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**CAMPUS EVENT**

# CIA director discusses tech change



Rex Hu/The Polytechnic

**PRESIDENT SHIRLEY ANN JACKSON AND CIA DIRECTOR JOHN O. BRENNAN HOLD a conversation on the stage of EMPAC Concert Hall.**

**Sidney Kochman**  
Senior Reporter

ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4, THE Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center was filled with Rensselaer community members eager to listen to CIA Director John O. Brennan speak.

President Shirley Ann Jackson kicked off the event by naming some of the challenges that the world faces in the near future: food security, resource allocation, diseases, and the growing influence of non-state actors on the world stage.

She also pointed out vulner-

abilities resulting from “cascading consequences” of complex, interconnected systems, giving the example of the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster. Jackson explained that a tsunami caused power failures, and those failures led to nuclear meltdowns, which produced effects felt throughout the global economy.

After an introduction from Jackson, Brennan opened his remarks by saying that it is hard to find an institution more aligned with CIA goals than RPI. Brennan identified three forces of particular interest to him in today’s world: technology, global warming, and nationalism.

On technology, he pointed out that there is a lack of national consensus on how to deal with the vulnerabilities it creates. He is calling for a unified national response to this issue that safeguards privacy and civil liberties. On global warming, he named the displacement of people living in areas affected by rising sea levels and food insecurity as issues that he is paying attention to. On nationalism, he named a resurgently-aggressive Russia potentially causing a return to Cold War-era tensions.

As a recurring theme throughout his remarks, Brennan spoke about his efforts to modernize the CIA.

He is pushing initiatives that aim to foster teamwork across disciplines, and has created a new Directorate of Digital Innovation to enable the CIA to operate more effectively in today’s world.

Jackson prompted Brennan with a question about ISIS’s internet activities. Brennan said that ISIS is digitally sophisticated and prolific, and an effective response to it will require a national consensus on exactly what the government’s role in the internet should be. He stressed the need to balance privacy with security, and that the government

See BRENNAN, **Page 2**

**STUDENT LIFE**

# Preferred names coming to Rensselaer

*Forms in the Office of the Registrar will soon be available for students*

**Jack Wellhofer**  
Senior Reporter

LAST YEAR, THE PETITION ALLOW THE USE OF Preferred Names quickly reached the required 250 signatures. The Student Senate unanimously agreed to work on the petition, and tasked the Student Life Committee with investigating possible avenues. After more than a year of work, preferred names are nearing deployment at Rensselaer.

The petition cites self-identification as “one of the core rights we have as humans... Imagine trying to be comfortable and live life when you are being addressed with a name and with pronouns that don’t fit you.”

The petition aims to bring this self-identification to RPI, so that students can use “any non-legal name of their choosing” for all non-legal uses, says current SLC chairperson Justin Etzine ’18.

Graduate student and sponsor of the Emily Downs said her original reason for creating the petition was her own inability to change to a preferred name. RPI currently requires a legal document for a name change to occur.

Downs said she wanted the process to be made easy so students do not have to struggle for every new class. Many other colleges and universities already have a system in place that allows students to change their names, making their preferred name the only one available to professors.

The process has not gone without some opposition. When the petition was first recognized, there were questions about the practicality of implementing a preferred names system. The concerns particularly revolved around changing the name on student IDs. Fraternities use Rensselaer IDs as admittance to parties, which could cause confusion if the legal name differs from the name on the ID. There was also concern about where Rensselaer IDs stand as legal IDs. In the case of injury or similar, if an authority were to find only the Rensselaer ID on the student, there might be confusion in identifying this student. But Downs said that if this were ever the case, RPI would likely be contacted to confirm and the possible confusion mitigated.

One other problem preferred names faced is the potential for abuse. Earlier this year at the University of Michigan Ann Arbor, one student changed his preferred name to “Your Majesty.” Downs said that the reason this happened was because Michigan’s system is automated. At Rensselaer, paper forms will be available in the Registrar’s office to change names, with the intent of reducing this occurrence. The Registrar can also look into a requested change if necessary.

Downs says the system should be in place by the end of the semester. She estimated that between 50-100 people in the LGBTQ community at RPI will take advantage of the system. Even more students who prefer a nickname, like Jack over John, will also be able to change their name with the new system.

When in place, it will only affect class rosters, Residence Life, and the Center for Career and Professional Development. Downs called this a “stepping stone,” and aims to further work on bringing preferred names to ID and even allow incoming students to change their names before they arrive at Rensselaer. ♦

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Serving the Rensselaer community since 1885

## SENATE

## Committees update Senate on project progress

Jack Wellhofer  
Senior Reporter

The Student Senate began their weekly meeting as usual by starting with committee reports. Chairperson of the Academic Affairs Committee Varun Rao '18 announced that the committee started to look into the Make Career Fair Day a Student Holiday petition. In their initial benchmarking, AAC found that most schools do not get a day off for the career fair, but that there are major-specific career fairs. Rao said more benchmarking is needed.

He also discussed the core curriculum survey, which will be used to gain student thoughts on the upcoming curriculum changes. The committee is particularly interested in the proposed summer reading requirements and proposed leadership requirement.

Facilities and Services Committee chairperson Austin Miller '17 told the Senate that a shuttle routes



Brookelyn Parslow/The Polytechnic

**THE SENATE ALSO DISCUSSED changes to their bylaws which will be voted on in an upcoming meeting.**

survey would soon be making the rounds to gather information on shuttle changes. He also reminded the Senate that the Department of

Public Safety Dinner would be taking place on November 16, and that Russell Sage Dining Hall will now be included with Commons Dining

Hall as one of the the places DPS will be from 5:30–7:30 pm.

Justin Etzine '18, of the Student Life Committee, discussed the

Counseling Center survey which is now available at <https://poly.rpi.edu/s/104jk>. The survey aims to pinpoint areas for improvement within the Counseling Center. SLC is also looking into external referrals to accommodate more students.

Professor Amir Hirsra was the visiting member of the Faculty Senate. He spoke briefly about a meeting on November 15, from 4–5 pm in Sage 3303 to discuss core curriculum changes. He encouraged all students and faculty to attend the discussion.

The last item on the Senate's agenda was to discuss changes to their bylaws. Graduate student Anthony Bishop asked some clarifying questions about the document, but most changes have been made outside of Senate's weekly meeting. The bylaws will be voted on in the coming weeks. ♦

## E-BOARD

## Red Army receives funding

Elisabeth Ryan  
Senior Reporter

THE RENSSELAER UNION EXECUTIVE BOARD OPENED their meeting Thursday, November 3 with the Rensselaer Global Medical Brigades budget review. GMB brought to the E-Board's attention an anomalous situation regarding the Club Management System: during updates, GMB was never appointed an E-Board representative or SARP and their budget lines were automatically zeroed. Furthermore, their member count was not showing up on CMS.

To fix this dilemma, a new budget was constructed and submitted. Although budgets are normally discussed within smaller sub-committees, this budget was deemed too large not to bring before the E-Board.

Global Medical Brigades is a nation-wide organization that partners with communities in developing countries to administer medicine and medical expertise to those who cannot afford it. A "brigade" consists of 30 student members and three practicing physicians. In the past, Global Medical Brigades has encouraged their student chapters to fundraise for the medicine that they would administer once within the community. However, there has been a change: in order to be considered affiliated with Global Medical Brigades, a chapter must supply an obligatory \$1,500, which would go towards the medicine they would be administering.

For their next brigade, RPI Global Medical Brigades has chosen to send 30 members to occupy all 30 slots in a brigade. The cost of travel to the airport, to the community, and to a local clinic where members volunteer was calculated. In line with Union policy, the E-Board would typically cover 40 percent of travel costs. However, Global Medical Brigades requested only ten percent, which accumulated to \$6,355.28.

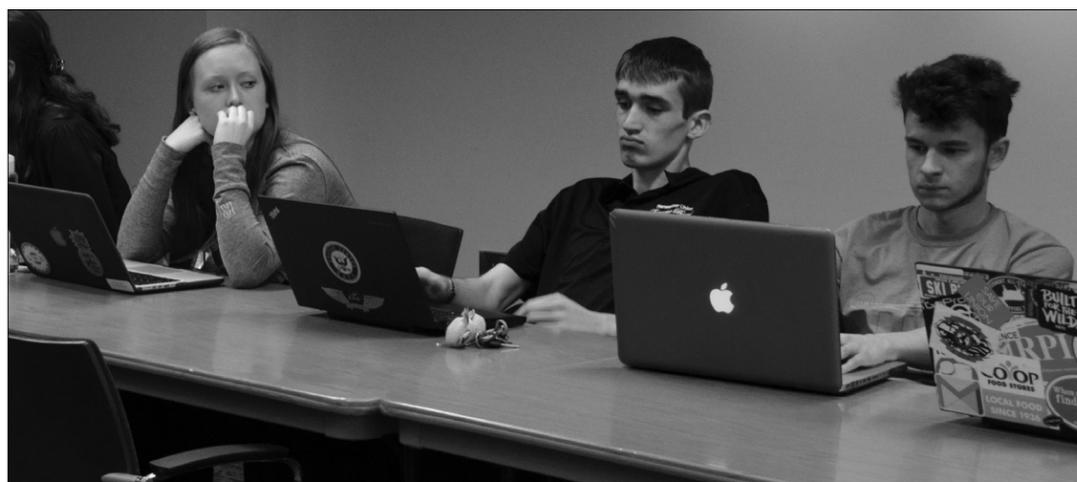
E-Board members were torn at subsidizing such a large amount despite being in support of funding the group. Member opinion, however, was unani-

mous in support of funding the club's trips to the Whitney Young Health Clinic and paying the obligatory amount of \$1,500. Suggestions for supplying a smaller percentage of the originally requested amount was discussed before tabling the topic for next week.

Red Army appeared before the E-Board requesting additional subsidies for rally towels. These traditional towels which typically feature Puckman are handed out at the Mayor's Cup Ice Hockey game at the Times Union Center. This game is one of the most well-attended games of the season despite typically being held during winter break. This year, the game will occur in the first week of the Spring 2017 semester. In the past, Red Army has run out of towels quickly. This year, they anticipate the need for even more with the likelihood of a large percentage of the student body attending. A motion was approved to reallocate \$1,069 to the purchase of more rally towels.

RPI Design For America returned to the E-Board to discuss the solutions for the budgeting problems that arose from RPI DFA attending DFA nationals. On October 20, DFA had appeared before the E-Board with the crisis of having gone some \$3,000 over budget. This dilemma was rooted in miscommunication amongst the members of the club and the Union. Members of the E-Board were aware that better communication was required of not only the club but of them. The E-Board approved funding of \$1,857 from contingencies and DFA would fundraise to cover the cost of the rest. Until that point, their purchases were frozen.

Closing the meeting were member's reports. In the Spring 2016 semester the artist The Chainsmokers threw a concert hosted by UPAC concerts up at the East Campus Athletic Village. UPAC Chair Ines Roman '17 announced a survey that RPI students can fill out to let UPAC concerts know what artists they would be interested in seeing come to campus. Follow the link <https://poly.rpi.edu/s/bsoyi> and let them know today. ♦



Brookelyn Parslow/The Polytechnic

**MEMBERS OF THE E-BOARD LISTEN to discussions about Global Medical Brigades and Red Army.**

## Brennan

From Page 1

should be able to access information while providing for civil liberties. He doesn't want to allow enemies of the United States to hurt the country by taking advantage of technological vulnerabilities.

In response to a question from Jackson about Islamic terrorism, Brennan said that he "admires" Islamic culture, society, and people. He added that groups such as ISIS are perverting the religion for their own reprehensible purposes. Brennan remarked that previous terror groups tended to have specific political objectives, whereas groups like ISIS and al-Qaeda have very broad goals and political objectives that aren't well-scoped. He said that there is no room for these kinds of movements in the world.

Jackson asked Brennan about Secretary of State John Kerry's call for a probe into Russian war crimes in Syria. "Russia frustrates me to no end," said Brennan. He added that Russia has shown a disregard for laws of war and a lack of follow-through with agreements it has made. He contrasted the United States' democratic leadership with President Vladimir Putin's blind pursuit of Russian goals.

Brennan also talked about what he hopes the CIA will become. Using the example of the Arab Spring, he wants to enhance capabilities to use public data to gain insights into what is happening around the world. He said that such data can provide information that people in, for example, the Egyptian prime minister's office or Egyptian military aren't aware of. Jackson pointed out that RPI's Social Cognitive Networks Academic Research Center's research into social networks could play a role in analyzing social media data to find these trends.

On the recent distributed denial-of-service that targeted DNS provider Dyn and affected the availability of Amazon, GitHub, Reddit, Spotify, and many other high-profile web services, Brennan stressed that defense always lags behind offense. Brennan is especially concerned about nation-states and smaller groups that aim to undermine the public's confidence in financial and other essential systems through deletion, destruction, and manipulation of existing databases. He added that the Russian and Chinese forces play by different rules than American forces on the internet.

Referencing "some disquiet" that has been voiced over RPI's Summer Arch, Jackson asked Brennan what he gained from the time he spent abroad in Egypt and Indonesia. He said that experiencing diversity and people with different cultures, backgrounds, and religions was stimulating, and it helped him understand how things fit together.

Brennan then transitioned to questions from the audience. He said that some of the new global issues that he is paying attention to are biological agents, genetic editing, stratospheric aerosol injection, and added that technology is a double-edged sword.

When asked how Putin's background as a KGB officer influences his actions as president, he said that it gives him cunning and shapes the way he looks at the world. He said that Putin sees global issues as "zero-sum" and that he has a "paranoia," believing that the United States is trying to undermine him.

On Snowden's release of classified information, Brennan said that he gave adversaries of the United States access to information that they shouldn't have. However, Brennan defended whistleblowing through the appropriate channels as an important part of the way our country operates.

One of the last questioners asked Brennan if aliens are real. Brennan responded, "Yeah, probably," before launching into an exploration of the statistical improbability of humans being alone in the universe.

Brennan concluded by saying that he is proud of the apolitical, professional nature of the CIA. He added that he'd like to see the level of political discourse in the country rise, and he wants to see more discussion of the issues. ♦



SOME WERE BORN AMONG THE PAGEANTS AND THE BALLS,

OTHERS WERE MOLDED BY THEIR ADOPTIVE MOTHERS

# DRAG SHOW

8:00 PM

NOV. 11. 2016

WEST HALL

TAUGHT ALL THE TRICKS AND TOOLS OF THEIR TRADE.

AND SOME WERE SELF-MADE WOMEN,

**WELCOME TO THE DRAG SHOW!  
COME DRAG AND/OR SEE MORE DRAG**

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CRAFTING THEIR OWN ENCHANTED COSTUMES AND HEADPIECES.

HEADQUARTERED IN THE CRAMPED BASEMENT OF A SHADY GAY BAR, THEY ARE...

**TAKEDOWN: NOV 13**

# Editorial

Wednesday, November 9, 2016

## EDITORIAL NOTEBOOKS

### Overcoming monotonous feelings in college years

*Change up your routine and explore the community*

SOMETIMES, IT STILL SHOCKS ME that I'm already in my second year of college; my freshman year just flew by. At first, I thought it was just fulfilling the old saying: "Time flies when you're having fun!" But no, that wasn't it. It was something else. And for the longest time, I couldn't quite put my finger on it. I kept shrugging off the fact that life was getting too repetitive because I was genuinely having some fun in college, and I didn't feel bored too often... but that's exactly what it was, and I knew it needed to change.



**Jonathan Caicedo**  
Associate  
Photography Editor

Life is full of routines. It can feel like everyday, you wake up to face the same general schedule with a few changes scattered here and there. You go to class, you do homework, you go to your clubs. Some days might differ from others, but they all can tend to follow the same general routine. And it can be hard to realize that's a problem. After

all, that's what needs to be done to earn a degree, get a good job, and enjoy life, right? Maybe... but the thing that scares me the most is that the majority of adult life after college is still routine.

If you're like most of the adult population, it's inevitable. If you let them, things will just eventually become repetitive and you'll fall into the same autonomous routine that you're used to. But it doesn't have to be that way, and the first step to tackling it is realizing it can become a problem at any time.

If you're like me, you tend to be antagonistic towards change. A change in your routine, a change the way you do things... and that's to be expected. It catches your sense of regularity off guard, and throws you for a loop. But facing monotony means embracing change, being open to new ideas, and exploring everything that you can. Keep yourself on your toes by try-

ing new hobbies, and not being afraid to let go of them if you lose interest. Travel as much as you can. Our world is full of wonderful things, and even if you travel all of your life, you'll only scratch the surface of possibilities. Explore what's out there, go explore new restaurants (don't go abandoning dining halls completely, but don't feel like they're your only option), go find new museums, go find new places you like to hang out... and find things that make you happy, and make you feel better.

All in all, the most important thing to do to overcome apparent meaningless is to figure out what kind of person you want to be, how you want to live life, what you believe in, and what you think a successful life should accomplish... and then, doing whatever you need to do to fit that image. It sounds hard—and I'm not denying that it can be—but trust me, once you get the momentum going, everything seems to fall into place that much easier. You realize that life isn't so monotonous after all. ♦

## Representing Rensselaer reasonably, responsibly

*Incorporating passion through influencing public perception, helping to inspire future RPI students*

ADMISSIONS SEASON IS NOW IN FULL GEAR. STUDENTS have begun applying to and visiting colleges across the country. We all were at this stage of our lives, unsure where we will end up and anxiously seeking out help wherever we could. I know it seems like a blur at this point, but I would like to ask, for a second, that you think about where you came from and how you got to where you are today.

This is a time to reflect on the past just as much as new beginnings and to remember that you can have a real impact on someone else's future. When you see high schoolers touring campus, maybe offer a word of advice or give them directions. Talk to younger friends or siblings and help them navigate through the college admissions process. Or maybe, even encourage a friend to apply to Rensselaer.

Remember that the RPI community is built primarily by students. We go to school here, we study, we work, and we do everything humanly possible to make this school the best possible experience for everyone involved. We want to attract the best students, the most trustworthy friends, and the hardest workers to join our ranks.

This is why I chose to participate this year, as a freshman, in the Road to Rensselaer program, an initiative piloted by the Admissions Office where current RPI students go to their former high schools to speak to prospective students. I wanted to give back to the community in a new and exciting way, and this provided a unique outlet.

This begs the question: why did you choose RPI? Was it because of a drab presentation you heard by the admissions office or meaningful discussions with alumni and students? Members of the RPI community should be encouraged to talk as much as possible with incoming students and get involved in shaping outside opinions with those outside the RPI community, whether they are potential applicants or not.



**Peter Gramenides**  
Associate  
News Editor

Students should go into Troy, just as they normally do, wearing RPI sweat-shirts and symbols representative of their organizations, if applicable, to represent the RPI community. Students should speak to locals, not just buy food and leave. Referring to locals as "Troylets" is equally demeaning to RPI's overall reputation and the relations the campus community has with the City of Troy.

Represent yourself, at all times, as a student of Rensselaer and present yourself as so, and benefits will follow for yourself and RPI as a whole.

So, again, think about your role in the perception of the Rensselaer community and the image Rensselaer puts forward as the year progresses. If everyone played a greater role in changing the outside perspectives of Rensselaer, the Institute will be a better place by the relationship it will form with individuals as a whole.

For more information on the R2R program, email Meghan Griggs at griggm2@rpi.edu or call (518) 276-6218. ♦

## SENIOR BOARD EDITORIAL

### The repercussions of your vote

FOR THE LAST YEAR AND A HALF, WE have watched Donald Trump redirect the Republican Party through the frame of fear-mongering. He established a routine of consistent bigotry; whether it be lewd comments about women, racist comments about Hispanic Americans, or dismissive comments about sexual and gender minorities, Donald Trump has made it clear that he is not only socially conservative, but socially regressive. Any ounce of progress that has been made in the last eight years has been wiped clean by the presidential campaign of Donald Trump, and this serves to fundamentally redefine the course of America.

However, what is most intriguing is that American voters have been eating up Donald Trump's policies, and have jumped through mental hoops to rationalize their vote. It's amazing that empathy has been abandoned in this particular election; people have chosen to pick a candidate that will directly remove

rights from others. It's understandable that some people are nervous or scared of the changes that come with social progress, but it is their obligation to be self-aware about their concerns and avoid imposing their fear onto the lives of others. As a direct result of this election, many Americans will lose their ability to make decisions for themselves.

If you voted for Trump, refused to vote, or cast your vote for a third party candidate, you voted to make your fear and irrational bias a part of American legislation. You are accountable for lives that are made worse as a result of the Trump presidency, and you are accountable for your own lack of self-awareness during the election. It simply doesn't matter if you don't consider yourself a bigot, because your vote was cast in the name of someone who is. Your vote is directly representative of an America where values of homophobia, misogyny, and racism are tolerated, and you are immediately responsible for that. ♦

## the polytechnic

Editor in Chief

**Jack Wellhofer**

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## TOP HAT

# New committee formed

## Elections Policy Review Committee sets out to prevent controversy in future elections

IT'S BEEN KIND OF FUNNY OVER THE PAST FEW days, as I've been talking to some of my friends. With us being first semester seniors, it's the last time a lot of us are making schedules for classes, and making the appropriately annoying Facebook post about that. So between that and all the leaves that are falling right now, change has been on my mind a fair amount recently.

One of the things I really wanted to work on during my time as GM was changing the way that Senate runs in certain aspects. Whether it was trying to have us reach out and use different communication tools and social media better, or changing the structure that we use internally for things, I've wanted to make sure that I didn't get stuck in the mindset of, "this must work since it's the way we've done it for the past four years." One of the main things I wanted to do during my term was look at the way we organize running elections. Every year that I've been at this school there has been some kind of controversy which led to a Judicial Board case. External factors do affect this, but I think when something like that happens three years in a row, it's probably a sign that something inherent in the system being used is broken. The Rules & Elections committee generally does a great job of setting up and running elections, but they are often unable to arbitrate them, which is part of their job. Which I know pretty well, being a former R&E chair.

For this reason, we've created the Elections Policy Review Committee, or EPR. We currently have an open call for the chair of the committee itself and membership; as is the norm for Senate committees, it is open to all members of the union. So if you're interested in this kind of thing, let me know! We're always looking for new people to get involved in our projects or to help starting projects that interest them.



**Paul Ilori**  
Grand Marshal

Fortunately, internal issues and problems aren't the only thing that we're working on in Senate. We've recently brought one of our longer term projects in the Academic Affairs Committee to completion. For the past few years, we've been working with Dean of Undergraduate Research Dr. Schadler to create a new Undergraduate Research Project website, which is finally ready, and at the following link: <https://poly.rpi.edu/s/te2ko>.

The goal of this site is to make it easier for students to find out how they can get involved in research on campus, alongside professors whose interests theirs may align with. We've also been making a lot of progress in our committees, ranging from WebTech's new anonymous survey platform, which we'll be trialing in the near future, to SLC working with the Institute to increase public study spaces on campus. By the way, Mother's, on the first floor of the Union, is a pretty good place to study and is open to be used when it's not reserved by a group; that's my low key product placement of the day. ♦

## DERBY

# Union's budget, clarified

## How your Activity Fee is used to improve RPI

Hi RPI! SINCE MANY CLUBS ARE BEGINNING to construct their budgets for next school year, I thought I would provide some info on what the Rensselaer Union's expenses are and how its income is spent. All of this information and more is available to you in the Fiscal Year 2017 *Union Annual Report* found at <https://poly.rpi.edu/s/0czl9>.

So where does the Union get its money? The majority of it (79 percent) comes from the Student Activity Fee. Last year, the Union brought in approximately \$2 million from that Activity Fee. The other 21 percent of Union funds are from vendors inside of the Rensselaer Union building. These vendors include the Collegiate Store, auxiliary business like Ben & Jerry's and the Campus Unisex hair salon, and food services like Sodexo in the Rathskeller and McNeil room as well as Father's marketplace. Last year, the Union made approximately \$500,000 from these sources. Our projected income this year is around \$3 million from all of these sources.

Where does that money go after it's collected? Well, most people think of clubs and student organizations when they think of the Union but, only 25 percent of Union income goes to directly to clubs each year. There are many other programs that the Union subsidizes on campus. For instance, 16 percent of the Union's budget will go toward campus recreation this year. Campus recreation includes services housed in the Mueller Center, programs hosted by the Wellness Center, intramural sports

programs, and more. Intramurals alone has around 4,000 active participants each year. Around 5 percent of the Union's funds goes toward the upkeep up facilities mainly the Rensselaer Union building which is open 24 hours a day and seven days a week for any student to use. Three percent goes toward services available to all students

and clubs (i.e. Student Legal Services, McNeil emergency loan, club support funds).

The largest chunk of Union expenses is actually called "Union General Expenses" and makes up around 43 percent of this year's budget. These are all expenses needed to support the Union and its programs. It includes things like administrative staff salaries, wages for over 300 student workers, student activities special events money, performing arts programs subsidies, funding for multicultural and diversity programming, Union marketing funds, and much more.

Next time you are thinking about where your Activity Fee is going and what you are supporting across campus, remember that it supports much more than just Union funded clubs. There are a wide range of services, facilities, and programs available to everyone on campus that are funded through the Union Activity Fee. I encourage the whole campus to investigate everything the Union has to offer and take advantage of the resources available to you whether that is in clubs, intramurals, the Mueller Center, student legal services, etc. As always, if you have any questions or comments feel free to reach out to me at [pu@rpi.edu](mailto:pu@rpi.edu). ♦



**Chip Kirchner**  
President of the Union

AT THE RADDISON HOTEL ALBANY IN ALBANY, NEW YORK

# NORTHEAST TREK CON 2016

STAR DATES: 11.11.2016 - 11.13.2016

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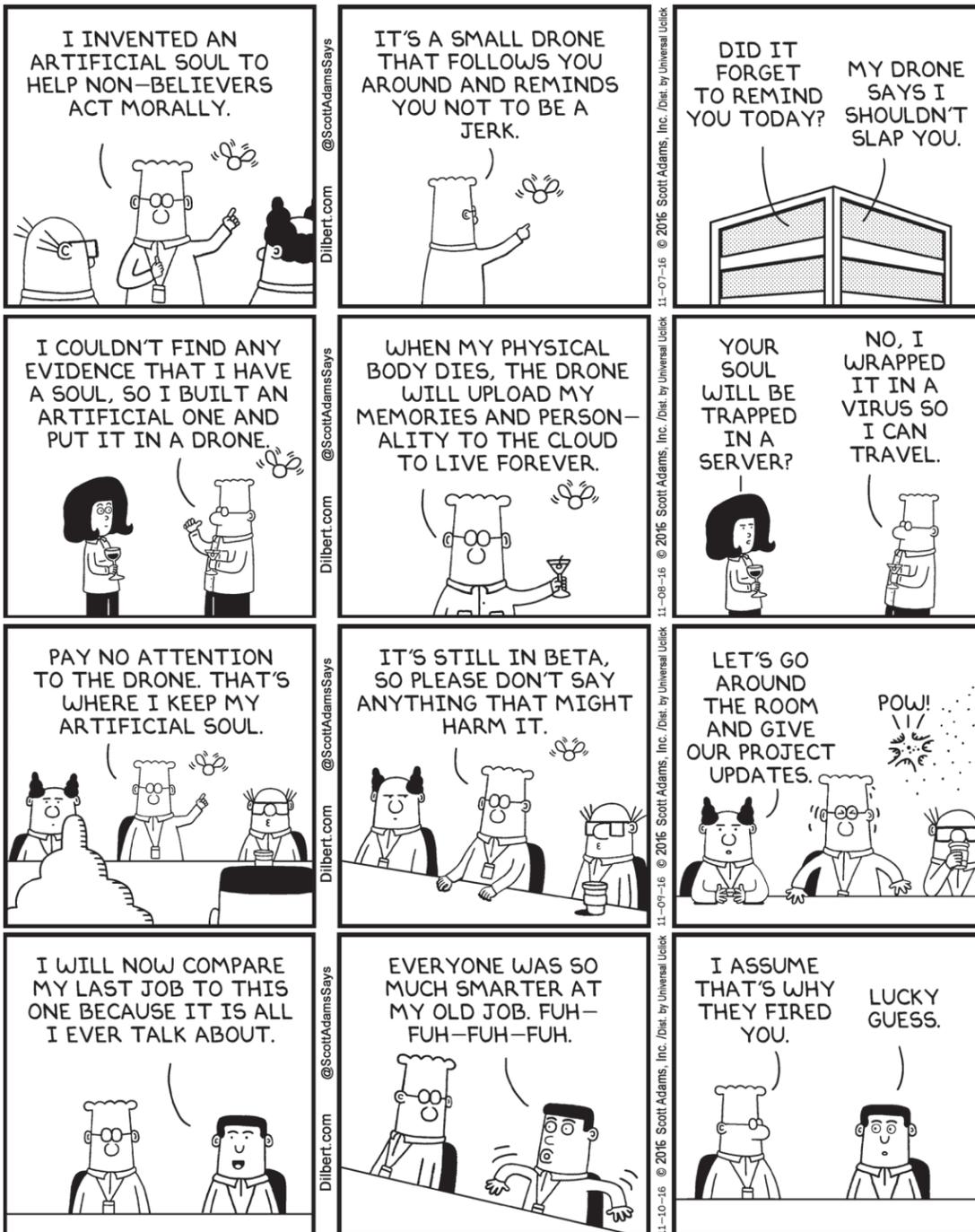
**J.G. Hertzler**

...and  
more!

**DILBERT**

by Scott Adams

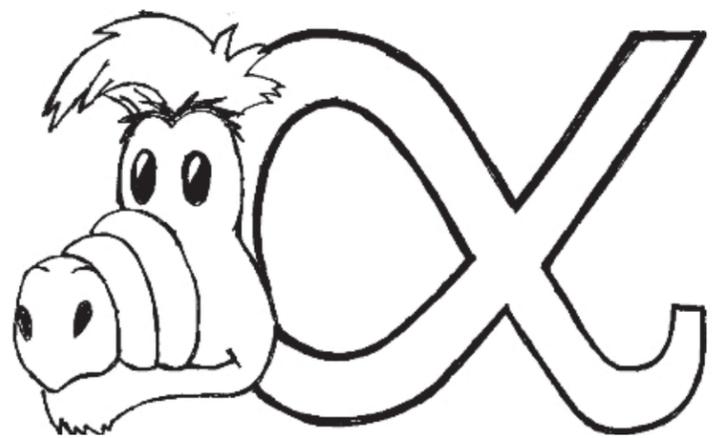
**TOP TEN LIST**



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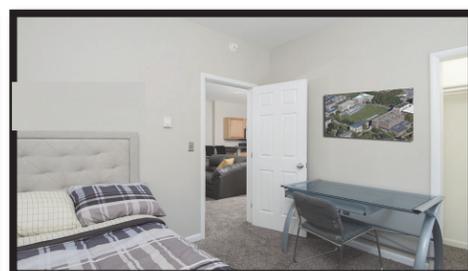
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**MONDAY PUNDAY** by Matthew Broussard



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# Events

Wednesday, November 9, 2016

## WEDNESDAY

November 9

### Dept. of MANE Colloquium

DCC 330; 10:30–11:30 am

Professor Jae-Hwang Lee presents a lecture titled “Dynamic Mechanical Characterization Using Micro-Bullets.”

### CBE Fall 2016 Seminar Series

Ricketts 211; 9:30–10:30 am

Dr. Fuzhong Zhang presents a seminar titled “Synthetic Biology for Production of Structurally Defined Fuels and Chemicals.”

### An Evening of Chamber Music

C+CC; 7–9:30 pm

Small ensembles in the Chamber Music program present a concert of their recent musical work.

## FRIDAY

November 11

### Bards of War by Bertrand Fay

C+CC; 5–6 pm

In honor of Veterans Day, Bertrand Fay will perform Bards of War a dramatic act from The Poets of the Western Front.

### Nuestra Belleza Multicultural Pageant

McNeil Room; 6–9 pm

Nuestra Belleza is a multicultural pageant. All proceeds from the event will go toward the OneOrlando Fund.

### Rensselaer Concert Choir

C+CC; 7:30–9:30 pm

The Rensselaer Concert Choir, under the direction of Nicholas DeMaison, will present a concert of new works young composers.

## SATURDAY

November 12

### ONE LAST TIME...SARATOGA: Class of 2017 200 Days

Union; 8 pm–2 am

All attendees must be 21. You must bring your Student ID and State/Federal ID as they will be checked against the registration list. Buses will be provided to transport attendees from the Rensselaer Union to the event and back after check-in. The cost of attendance is \$10 for members of the Class of 2017, \$20 for others.

### The Iron Giant

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

A young boy befriends a giant robot from outer space that a paranoid government agent wants to destroy.

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# Features

Wednesday, November 9, 2016

## CAMPUS EVENT

# Ground Zero's Story Slam draws talent

Jacob Kaplan  
Staff Reviewer

GROUND ZERO IS A PERFORMING ARTS center nestled in the basement of Nugent Residence Hall. Like most basements, it is dimly lit and humid yet cozy and comfortable. Armchairs and couches face the small stage that is less than a foot off of the ground. In the corner is a bar that serves soda and water out of coffee mugs. Decorating the walls are paintings, posters, vinyl records, and other paraphernalia.

On Saturday, November 5, I sat in the corner next to a friend, a large model skull wearing a

party hat, and what I believe was a painting of Jeff Bridges playing the saxophone. The only lights were small red, orange, and green spotlights that pointed towards the stage. There were around 30 to 40 people there but I could hardly make out any faces across the room. A paper plate was passed around. If you were interested in sharing a story, you had to sign the plate. Once it was full, the stories began.

"My father once told me, 'Son, never talk about your problems. Half of them don't care and the other half are glad that you have them'", the first story began. Most of the stories were lighthearted and anecdotal, like this one. There

was also one about one person's attempt to go swing-dancing in Albany, only to have all the buses he takes to get there meet with improbable accidents. Another person shared the story of his trying to go on a date with the best friend of his ex-girlfriend that he had dated for four years. One of the last speakers told the story of the time he performed a concert in a club that turned out to be the home of an eccentric squatter.

Other stories were more sincere and personal. One person told a story about how a homicide in his hometown affected the people he knew, himself, and his ability to empathize. Another talked about how a near-death experience

brought her closer to her sister.

Most of the stories, however, fell somewhere in between these two sides. There was one person who told the surprisingly humorous story of how she was unknowingly taken to a mental health retreat. Another talked about his experience being lost in the wilderness for 36 hours yet maintained a good sense of humor about the entire ordeal.

The most poignant of these stories was one that brought together both humor and sincerity incredibly well. So well, that it won the competition. The story was about how her parents met, began to date, but then eventually parted ways after her father

moved back to his home country of Malaysia. However, they were brought back together three years after he had left when her mother discovered a calculator that he had given her as an anniversary present. Within the saved answers of that calculator was his home phone number in Malaysia. She called, they reconnected, and shortly eloped.

The whole night demonstrated the power stories have to not only bring people together and make them feel connected, but also to communicate complex emotions and thoughts that are often difficult to express. I really enjoyed the competition and I sincerely hope there are more in the future. ♦

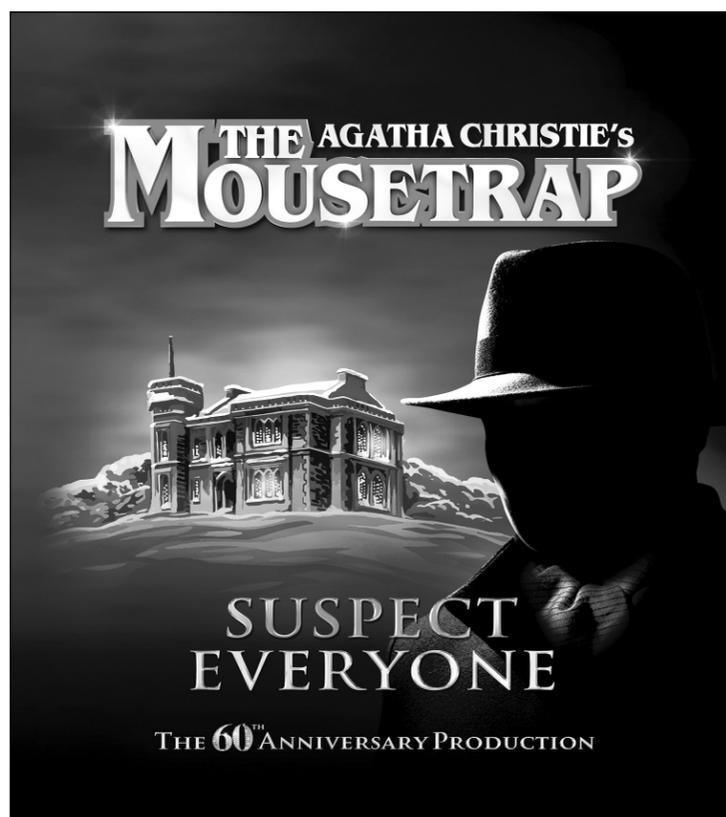


Courtesy of RPI TV

OFTEN HOSTING MUSICAL EVENTS, GROUND ZERO DECIDED to go in a different direction for its last show of this semester by inviting storytellers to compete with each other.

## CAMPUS EVENT

# Reporter awed after preview of *The Mousetrap*



Courtesy of St. Martins Theatre

SET in the Countryside, *The Mousetrap* tells a tale of mysterious murder.

Elisabeth Ryan  
Senior Reviewer

ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8, I WAS OFFERED THE PRIVILEGE of viewing the RPI Players rendition of Agatha Christie's play *The Mousetrap* before its opening night. It is a PBS Masterpiece Mystery special brought to life. Directed by local professional Norman Eick, the Players have executed well what I consider the trifecta of theater: environment, character reproduction, and stage choreography. Before I go on to review the show, I will disclaim that no important plot points shall be revealed, and neither will much detail of the plot in general. With that said, I will begin by offering some of the play's exposition.

The story is set on a wintry night in the British countryside not so far from London. The first scene opens up on the sitting room of the Monkswell Manor owned by young couple Giles and Mollie Ralston. The two have converted the ancient manor into a guest house. A murder has occurred in London of a woman by the name of Maureen Lyon. Her death is inconsequential to the guests of Monkswell Manor. These guests include: Christopher Wren, an eccentric young man; Mrs. Boyle, an uppity class elitist; Major Metcalf, a former member of the military; and Miss Casewell,

a rather masculine young woman. As the evening progresses, a surprise guest appears after his car overturns in the snow, Mr. Paravicini, a robust foreigner. The story further unfolds, drawing Detective Sergeant Trotter to Monkswell Manor.

The play follows in typical whodunnit fashion, casting each character into the light of suspicion. Moreover, a description of the murderer is detailed in a radio broadcast: an individual of medium build wearing a dark overcoat, white scarf, and felt hat. It is clear that nearly all of the suspected don such a wardrobe and fit the description, leaving the audience guessing until the very end.

The characters of this play vary widely from the sweet, unsuspecting to the standoffish to the purposefully problematic. The cast of *The Mousetrap* does a fine job portraying these detailed personas, especially Emily Kosmaczewski 16, who plays Mollie Ralston and Hayden Molinari 18, who plays Paravicini. Kosmaczewski is accomplished in her way of expressing and delivering emotion. Her mannerisms mimic those of a genuine English housewife of the 1940's with a convincing accent. Molinari is similarly emphatic in his performance, executing a nearly flawless portrayal of the "mysterious stranger" all the while providing comedic relief.

The Players has a reputation for providing intricately detailed sets, and this show was no exception. From the

See PLAYERS, Page 9

## ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

# Tove Lo exhibits true talent

Tanner Vargas  
Staff Reviewer

THEY CALL HER “THE SADDEST girl in Sweden.” Her brand of unabashedly personal dark-alt-pop is both refreshing and recognizable. Her songwriting talent has garnered hits such as “Habits” and “Talking Body.” Her personality electrifies on stage and in studio, the fresh take on relationships injecting an honest and evocative sound into the world of pop music.

Ebba Tove Elsa Nilsson, known as Tove Lo, hails from Stockholm and has been passionate about love and music her entire life. She was a songwriter before singer, penning hits such as Ellie Goulding’s “Love Me Like You Do” while working independently on the side. She released a critically praised EP, *Truth Serum*, including global smash “Habits (Stay High)” in March 2014. Her breakthrough debut album, *Queen of the Clouds*,

was released September 24, 2014 and revolved around the three stages of a relationship according to Tove—The Sex, The Love, and The Pain. The effort was dark, deeply personal, and bursting with hook-driven pop tracks that led to newfound fame and notoriety.

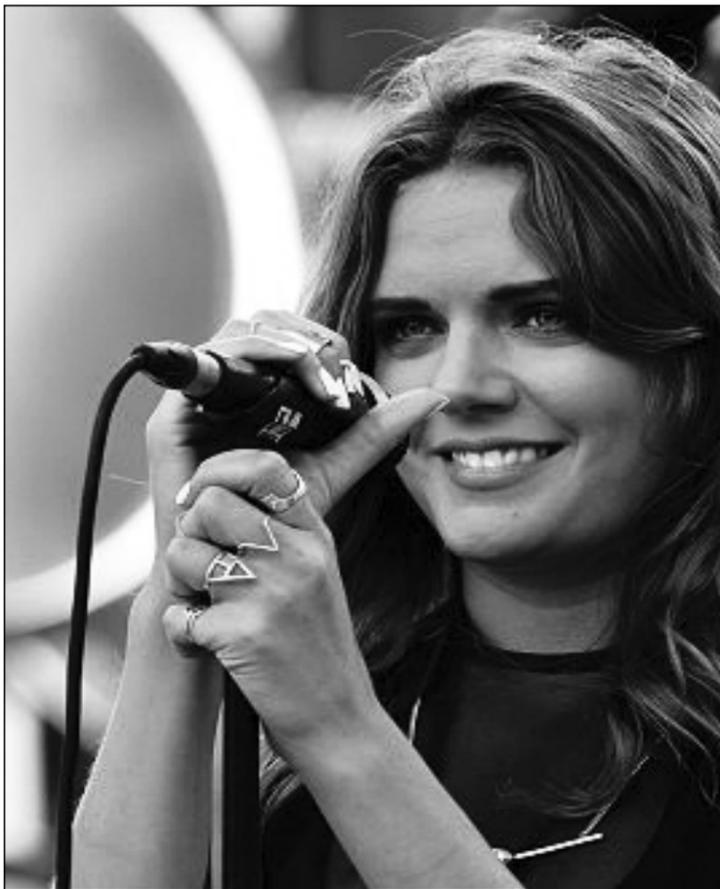
Tove dropped the single “Cool Girl” in August, fellow artist Lorde remarking that she was “casually about to drop the pop song of the summer.” It initiated the album hype that lasted until the release of her sophomore effort, *Lady Wood*, on October 28. The album was a critical success and appeared on the Billboard 200. Much like her debut, *Lady Wood* is split into two parts—“Fairy Dust,” which encapsulates the euphoric feelings of an experience, and “Fire Fade,” which examines the succeeding sense of clarity. The short film “Fairy Dust” was released on YouTube Halloween

night. The effort, starring Tove, is visually stunning and creatively articulate—as honest and provocative as the album it pairs with. Tove recently announced that *Lady Wood* is half of an ambitious double album that will consist of four films.

The sonically mesmerizing “True Disaster” is an undeniable bop. The track is as inventive as it is catchy; the musical aesthetic crashes over you like a wave and drowns you with its layered beats. Tove sings “Keep playing my heartstrings faster and faster/You can be just what I want, my true disaster,” giving in to the attraction of a newfound relationship. “Keep it Simple” is a sultry synth standout that opens with evocative lyrics: “I’ve been deep down in the dirt for some time/Not a clear sound from my heart or my mind.” It then descends into a heavy, totally danceable post-chorus synth run that becomes the hallmark of the track. Other great tracks stand out, such as the thumping Wiz Khalifa collaboration “Influence,” and the beat-driven, bass-soaked “Flashes.”

What makes *Lady Wood* remarkable is not just its standouts, but its strength as a cohesive effort. The incredible Queen of the Clouds possessed this same sense of a unified singular sound. Whereas the debut was characterized by the explosions of emotion that come with a passionate relationship, Tove’s latest is a slow-burn take on the rushes of life.

Tove Lo’s latest proves to be a successful blend of minimalist alt-pop that comes alive in its artistic ideas and masterful melodic execution. Her spectacular songwriting skills shine through her wildly personal yet relatable lyrics and the sleek, synth-pulsing production. A listen of *Lady Wood* will give you a sonically stunning glimpse into the world of one of today’s best artists. ◇



Courtesy of Daniel Ahs Karlsson

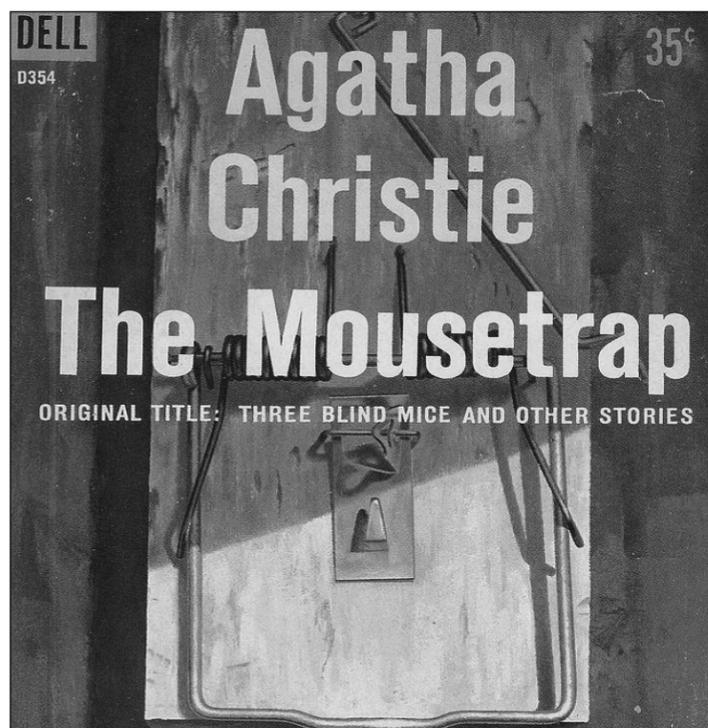
TOVE LO RELEASES a mix of minimalism with artistic expression.

# Players: Classic Christie murder mystery well-done

From Page 8

flickering fireplace to the French windows, the set, coupled with quaint props and period-accurate costumes, transports you. Under the careful direction of Eick, the cast interacts purposefully with the set, delivering the subtle details that can be found in a Christie murder-mystery novel.

The show is a delight, and I highly encourage you to attend the opening show November 11 at 8 pm. Admission with a RPI ID is five dollars, and for our members of the Greek community and ROTC, your admission is \$2.50 opening night. ◇



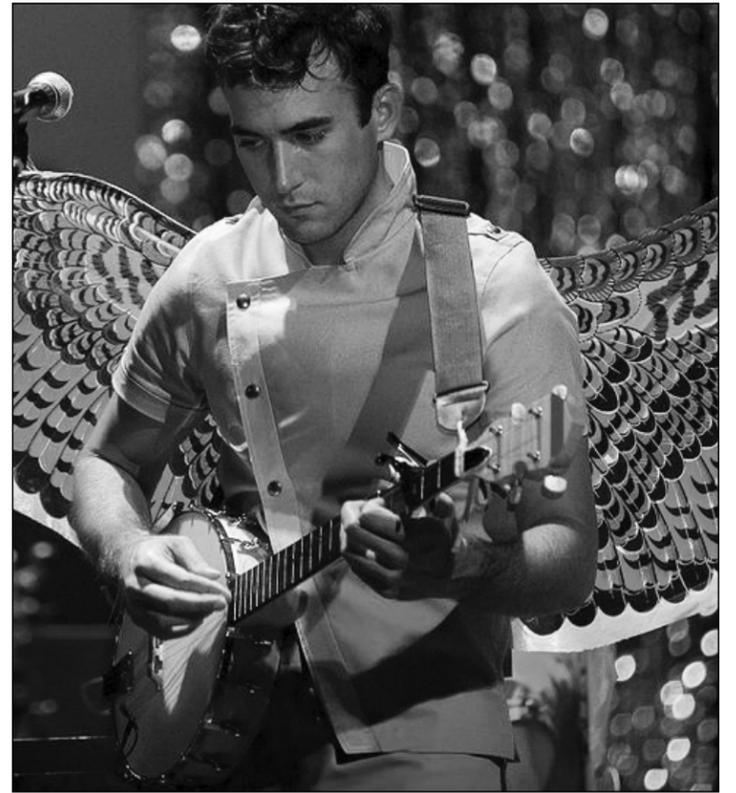
Courtesy of Dell

RADIO PLAY TURNED WEST END HIT GRACES the RPI Playhouse stage.

Liss' rating  
7/10

## ALBUM REVIEW

# Seven Swans touches upon faith and humanity



Courtesy of Joe Lencioni

SUFJAN STEVENS USES music to express his religious beliefs.

Nathan Dorer  
Senior Reviewer

AS A FOLK-ROCK ARTIST, SUFJAN STEVENS HAS IMPRESSED FANS FOR THE last two decades with his careful sound and well-constructed lyrics. Released in 2004, *Seven Swans* serves as Stevens’ fourth Studio album, and features Stevens’ careful introduction of Christian themes amidst a somber instrumental backdrop. The online music review website Pitchfork states that “*Seven Swans* is so topically concerned with Christianity that a few wrong steps could easily have been a disaster.” However, the album manages to approach the subject of biblical morality without alienating listeners of other faiths; the album holds Stevens’ faith at its center, but is as much about exploring the ethos of humanity as it is retelling biblical stories.

The most overtly Christian themes can be observed in the songs “All The Trees Of The Field Will Clap Their Hands,” “Abraham,” and the namesake of the album “Seven Swans,” Stevens introduces the album with a humble banjo solo in “All The Trees,” and makes direct allusions to traditional lines of a sermon in lyrics like “I am joining all my thoughts to you.” The next of these, “Abraham,” is a more direct retelling of a biblical story in which a father is instructed to kill his son by God. However, Stevens’ makes a point to draw into the emotional experiences of the listener; “Abraham” lays out the moral dilemma of a father who must choose between a person he loves and his God. Finally, “Seven Swans” is a subtle reference to the Book of Revelations; the number seven is a motif that serves to represent Christ in the bible, and the song embraces several direct images from Revelations.

When the album strays from its Christian roots, it tends to address the idea of morality more directly. “The Dress Looks Nice On You” was released as a single from the album, but is arguably the least overtly Christian song on the album. “The Dress Looks Nice On You” is posed as a more conventional love song, where Stevens draws inspiration from the object of his affections. However, the song still plays into the pensive atmosphere of the album; Stevens seems almost frustrated in that fact that he “can see a lot of life in” his romantic interest. In the song “A Good Man Is Hard To Find,” Stevens writes a self-aware ballad about how he is slowly becoming a worse person. Stevens’ moral decay seems to drive a wedge between him and his romantic interest over the course of the song; he writes, “I once was better...but someone’s left me creased.” The song takes on a distinctly emotional and self-critical atmosphere in the space of only a handful of words.

The album stands out as a cohesive introduction to Stevens’ concept of morality, and how he formed his sense of ethics around the backbone of his religion. Stevens is known for the simplistic sounds of his music, and the intimate lyrics that generally accompany them; this album gets to the heart of something that’s deeply personal to the artist. He questions his worthiness as a person and reassures himself with the themes of his faith over the course of the album, and ultimately creates something that draws the listener closer to his personal experiences.

*Seven Swans* is intriguing in that it is a Christian album that explores humanity outside the context of Christianity; it’s about the concept or morality and how people can address it. Stevens’ music has provided something unique, topical, and thought provoking. ◇

## MEN'S HOCKEY

# Mixed feelings during weekend home split

## Friday's victory over Brown diminished with heartbreaking loss to Yale on Saturday

Sean Beacham  
Senior Reporter

FRIDAY EVENING HELD AN EXCITING GAME for the Engineers. The puck dropped at 7 pm at Houston Field House between the Engineers' senior Jimmy Devito and the Bears' Sam Lafferty. The tensions were high and the competitors played evenly throughout the entire game. Brown outshot the Engineers for the first period but the game remained scoreless for the first 20 minutes. The first goal was not scored until junior Drew Melanson, assisted by sophomore Evan Tironese and junior Lou Nanne, had a breakaway goal in the latter half of the second period. The favorite cheer of the crowd for the evening could be heard ringing out on almost every power play and goal for the Engineers, "Brown is shit! Shit is Brown!"

The third period was far more energetic than the first two, holding almost three quarters of the penalty minutes and three goals. The Engineers' junior Jared Wilson put up a goal not half a minute into the third. It was a shame that they could not have done it twenty seconds earlier during the Moe's Minute of the game. As many know, a two goal lead is superstitiously known as the worst lead to have in hockey. Brown tried to put the Engineers on their heels by pulling their goalie with two minutes left in the game and managed to do so. Brown put one away with fewer than 90



Jonathan Caicedo/The Polytechnic

SENIOR FORWARD RILEY BOURBONNAIS FACES OFF against Yale forward Chris Izmirlan on Saturday.

seconds left in the game. The Engineers were riled up and fought back, scoring on Brown's empty net. The game ended with a bit of a scrum. No penalties resulted but fists flew for sure. The final score was 3-1, Engineers.

The Engineers kept their temper and had about a third of the penalty kill time as Brown throughout the game. Freshman Chase Perry in net saw almost the same number of shots as Brown's goalie, but kept the goals allowed to one.

The game against Yale was probably the most frustrating game of the season for the Engineers and their fans. Very similar to the Brown game, not a goal was scored until more than half way through the game, even more similar due to Melanson scoring that first goal. The Engineers held a goal lead through 14 minutes of the third period before scoring a power play goal and taking a two goal lead. It was not long before things began to go downhill.

Perry kept the Engineers in it through the game, in total seeing nearly double the shots as Yale's goalie. In the last three minutes of play, Yale tied the score, resulting in overtime play. Within 30 seconds of overtime, Yale scored and headed home. The final score was 3-2, Yale. Power play minutes were about equal for both teams and Yale slightly lead the faceoff game. ♦

## CURLING

## Curling slides to 3-1

Michael Baird  
Senior Reporter

THREE FOUR-PERSON CURLING TEAMS FROM THE RPI CURLING CLUB WENT TO BROOMSTONE Curling Club in Wayland, Massachusetts, to compete in the annual Broomstone's College Bonspiel hosted by Boston College. The team of freshman Evan Mullaney as skip, junior Anthony Naslas as vice, junior Garrison Johnston as second, and junior Kaitlin Fermano as lead captured second place at the two-day tournament beginning on Saturday.

"I expect that RPI will rise from the number eight spot we are currently in," said club public relations head senior Dana Stevens concerning Rensselaer's national ranking according to the United States Curling Association, which was last updated on October 20.

RPI Curling challenged four teams on the ice over the weekend from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the State University of New York Polytechnic Institute, Rochester Institute of Technology, and the University of Pennsylvania. RPI 1, the team of Mullaney, Naslas, Johnston, and Fermano, closed out the bonspiel 3-1, losing only to no. 4 ranked University of Pennsylvania. Mullaney brings years of prior experience to the team.

Skipping team RPI 2 was senior Alex Kelleher. Junior Sam Curlee served as vice, junior Mitchell Loser as second, and first-year curler freshman James Cassidy as lead. The team finished 2-2 on Sunday.

RPI 3 consisted of Stevens as skip, senior Kirsten Cardinal as vice, sophomore Gideon Bartlett as second, and senior Jeremy Katz as lead. They won two games and lost one.

"We had a great turnout at our open house, and have a lot of new members," said Stevens. "They are getting better every week. Their sweeping form is coming along, and they are learning how to throw the correct weight for many types of shots." The first bonspiel of the season took place on October 15 and 16. The team of senior Jeremy Katz as skip, Loser as vice, Fermano as second, and Johnston rebounded in the latter three games after an initial blow by SUNY Polytechnic to finish 3-1, winning the tournament's B event.

Upcoming events for RPI Curling including this weekend's bonspiel hosted by RIT at Rochester Curling Club. Games begin this Friday at 9 pm with RPI 2 facing Colgate University, and end on Saturday at 8:30 pm with RPI 1 versus RIT 2. On Sunday, a championship tournament will take place. Several games will be streamed live from this website: <https://poly.rpi.edu/s/n13ih>

The RPI College Bonspiel will follow the RIT Spiel, taking place from December 2 to 4 at Schenectady Curling Club, where the team practices every Tuesday and Wednesday from 10 pm to 12 am. Members of the Rensselaer community are all invited to come cheer on the curlers at the bonspiel.

Newcomers are always welcome to attend practices. No experience is necessary to join. Contact Dana Stevens at [stedved6@rpi.edu](mailto:stedved6@rpi.edu) or visit <https://poly.rpi.edu/s/y23ds> if interested. ♦

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## WOMEN'S HOCKEY

# Weekend split

Women go 1-1 against Yale, Brown

Jacob Kaplan

Staff Reporter

RENSSELAER SPLIT 1-1 IN 2 GAMES OVER THE WEEKEND, LOSING AGAINST Yale University on Saturday 7-2, but defeating Brown University on Sunday 4-1.

On Saturday, the Bulldogs got an early lead against the Engineers, scoring two points within the first period. Rensselaer nearly pulled back with a goal by senior forward Katie Rooney during the second period. Rensselaer then attempted 14 more shots in that period, however, all were saved and Yale made two more goals. Rensselaer freshman forward Sabrina Repaci made one goal against Yale, putting the score at 4-2 by the end of the second period. Yale, however, gave themselves a very comfortable lead in the third period, outshooting Rensselaer 21-5, and making 3 more goals, putting the final score at 7-2.

On Sunday, the Engineers fared much better against Brown, with freshman blueliner Kirsten Iwanski scoring her first collegiate point within the first minute of the game. Repaci made another goal, pulling the score to 2-0 halfway through the first period, with assists to junior Amanda Kimmerle and sophomore Taylor Schwalbe. Brown scored towards the end of the first period but Rensselaer quickly restored their two-point lead with a goal by senior Hannah Behounek with just 41 seconds remaining in the period. Following a scoreless second period, senior captain Laura Horwood secured victory for Rensselaer in the third period by scoring and putting the game at 4-1. Sophomore goalie Lovisa Selander finished the game with 24 saves. After this weekend, Rensselaer is at 4-7-1 for the season.

Rensselaer will play away at St. Lawrence University next Friday and then Clarkson University on Saturday. ♦



Jonathan Caicedo/The Polytechnic

SENIOR FOWARD LINDSEY HYLWA PINS an Ohio State player against the boards in this file photo.

## MEN'S SOCCER

# Engineers fall short in league semifinals

After a shaky start to the season, late wins take RPI to the semifinals where they lose to Vassar

Jack Wellhofer

Senior Reporter

LAST WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, men's soccer travelled to Poughkeepsie, NY to face off against Vassar College in the Liberty League Semifinals. Going into the game, the Brewers were at 12-3-2, while the Engineers were at 8-6-4 for the season. Ultimately, RPI was upended 1-3, sending Vassar to the Liberty League Finals.

The Brewers wasted no time getting on the offensive. In the first minute of play, Vassar midfielder Stephen Jennings took a shot at freshman goalie Matt LaBranche. The shot went wide, but was only the start of the six shots that would rain down on the Engineers' defense in the next few minutes.

Vassar was the first to score when midfielder Hayden Van Brewer crossed the ball into the box. Forward Mattie Mrlik was perfectly in position, using his head to redirect the shot into the goal.



Jack Wellhofer/The Polytechnic

IN THIS FILE PHOTO, FRESHMAN BRANDON PIROG CLEARS the ball away from Rensselaer's goal.

The second goal of the game was again courtesy of Mrlik. Forward Jose Novas saw Mrlik waiting at the six-yard box and quickly made the pass. All Mrlik had to do was turn and put a low shot past LaBranche. The Engineers' back line had a momentary lapse of concen-

tration 36 minutes in, but it was enough for the Brewers. In that moment, Mrlik became the superstar of the game, picking up the ball and scoring a hat trick.

At the end of the first half, Vassar outshot the Engineers 13-1, evident from the 3-0 score.

Early on in the second half, Rensselaer put one up on the board. Senior midfielder Devon Baughen played a through ball to freshman midfielder Austin Betterly, who took only one touch before ripping a shot into the net.

RPI worked for shots on goal, but were continuously stopped by Vassar's defense. Meanwhile, Vassar's offense continued to work like they had in the first half, getting off 12 shots in the half, although none of them proved fruitful. With little left in the tank, the Engineer's season concluded with a 3-1 loss.

Vassar went on to defeat Skidmore College 3-2 last Saturday to claim the Liberty League Championship. ♦

**Congratulations to the Chicago Cubs on their win of the 2016 World Series, their first in 108 years.**

# Sports

Wednesday, November 9, 2016

## SWIMMING & DIVING

# RPI-WPI dual-meet goes swimmingly

*Rensselaer's swimming & diving is 3-0 for the season, after going undefeated in 2015-2016*

Jacob Kaplan  
Staff Reporter

RENSELAER'S MEN'S AND WOMEN'S swimming and diving teams had a dual-meet against Worcester Polytechnic Institute at home on Saturday, November 5. The men had a close win at 151-148 while the women won comfortably at 188-113.

On the men's team, sophomore Dan Hendricks won the 500 and 1000-yard freestyle, Senior Richard Dong won the 100 and 200-yard breaststroke, Sophomore Mavin Liu won the 200-yard butterfly. Sophomore Alex Chused won the 1 and 3-meter dive. Sophomore Noah Pan won the 200-yard backstroke. Dong, sophomore John Alberta, junior Brandon Koo, and senior captain Andrew Klobucher won 200-yard freestyle relay. The relay put the men's team ahead of Worcester, securing their victory and extended their winning streak to 12.

On the women's team, sophomore Amanda Wang, senior captain Siena Sara, junior Shanny Lin, and junior Erin Kane began the meet by winning the 200-yard medley relay. Junior Danielle Sauve won the 50, 100, 200, and 500-yard freestyle as well as the 400-yard individual medley.



Jonathan Caicedo/The Polytechnic

LAST SEASON, RENSELAER SWIMMING & DIVING WENT undefeated. Thus far, the team has seen promising results this season. (file photo)

Wang won the 100 and 200-yard backstroke. Sara won 100 and 200-yard breaststroke. Lin won the 100 and 200-yard butterfly.

Freshman Jessica Kugelman won the 1-meter dive. The women's team concluded the meet with Kane, Sauve, Wang, and junior

Michaela Yamashita winning the 200-yard freestyle relay.

Both teams have two dual-meets next weekend. The first

will be at Vassar College on Saturday then Hartwick College will be at home on Sunday. ◇

## WOMEN'S SOCCER

# Disappointing loss in Liberty League final

Coaches plan to use first Liberty League final appearance as learning experience for team

Adam Rabinowitz  
Senior Reporter

WOMEN'S SOCCER'S HISTORY-MAKING SEASON CAME TO AN END ON Saturday, when RPI lost to William Smith College 4-0 in the Liberty League Championship Game, finishing the season.

The Engineers advanced to the Championship game by beating Vassar 1-0 last Tuesday, marking Women's Soccer's first Liberty League Tournament win in school history.

RPI had faced William Smith earlier this season, losing 1-0 in a tight game. To prepare for their rematch, the team looked back at film from the previous game, according to head coach Bre Nasypany.

Unlike the regular season, playoff games go into penalty kicks after both overtimes. As a result, assistant coach Shelby Stromerson '15 noted that the team worked on penalty kicks after every practice to better prepare.

When analyzing the loss to William Smith, Stromerson

noted that RPI was able to open each half with intensity and good attacks, but that William Smith was able to overcome this start and play their game.

"Like many teams of their caliber, William Smith was able to quickly get into and maintain their rhythm. Limiting their scoring opportunities would have come from our rhythm and style of play working for us, and though the ideas on defense and offense were the right ones we seemed to be just a bit off," Stromerson said.

With 17 shots and 11 shots on goal, William Smith kept RPI's defense busy throughout the whole game.

"On offense, the Engineers were just not able to capitalize off of their three shots. This ultimately cost RPI the game," said Nasypany.

"We had our opportunities and didn't finish them. William Smith had their opportunities and finished them. Those are the situations that we need to improve on moving forward in order to compete with the No. 1 team in the nation next season," she said.

Looking back at the season, Nasypany added that this one loss does not take away from the team's accomplishments. "We had a great year and I don't think the score necessarily depicted the type of game that was played," Nasypany said.

Looking forward, Nasypany added that winning a playoff game for the first time gives the Engineers momentum going forward. "We know what we were good at and we know the things we need to improve on. Hopefully we have proved something about the character of our women and of our team this season."

Stromerson echoed her sentiments. "Making it to the Liberty League Championship for the first time in program history is a huge testament to the hard work the girls have put in this season. From the beginning they prioritized positivity and cohesiveness, and as a staff couldn't be more proud of what they've accomplished since, and they'll continue to raise the bar higher." ◇



Sidney Kochman/The Polytechnic

FRESHMAN FORWARD EMILY KAPLAN CLEARS the ball away from a William Smith College defender. (file photo)