

Inside

Comics. 8
 Editorial/Opinion . . . 4
 Features 12
 Sports. 6

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FEATURES Page 12



Troy's newest sushi restaurant reviewed

SPORTS Page 6



Men's hockey defeated at Mayor's Cup

EDITORIAL Page 4

Rex Hu Keeping an eye on your health

Maria Espinosa Reasons to march on Washington D.C.

Staff Editorial Obama's farewell heeds democracy

US NEWS

RPI students travel to Women's March



Sidney Kochman/The Polytechnic

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/s/wi3py>.

See MARCH, **Page 2**

STUDENT SENATE

Project progress presented, visas discussed

Peter Gramenides
 Senior Reporter

ON DECEMBER 23, GRAND MARSHAL PAUL ILORI '17 opened the Student Senate meeting with committee reports. Those reports included a recap of last semester's efforts by the Student Life Committee chaired by Justin Etzine '18 and planned meeting times for Student Senate committees this semester.

Facilities and Services Committee chair Austin Miller '17 later led a discussion of a student petition aiming to prevent Sodexo from renewing its contract for the coming academic year. Interfraternity Council representative Marvin Cosare '18 continued the meeting by delivering a constituent report in which he announced his intent to pursue a guide to fraternity rushing for parents of students interested in Greek Life.

Following Cosare's report, the Senate continued with voting procedures for appointments to the Union Executive Board as well as the Student Senate, beginning with Caitlin Kennedy '20 who was elected 24-0-0 to the Union Executive Board as a Member at Large following a recommendation from the President of the Union. Following Kennedy, Majken Rasmussen '20 was elected 24-0-0 to the same position.

The Rensselaer Union 47th Student Senate then continued to approve the Grand Marshal's appointment of David Raab '19 21-0-3 to the position of Rules and Elections Committee Chair.

Following appointments, Jennifer Freedberg presented the recommendations of the Hospitality Services Advisory Committee to the Student Senate. Suggestions for the 2017-2018 school year include allowing the

Create Your Own meal plan for sophomores, maintaining the 23 meal plan to allow maximum flexibility for students, and the creation of a commuter meal plan. The introduction of a new meal exchange program was also included in this year's annual meal plan recommendations—but not implemented—which would allow students with additional meals at the end of the week to have an additional \$5 in Flex to spend. The 15 meal plan will also be replaced with a 14 meal plan, but it is unclear at this time whether the minimum meal amount for incoming freshman students will be lowered from 15. Freedberg also asserted that the committee, though its recommendations continue to change annually, "has a continuing goal of increasing flexibility in meal plans and thus improving student satisfaction with dining services."

See SENATE, **Page 2**

Senate: Meal plan changes, new study spaces



Jonathan Caicedo/The Polytechnic

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.

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. ♦

March: Best moments from Washington DC



Sidney Kochman/The Polytechnic

The Women's March attracted hundreds of thousands to Washington D.C., including droves of RPI students



Sidney Kochman/The Polytechnic



Sidney Kochman/The Polytechnic



Sidney Kochman/The Polytechnic



Sidney Kochman/The Polytechnic

Events

Wednesday, January 25, 2017

WEDNESDAY

January 25

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.

Yoga with Sachi

Mueller Center Room 1; 4–5 pm

A minimum \$5 donation to benefit the United Way is required for all participants.

Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences

J-Rowl 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!

THURSDAY

January 26

Bioinformatics and Biocomputation

CBIS Auditorium; 11 am–noon

Peter Kasson presents a lecture titled "Enveloped Viral Entry: Physical Mechanisms and Public Health Consequences."

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.

FRIDAY

January 27

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 Rashaun Mitchell and Silas Riener, will be presented for the first time following several years of development at EMPAC, held Saturday at the same time.

MONDAY

January 30

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."

TUESDAY

January 31

Lally Center Seminar Series

Pittsburgh 4204; 2:30–4 pm

Alfred Liu presents a lecture titled "Real Activities Management and Volatility of Operating Cash Flows: The Impact of Enterprise Systems."

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.

WEDNESDAY

February 1

Materials Science Seminar

CII 3051; 11 am–noon

Bozhi Tian will present "Silicon Nanowire-Based Biophysical Tools."

Sophomore Symposium

CBIS; 11 am–5 pm

This is a leadership and professional development event organized by the Sophomore Emerging Leaders. Students participate in breakout sessions, panel discussions, and networking opportunities.

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.

The Center for Career and Professional Development
Darrin Communications Center, Suite 209

518-276-6234

<http://rpi.edu/dept/cdc/>

Did you know we have an app?
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Editorial

Wednesday, January 25, 2017

STAFF EDITORIAL

Democracy needs everyone's voice

WHETHER OR NOT YOU AGREE WITH HIS POLICIES, BARACK OBAMA'S LAST public speech in Chicago left us with plenty to dwell on. As we return to campus and settle into routine, the editorial staff of *The Polytechnic* thinks back to a particular line of Obama's speech: "... for all of our outward differences, we in fact all share the same proud type, the most important office in democracy: citizen... that's what our democracy demands. It needs you. Not just when there's an election, not just when your own narrow interest is at stake, but over the full span of a lifetime."

Obama's message is one relevant to our own Rensselaer Union. Looking at those involved in student government, we see the same familiar faces, whose opinions and mannerisms are so well known they have become caricatures. We see crossover between branches during committee meetings; many members attend the meetings of other committees. Our Grand Marshal even struggles to fill committee chairperson seats, to the point that those already ingrained in the system take up further responsibility.

Democracy works when you, the citizen, student, and member of the Union, participate. Yes, we elect members of our community to represent us and our interests, but they cannot do it alone. Brainstorming, researching, meeting, discussing, writing, and rewriting proposals are time-consuming tasks in their already-overloaded lives. We see the work our student government does on our behalf day in and day out, all for our benefit, and we see how much more is left to be done. Student government needs all the help it can get. The more people who participate, who bring their ideas and experiences, the better all of our lives as students become. Sacrificing an hour per week to attend a committee meeting can make all the difference. ♦

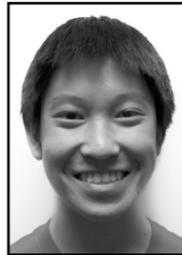
EDITORIAL NOTEBOOKS

Prioritize health in your life

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

I PULLED MY BACK OVER WINTER BREAK. It was one of those moments I would've forgotten if it hadn't happened; I was just passing my break like usual. I had been sitting at the dining table, with my knees pulled up to my chest, just relaxing and talking to my family. But this put me in pain for a week.

I couldn't walk—each step sent a jolt up my cardboard back. I couldn't sit or stand in one position for too long—I would start cramping up more than when I moved. I couldn't focus—I was taking pain relievers like a 40-year-old. For that matter, I had to take them to sleep; otherwise I would roll around, uncomfortable in every position. When it was all over, I was finally able to walk away, though with a greatly shifted perspective.



Rex Hu
Managing Editor

Growing up, I felt like I would live for eternity. When I was only a few years old, days passed one at a time, and my parents were easily my age 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 foods on the planet, 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 our generation, but we should take health more seriously. Say whatever you want: #yolo, #newyearnewme, or

#treatyoself. Your body stays with you your whole life, 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 personal health goals: intake three meals/liters 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 as you feel necessary. It may be a bit late for a resolution-esque notebook, but here's to a healthy, and therefore happy, 2017! ♦

Participating in the March on Washington empowers

WHEN I ARRIVED HOME FROM WASHINGTON AFTER the march, I received nothing but support from my closest friends and family. But from others, it was different. In Washington, there were a few Trump supporters protesting the Women's March, and I also encountered disappointing people on the street. Many called the march disrespectful and a waste of time. The march was, hands down, the best experience of my life.

Never have I ever felt more support and empowerment than while surrounded by those hundreds of thousands of people. But other people did not seem to understand me, so I asked myself, why did I march? I came up with a few reasons.

I marched because women's rights are human rights. I marched because human rights are for all humans, not just privileged white men. I marched because a white woman makes 80 cents to a white man's dollar. I marched because a black woman makes 60 cents to a white man's dollar. I marched because a Hispanic woman makes 55 cents to a white man's dollar.

I marched because climate change is real and our environment should be protected. I marched because a woman has the right to decide what to do with

her own body. I marched because I support Planned Parenthood. I marched because people should be able to love whomever they want. I marched because black lives matter. I marched because all lives matter.

I marched because I believe in freedom of the press. I marched because I don't believe guns will help prevent violence. I marched because I don't believe in a registry. I marched because I don't believe in mass deportation. I marched because I don't believe in building a wall. I marched because there is no Latino representation in the president's cabinet.

I marched because I want a secretary of education who cares and knows about education. I marched because I want this country that I've grown to love to move forward, not backwards. I marched because I know better than to not do anything at all. I marched because I am a woman. I marched because I am an immigrant. I marched because I have two little sisters who deserve better. I marched for equality. I marched for justice.

I will stay hopeful. I hope this doesn't divide us. I hope that this country keeps moving forward. I hope that the government does what is right for us—all of us. ♦



Maria Espinosa
Advertising Director

DERBY

Filling Union staff vacancies

Chip Kirchner '17
President of the Union

Hi RPI!

Happy second week of the spring semester, and happy last second week of classes to all my seniors out there! There were a few things happening within the Executive Board over these past two weeks. First off, congrats to Caitlin Kennedy '20 and Majken Rasmussen '19 on being officially confirmed as Executive Board

members by the Student Senate on Monday night! They will be filling two vacancies as members at large. After the vote on Monday night the Executive Board has returned to full strength.

On January 28, the Union will be hosting a club officer training summit with targeted training opportunities for club presidents and treasurers. Club presidents are recommended to attend the Bystander Intervention training program, a two-hour workshop

to help students prevent drug and alcohol abuse and sexual assault. Bystander Intervention training is a required training for club presidents. By the end of the spring semester, all club presidents are required to undergo Bystander Intervention training. There will be several more training opportunities over the length of the semester. New club treasurers are recommended

CONTINUED ON, **Page 5**

the polytechnic

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

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

ACROSS THE POND

NATHAN DORER
Foreign Correspondent

I've written a number of editorials on how the education you receive at Rensselaer is only as powerful as you make it. In all honesty, it's probably the easiest thing to complain about at RPI: we're consumed by studying to a degree that prevents us from remembering that the world 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 don't mean to sound preachy about the importance or relevance of spending a semester abroad; I feel like it's a terrible cliché for a person to get high and mighty about the time they spend abroad. But at the same time, 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 at Maastricht 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 some two-week vacation. This is about really sucking the marrow out of a different place, so I can understand how different people can be.

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 this is an excellent opportunity to show the impact of Rensselaer abroad.

Nathan Dorer will be writing a regular column on his experience studying abroad.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Subcommittees tasked with initiatives

Justin Etzine
Student Life Committee Chairperson

THIS PAST SEMESTER WAS AN EXCITING ONE FOR the Student Senate's 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 in a number of different projects, all with the common objective of improving the RPI experience for all students. For the fall semester, four 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, either by promoting less-frequented spaces on campus that are ideal for studying or by identifying spaces on campus that could be converted into studying space with as little physical modifications needed as possible. The subcommittee worked with the Rensselaer Union's Business Operations Committee to ensure that Mother's Wine Emporium on the first floor of the Union is unlocked, open, and available for studying when events are not taking place on weeknights. Additionally, at the request of the Division of Student Life, the subcommittee identified the Darrin Communication Center's Great Hall, the lobby of the Jonsson Engineering Center, and the lobby of the Russell Sage Laboratory as ideal locations for future study spaces. Finally, the subcommittee created a proposal for the

repurposing of vacant offices on the entry floor of the '87 Gym as study spaces and reservable meeting rooms.

Last spring, a number of students voiced suggestions, concerns, and ideas for the further improvement of the Counseling Center, which is the on-campus provider of mental health services for RPI students. The Counseling Center Subcommittee, led by Nathan Dorer '18, set out to consolidate the feedback, suggestions, and ideas and to collaborate with the Counseling Center and the Student Health Center to help bring those ideas to fruition. Through a survey with over 175 student responses, we have obtained sufficient data to create recommendations to provide to the Counseling Center. Some of these recommendations include a counselor that is specially trained in concerns that arise for LGBTQ students, an appointment reminder system, and, optimally, a system that enables students to coordinate their appointments online. Finally, the group worked with the Mental Health Association in New York State to obtain a comprehensive list of referrals for other resources in the Capital District.

As the Student Life Committee works with student rights, which permeates every aspect of student life, the committee reintroduced the Student Rights and Policy Subcommittee, tasked with exploring any concerns that the student body may have with respect to policies and student rights. Led by Marvin Cosare '18, the subcommittee encountered some concerns with respect to Greek life, specifically pertaining to Greek students who wanted to reside in their fraternity houses during the Summer Arch semester and the discontinuation of the Student Peer Alcohol Monitoring program. The committee worked with the Division of Student Life and the Alumni Inter-Greek Council to gauge feedback on the Summer Arch concern and began investigating possibilities to succeed SPAM as a student-led monitoring program.

Finally, continuing with two standing projects, the Pharmacy and Residence Hall Subcommittee, led by Mary Clare Crochiere '19, focused on pursuing incremental progress on the goal of bringing a pharmacy to campus and coordinating the structure and variety of questions to collect the annual feedback on the current state of residential facilities. The questions will be included in the Senate's survey later this semester, and meetings on the pharmacy project are continuing to hopefully pursue the project in future years.

This semester saw substantive progress on a number of other projects! The Preferred Names Project, led by now-recent alumnus Emily Downs, which is working to provide students with a way to designate a preferred name for non-legal purposes, including class lists. The Capital District Shuttles Program has progressed impressively, and a proposal to convert the program from a pilot into a full-fledged program, written by Project Lead Jenna Freedberg '18, is scheduled to come before the Senate on Monday, January 30.

With the Food Diversity Project, also lead by Bush, SLC is working to ensure that the cuisine options on campus are diverse enough to match the different food tastes that students may have. In the coming semester, the project will determine how different cuisines could be brought to campus on tentative or provisional bases. Finally, as a continuation of the Access and Security Proposal passed in Spring 2016, Project Lead Harrison Leinweber '18 has been coordinating meetings with the Administration Division and Department of Public Safety to discuss the possibility of restoring access to multiple points of entry for residence halls.

If you are interested in taking part and working to improve student life, for the Spring 2017 semester, SLC meets on Wednesdays at 6 pm in the Student Government Suite on the third floor of the Union. For any questions or ideas, feel free to reach out to me at etzinj@rpi.edu! ♦

From **Page 4**

to attend the Financial Training workshop. Understanding the rules that govern finances and the policy the Union requires clubs to adhere to is essential for treasurers and the success of student organizations. The Executive Board and administrative staff try very hard to simplify rules that apply to club finance, but they can still be confusing for students who have never held an officer position before.

The Executive Board has also been working toward its goal of filling vacant positions in the Union. Over the past two weeks, the Executive Board has been interviewing for the position of Business Coordinator. As many students on campus are aware, the Rensselaer Union has three vacant positions on its administrative staff: Business Coordinator, Assistant Director of Student Activities, and Director of the Rensselaer Union. These positions are all essential to maintaining the Union and continuing to provide an incredible level of support for Union-funded clubs. For over a year, the Union has operated from a relatively disadvantaged position and has generally had two to three vacant positions concurrently. We, on the Executive Board, are very excited to complete the process of hiring a Business Coordinator and to continue the process of hiring a Director of the Union.

If you are interested in the Executive Board, our meetings are held Thursday nights at 8 pm in the Shelnut Gallery (room 3606 in the Rensselaer Union), and are open to the entire Rensselaer community. We also have several committees in focused areas: Business Operations, Policies, Marketing Advertising and Publicity, and Union Programs and Activities. These are all open committees, and we welcome the student body to come and participate. Email me at pu@rpi.edu if interested, and I will direct you to the right contact for the committee and provide their meeting times this semester. Any questions regarding the Club Officer Training Summit scheduled for this weekend can be directed to me or Cameron McLean, the Director of Student Activities, at mcleac2@rpi.edu. ♦

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Sports

Wednesday, January 25, 2017

SWIMMING & DIVING

Men, women float past Thoroughbreds

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

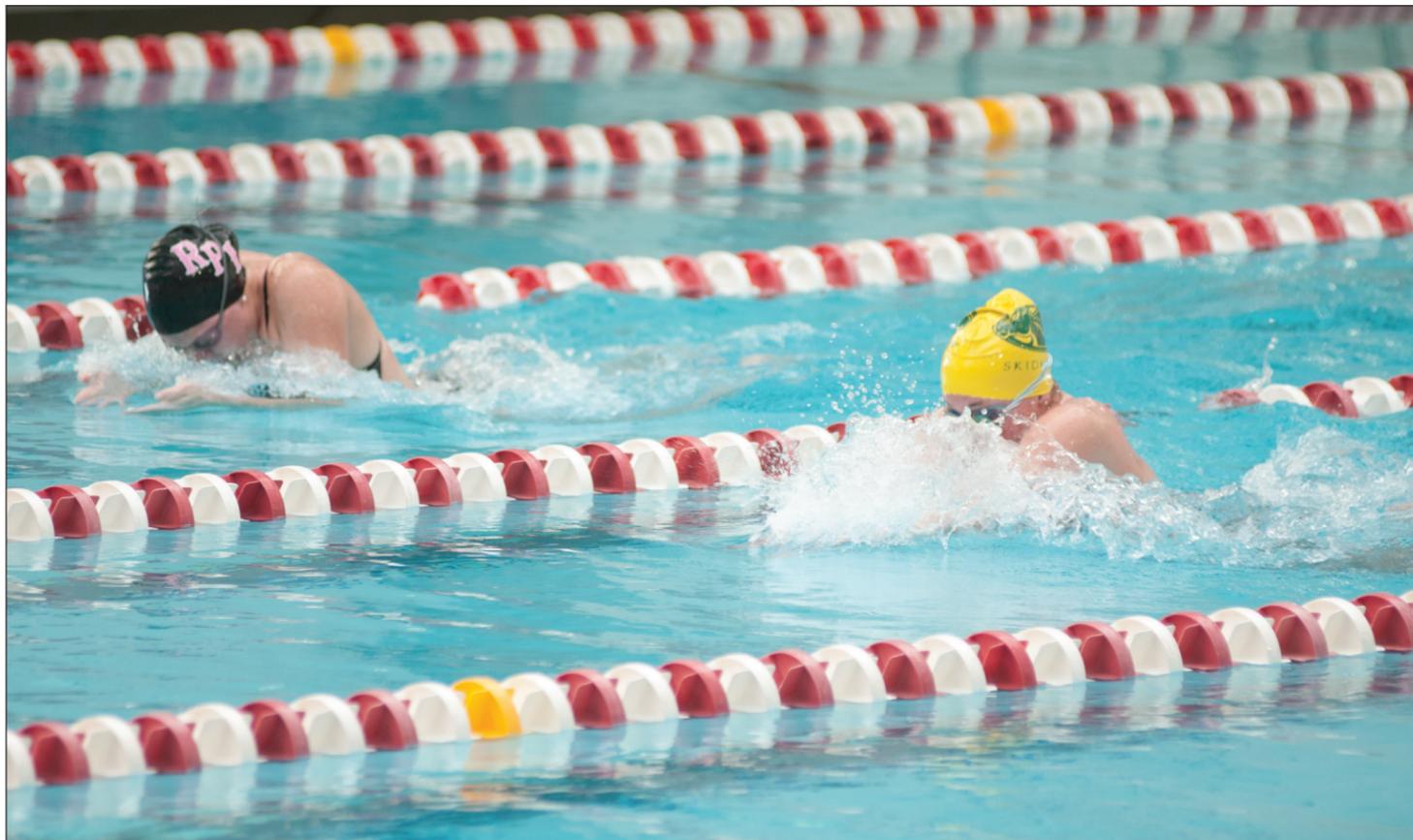
Stephanie Tan
Senior Reporter

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, freshman Joseph Conway won the 500, junior Danielle Suave secured the 500, and junior Shanny Lin conquered the 1000. In backstroke, senior Richard Dong and junior Michaela Yamashita swept the 50. Dong also conquered the 100



Stephanie Tan/The Polytechnic

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

Breaststroke and 200 Medley Relay alongside Conway and sophomores Charly Blazy and Alexander Sullivan. Sullivan also took first in the 50 Yard Butterfly and sophomore Amanda Wang

slammed the 100 Yard Butterfly. Sophomore Noah Pan won the 200 Individual Medley, finishing 12 seconds before the runner-up.

In men's diving, highlights come from sophomore Alex Chused

scoring 279.85 from 3-meters and sophomore Jesse Rotering with 232.60 points from the 1-meter diving board. Freshman Jessica Kugelman 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. ♦

TRACK & FIELD

Mixed success

Men win, women falter in Ithaca

Maria Espinosa
Senior Reporter

THIS PAST WEEKEND THE ENGINEER'S TRACK AND FIELD TEAM COMPETED at the Ithaca Invitational against Ithaca College, SUNY Oneonta and SUNY Brockport. The men's team was able to obtain a total of 55 points and win the meet. The women's team obtained a total of 24 points and placed fourth.

The men's team was victorious in several events. Freshman Dale Kelly won the 60 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 Drexler. 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 Wrzosek '17, running the mile; Sophomore Melissa Folk '19, throwing shot put; and Sophomore Jillian Salkind '19 in high jump all finished second in their respective events.

The Engineers will travel to Middlebury College next weekend. ♦

BASKETBALL

Double disappointment

Joseph Saulsbery
Senior Reporter

THE RENSELAER MEN'S AND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL teams struggled this week, with both teams losing home games to Skidmore College on Friday, and Union College on Saturday. The women's team fared better in each matchup, 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.

Skidmore, led by guard Kelly Donnelly, who scored 15 points and snagged three steals, built a 12-point edge by halftime. The Engineers fought back, limiting the Thoroughbreds to five points in the third quarter and cutting the lead to one point. Then, midway through the fourth quarter, junior guard Kate Goodell buried a three-pointer to give RPI a 45-43 lead. However, this was the last time Rensselaer led in the contest, as Skidmore outscored them 17-10 in the final 6:26 of the game. The final score was Skidmore 60, RPI 55.

Donnelly led all players with 29 points and added nine rebounds. Sophomore forward LaKissa Martin led the Engineers with 16 points while junior forward Shaina Iton grabbed 19 rebounds.

In the men's basketball game against Skidmore, senior point guard Jonathan Luster led Rensselaer with 16 points, and sophomore forward Andreas Kontopidis scored 12. The Engineers struggled though, allowing 51 first half points to the Thoroughbreds, but were unable to come any closer to Skidmore than 19 points in the second half. Skidmore won 82-61.

In the women's second game against Union College, points were difficult to come by. The Engineers shot just 29 percent from the field and made just four baskets in the second half. In spite of this, they led by seven points in the third quarter after baskets by senior guard Jackie Sortor and freshman guard Ines Ortea.

Then, Union took control. From 2:24 remaining in the third quarter to 5:33 left in the fourth quarter, the Dutchmen scored 12 consecutive points, including a three-pointer by guard Jenni Barra to start the game's final period, and the go-ahead 2-point jumper by forward Sophie Borg moments later. The points streak gave Union a 39-34 lead, which they would not surrender down the stretch.

The Engineers made just one basket, besides free throws, in the fourth quarter — a three-pointer by sophomore guard Sam Krumbhaar. Union won 48-40.

Rensselaer sophomore guard Elizabeth Eckhardt led all players with 10 points. Krumbhaar grabbed 5 steals and 5 rebounds. Iton led the Engineers in rebounding, however, with eight.

The men fell behind early in their game against Union College. They shot 30 percent compared to Union's 43 percent, and turned the ball over five times while taking it from Union only once. The score at halftime was Dutchmen 36, Engineers 20. Rensselaer played Union even in the second half, scoring 34 points to Union's 35, but never made the game close. The final: Union 71, RPI 54.

Kontopidis turned in a solid performance, making five of his eight three-point attempts and scoring 24 points overall. He added seven rebounds, second-most on the team behind senior forward Brian Hatcher, who grabbed eight.

Five players scored 10 or more points for Union, highlighted by guard Wade McNamara's 16 points and forward Greg King's 13 points. King led all players with 11 rebounds.

The losses dropped the men to 10-8 on the year and 4-5 in the Liberty League. The women fell to 6-12 overall, and 1-8 in the Liberty League.

Next up for the two teams is a road trip north to play St. Lawrence University and Clarkson University this Friday and Saturday, respectively. ♦

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

MEN'S HOCKEY

Dutchmen defeat RPI



Stephanie Tan/The Polytechnic

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

Brookelyn Parslow

Senior Reporter

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. ♦

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 1:05. 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. ♦

Check out our updated lights!

We've added an RGB color picker to our office lights. If you want to send us secret color messages or just try out the new features, check out <https://poly.rpi.edu/lights>.

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DILBERT

by Scott Adams

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

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

Shapes

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

- Circle
- Octagon
- Rectangle
- Diamond
- Oval
- Rhombus
- Heart
- Parallelogram
- Square
- Hexagon
- Pentagon
- Star
- Triangle

SUDOKU

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

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

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



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**

CRYPTOQUOTE

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

For example: SIVOISSWC = ENGINEERS

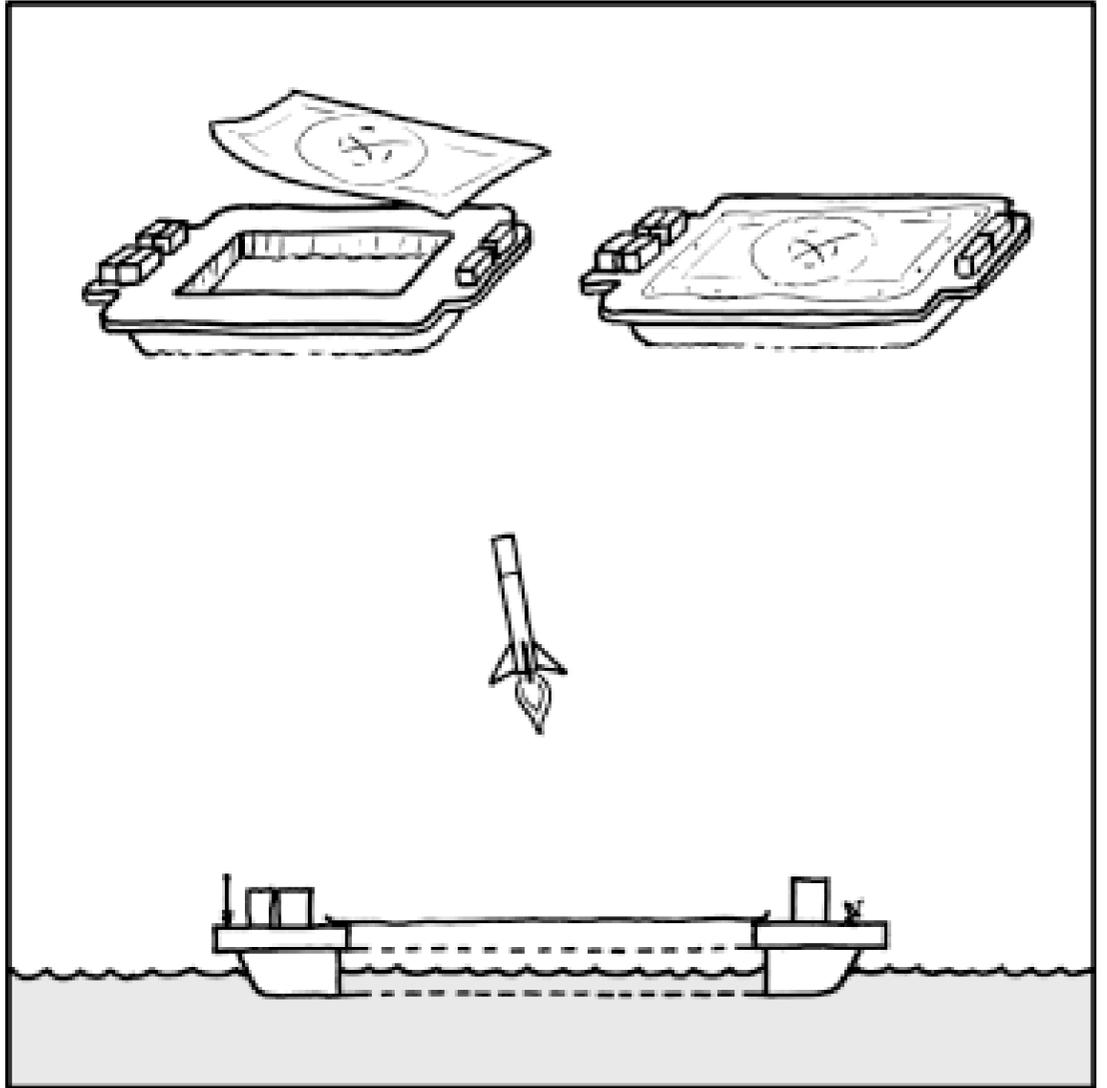
“Gwm’u vx
wvyxyyg poue
lwih gxyohxy
Gqmml.
Uex Txm
deojwywdexh,
Vqyew, wmsx
phwux, ‘Q rjiux
poue mw ewjxy,
oy mwu q rjiux.
Q gwmiu poue
mw ewjx, oy q
Gqmoye.’ Ex
pqy q rimml
nil.”

-UI Pxxv

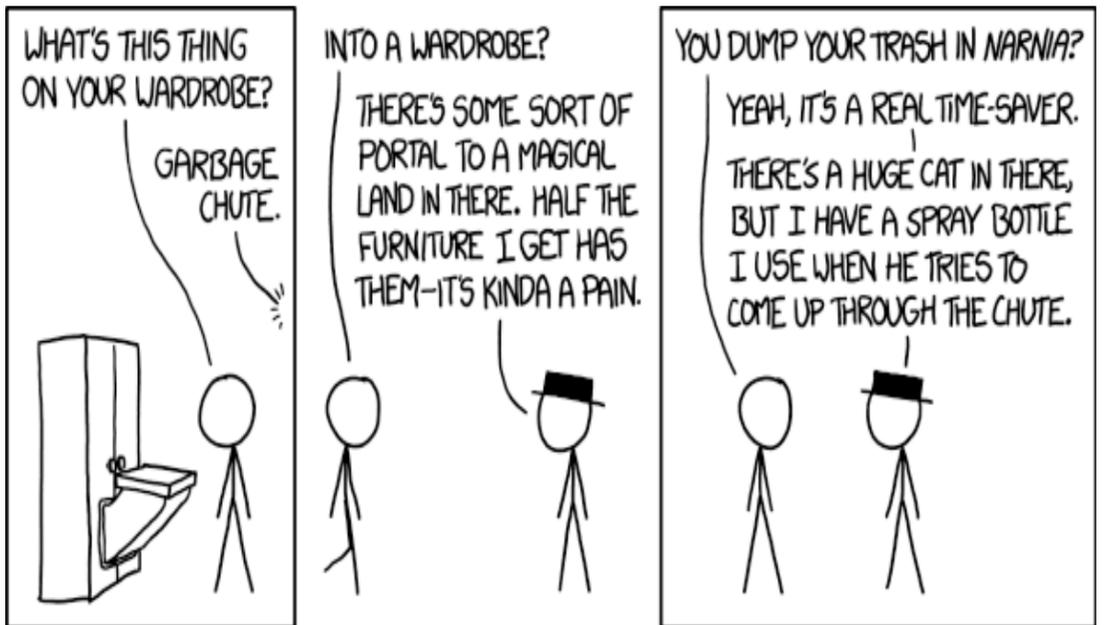
Sqgglyeqsa

XKCD

by Randall Munroe



MY HOBBY: HOLLOWING OUT THE CENTER OF A BARGE, STRETCHING PAPER OVER THE HOLE PAINTED WITH THE SPACEX LOGO, AND LEAVING IT FLOATING OFFSHORE NEAR LAUNCH SITES.

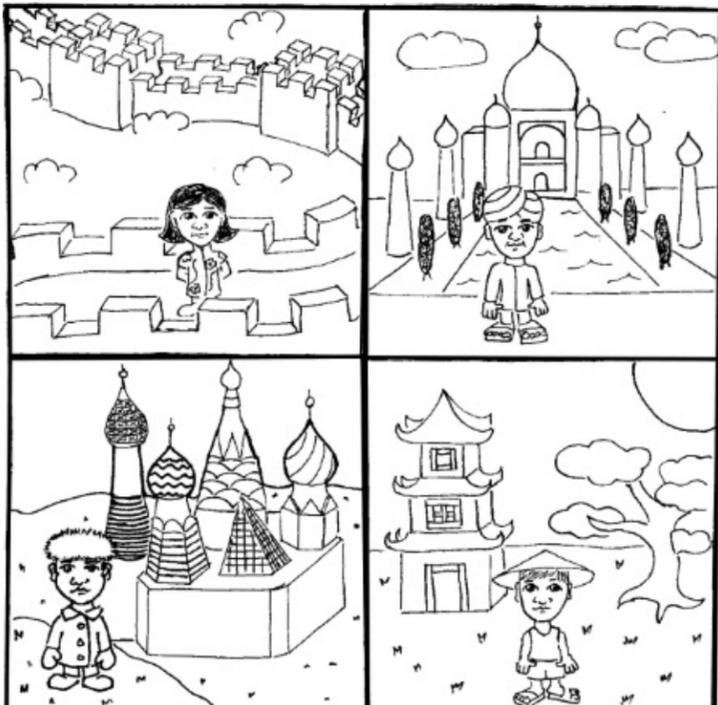


WHAT'S THIS THING ON YOUR WARDROBE?
GARBAGE CHUTE.

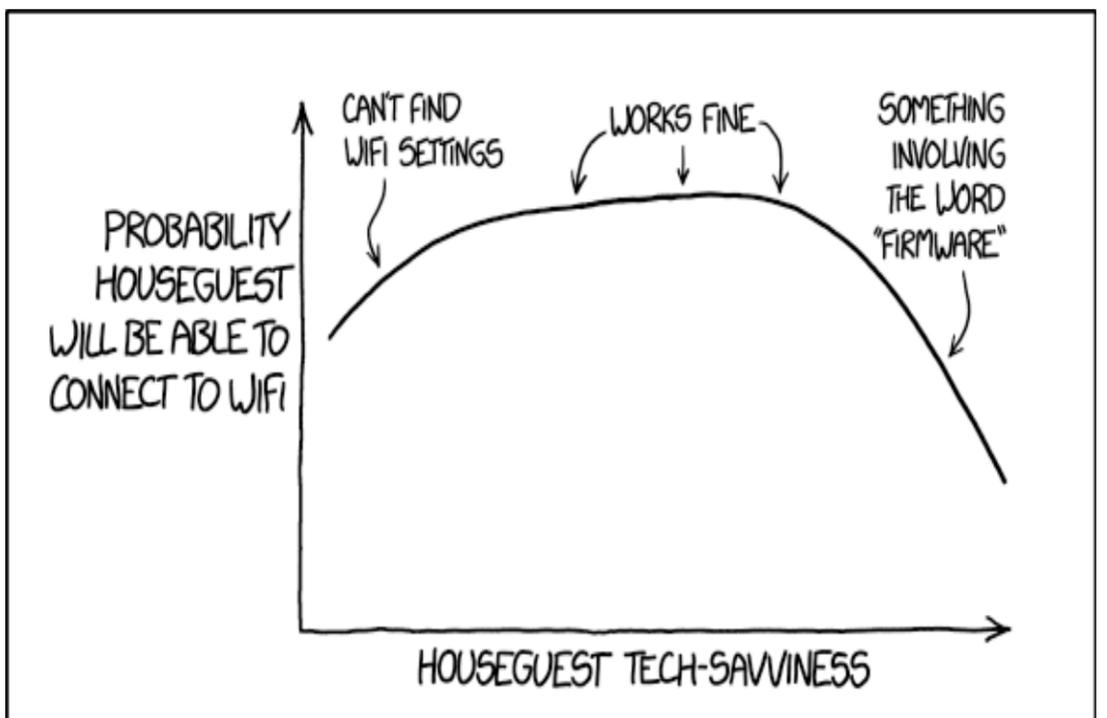
INTO A WARDROBE?
THERE'S SOME SORT OF PORTAL TO A MAGICAL LAND IN THERE. HALF THE FURNITURE I GET HAS THEM-IT'S KINDA A PAIN.

YOU DUMP YOUR TRASH IN NARNIA?
YEAH, IT'S A REAL TIME-SAVER. THERE'S A HUGE CAT IN THERE, BUT I HAVE A SPRAY BOTTLE I USE WHEN HE TRIES TO COME UP THROUGH THE CHUTE.

MONDAY PUNDAY by Matthew Broussard



mondaypunday.com



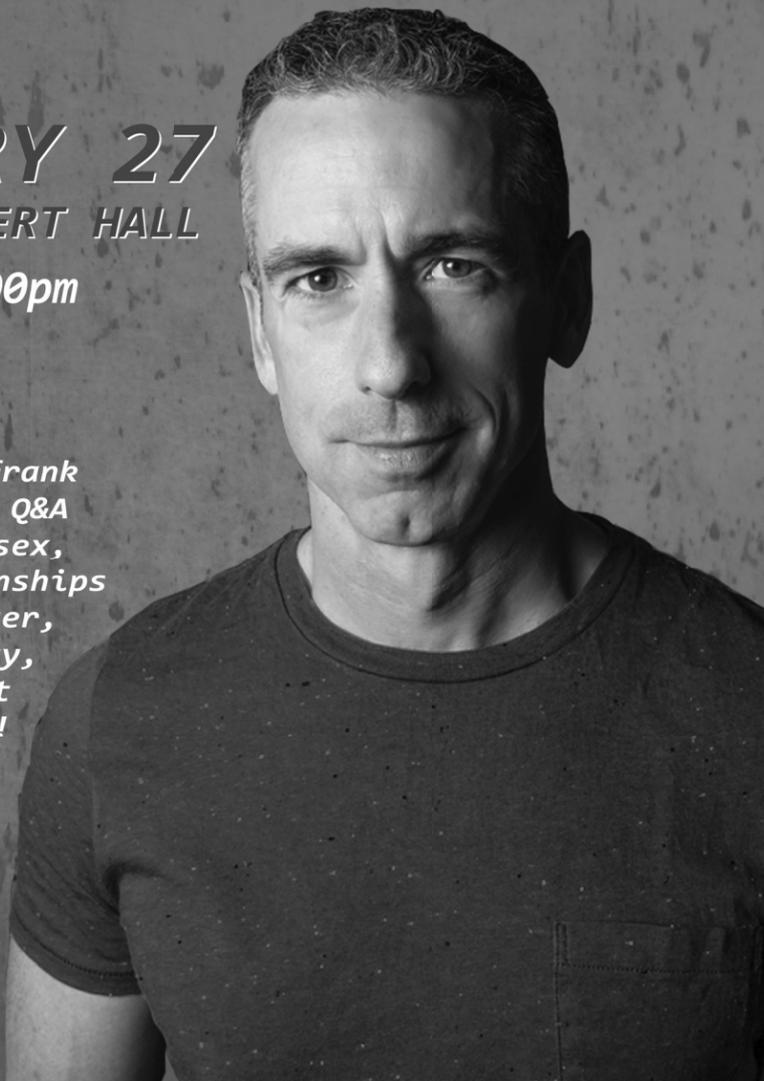
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Register for the Student Officer Training Program!

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/1FAIpQLSefKo7INLrtQ4e4eSszjx6RwHt1hrqbkGLF9W0DFydp94MWPg/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 - Shelnut 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 Caicedo

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 her 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. After being adopted by an Australian couple, the film fast forwards twenty years later, as Saroo (Dev Patel) is about to head to Melbourne to study hotel management, later struggling to rediscover his past, and his origins.

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. ♦



Courtesy of The Weinstein Company

AN EMOTIONAL ROLLERCOASTER 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 variety of how situations 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/s/l6br3>, and are definitely worth a watch. ♦



Courtesy of ABC

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

Features

Wednesday, January 25, 2017

RESTAURANT REVIEW

Poly crew explores Troy's latest sushi joint

Rex Hu, Jonathan Caicedo, Joey Lyon, Maria Kozdroy
Senior Reviewers

Rex's review:

To be quite honest, two things at this restaurant stood out to me: the setting and the price. It is easily the most eye-grabbing shop on the street—its windows are lined with colored Christmas lights which, while not cohesive with the rest of the restaurant atmosphere, breathe life into the space. Otherwise, Unagi had a very relaxed, intimate ambiance, similar to the kind found at Troy's Illium Cafe or Whistling Kettle. Its prices are outside the range of a college student's budget; our party of four only managed to afford the Sushi Dinner for Two (three six-piece rolls and 16 pieces of sushi for \$50) through a Groupon discount.

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 sashimi dishes for those with a desire for a more refined taste.

After trying both the sashimi 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).

Joey's review:

As someone who had never tried sushi that did not come out of a plastic container, the opportunity to visit a "real" sushi restaurant was exciting. This excitement increased upon entering Unagi. I was very impressed with the modern interior and the 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 with a limited budget, however, regular visits to 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.

Maria's review:

After hearing mixed reviews from friends about Unagi, I decided it was time for me to test it out! The location is across from I Love Pizza on Fourth Street, and Unagi is the best lit building on the block, with rainbow lights in the windows. After fellow reviewer Rex told us we had a ground table reserved, I didn't quite pick up on the fact that we were actually going to sit at ground-level. I've never sat at a traditional short-legged Japanese table, and with that came a bad back the following day because I wasn't used to it. This was a unique setting that made the meal more authentic.

For the sushi, it's just like any typical sushi restaurant—served all fancied up on a fancy plate. It was good, but nothing too extraordinary. If I were to go again, I would definitely try their specialty rolls, rather than the basic rolls and sushi we ordered, such as the California and Philadelphia rolls. ♦

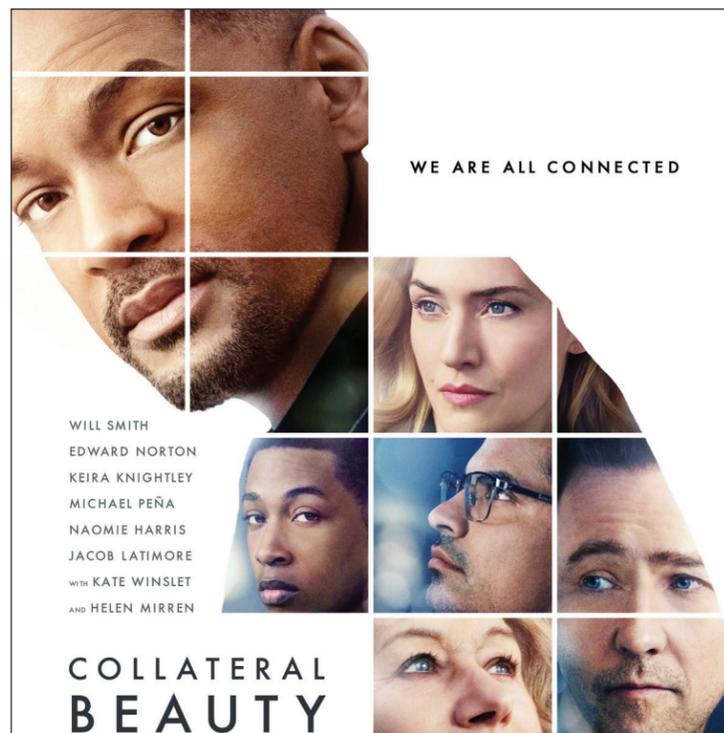


Jonathan Caicedo/The Polytechnic

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.

MOVIE REVIEW

Collateral Beauty falls apart like dominoes



Courtesy of New Line Cinema

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

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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 collaterals 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 mom to the movies with me to see it. The main reason I wanted to go is my friend Shane O'Brien '18 had his dominoes (found at <http://poly.rpi.edu/s/eaxkm>) featured in it. He never mentioned how important the dominoes were to the whole film, but after eight months of waiting, I was ready to find out!

And right before my eyes, the dominoes 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 dominoes 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 the movie gets a little weird and takes a twist in which 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 unreal, it had my mom walking out of the movie theatre wanting 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 brash, if I do say so myself. To everyone rating 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