RPI STUDENTS JOIN hundreds of thousands of women's rights protestors in Washington DC on the day after the Presidential Inauguration.

Maria Espinosa
Senior Reporter

LAST SATURDAY, OVER 500,000 PEOPLE GATHERED IN THE NATION’S CAPITAL for the Women’s March on Washington. This march was a women’s rights movement, a human rights movement, an environmental movement, and a resisting protest against Donald Trump and his new administration. The turnout of the march was much larger than the expected 200,000. The number of people who attended the march was three times greater than the number of people who attended the inauguration of President Trump the day before. There were sister marches in all 50 states throughout the rest of the country and around the world across the seven continents. The nearly five million total participants are said to have made the Women’s March one of the largest protests in history.

As people arrived in D.C. dressed in pink, wearing pink pussy hats, and holding signs, they either took the metro or an hour-long walk to Independence Avenue. Once there, people crowded in masses, waiting for the march to begin. People covered the sidewalks, roads, some buildings, and even trees. While people waited, guest speakers and performers took the stage. Speakers stressed the importance of protecting human rights and resisting the Trump administration in order to help the nation move forward and not backwards. They urged people to keep fighting, to contact their representatives, to join activist groups, to support Planned Parenthood, and to stay hopeful.

The hundreds of thousands of women and men who had arrived early in the morning had to wait until around 4 pm to begin marching. It was around the time Madonna took the stage that marchers began to move towards the White House. While marching, several people chanted and raised their posters high. Some of the chants included: “What does democracy look like? This is what democracy looks like,” and, “Racist, sexist, anti-gay, Donald Trump go away.” Written on the posters were phrases like, “Cheeto Voldemort is not my president,” “Keep your tiny hands off my uterus,” “Yikes,” and, “Melania, blink twice if you need help.” Many people left their signs outside the White House, but later that night, workers blocked off the White House and took the posters down.

People called the Women’s March Trump’s inauguration present. One of the marchers described the march as “the best experience of her life,” and another marcher said that the love felt in the environment was comparable only to the love she felt at a Bernie Sanders rally. During the march, strangers bonded and became friends—even sisters. For those who participated, the march was a once in a lifetime experience never to be forgotten. The marchers did not only make a point, they made history.

If you want to get involved, visit https://poly.rpi.edu/wi3py.

See MARCH Page 2
Senate: Meal plan changes, new study spaces

Following Freedberg’s presentation, the Senate moved to approve the committee’s recommendations, which passed 23-0-1. Ilori ’17 also continued to remark that the approval of the recommendations only acts as an endorsement of the decision that would later be made by the Rensselaer Board of Trustees, who can choose to either accept or reject the meal plan recommendations. In response to this, the Hospitality Services Advisory Committee will begin to compile suggestions this semester with the hope of having the Senate’s approval of the recommendations before they are submitted to the Rensselaer Board of Trustees.

The Study Spaces sub-committee, a subdivision of the Student Life Committee, led Etzine, then proposed that the Senate adopt a resolution to bring informal learning areas to the ’87 gym, replacing currently unused office space with study spaces that could potentially be used by students. The proposal was the result of a collaboration between the Student Life Committee and the Rensselaer Union Business Operations Committee and passed 23-0-1.

Ilori concluded the Senate meeting with a discussion regarding a letter written by the undergraduate president of Clark University, looking to hold President Donald Trump accountable for upholding and continuing DACA, H1-B visas, and visas for international students. In response, Etzine said “There are so many proposals and dreams that our student constituents share with us on a day to day basis—I would much rather spend my time pursuing those with a much more likelihood of those happening than pursuing that [signing the letter] since the student body has made a lot less of an effort of making a difference of this—it will upset people, rustle feathers, and have no benefits to the situation. Stanford and Princeton are much more press-receiving schools than we are.”

In response, Miller stated, “I am not necessarily saying we should definitely sign it, but our students are affected by more than our school and it’s our job to voice our opinion on things that may affect our students even if they don’t affect us. We are a part of a city, we are a part of a state, we are a part of a world and we need to have stands on things other than just what’s happening on our campus.” Ad Hoc Committee Chair C.J. Markum ’17 also offered his opinion, stating, “I don’t want to bring national politics to anything Student Senate related. Most [students] just aren’t gonna care, this is literally a waste of our time.” Graduate senator Anthony Ashley contributed, stating “it would be a shame to sign our name onto it.” Following further discussion, the letter was not endorsed by the Student Senate due to concerns regarding the wording of the letter, as well as the relative impact of signing it.

THE STUDENT SENATE GATHERED for a long meeting to discuss a variety of issues, expanding on last semester’s progress on committee recommendations and petitions.

March: Best moments from Washington DC

The Women’s March attracted hundreds of thousands to Washington D.C., including droves of RPI students.
School of Science Town Meeting
CBIS Auditorium; 3:30–4:30 pm
An update of what’s been happening in the School of Science, and a discussion of what latest vision for the School of Science and how we can realize our shared goals.

Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences
J-Row 3W13; 4–5 pm
Beizhan Yan will present a lecture entitled “Linking environmental and health sciences-source analysis of environmental pollutants.”

Department of Physics Colloquium
CII 3051; 4–5 pm
Ji Ung Lee will present a lecture entitled “Bipolar Devices in 2D Material Systems for Novel Logic Applications.”

Auditions for Avenue Q
RPI Playhouse, 6 pm
The RPI Players are hosting auditions for their 300th show, Avenue Q. Auditions will be held in the form of cold reads, along with a musical audition (16–32 bars) and dance audition. Questions can be emailed to avenueq-prod@union.rpi.edu. Auditions will be held on Monday at the same time and location.

Engineering Ambassadors Info Session
JEC 3210; 7–8 pm
They work with schools to promote STEM exploration and make engineering more accessible to a younger audience. Go to the info session to learn more about the club, meet the Ambassadors, and get some free food!

Bioinformatics and Biocomputation
CBIS Auditorium; 11 am–noon

Red Cross Blood Drive
Mueller Center; 11:30 am–5:30 pm
If you weigh at least 110 pounds and have a donor card, or driver’s license, or two other forms of ID, you can donate.

Archery Pizza Party
Armory Basement; 7–9 pm
Pizza and Archery! First come first serve.

RCA Spring Festival Celebration
Union 3602; 5–6 pm
They will be celebrating Chinese New Year with food and events associated with the Chinese Spring Festival! They will be making dumplings and watching the Spring Festival Gala.

Savage Love Live
EMPAC Concert Hall; 6–8 pm
Dan Savage is a writer, TV personality, and activist best known for his honest approach to sex, love, and relationships. Savage is a frequent speaker on college campuses across the United States and Canada. Savage’s sex advice column, “Savage Love,” is syndicated in newspapers and websites throughout the United States, Canada, Europe and Asia.

Tesseract
EMPAC Theater; 8–9 pm
The new two-part 3D video and live dance, Tesseract, by artist Charles Atlas and choreographers Rashawn Mitchell and Silas Riener, will be presented for the first time following several years of development at EMPAC, held Saturday at the same time.

Biological Sciences Seminar
CBIS Bruggeman Room; noon–1 pm
John Hayes presents a lecture titled “Morphology, Composition, and Electronic Properties of Bacterial Nanowires Formed by Pseudomonas aeruginosa.” Divya Shastry presents a lecture titled “Rational design and study of polysialic acid-binding peptides.”

Chemistry Seminar Series
CBIS Bruggeman Room; 4–5 pm
Troy Van Voorhis presents a lecture titled “Electronic Dynamics in Complex Environments: From Electron Transfer to Singlet Fission.”

RPI Curling Open House
Mueller Center; 10 pm
The RPI Curling team will be holding their spring open house for people interested in trying this Olympic sport. Anyone is welcome to attend. At the open house, attendees will be taught the rules and basics of curling by members of the club.

CCPD Spring Career Fair 2017
10:30am - 3:30pm in the Armory
Visit JobLink to see the list of employers attending & RSVP with your general resume, apply for OCR positions and a calendar of events hosted by the CCPD to prepare you for the big day.

Did you know we have an app?
Download the RPI Career Fair+ app for all Career Fair information at your fingertips!
democracy needs everyone's voice

WHEREIERTHORNOYOUAGREEWITHHISPOLICIES, BARRACKO'BAMA'SLASTпубличнойювелигдеупалоу нас. У нас есть опыт работы в бюджетной сфере, и мы знаем, что основу бюджетного процесса составляют два важных элемента: прозрачность и эффективность. Бюджетный процесс должен быть прозрачным и открытым, чтобы обеспечить доверие граждан к бюджету и привлекать больше участников. 

Editorial Assistant

PRIORITY NOTEBOOKS

Prioritize health in your life

Exercise, sleep, relax, hydrate, and avoid skipping meals

Growing up, I felt like I would live for eternity. When I was only a few years old, passed out at a time, and my parents were easily my many times over—they were dinosaurs. But they were invincible dinosaurs...or so I thought. The combination of past years, watching my parents grow more wary (avoiding the best food, always exercising, more frequent doctor’s visits), and pulling my back disillusioned me. Now, it is very clear to me that the quality and span of your life is reliant on your health. Consequently, I find it upsetting when people don’t pay more mind to it. I wouldn’t quite say I’m disappointed in the next generation, but we should take health more seriously. Say whatever you want: #yolo, #nevyaeannemite, or #treatyourself. Your body stays with you, and if you don’t have your health, you have nothing. A word of caution to my peers: we may be young, but health is a privilege. If you were born without any health conditions, you’re one of the lucky ones. And, I don’t know about you, but I plan to keep it that way.

If you’re with me, here’s a list of my top 5 health goals: intake three meals/fillers of water a day; sleep at least eight hours a night; get enough sunlight and fresh air to feel refreshed; exercise to keep your muscles strong enough to avoid injury; de-stress by listening to music, watching TV, or doing whatever you love; and seek logical, artistic, emotional, social, and vocal stimulation to be well rounded. I just hope I can be a bit of a resolution-esque notebook, but here’s to a healthy, and therefore happy, 2017!

Participating in the March on Washington empowers

THESE ARE THE THINGS I THOUGHT WOULD HAPPEN DURING THE MARCH. I RECEIVED NOTHING BUT SUPPORT AND PROSTHETIC.

Mary Espinosa

Assistant Director

Filling Union staff vacancies

Mon...
STUDENT GOVERNMENT
Subcommittees tasked with initiatives

Justin Etzine
Student Life Committee Chairperson

This past semester was an exciting one for the Student Life Committee. The committee, which is tasked with creating projects, proposals, and legislation relating to “student rights, residence life, quality of life and well-being,” has made substantive progress this spring in a number of different projects, all with the common objective of improving the RPI experience for all students. For this reason, a number of subcommittees were established to tackle these projects: the Study Spaces Subcommittee, the Counseling Center Subcommittee, the Student Rights and Policy Subcommittee, and the Pharmacy and Residence Halls Subcommittee.

The Class of 2020 introduced the largest incoming class size to the campus in the history of RPI, and that increase in number of students has led to an increase in demand for study spaces on campus. Led by Nancy Bush ’19, the Study Spaces Subcommittee was tasked with helping alleviate this issue by proposing less-frequented spaces on campus that are ideal for studying or by identifying spaces on campus that could be converted into study spaces with little physical modifications needed as possible. The subcommittee worked with the Rensselaer Union’s Business Operations Committee to identify appropriate locations. The Union Emporium on the first floor of the Union is unlocked, open, and available for studying when events are not taking place on the same floor. As with any time there is an opportunity to be present at the Union Emporium, it required the student leader to present the opportunity that’s presented to college students. There is a world that is larger than Troy. I think it’s important to take the value of our education into perspective, and to understand the context in which you can apply it. Oddly enough, that context is much larger than the capital region, and even the United States.

I do believe to sound preachy about the importance or relevance of spending a semester abroad; I feel like it’s important to ensure that a person get to get high and mighty about the time they spend abroad. I think that time is the same thing, I think there’s something to be said about the opportunity that’s presented to college students. This is arguably the most readily available chance you will ever have to live in another country for months at a time; after college you have to worry about the bills, work, and relationships that come at the expense of leaving. There is a world that is at your fingertips right now, and it might not be there again for a very long time. And it’s for that reason that I’m spending this semester abroad at Rensselaer University in the Netherlands—because I probably won’t be able to try this again until I’m retired. For me, it’s about taking the chance to really understand the culture and history of a country that isn’t the U.S. to a degree that I wouldn’t be able to achieve in the space of two to three weeks. This is actually really sucking the marrow out of a different place, so I can understand how some people can’t.

I’ve opted to put my experience as an RPI student to print, and I’m hoping that I can achieve two major things. For one, I’m hoping that I can bring something new to my favorite college newspaper: The Poly. For another, I’m hoping that I can give RPI students some insight into the experiences of one of their own abroad. I can’t say that I won’t miss everyone in Troy, but I think that it’s an excellent opportunity to show the impact of Rensselaer abroad.

Nathan Dorer will be writing a regular column on his experience studying abroad.
Men, women float past Thoroughbreds

Double disappointment

Mixed success

The Polytechnic meets at 7 pm on Tuesday and 4 pm on Sundays in Union 3418. Come and join us!

Wednesday, January 25, 2017

Sports

SWIMMING & DIVING

Men, women float past Thoroughbreds

Stephanie Tan
Senior Reporter

This past weekend, the men’s and women’s swimming and diving teams took on the Skidmore Thoroughbreds in the Robison Pool. The Engineers defeated the Thoroughbreds 166-97 and 164-97 for the men’s and women’s teams, respectively.

The first event was the 200 Medley Relay, which both the men’s and women’s teams won. Throughout the meet, the Engineers were incredibly successful, winning all but three events, including the men’s 100 Yard Backstroke and the men’s and women’s 200 Yard Freestyle Relays.

Events passed quickly, but the crowd grew as the meet went on. The crowd gained energy for both the men’s and women’s 500 Yard Freestyle events and the 200 Yard Freestyle Relay.

Some swimmers achieved multiple first place finishes in various different events. In freestyle, first half pool winners. Freshman Dale Kelly won the 500 meter dash, and sophomore Jason Hall won the 400 meter dash. Kelly and Hall were both part of the winning 4x400 relay team, along with freshman Michael McNicholas and senior Max Dexter. Junior Terrence Lawrence had two victories, one in high jump and another in the 60 meter hurdles. Junior Matt Vitagliano took the victory in the triple jump.

On the women’s side, sophomore Vera Titze brought the only event win to the Engineers. Titze easily won the 400 meter dash with a two second lead on the runner-up. Senior Jodi Wrzeszek ’17, running the mile; Sophomore Melissa Folk ’19, throwing shot put; and Sophomore Jillian Saltskind ’19 in high jump all finished second in their respective events.

The Engineers will travel to Middlebury College next weekend.

RENNESSELAER AND SKIDMORE TEAM MEMBERS RACE down the lanes using butterfly stroke, as the crowd in the stands cheer the teams on.

BASKETBALL

Double disappointment

Joseph Saulsbery
Senior Reporter

The Engineers rack up another win, keeping men undefeated and women at 5-1 this season

Stephanie Tan
Senior Reporter

Tuesday's game between the Ithaca women's basketball team and Union College was the Engineers' 19th win in 21 games.

The Engineers were victorious in both the men's and women's basketball games this past weekend, with both teams losing home games to the Skidmore Thoroughbreds on Friday, and Union College on Saturday. The women's team fared better in both matchups, losing by just five to Skidmore and eight to Union, in comparison to the men's team losing their games by an average of 19 points per game.

The Thoroughbreds dominated in women's diving, with 229.15 points from 1-meter and 232.60 points from the 1-meter diving board. Freshman Jessica Kugelmann dominated in women's diving, with 229.15 points from 1-meter and 245.45 points from 3-meters.

Next Saturday at 2 pm, the Engineers will be back at the Robison Pool to take on Hamilton College.
MEN’S HOCKEY

Dutchmen defeat RPI

THE RPI ENGINEERS FELL SHY OF DEFEATING THE NINTH NATIONALLY RANKED UNION COLLEGE DUTCHMEN, after a strong start this past Thursday in the fifth annual Mayor’s Cup. The Mayor’s Cup drew a crowd of over 5,200 to Albany’s Times Union Center. This loss pushes RPI to 4–21–1 for the season, and marks the second time Union has scored a 3–2 overtime win over the Engineers.

Junior forward Riley Bourbonnais put RPI on the board at 15:36 into the first period, with his 10th goal of the season. In the late second period, Charlie Manley scored a team-leading goal which was preceded just moments earlier with a goal from Union’s Luc Brown.

Engineers’ head coach Seth Appert said he liked how his team played, despite the loss, hinting at the hopes for a better latter half of the season. “...since the holiday break, [this is] a team that’s starting to believe in each other, and in themselves, how we need to play this year in order for us to have an opportunity to get to Lake Placid for the ECAC championship.”

Union started the third period with a goal from Anthony Rinaldi, just 1:50 in.

Throughout the third period, the Engineers had decent scoring chances, outshooting Union 10–4, but Union goalie Alex Sakellaropoulos managed to hold them off. In overtime, Cole Maier scored the game-winning goal, only 33 seconds in.

Coach Appert shrugged off the loss, saying, “That’s overtime hockey. It’s just one play.”

Coming back from a pair of seven-game losing streaks isn’t an easy undertaking, he said. The Engineers’ next faceoff is away at St. Lawrence’s Appleton Arena in Canton, NY at 7 pm.

SENIOR FORWARD JIMMY DEVITO BATTLES with Brett Supinski over the puck on Thursday.

Brookelyn Parslow
Senior Reporter

WOMEN’S HOCKEY

Engineers pull through

Win, tie against Union College this past week

Brookelyn Parslow
Senior Reporter

WOMEN’S HOCKEY ENDED THE WEEKEND WITH A WIN AGAINST UNION COLLEGE, after tying 2–2 with the Dutchwomen on Friday. The entire first and second periods of Friday’s game were scoreless. Sophomore Jaimie Grigsby grabbed the first goal of the game, with junior Shayna Tomlinson scoring four minutes later. The Dutchwomen responded with two goals in a span of 1:55. The game continued into overtime, and neither team was able to score. Grigsby came close when her shot hit the crossbar.

Saturday’s game began in the same way, with no goals scored until the third period. Sophomore Makenna Thomas got the team out of their slump, scoring her eighth goal of the season. The game-winning goal was scored by senior Laura Horwood. Horwood’s goal was featured on ESPN’s Top 10 Plays of the Night. Sophomore Lovisa Selander saved 24 shots on goal, only allowing their opponents a single point before the game ended.

The Engineers will return to the Houston Field House this weekend, when they face Clarkson University and St. Lawrence University on Friday at 6 pm and Saturday at 3 pm, respectively.

Brookelyn Parslow
Senior Reporter

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**DILBERT** by Scott Adams

Wednesday, January 25, 2017

**TOP TEN LIST**

Best things to do in the snow

10. Drifting
9. Snow angels
8. Polar plunge
7. Eating yellow snow
6. Snow angles
5. Homework
4. Skiing
3. Getting concussed while skiing
2. Beach party
1. That cute guy down the hall

**WORD FIND** by Ana Wishnoff

**SUDOKU**

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.

Solutions from Last Issue

**UPAC CINEMA**

**Moana**

Friday • January 27, 2017
7 pm, 9:30 pm, midnight • DCC 308 • $2.50

Caddyshack

Saturday • January 28, 2017
7 pm, 9:30 pm, midnight • DCC 308 • $2.50

Do you like drawing comics? Draw comics for *The Poly*!
Email us at comics@poly.rpi.edu
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: SIVOISSWC = ENGINEERS

“Gwm’u vx wvyxyyxg poue lwih gxyohxy Gqmm1. Uex Txm deojwywdexh, Vqyew, wmsx phwux, ‘Q rjiux poue mw ewjxy, oy mwu q rjiux. Q gwmiu poue mw ewjx, oy q Gqmoyle.’ Ex pqy q rimml nil.”

-Ul Pxvv Sqgglyeqsa


Register for the Student Officer Training Program!

**WHEN:** Saturday, Jan 28th - 9:30-noon.

**WHAT:** The purpose of this program is to provide current and incoming club officers with skills to help manage their organizations.

**REGISTER AT:** https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSefKo71rQ4e4eSzjx6RwHt1hrqbkGLF9W0DFyd94MWPg/viewform (space is limited, act quickly!)

**CONTACT:** Chip Kirchner, President of the Union or Cameron McLean at mcleac2@rpi.edu

**SCHEDULE:**
- Room 3702 - Registration/Sign in
  - 9:30-10am- at the Union Administration Office,

- Room 3602 - Ellsworth Room
  - 10-11- Financial Workshop for all new treasurers
  - 11-12- Financial travel workshop for treasurers

- Room 3510/3511 - “Let’s Talk Communication Workshop” open to all
  - 10-11- "Let’s Talk Communication Workshop” open to all
  - 11-12- "Let’s Talk Communication Workshop” open to all

- Room 2424 - Patroon Room - Resume writing: using officer skills to get a job (CCPD CAREER FAIR IS FEB. 8TH!)
  - 10-11- Resume Writing: Utilizing Club Officer Skills to an Advantage* open to all
  - 11-12- Resume Writing: Utilizing Club Officer Skills to an Advantage* open to all

- Room 3606 - Shelnutt Gallery
  - 10 - 12 - Bystander training #1- for presidents and Mothers - overflow Bystander Training #2- for presidents
    (New regulations require club officers to take this program. All club officers received this information on Jan 4th. Be the first to get this done!)
MOVIE REVIEW

Lion tells abandoned boy’s tale of homecoming

Jonathan Calcedo
Senior Reviewer

From the very beginning, Lion makes the world seem both small, yet vast. While altogether, the film arouses tear-jerking—this reviewer definitely got a little teary-eyed—and heartwarming emotions, the film’s second half seems to falter slightly to the strong, vivid opening of the first.

Beginning in 1986, Lion follows five-year-old Saroo Khan (Sunny Pawar), who lives with his mother and siblings in a rural suburb of Khandwa, India. Being the sons of a laborer in a poor village, Saroo and his other brother, Guddu, help to supplement their wages with whatever work they can manage to find. In one of the first scenes, we see them scavenging lumps of coal to exchange for milk at the market, revealing the existential struggle these two face on a daily basis. One night, as Guddu plans to take a trip to the neighboring city, Saroo, eager to shadow his brother and to prove he can do anything his other brother can, begs to tag along. Before the challenging night work of the city even begins, Guddu leaves a groggy, tired Saroo on a train platform bench to rest, as he heads off to find work, promising he’ll be right back. When Saroo wakes just hours later, with his brother nowhere to be found, he finds himself panicked and boards a decommissioned train. After unsuccessfully locating Guddu, he falls asleep in one of the train cars, awaking to find himself 1,300 miles away from home in Calcutta. What follows is Saroo’s struggle to live on the streets, in an unfamiliar city, fighting a language barrier (Saroo speaks Hindi, not Calcutta’s Bengali), living off whatever he can. After being spotted by a man in a cafe, Saroo is taken to the police, who try to figure out where he’s from. Young Saroo, mispronouncing his home village (and we later realize, his own name), ends up finding no help, and is taken to an orphanage.

I think the reason that Lion’s first half is so touching is that it invokes that primal sense of anxiety of becoming lost and separated from those you care about. This anxiety, and almost poetic visuals, show us the world in the eyes of Saroo, and how it evolves throughout his journey. What’s just as amazing is the work of Sunny Pawar, an untrained newcomer, who won the part out of thousands of children who were screen-tested. Pawar is fantastic, with an expressive face that reflects his state of mind from one scene to the next, all without saying a word.

The film’s second half just can’t compete with the compelling and strong opening, but by this time, the audience is already fully invested in Saroo’s journey of childhood rediscovery, that it honestly isn’t too much of a bother. This half of the film becomes so dedicated to Saroo’s search for home that we don’t get the chance to see Saroo in any other light. The possibility for more character development here would have been immense and would have strengthened the film’s latter half. But we see plenty of struggle, as Saroo faces conflict between his adoptive mother and brother, his love interest Sue (Rooney Mara), and his desire to reconnect with his roots.

Otherwise, I thought the film was gorgeous. As we follow young, and even older Saroo, the audience is spoiled with breathtaking views of stunning landscapes that really make Saroo’s journey all that more impactful and stunning. Even the film’s musical score was breathtaking, and can invoke tears by itself. This film is one of strength and courage, something that appeals to our very human nature, and that’s why I highly recommend it for everyone, as everyone experiences and feels the film’s expressive emotion in different ways—something that makes a truly fantastic piece.

**AN EMOTIONAL ROLLEROCKER OF A MOVIE, LION TAKES viewers on a trip across cities while tugging at their heartstrings in both positive and negative ways.**

TV SERIES REVIEW

Show shines with fresh take on political games

Justin Etzine
Senior Reviewer

The United States Government Fascinates Me.

More specifically, I find it so interesting to see how the federal, state, and municipal governments of such a major world player operates on a regular basis, and how the United States Constitution—primarily written almost 230 years ago—and its short list of amendments ensure that even the most mundane and overlookable regular operations of the country persist. This fascination plays a role in the television series I find very interesting, and is a common distraction when searching through Wikipedia.

For this reason, I was very intrigued by the premise of Designated Survivor, the new ABC series starring Kiefer Sutherland, which explores a scenario often simply considered as a far-fetched, “what-if” scenario. The premise, as the title suggests, follows Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Tom Kirkman as he unexpectedly is sworn in as president of the United States. Kirkman served as the “designated survivor” for a State of the Union Address, a mechanism ensuring that someone in the presidential line of succession will survive in the event of a major disaster.

The series revolves around the many issues that arise when the entire legislative branch of the government—along with the leadership of the executive branch—suddenly disappears. Ranging from the obvious, like consoling grieving, concerned Americans, determining the motives and responsible parties, to the completely unexpected, the show does a fantastic job of portraying such an unlikely scenario in a relatively realistic light.

Compared to worldwide hits, like House of Cards, a show that even former president Barack Obama expressed his appreciation for, the show definitely can grow. There were points where the show did feel somewhat bland, and the show has room for improvement in developing the supporting characters and increasing the variety of storylines are introduced. However, by and large, the premise of the show and the guidance of Kal Penn, who has previously worked in the White House in addition to holding acting roles, have given the show an exciting draw. Furthermore, the cliffhanger of the first season definitely has me excited for what’s in store.

Full episodes from the show can be found on ABC’s website at http://poly.rpi.edu/6683, and are definitely worth a watch.

**DESIGNATED SURVIVOR ASKS the question of how well a political outsider does in office.**
RESTAURANT REVIEW

WILL SMITH PLAYS a man haunted by personified emotions in this film.

**Collateral Beauty**

MOVIE REVIEW

REVIEWERS ALL ENJOYED the sushi offered at Unagi, but also agreed that it was a bit too far out of their price range to eat constantly.

Everything else about this establishment was quite normal. The sushi was of an average quality, as was the service and the selection. I can’t speak for the specialty rolls, but considering that this Capital District restaurant labels itself as fusion, I’m inclined to believe that is where their strength lies. While I wouldn’t personally frequent here—it simply isn’t practical for a college student—I highly recommend Unagi Sushi for a special night out with a loved one.

**Jonathan’s review:**

I was quite excited after reading about Unagi’s opening over this past winter break. It felt refreshing to have another sushi place in the Troy area that didn’t serve sushi out of plastic containers (looking at you Father’s). I’ve had great sushi, and I’ve had not-so-great sushi, so my expectations for Unagi fell somewhere in the middle. Walking in, Unagi’s atmosphere felt relaxed and comfortable. We were promptly seated (after making a reservation, which I highly recommend) in the traditional Japanese zashiki style. Looking at the menu, Unagi had something for every sushi lover: traditional rolls like California and Philadelphia, and larger sushi dishes for those with a desire for a more refined taste. After trying both the sushi with a California and Philadelphia roll, I got what I expected: sushi that didn’t blow me away, but wasn’t substandard either. The assortment of rolls that came with the “Sushi for Two” was excellent, and the portion size was fantastic.

For dessert, we tried the ice cream tempura and mochi ice cream, both of which were amazing. The ice cream tempura was lightly fried just right, but was a little oily, which distracted from the ice cream’s richness. The mochi ice cream, my personal favorite, was a great way to end the meal.

All in all, as Rex said above, Unagi was a great casual place with above average sushi, but can easily be out of the typical college student’s price range (although great for the occasional date or other social outing).

**Maria’s review:**

I highly recommend (in the traditional Japanese zashiki style. Looking at the menu, Unagi had something for every sushi lover: traditional rolls like California and Philadelphia, and larger sushi dishes for those with a desire for a more refined taste. After trying both the sushi with a California and Philadelphia roll, I got what I expected: sushi that didn’t blow me away, but wasn’t substandard either. The assortment of rolls that came with the “Sushi for Two” was excellent, and the portion size was fantastic.

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All in all, as Rex said above, Unagi was a great casual place with above average sushi, but can easily be out of the typical college student’s price range (although great for the occasional date or other social outing).

**Joeys’ review:**

As someone who had never tried sushi that did not come out of a plastic container, I was very impressed with the modern, hipster and pleasant atmosphere. Our group was seated in a more traditional setting, on pillows next to a low Japanese table. This added to my impression of the restaurant.

After being seated, we began to order. I purchased myself a Pepsi, which came out to a whopping $3.50, and our group ordered a sushi for two dinner. I was personally very impressed with the sushi, even at the high price point, although I am only comparing it to grocery store sushi. As a college student, I don’t frequent sushi restaurants like Unagi are impossible. Without a coupon or other discount, I would not say the price justifies the amount of food you receive. However, I would recommend Unagi to anyone who is looking for a high quality sushi place with a good atmosphere, and I personally will be revisiting it in the near future with some friends.

**Senior Reviewers**

**Maria Kozdroy**

**Rex Hu, Jonathan Calcedo, Joey Lyon**

Collateral Beauty falls apart like dominos

Maria Kozdroy
Senior Reviewer

To this day, I’m not sure what the title of the pairing of words “collateral beauty” even means; all I know is that dominos have to do with loans, and beauty lies in the eyes of the beholder. The movie Collateral Beauty hit the theater a little more than a month ago and has had quite a variety of reactions. It was a quiet evening at home when I decided to bring my son to the movies with me to see it. The main reason I wanted to go is that my friend Shane O’Brien ’18 had his dominos (found at http://poly.rpi.edu/s/exakm) featured in it. He never mentioned how important the dominos were to the core of the film, but after eight months of waiting, I was ready to find out! And right before my eyes, the dominos were in the opening of the film and the first scene, in which the main character Howard, played by Will Smith, is seen in his office toppling over a dominoe set-up spanning many tables. Instantly, I was excited to watch the movie and explore the connection of dominos and this so-called “collateral beauty.”

The concepts of love, death, and time were shortly introduced as Howard writes letters to these abstract nouns. This part is where I needed to bring my son to the movies with me to see it. As Howard introduces the abstract objects become concrete, or given to actual people who then encounter Howard to discuss what love, death, and time actually mean to him. Very strange; yet very interesting.

The movie continues to play out with an ending that is so surreal, it had my mom walking out of the movie to sue someone in Hollywood.

One thing that you have to remember when watching this movie is that it’s a movie. It’s made up! As the proverb goes, keep your mind open to new ideas. It’s just made to be watched in approximately two hours, related to your own life when watching it, then that’s it. Maybe even watch it again in a few years to come. The hateful reviews are a bit harsh, if I do say so myself. To everyone rat- ing it so low and hating it, you’ve watched it, congrats, now time to move on.

Finally, it was awesome seeing someone I know in the credits and being the last one left in the room to applaud the assistant domino artist.

**Rating: 5/10**