *Civilization IV* is one of the first titles that got me into computer gaming. The complete edition of *Civilization V* is a hallmark of the turn-based strategy genre, and one that comes highly recommended by yours truly. With such huge shoes to fill, Firaxis Games would need to make something special happen with *Civilization VI* for it to stand out.

In anticipation of the release, I avoided spoilers like it was my homework. I wanted to look upon my favorite series with fresh eyes and discover the game for myself without external interpretation. With the immense depth—and length—of any *Civilization* game, this review will focus on my first impressions of my first playthrough and eventual loss to the Romans. Later, once I figure them out, I will discuss how the game mechanics hold up to past titles.

For the uninitiated, *Civilization* revolves around the player controlling a civilization,

starting from “the beginning of time.” The game opens with just one settler unit to found a city and one warrior unit to defend it. From there, the city produces science, gold, buildings, and units, culminating in a civilization. The game is a little more complicated than that, but you get the picture.

The most striking feature of *Civ VI* is clearly the graphics. Historically, the *Civilization* series has been dark, with muted colors for the terrain and buildings, giving a somewhat serious overtone. In contrast, *Civ VI* has graphics that initially struck me as a knock-off, as in, it looked like something one might find on the App Store that requires you to pay \$3.99 to play past the 10th turn. I was hesitant at first with this change, but only because I was expecting the 2016 version of *Civ V* graphics. Now, having played a few hours, the new style pairs well with the updated gameplay mechanisms.

Gameplay-wise, I want to focus on two major changes that help define the game as its own. In previous *Civilization* games, research is king. The civilization with the best

technology wins, and everything else (social policies, religion) takes a backseat. From what I can tell, that changed with *Civ VI*. The technology tree has been paired with a culture tree, allowing both to be researched. The trees work in tandem, providing both necessary and significant bonuses to the civilization. I finally have a reason to focus on culture more than for just social policies.

Second, cities have been completely reworked, entirely for the better. Location matters even more than before. Previously, everything a city needed would be contained within its one-hex tile. Monuments, universities, banks, coliseums, were all within one tiny unit of the map. Now, districts have been added to the game. Districts can be built on tiles adjacent to the city and contain buildings related to the district and bonuses based on their locations. For example, the campus district now contains all of the science buildings, like the library, university, etc. It gets bonuses based on what it’s adjacent to, like being next to a mountain

or rainforest. This adds another layer of strategy to city placement and preparing for the future, more so than just placing improvements willy-nilly. This is a mechanic that I am looking forward to exploring.

There is much, much more that I want to discuss about *Civ VI*, but I need to conclude. Overall, I am excited to continue exploring *Civ VI*. Firaxis has managed to define the game as its own, creating a unique gameplay experience without polluting the spirit of the beloved series. It’s not without its flaws, but neither was the masterpiece that *Civ V* is for its original release. For those who love the series and are looking for a fresh experience, I would recommend trying out *Civ VI*. For those new to the series and interested in joining the “one more turn oh it’s 6 am” club, *Civ VI* is more polished and easier to learn than its predecessors.

To conclude, I have to say this: *Civ VI*, your intro sequence is great, but *Civ IV* had the best intro of all time. Nothing will ever come close to Christopher Tin’s “Baba Yetu.” Ever. ◇



Courtesy of Firaxis Games

THE SIXTH INSTALLMENT IN THE CIVILIZATION FRANCHISE DRAWS in video game enthusiasts with updated graphics, a bigger emphasis on city planning, and revamped tree mechanics.

MEN’S HOCKEY

Dutchmen puck Engineers on Friday, Saturday



Sidney Kochman/The Polytechnic

JUNIOR FORWARD DREW MELANSON ATTEMPTS to evade a Union defender at Friday night's game. Melanson had one shot on goal Friday and two shots on goal Saturday.

Sean Beacham
Senior Reporter

THE ENGINEERS HAD A TOUGH WEEKEND AGAINST THEIR RIVAL, the Union College Dutchmen. This double header weekend is a benchmark for students of Rensselaer and is usually an enjoyable break, but this year the games resulted in two losses for the Engineers.

The first game was hosted by RPI at 7 pm on Friday, October 28. Although the Engineers were unable to beat Union, the game did not lack excitement. There were a total of 19 penalties throughout the game, eight of which were in the third period, demonstrating the heat of the rivalry and the frustration of the Engineers. Despite a few gorgeous plays by the Engineers, generally involving a quick drop pass to beat the speed that Union brought to the ice, Rensselaer was dominated. Union was able to score on one of their own penalty kills and one of their 11 power play opportunities. The Engineers only won a

third of the total face-offs during the game. And, perhaps most importantly, Union’s four goals were unanswered until over than halfway through the third period. The final score was 4–1, Union.

Needless to say, the Engineers brought a much more competitive game to Union at Schenectady the following night. I have personally never seen a game where the Engineers played such a solid power play, scoring on half of their opportunities.

The first period was scoreless, but Union had triple the shots on net that the Engineers had. Union scored a minute and a half into the second but the Engineers quickly followed suit, scoring a power play goal off of an interference call. Senior Riley Bourbonnais scored both of the Engineers’ goals for the night. Union scored again at the end of the second, giving them a one-goal lead heading into the third period.

The Engineers again responded to Union’s lead with the heat. Bourbonnais put up his second goal of the night

on a power play assisted by junior Viktor Liljegen and freshman Will Reilly a few minutes into the third period. No more goals were scored for the remainder of the period but the last five minutes of play were a barrage on freshman Chase Perry in net. Union had nine shots in that time. With that momentum, Union was able to score after a minute of overtime play.

Although the record for the Engineers is a tad bleak at the moment, the competition at Union on Saturday was promising. The Engineers kept a much closer ratio in both face-off wins and shots blocked in their second contest against Union. The performance by Bourbonnais on the power play is also a great step in the right direction; there have been very few times when the Engineers truly took advantage of their man up opportunities. This coming weekend holds two home games: one against Brown and the other against Yale. ♦



Brooklyn Parslow/The Polytechnic

SENIOR MIDFIELDER DEVON BAUGHEN FIRES a cross toward the goal. (file photo)

SOCCER

Women win league semifinals

Jack Wellhofer
Senior Reporter

THIS PAST WEEK, THE MEN’S SOCCER TEAM extended their win streak to five wins, defeating Keene State College 1–0 on Wednesday. However, the team only managed a 0–0 draw against Saint Thomas Aquinas College the following Saturday. For the women’s team, they picked up their fourth loss of the season in a 1–0 game against Skidmore College. The team made up for the loss the following Tuesday, defeating Vassar College in the Liberty League Tournament 1–0.

At Keene, the action started early in favor of the Engineers. In the fifth minute of play, senior Nick Revano scored what would be the only goal of the game on the second shot of the day.

Rensselaer continued pressuring the Owls, putting up a total of five shots in the first fifteen minutes. In the following 10 minutes, Keene struck back, firing two blocked shots and one that went wide.

Freshman goalie Matt LaBranche proved his worth around the 30 minute mark, making not one, but four saves from Keene pressure to keep the Engineers in the lead.

Despite their lead, the Owls outshot the Engineers 11–9 in the first half.

Keene continued to pressure RPI through a series of shots and corner kicks, but all attempts at evening the score were thwarted, leading to a victory for Rensselaer.

Like their game on Wednesday, the Engineers had a number of early attempts against the Spartans, but this time they were unable to sink one in the net.

Even with two overtime periods and 20 shots on net compared to Saint Thomas’ 13,

the Engineers were not able to further extend their win streak. LaBranche still had reason to celebrate, as it was his sixth straight shutout.

The women’s team also took an aggressive start to their game last Sunday, punching in three shots in the first 10 minutes, two of which were saved by Skidmore’s Deidre Walsh, and one that went high.

The first and only goal did not come until late in the first half, when Thoroughbred player Christina Sanzari picked up a cross from Emily Saliterman, curling the shot into the net.

Determined to keep their win streak, the Engineers cranked up the pressure and put up 10 shots over the course of the half. Despite all of the attempts, not one managed its way into the net, and the game ended in a disappointing loss.

Based on the first half, RPI had its work cut out for itself Tuesday; Vassar outshot the RPI 7–2 and continued this pressure into the second half. But it was Rensselaer who would score the first and only goal.

Freshman Jacqui Richard flicked a ball to freshman Emily Kaplan, who contained the pass and returned it to Richard, who pounded a shot past Brewers goalie Stephanie Tapolsky.

Both teams created opportunities for themselves throughout the remainder of the half, but neither team managed to score. With the win, it is the first time in school history that the women’s soccer team has won a Liberty League Tournament game. The Engineers will travel to take on top seed and first-ranked William Smith College on Saturday. ♦

CROSS COUNTRY

Engineers break Saints' 21-year win record

Michael Baird
Senior Reporter

EVERY YEAR SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE LIBERTY LEAGUE IN 1995, St. Lawrence University has won or tied for first place for the men's league championship meet title, until now. On Saturday, at Seneca Lake State Park in Geneva, New York, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute made league history when they broke the Saints' 21-year hold on the Liberty League title.

Ranked first in the league, second in the region, and 11th nationally heading into the 8000 meter race, the men's team was projected to win the trophy based on earlier season performances, particularly at the Rowan University Inter-Regional Border Battle where the Engineers placed third overall, three spots above then-No. 20-ranked St. Lawrence, and were headed by senior Ben Fazio in fourth and sophomore Grant O'Connor in seventh out of 374 competitors. At that 40-school meet, Fazio and O'Connor averaged 4:45 and 4:46 per mile respectively for a distance of nearly five miles.

40 points ahead of runner-up St. Lawrence on Saturday, RPI placed seven athletes in the top 12, earning 22 points. Fazio triumphed over the entire 128-person field, completing the course in 25:22.5. O'Connor was directly behind him in second with a time of 25:26.5. Sophomore Sean O'Connor, senior Garrett Davis, and senior Matthew Cicciu followed in fourth, fifth, and tenth, respectively, rounding out the team's scoring members.

The RPI women's team also emerged on top ahead of runner-up St. Lawrence when they defended their hold on the league title after placing five women in the top ten of the 121-person field. After the 2015 season championship, the Engineers captured the honor from the Saints following their 13-consecutive-year grasp on the title.

Also making a powerful appearance at the Inter-Regional Meet earlier in October, junior Jaime Lord placed eighth out of 386 people. She headed the Engineers once again in the women's 6000 meter championship race on Saturday, placing second with a time of 22:27.9 behind repeat winner from last year, Megan Kellogg, of St. Lawrence. The pack of senior Mary West, senior Maddie Dery, and sophomore Karina Bolton finished fifth, sixth, and seventh, respectively, to boost RPI in the ranks; with sophomore Maddie Sturm finishing in tenth, all scoring members on the women's team finished in the top ten, securing their 30-point victory 16 points in front of St. Lawrence.

Training for the NCAA Atlantic Regional Meet in Glassboro New Jersey, coming up on Saturday, November 12 began this week for the Engineers, who were invited to compete in it after demonstrating their prowess at the Liberty League. ♦



Courtesy of Peter Duncan

BEN FAZIO CAME in first of 128 in the 8000m race at the Liberty League Tournament (file photo)

SWIMMING & DIVING

Men rise to 2-0 against Ithaca; women's streak broken

Jacob Kaplan
Staff Reporter

RENSSELAER MEN'S AND WOMEN'S swimming and diving teams had their 11th consecutive dual-meet on Saturday, October 29 at Ithaca College. The men's team beat the Ithaca Bombers 201-93, giving Rensselaer their second vic-

tory over Ithaca this season. The women's 13-win streak was broken with a 180-120 loss to Ithaca.

Sophomore Noah Pan won four separate events, including two individual events, the 100-yard and 200-yard backstroke. Sophomores John Alberta and Mavin Liu and senior Richard Dong won three. These four swimmers began

the meet by winning the 200-yard medley relay in 1:37.44. Alberta also won the 100-yard freestyle and was part of the 400-yard freestyle relay along with Pan, junior Brandon Koo, and senior Andrew Klobucher. Liu won the 100 and 200-yard butterfly. Dong won the 200-yard breaststroke and 200-yard individual medley.

Sophomore Dan Hendricks also won the 500 and 1000-yard freestyle events, and sophomore Alex Chused won the 1-meter and 3-meter diving boards.

On the women's team, junior Shanny Lin won three events, the 200-yard butterfly in NCAA B-cut time of 2:05.97, the 100-yard fly, and the 200-yard individual

medley. Junior Danielle Sauve also won three events, the 200, 500, and 1000-yard freestyle. Senior Sara Siena also won the 200-yard breaststroke.

The next meet is on Saturday, November 5 at Worcester Polytechnic Institute. ♦

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