

Inside

Comics.....	5
Editorial/Opinion	3
Features	8
Sports.....	7

Connect

Visit us online at:
poly.rpi.edu
Like us on Facebook:
[facebook.com/thepolytechnic](https://www.facebook.com/thepolytechnic)
Follow us on Twitter and Instagram:
[@RPIPoly](https://twitter.com/RPIPoly)

FEATURES	Page 8	SPORTS	Page 7	EDITORIAL	Page 3
	RPI hosts fabulous drag show		Track continues strong season	Jack Wellhofer	Recounting my three year Poly experience
				Rex Hu	Why the small things always matter most

STUDENT SENATE

Etzine continues with appointments



Jonathan Caicedo/The Polytechnic

THE STUDENT SENATE VOTES on the appointment of new committee chairs including one for the new Internal Reforms Committee.

Peter Gramenides
Senior Reporter

GRAND MARSHAL JUSTIN ETZINE '18 OPENED the Student Senate meeting with committee reports. Those began with Interim Academic Affairs Committee Chairperson Varun Rao '18 who expressed interest in creating a new position for a Senate liaison to the Faculty Senate. The Faculty Senate is a critical component of governance of the Institute and Rao feels that it will be important to have a student representative expressing the interests of the student body during faculty meetings. The AAC is also working with Interim

Rules and Elections Committee Chairperson David Raab '19 to create a new process to elect professors to the tenure committee. Faculty have expressed that they do not wish to appoint their constituents to a committee deciding their own tenure, and would rather an unbiased group of student leaders make the decision. Rao stated that he expects the creation of the new process to be complete by the end of next semester.

Following Rao, the Hospitality Services Advisory Committee Interim Chairperson Jenna Freedberg '18 was not present to deliver her report, but Etzine stated on her behalf that HSAC has finished creating a

survey and has sent it to Rensselaer Hospitality Services to finalize. HSAC hopes to have the survey online by this Saturday. Interim Student Life Committee Chairperson Ellie Mees '18 continued by stating that the committee is currently working avidly to allow for multiple points of entry to freshman dormitories. In response to Mees' comments, Etzine, former Student Life Committee Chairperson, said, "It is very unlikely there will be universal access like we did freshman year, but it is very likely there will be multiple points of entry since many of

See SENATE, **Page 2**

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Phalanx Honor Society denied funding

Peter Gramenides
Senior Reporter

PRESIDENT OF THE UNION MATT RAND '19 began his first Executive Board meeting with a presentation from former PU Chip Kirchner '17. Kirchner, in a last act as PU, brought forward recommendations that RPI TV undergo conflict resolution and leadership training, as well as removing their exception for community membership, which currently consists of 40 percent of the club. The recommendations were brought due to an email sent to the relevant bodies regarding the resignation of their president, Dan Bruce '18.

Kirchner felt that the email's tone suggested that the purpose of the email was to discredit Bruce, rather than apologize for

the circumstances surrounding his resignation. In addition, Kirchner cited instances where RPI TV had ask for "their" allotment of Grand Marshal Week mugs prior to GM Week, and unauthorized access to Field House locations.

Members of RPI TV were not present at the meeting, leading to a division among members of the E-Board about whether action should be taken immediately. Conrad Moss '17, among others, argued that he would like to hear from members of RPI TV before following through with the motion. On the other hand, Chris Hoskins '17 argued, "Lots of the issues have been publicized, taking the step is important."

Eventually, a motion to begin a review of the operations and leadership of RPI TV and present recommendations as necessary. The motion passed 12-1-3.

The Phalanx Honor Society came before the Board to ask for money to cover the cost of their Tapping ceremony. Phalanx was forced to use external video, sound, and photography contractors for their event, largely due to Accepted Students Day, which occurred at the same time.

RPI TV usually films and streams the ceremony for Phalanx, however, then-President Bruce expressed concern about finding members available for the event due to Accepted Students Day. Bruce's resignation made the coverage of the event unclear, and since no formal request had been made to RPI TV, Phalanx determined it was best to hire an outside company.

A similar issue occurred with the sound system. The system in the Heffner Alumni House was

experiencing difficulties, and Media Operations was unsure if it would be able to repair the system before the event. UPAC Sound said that it would be unable to cover the event. Due to the fact that President Shirley Ann Jackson, vice presidents, and deans would be in attendance, Phalanx contracted an external company.

Lastly, the funds for the photographer that covers the event ended up in the wrong account, unable to be accessed by Phalanx. The honor society was asking for \$2385 to cover the costs.

Members of the E-Board were very hesitant to fund the group. Ines Roman '17 said that because Phalanx is an honor society with restricted membership, the Rensselaer Union was not obligated to assist them. The first motion

See E-BOARD, **Page 2**

E-Board: Leadership, actions of RPI TV discussed

to cover the cost for Phalanx failed 0-8-4. A second motion was brought forward that suggested the Union loan Phalanx the money, with the goal of repayment by the beginning of fiscal year 2020. The motion failed 10-0-2 due to needing three fifths of the voting body to pass.

The last motion of the evening was to appoint Rasika Ekhalikar '18 as Vice President of the Union. The motion passed with only Ekhalikar abstaining.

Rand concluded the Executive Board meeting with his weekly President of the Union Report in which he discussed the upcoming week's agenda and events. ♦



Jonathan Caicedo/The Polytechnic

PRESIDENT OF THE UNION MATT RAND '19 DISCUSSES potential funding for Phalanx Honor Society photography and media costs.

Senate: Potential appointees discuss qualifications

the residence halls were not built for there to be only one way in and one way out.” Following Mees, Vice President of the Union Rasika Ekhalikar '18 delivered the Executive Board's constituent report, stating that in their last meeting the Executive Board looked into the operations and leadership of RPI TV. The Phalanx Honor Society also requested funds from the Executive Board for sound and media reporting of their induction ceremony. No funds were given by the Executive Board to support the initiative.

Undergraduate President Kayla Cinnamon '18 was not present at the meeting, but Etzine gave her report and said that the applications are still open for class council Executive Board Representative. Cinnamon is also currently working to establish a new class council representative to the Student Senate to be elected in two days time. Following Cinnamon, Jennie Miller '19 delivered a report on behalf of the Panhellenic Council stating that Omega Phi Beta, a Latin-based sorority which is not a member of the national panhellenic organization, is currently seeking associate membership with the Panhellenic Council. Alumni sisters from the Gamma chapter of the Omega Phi Beta sorority at Union College came to present their case to the Panhellenic Council as well as interested women from Rensselaer. The Panhellenic Council will be discussing in its next meeting whether they would like to approve the sorority's associated affiliation. The Panhellenic Council also recently approved to raise the cap that sorority houses can spend on recruitment in order to bolster recruitment efforts in the coming semester.

Following constituent reports, the Senate began procedures for the appointment of committee chairs beginning with Caleb Caraway '19 as Rules and Elections Committee Chairperson. Caraway stated that he had served three semesters on the committee including being vice chair of the committee for the past two. Caraway believes that the Rules and Elections Committee should remain under the oversight of the Student Senate and that the Grand Marshal appointing the chairperson “eliminates conflicts of interest.” Additionally, Caraway stated in response to an inquiry that Rules and Elections Committee members should be able to actively run for office in student government and serve on the committee at the same time. The motion for his appointment passed 20-0-0.

Following Caraway, the Senate continued to consider the appointment of Ellie Mees '18 as Vice Chairperson of the Senate. Most of Mees' experience has been spent serving on the Student Life Committee, which included acting as Vice Chairperson of the committee under Etzine. Mees also served as Student Government Communications Chairperson, Class of 2018 Senator, Secretary, and Class Ring Chairperson. The motion to appoint Mees passed 19-0-1.

Further, Nino Polletta '20 was appointed to the position of Treasurer. Polletta, a recent transfer student from the Rochester Institute of Technology, was a part of RIT's student government and helped organize events there. Polletta also said, “I own my own company,” further stating “this is a first time experience for me,” in reference to the Rensselaer Student Senate. The motion to appoint Polletta passed 20-0-0.

Timothy Wang '19, a first term member of the Senate, was appointed to the position of Secretary in a motion

that passed 20-0-0. Wang was previously on the Student Life Committee, serving alongside Etzine and President of the Interfraternity Council Marvin Cosare '18 working on Greek life policies.

Jennie Miller '19, former parliamentarian of the Senate, was appointed again as Senate Parliamentarian in a motion that passed 20-0-0. Miller is an accredited parliamentarian, and has gone to two national competitions and coached a team on parliamentary procedure which also competed on the national level. Sairisheel Gabbireddy '19 was appointed Academic Affairs Committee Chairperson passing 11-7-2. Michael Gardner, Graduate Senator, was appointed as Community Relations Committee Chairperson passing 20-0-0 in the Senate.

Nancy Bush '19 was appointed Facilities and Services Committee Chairperson passing 19-0-1. Steve Sperazza '18 was appointed as Internal Reforms Committee Chairperson passing 19-0-1. Stefanie Warner '19 was appointed Student Government Communications Chairperson passing 19-0-1. Hannah Merrow '18 was appointed Student Life Committee Chairperson passing 20-0-0. Sidney Kochman '19 was appointed Web Technologies Chairperson passing 20-0-0.

Etzine concluded the meeting with his weekly Grand Marshal Report, which consisted of plans for the upcoming week as well as discussion of times for future committee meetings. In addition, Etzine suggested that the Senate plan social events to engage newly elected members and make them feel more comfortable acclimating with the organization's membership. ♦

The Polytechnic will be holding elections for all positions on our Editorial Board this weekend. Everyone is welcome to run on Sunday, April 22, at 11 am in the office of *The Polytechnic*.

EDITORIAL NOTEBOOKS

Reflection, farewell of my three-year journey

FOR THE PAST THREE YEARS, I HAVE WILLFULLY given up my Tuesday nights to spend a full working day or more in a small office on the third floor of the Rensselaer Union. After all that time, through all of the crazy that took place in RU 3418, it's time for me to step back and let the next generation take my place. In my last notebook as Editor in Chief, I would like to take time to reflect on my time, and thank those who served with me.

My staff have heard it before, and I might have even written about it before, but I'm going to talk about it again. Because I can. It's my last chance, give me a break!

I never meant to be here, and all of this is a big mistake. You see, I never really liked writing. I found it tedious and boring, and I was never able to translate my thoughts to the page. It didn't help that if it's not phonetic (fonetic) I can't spell it. Much to my embarrassment, I still occasionally miss words in headlines that I should have caught.

I joined *The Polytechnic* because I was 1) late signing up for Navigating Rensselaer & Beyond, so there weren't many and 2) I thought it would be cool to photograph the hockey games (it totally is). Chris Leong, then-EIC of *The Poly*, got me to stick around after NRB. He kept texting me on Tuesday nights, telling me to come down to the office and hang out for a while. Shy and uncertain about college as I was, I saw potential friends in this group, and ended up sticking around. I became Associate Photography Editor during the special elections, and then Photography Editor during my second semester at RPI.

At the end of my freshman year, disaster struck *The Poly*. Five of our senior most members were leaving the paper, many unexpectedly, and with them their talent and experience. With little experience running a newspaper, I took on the role of Managing Editor. Soon-to-be

close friend and partner in crime Stephanie Kern-Allely joined me as the second Managing Editor, and together, with the guidance of Chris, we learned to sacrifice our Tuesdays.

That fall, my sophomore year, I found myself running for Editor in Chief. Not necessarily because I wanted to or thought I was ready, but because there was no one else. As it turned out, it was the best decision I had made all year. Surrounding me was maybe the best editorial board during my tenure. At the time, I called it the golden age of *The Polytechnic*. We had knowledge, experience, and plenty of time left to improve. I was feeling confident for the year ahead. We produced some fantastic papers that spring, culminating in our March 30 and April 6 issues, the Spring Town Protest and the controversy surrounding the Executive Director of Student Activities.

That fall, another set of good editors decided it was their time to leave. Again, I was left wondering who would take up the responsibility and fill their shoes. But that's what I love about this paper; when there's a void, someone steps up to fill it. Although not quite the dream team I had my first semester as EIC, the editors who surrounded me did a damn good job at producing the paper.

My yearlong term was up in December 2016, but I knew my time on *The Poly* wasn't over. As a first semester junior, I was the senior most member of the paper (and had been for almost a year). Most of the staff consisted of freshmen and sophomores. I ran for another term, one of the few times in *Poly* history that an EIC would serve longer than a year. I knew I wouldn't last the whole term, but I also knew the editors needed a little more guidance before they were ready to fly on their own.

Being Editor in Chief for so long has given me the rare opportunity of leadership. Not just as the head of a given club, but someone with real responsibility and deadlines to meet. Each week, I felt obligated to serve the Rensselaer community to the best of my abilities, knowing that what I write, photograph, and proofread will be read by hundreds of people.

During our endorsement interviews this year, I asked the candidates what it means to be a leader. They each gave different answers, but none were what defines leadership to me. During my time here, I learned that being a leader means that the responsibility falls to you, and no one else. When shit hits the fan, it's the leader who has to take responsibility and face the consequences, whatever they may be. When you're in charge, there's no one to hide behind. There have been a few times during my tenure that I really messed something up: articles in bad taste and lack of respect for my

editors, to be general. The hardest part of my job was taking responsibility for those actions. It's given me great respect for people who can go out and admit their defeat, accept responsibility, and work to fix it instead of dodging and deflecting.

Since this is my last notebook, it's time to say a few thank yous. First, I need to thank all of the editors who have served with me over the years. All of you have been fantastic, and done fantastic work for this paper. *The Polytechnic* is fortunate to have, or have had, you. I couldn't have done it without you.

Next, I need to thank Chris Leong for convincing me to stick around. Without him, I might never have taken this journey, and my college experience would have been worse for it. He served as a guide and mentor, and for that I am forever thankful.

I think I owe a special paragraph to one of my Managing Editors. Tyler Carney's name doesn't often appear in the author section, and I don't think he's ever taken a photograph for us, but I owe him the world. Tyler, for those that don't know, has probably laid out about half of the paper. Not like "I've done the layout for half of the sections at one point or another," but "on any given issue over the past three years, pick a page. There's a fifty-fifty chance Tyler did the layout for that page." Maybe it's an exaggeration, but... not too far from the truth. So Tyler, thanks for being the InDesign guru.

Last, I need to thank Stephanie Kern-Allely. Without her, I never would have survived this ride. Steph is to *The Polytechnic* what Tyler is to InDesign layout. That is, anywhere I needed help, Steph was able to fill in. Whether copyreading pages, throwing together an article, or taking over the layout of a section at two in the morning so we could be done by four, Steph has been there for me. Not only that, but she has been irreplaceable counsel in times of need. Many times as EIC, I was faced with difficult choices, and no clear path forward. During those times, Steph's advice guided me through and helped me during the times I doubted myself. No one else could have filled the role like she did. Steph, it's a shame you were only Senior Managing Editor for a semester, because we kicked ass. Regrets for never making Wellhofer, Kern-Allely elected GM, PU a reality.

To the current members of *The Poly*, I have confidence that the paper will continue to prosper in my absence. You know more than you think you do, and I have great confidence in your abilities as editors. I won't be completely gone from your lives (what is dead may never die), but it's time for you all to take the reins. Best of luck. ♦



Jack Wellhofer
Editor in Chief

Editor shows appreciation for small joys in daily life

IN MY LAST NOTEBOOK, I WROTE ABOUT PULLING MY back, which led me to the conclusion that I need to take care of my health. This time around, I'm proud to announce that my efforts weren't realized... because I didn't make any. Honestly, the past year has been an unproductive rut of sorts for me. In addition to abusing my physical health, I have also grown stagnant in the things I'm doing with my life. However, after talking to friends (seniors in particular), I've started to reach out again. Despite my dropping grades and unmet obligations, I'm rediscovering all the small joys that I originally found as a freshman, whether on campus, in downtown Troy, or in the definition of what a good day is.

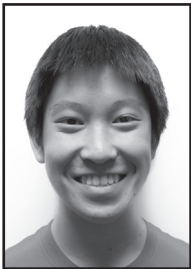
On campus, simply walking around (well, on a good day) can be fun. Much of campus has a rustic beauty, and it's very, very easy to find a nice spot to sit and read, think, or people-watch. To fit the RPI archetype, there are even spots to sit with a laptop. I can think of three favorites off the top of my head, but I won't be sharing those. They're mine. Go find your own.

It can also be really fun to explore the buildings on campus—there's so much variety, from the Insta-worthy glass walls of the Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center to the rickety elevator in West Hall. There are still several buildings I haven't gotten to know, and I look forward to exploring.

Downtown, walking through the streets or along the waterfront (once again, on a good day) is a breath of fresh air. If you'd like to visit an

establishment, look no further. Everybody knows the classic Whistling Kettle for morning tea. But I've also found joy in drinking a cup of coffee and listening to live jazz with friends, perusing the shelves of the book shop, striking up conversation with a local potter (not that kind, pottery you potheads), and enjoying a nicer meal at one of the many hipster white food places. There, I said it. Downtown Troy is a happening place and, really, isn't nearly as bad as the gossip says. South Troy is the part of town that's actually bad, crime rates are much lower than they were a few years ago, and if you use your common sense regarding safety (don't walk alone at night if you're not equipped to), you'll find that Troy is actually a very quaint city with quite a bit to offer. That's something I'm really passionate about. In fact, keep an eye out—I just might start a column dedicated to all the ways we can unironically #EnjoyTroy.

And, last but not least, I'm looking back at what defines a good day for me. Slipping into the sophomore slums, I've adopted the attitude that I survive to reach the weekend; each day simply passes by. Now, I'm striving for the positive outlook that I used to have when I was younger. I'm striving to let the chirping birds or the nice sunset or the quirks of passersby be the uplifting things that make my day, as they once used to—because in the end, life doesn't have to be boring or miserable like everybody tells you it does, and neither does RPI—because happiness is a choice. ♦



Rex Hu
Managing Editor

the polytechnic

Editor in Chief

Jack Wellhofer

poly@rpi.edu

Editorial Board

Senior Managing Editor
Managing Editor
Managing Editor
News Editor
Business Manager
Features Editor
de facto Sports Editor
Editorial/Opinion Editor
Composing Editor
de facto Copy Editor
Photography Editor
Web Editor
Associate Composing Editor
Associate Photography Editor
Associate Photography Editor

Sidney Kochman
Tyler Carney
Rex Hu
Peter Gramenides
Peter Begonja
Serge Piskun
Rex Hu
Michael Baird
Ana Wishnoff
Jack Wellhofer
Jonathan Caicedo
Joseph Lyon
Maria Kozdroy
Stephanie Tan
Brookelyn Parslow

poly@rpi.edu
poly@rpi.edu
poly@rpi.edu
news@poly.rpi.edu
business@poly.rpi.edu
features@poly.rpi.edu
sports@poly.rpi.edu
edop@poly.rpi.edu
composing@poly.rpi.edu
copy@poly.rpi.edu
photo@poly.rpi.edu
web@poly.rpi.edu
composing@poly.rpi.edu
photo@poly.rpi.edu
photo@poly.rpi.edu

Coordinators

Advertising Director
Graphics Director
Web and Systems Director
Sports Coordinator
Foreign Correspondent

Maria Espinosa
Ana Wishnoff
Sidney Kochman
Joseph Saulsbery
Nathan Dorer

ads@poly.rpi.edu
graphics@poly.rpi.edu
systems@poly.rpi.edu
sports@poly.rpi.edu
news@poly.rpi.edu

Production Staff: Stephanie Kern-Allely, David Raab, and Crystal Vejar.

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

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

TOP HAT

Special election for Greek senator announced

Rules and Elections Committee working to fill Interfraternity Council Senate seat for next semester

HEY, ENGINEERS! I CAN'T BELIEVE IT EITHER, BUT CLASSES FINISH FOR THE SEMESTER JUST three weeks from today! I hope everyone is finishing off the semester strong.

This week, the Senate approved a handbook for special election rules for the Greek senator position, specifically for the Interfraternity Council seat. As the Judicial Board found issues with the circumstances of the seat's election during GM Week 2017, the Rules and Elections Committee has put together a plan for getting the seat elected and filled as efficiently as possible. In the meantime, IFC President Marvin Cosare '18 has reprised his role as Greek senator as the Union Constitution allows for Senators to serve until they are replaced in the next election.

As only IFC and Panhellenic organizations can vote in this special election, the Rules and Elections Committee will be working with IFC, Panhel, and the presidents of the houses to coordinate elections at each house. As more details are determined, I will be sure to keep you updated on the specifics for how this election will be carried out.

Additionally, the Senate confirmed a cabinet of officers and committee chairs for the upcoming term. Ellie Mees '18 has assumed the role of vice chairperson of the Senate, and the positions of treasurer, secretary, and parliamentarian are now filled by Nino Polletta '20, Timothy Wang '19, and Jennie Miller '19, respectively.

For committee chair appointments, Risheel Gabbireddy '19 is leading Academic Affairs, graduate student Michael Gardner is leading Community Relations, Nancy Bush '19 is leading Facilities and Services, Steve Sperazza '18 is leading Internal Reforms, Caleb Caraway '19 is leading Rules and Elections, Stefanie Warner '19 is leading Student Government Communications, Hannah Merrow '18 is leading Student Life, and Sidney Kochman '19 is leading Web Technologies.

Also during last week's Senate meeting, the Senate approved the establishment of an Internal Reforms Committee. This committee, which is now being spearheaded by Sperazza, will take a critical look at the Senate, its structure, and its operations, and formulate any recommendations on how the Senate can improve in its mission to represent and advocate for the student body.

For a committee like Internal Reforms to be successful, we need fresh ideas, especially from those who are not currently involved. If you're interested in getting involved or have any ideas or suggestions, please feel free to reach out to me at gm@rpi.edu or Sperazza directly.

Next week, we will be having a presentation from representatives from the Division of the Chief Information Officer on revisions to the current Electronic Citizenship Policy. Once a draft has been released for public review, I will be reaching out to as many student groups as possible to get feedback and opinions on the newly-revised policy.

We will also likely be hearing the President of the Union's appointments to the Executive Board and my appointment for Senate-Executive Board Liaison.

The meeting will be held on Monday, April 24, at 8 pm in the Shelnutt Gallery (RU 3606). I hope to see you there, and I wish you all an enjoyable week! ♦



Justin Etzine
Grand Marshal

DERBY

Final day to apply to Union Executive Board

Learn how money from the Student Activity Fee is allocated to campus clubs and facilities

HELLO RPI! AS THE WEATHER GETS WARMER AND TROY begins to escape the clutches of winter, I wish everyone the best of luck wrapping up the school year and preparing for finals. I know that I, for one, will have a bit of difficulty buckling down with the sun shining once again. However, with summer fast approaching, it will surely be worth it to push through these last few weeks.

I do want to remind everyone that today is the last day to apply for a position on the Executive Board for the 2017–2018 school year. The work of the E-Board is not as well known to all of our students as I might hope, so today I want to talk a little bit about what the E-Board is and what all of the representatives do.

The E-Board is the chief financial body of the Union. The Board oversees the operational budget of the Union, all of which comes from our Student Activity Fees. Every year, the E-Board decides the best way to allocate all of these funds to support our clubs, facilities, and student body. In addition to overseeing the budgeting process, the Board also monitors all of the Union's facilities, and helps guide the operation of our clubs.

The E-Board is comprised of 20 members of the student body, representing all of our diverse backgrounds and interests. The best way to represent our community is to ensure that the Board be an accurate representation of our campus population. A well-balanced board is critical to upholding the ideals of the Union, "to expand the extracurricular life at Rensselaer, to coordinate all student organizations." This statement, from the Rensselaer Union Constitution, describes only a part of the purpose of Union. To me, the Union is a home to all students. It is a place for academic and personal development, for gathering with friends, and for improving our quality of life. To ensure that all of our students share this sentiment, the E-Board must work tirelessly to improve our Union.

In order to do this, representatives must play two roles. The first is to advocate for the clubs and organizations that they work with. Each representative is assigned a few clubs for them to advocate for and assist with budgeting. They must meet with these groups regularly to maintain open lines of communication and to stay up-to-date on programs, events, and issues the club may be facing. In addition to this responsibility, a representative must also work with the entirety of the Board to best decide what improvements should be made to the Union and how to go about effecting those changes. Each board member sits on a committee that works on specific projects to help further the Union and improve it for all students.

Being a member of the E-Board is not an easy task. It is a significant time commitment. Representatives must attend weekly meetings where each member is expected to be able to articulate their opinions on each agenda item, all while keeping the best interest of the community in mind. Representatives must also continually communicate with their clubs and relay messages between them and the Board. While all of this sounds a little intimidating, I can assure you that being a member of the E-Board is one of the most rewarding things that a member of this community can undertake.

Over 200 student-led organizations rely on the E-Board, and to be able to help so many students truly is an honor and privilege. If this all sounds interesting to you, I encourage you to join the E-Board in making the Union a better place for all of our students. ♦



Matthew Rand
President of the Union

Poly Snapshots

Photos and interviews by Michael Baird

The Question:

What are you looking forward to the most this summer?



Sarah Haslam
BMED '20

"Having time to do stuff that I want to do, like crafting, because I don't have the time to do that during school."



Zach Minster
ITWS '17

"What am I even doing this summer? I don't even know. Oh, I'm going to Rome for a month."



Molly Kerwick
PHYS '19

"Probably eating good food and sleeping in a big bed."



Glenn Edmonds
PHYS '20

"I can't wait to see all my friends from back home. One's in Israel and one's in France."



Rebecca Martin
CHME '17

"Blackberry picking."

DILBERT

by Scott Adams

TOP TEN LIST

I'D LIKE TO WORK ON THE VR HEADSET PROJECT ON TOP OF MY OTHER DUTIES.

THAT'S WEIRD. YOU'VE NEVER VOLUNTEERED FOR EXTRA WORK BEFORE.

PEOPLE CHANGE.

OR NOT.

ZZZZ.

I WROTE A VR PROGRAM THAT CREATES THE ILLUSION YOU ARE ASLEEP.

WATCH ME DEMONSTRATE IT IN ACTION.

ZZZZZ.

HOW LONG SHOULD I WATCH?

I WROTE A VR PROGRAM THAT TURNS THE WORK-PLACE INTO A "LORD OF THE RINGS" ADVENTURE.

GAAAA!!! IT'S AN EVIL ORC!

I GUESS YOUR PROGRAM RANDOMLY ASSIGNS CHARACTERS TO REAL PEOPLE.

UM, YES, RANDOM.

WE'RE GOING TO USE OUR VR TECHNOLOGY TO TAKE OVER THE CUBICLE BUSINESS.

WRITE A PROGRAM THAT MAKES USERS FEEL AS IF THEY ARE WORKING IN A FABRIC-COVERED BOX.

MAYBE WE SHOULD THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX.

STOP RESISTING CHANGE.

AS YOU REQUESTED, I WROTE A VR PROGRAM THAT MAKES USERS FEEL AS IF THEY ARE IN CUBICLES.

I PUT ONLY YOUR NAME ON THE CREDITS BECAUSE I EXPECT AN ANGRY MOB TO KILL WHOEVER CREATED IT.

I ALSO WROTE A VR JAIL PROGRAM IN CASE YOU WANT TO BE IN PROTECTIVE CUSTODY.

I MIGHT NEED THAT.

CAN I TRY THE NEW VR HEADSET?

YOU'RE A ROBOT.

SO?

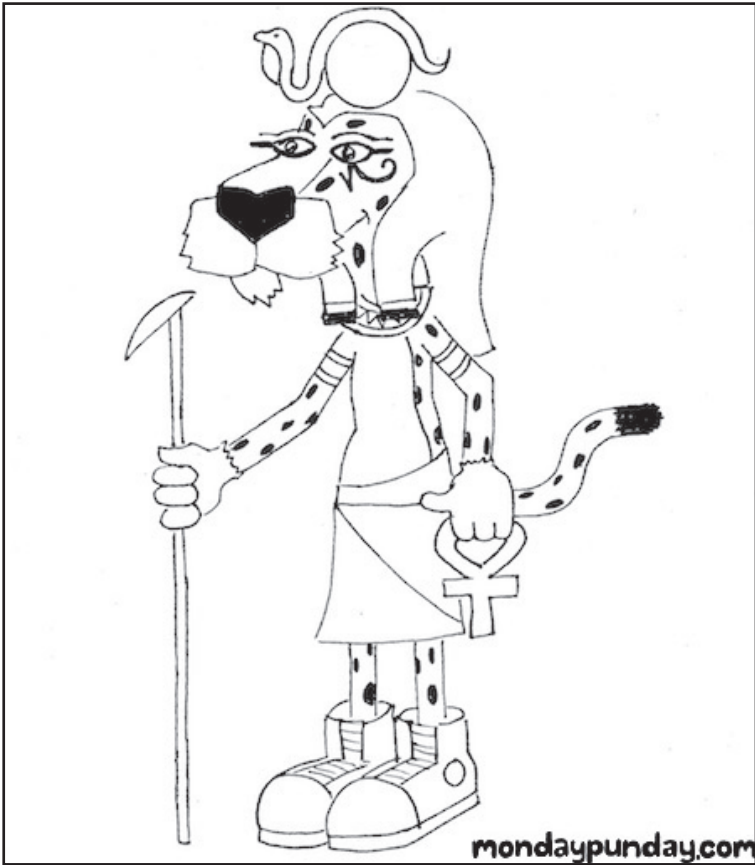
UM...

I THINK MY LIFE JUST BECAME MEANINGLESS.

Jacks

10. John Stamos
9. John Mayer
8. John the Evangelist
7. John Cena
6. Ozzy Osbourne
5. John F. Kennedy
4. John Lennon
3. EMPAC Bathrooms
2. John Roberts
1. Jack Wellhofer

MONDAY PUNDAY by Matthew Broussard



SUDOKU

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

Instructions

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

Solutions from April 12 Issue

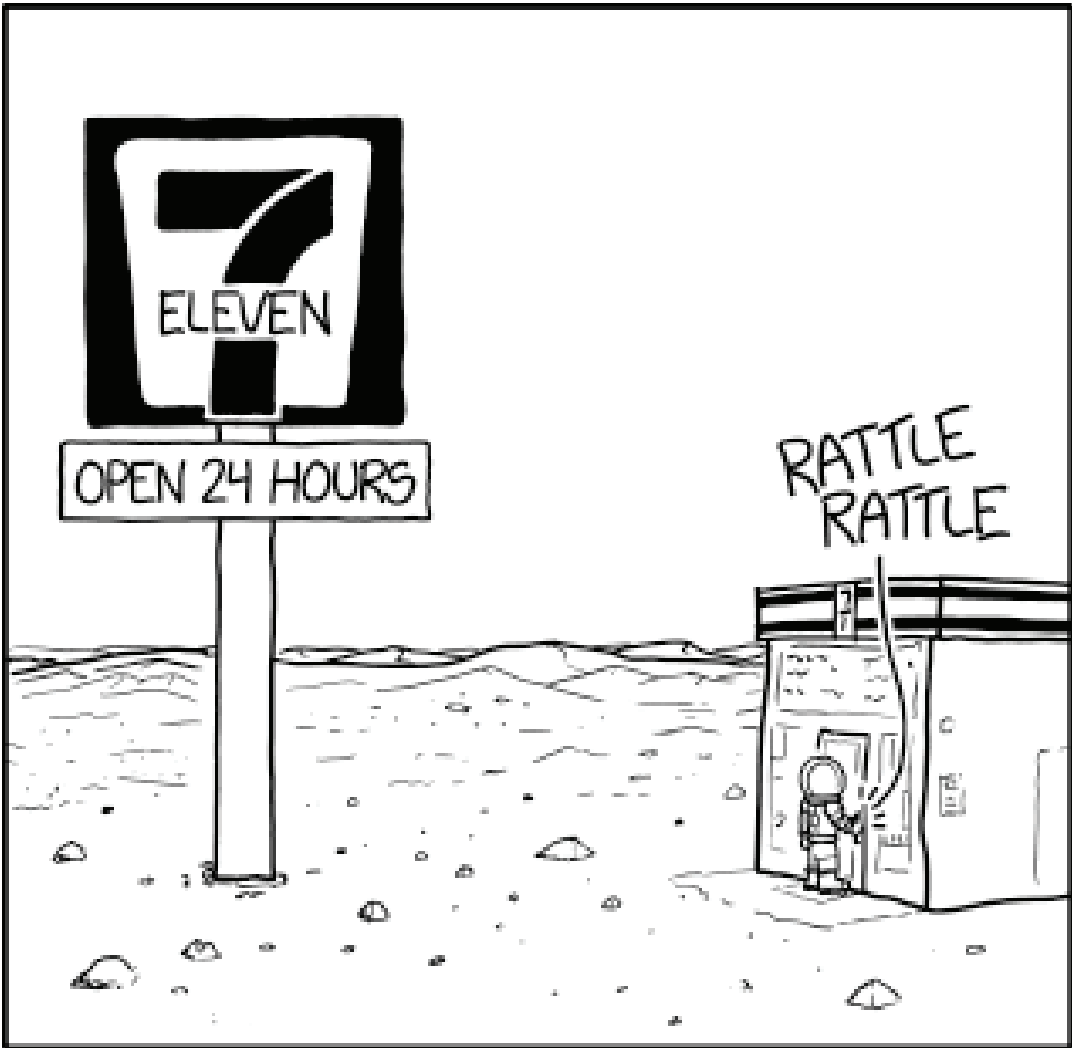
4	5	7	9	6	8	1	3	2
2	6	8	1	5	3	7	4	9
3	1	9	7	2	4	8	6	5
7	8	3	2	9	6	5	1	4
6	2	4	5	8	1	9	7	3
1	9	5	3	4	7	6	2	8
5	4	6	8	1	2	3	9	7
9	3	1	4	7	5	2	8	6
8	7	2	6	3	9	4	5	1

CRYPTOQUOTE

XKCD

by Randall Munroe

“Ea kqsnn!
Kqsnn zwj
afzlfw!
Ea, sd xzn
yetyfevnwfn
zwj yetyfevn
sdurzf bqfna.
Sd xzn qsgf z
kstjeb tztfnd-
nivwafzlfw
rfdzq et
qsgf nsq
lftuxswf
bqexswy
sw z nizh
fnasi,
ytzlsdu
zqqwewnfwnf
wex.
Zn S nqeen
asfj,
S gwfx
nvha qelfqu
ishdvtfn!”
-Zqfc
Z Hqehgxetg
Etwywf



I'M GLAD THEY FINALLY OPENED A 7-ELEVEN
HERE ON MARS, BUT IT'S ANNOYING HOW IT
CLOSES FOR 37 MINUTES EVERY DAY.

HOTTEST EDITORS

1995	—	[EMACS-VIM]
2000	—	[EDITOR WAR]
2005	—	VIM
2010	—	NOTEPAD++
2015	—	SUBLIME TEXT
2020	—	CRISPR
2025	—	CRISPR (VIM KEYBINDINGS)

ISSUE:
RECENT UPDATE BROKE
SUPPORT FOR HARDWARE
I NEED FOR MY JOB.

WORKAROUND:
IF WE WAIT LONG ENOUGH,
THE EARTH WILL EVENTUALLY
BE CONSUMED BY THE SUN.

A black and white cartoon illustration of a person sitting at a desk with a laptop. The person is looking at the laptop screen. The desk is simple and the chair is a basic office chair.

UPAC
C·I·N·E·M·A

UPAC
C·I·N·E·M·A

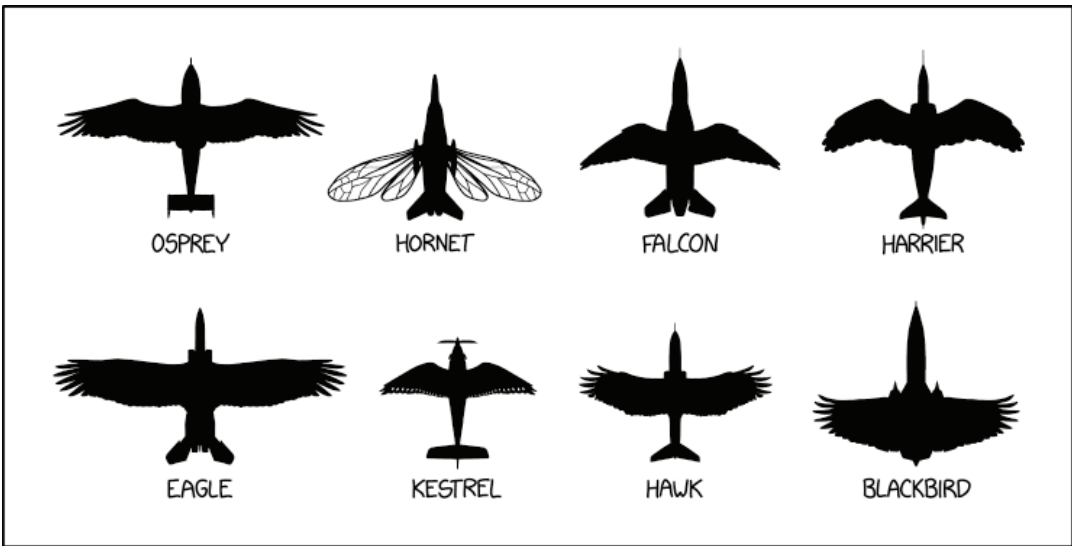
UPAC
C·I·N·E·M·A

SPLIT

Friday • April 21, 2017
7 pm, 9:30 pm, midnight • DCC 308 • \$2.50

A Clockwork Orange

Saturday • April 22, 2017
7 pm, 10 pm, 1 am • DCC 308 • \$2.50



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

Sports

Wednesday, April 19, 2017

TRACK

Runners, fielder breeze past competition

Michael Baird
Senior Reporter

BOTH THE RENSSELAER MEN'S AND women's track and field teams defeated the ten schools invited to compete at Harkness Track and Field on Saturday in the Engineers' first home meet of the outdoor season. Eight events were won by the women, who compiled 227.5 points, while the men won 11 events to earn 314 points.

Winning one individual event, sophomore Dainara Veeder also finished runner up 100 meter hurdles in 16.06 seconds. She won the 400 meter hurdles in 1:10.51 and ran the third leg of the second place 4x100 meter relay team. Junior Monica Mazur, senior Haley Hahn, and sophomore Vera Titze ran the first, second, and fourth legs of the relay, finishing in 50.16 seconds.

In the women's 4x400 meter relay, Titze ran the anchor leg to help the Engineers place first in the event with a time of 4:07.02. She was joined by senior Sabrina Ahamparam, junior Caroline Howes, and sophomore Caitlyn Gardner. Hahn and Mazur went on to finish second in the long jump and third in the triple jump respectively.

In the high jump, sophomores Jillian Salkind and Lauren Parker marked the first and second great-



Stephanie Tan/The Polytechnic

ELEVEN TEAMS COMPETED at Rensselaer this past weekend, and the Engineers defeated every team.

est distances, while senior Melinda Wilson and sophomore Marissa Folk went one and two in the discus. Salkind landed at 1.59 meters, while Wilson marked 38.32 meters. Senior Kristen Shaughnessy placed first in the pole vault, reaching 3.05 meters, and sophomore Aurora

Freedman won the javelin throw with 35.72 meters.

In distance events, sophomore Maddie Sturm took the 1500 meter race in a time of 4:52.20, outpacing 19 opponents, and crossing first in the 3000 meter steeplechase as senior Maddie Dery in 11:52.5.

Many RPI men's distance athletes won the distance events at the meet. Freshman Danny Napora won the 3000 meter steeplechase in 9:57.59. Senior Ben Fazio took the 1500 meters in 3:59.97. The 4x400 meter relay team of sophomore Jason

Hall, freshman Mike McNicholas, freshman Dino Martinez, and senior Max Drexler defeated the five other teams in their heat to earn the fastest time in the event of 3:23.96.

Freshman Alex Jonson won the 110 meter hurdles in 15.11, while freshman Dale Kelly finished second in the 200 meters in 22.00. In the 400 meter hurdles, freshmen Leighton James and Patrick Butler placed second and third respectively.

In the field, the Engineers championed seven events. Junior Matt Vitagliano won the triple jump, sophomore Joseph Vetere the pole vault, senior Michael Pesanello the hammer throw, and junior Terrence Lawrence the high jump.

Winning the discus throw was senior Sam Keller, who also placed second in the hammer. Freshman George Gonatas won the shot put with a throw of 14.24 meters, and placed second in the discus. Senior Joe Grella took the javelin with a throw of 56.43 meters.

Fast approaching the end of the outdoor season, the Engineers will be competing in the Liberty League Outdoor Championship Meet on Saturday at Vassar College. They will host again the following Saturday for the Capital District Meet. ♦

BASEBALL

RPI wrestles Golden Bears, split games

Jack Wellhofer
Senior Reporter

THE ENGINEERS SPLIT LAST WEEKEND'S DOUBLE HEADER AGAINST the Western New England Golden Bears, crushing them 8-0 in the first game, but falling short in an otherwise close second game 7-3.

Senior Jeff Sitarski battled back from an 0-2 count to a single in right centerfield. He stole second to put himself in scoring position, ripe for an RBI from a teammate. A lucky balk sent him to third. Then, a soaring hit from senior Jason Valente, which was caught by the centerfielder, gave Sitarski enough time to tag up and dash home.

Sophomore pitcher Brendan McNerney held the Golden Bears at bay. A foul-out and two strikeouts returned the Engineers to the bench.

Junior Ethann Meister began the top of the second with another solid hit, advancing to second on a passed ball. Senior Thomas Desmond saw four crummy pitches fly by, waiting for the pitch that never came. Despite not getting to swing the bat, Desmond made his way to first. With no outs and two men on base, junior J.T. Sawyer was given the signal to bunt. And a beautiful bunt it was, advancing the two baserunners and getting Sawyer to first.

The bases now loaded, junior Christian Spagnuolo approached the plate. Although batting .300, this at-bat would not benefit the Engineers much. Spagnuolo hit into a double play, getting himself and Sawyer out. The play did give Meister the time to run home, putting the Engineers up 2-0. Desmond scored on an RBI from junior Weston Hawkins, which ended scoring for the Engineers in the second.

Western New England went down one-two-three once again, unable to get a foothold on the Engineers. In the top of the third, Rensselaer sealed its fate. The Engineers were rewarded with hit after hit, and by the end of the inning the score read RPI 8, Western New England 0.

Two hits and a man on base due to a fielding error were all the Golden Bears could manage for the rest of the game. Nowhere near enough to overcome Rensselaer.

The teams seemed to switch roles for the second game of the afternoon. It was the Engineers who went down one-

two-three in the top of the first, and the Golden Bears who scored two runs from two walks in the bottom of the inning.

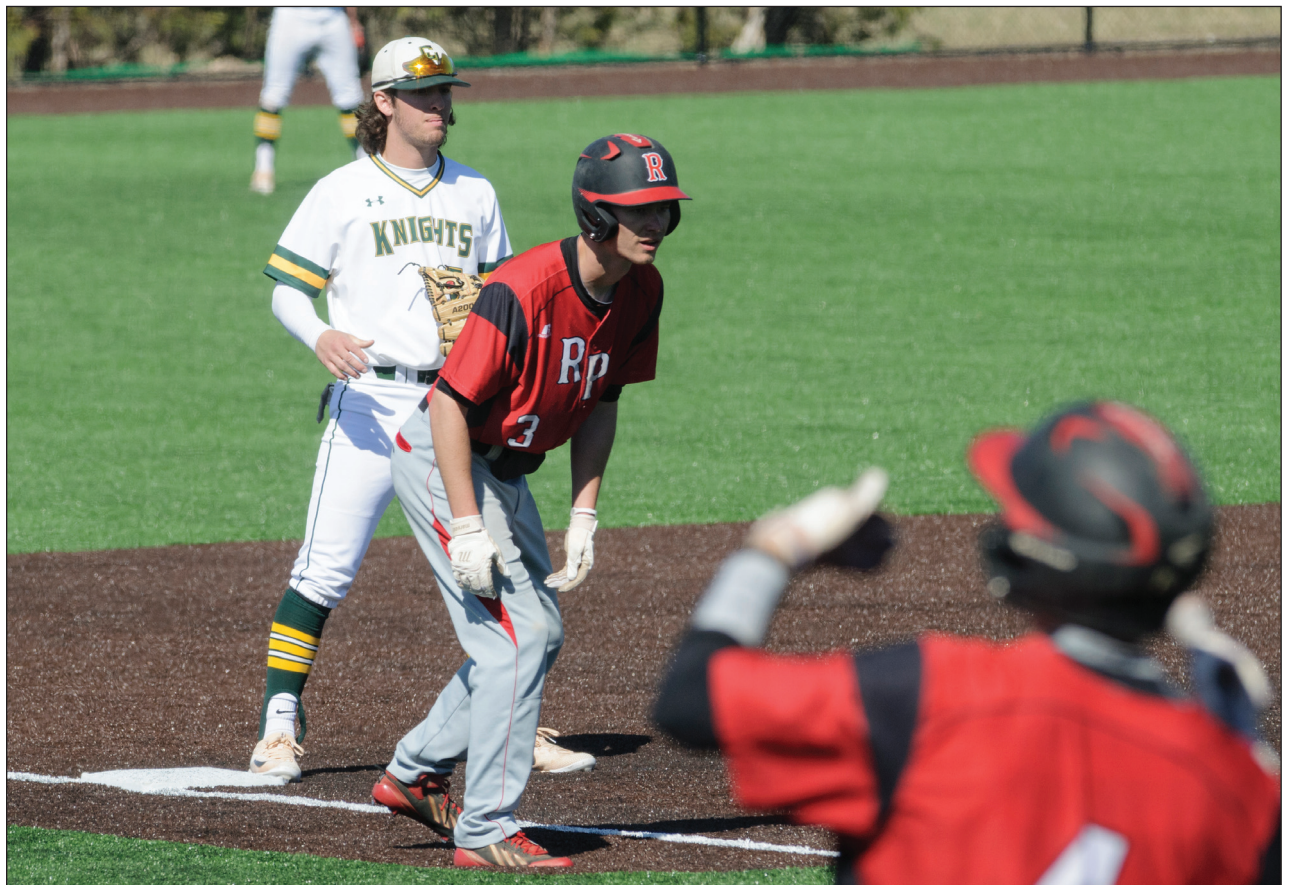
In the bottom of the second, that lead was doubled. Two more walks scored thanks to a double right down the leftfield line. The Engineers were looking at a four run deficit to overcome.

But in the top of the third, Rensselaer came close to fixing the problem. Singles from senior Yahriel Jimenez and Hawkins put two men on base with one in scoring position. A sacrifice bunt from Sitarski achieved its goal, putting both men in scoring position. Desmond stepped up to send both home, cutting the

run deficit in half. A hit from Meister was enough for Desmond to get home, and the Engineers only trailed by one.

The score remained stagnant for the next few innings, until the Golden Bears were able to pull away in the bottom of the seventh. A three-run home run put a win out of reach for RPI. The final score was 7-3.

The Engineers are now 13-14 overall. They will take on Vassar College on Saturday, April 22 at home, and then travel to Vassar on Sunday for the second half of the double header. ♦



Jack Wellhofer/The Polytechnic

JUNIOR WESTON HAWKINS TAKES a lead off of third base, waiting for the opportunity to run home. (file photo)

PLAY REVIEW

Avenue Q bridges gap from hilarity to '90s nostalgia

Elisabeth Ryan
Senior Reviewer

AFTER THE SOLEMN AND SINCERE *OUR TOWN*, THE RPI Players switch gears as they prepare for this season's musical, *Avenue Q*. For those of you unfamiliar with the show, it is an homage to Sesame Street that satirizes the story of a young man entering adulthood and the many disillusioning realities he has to face.

Princeton, our protagonist, is fresh out of college with a desire to find his life's purpose—the thing that makes him special. Along the way, he stumbles onto Avenue Q, a neighborhood that is in his price range. There, he meets a series of characters, some, like himself, presented in puppet form. They help him navigate this coming-of-age story, which spans a series of issues from unemployment to relationships and more.

Bryce Miller '16 takes on the role of Princeton, presenting a well-meaning, if a little naive, persona that is a killer impression of the original cast's John Tartaglia. It's no surprise, however, that this veteran of one of RPI's *a cappella* groups, Partial Credit, can take on such a role in Broadway style. Alongside him is Pixie Sirois '18 playing the part of Kate Monster, a sweet and romantic young lady with a dream for young monsters like herself. Once again, Sirois delivers in her performance. Last season, she displayed her strong and high voice in *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*. This season, she, like Miller, brings out the reminiscent feeling of watching characters on PBS, presenting a wonderfully entertaining character.

This production's cast is one of the most convincing and talented that I have had the pleasure to view. Pranav Suppal '19 will have you laughing with his Cookie Monster impression. Chiara Mancinelli '19 will have you questioning yourself "Am I attracted to a puppet right now?" And Bill Geltzeiler will do everything in his power to convince you that his character is not gay. In all seriousness, this cast has put in some major effort to coordinate their puppet's gestures with their own, all while singing, dancing, and telling a simple, yet relatable, story.

If my review of the stellar performance can't get you to go, how about some raunchy and inappropriate humour? As mentioned before, this show takes on a wide variety of social topics, which include race, sexuality, and promiscuity. The characters tackle these issues in song with titles such as "If You Were Gay," "Everyone's a Little Bit Racist," and a personal favorite "What Do You Do With a B.A. in English?"

While this show is a guaranteed laugh, the Players' sets are no joke. Upon the stage is a backdrop of familiar city-style homes. Scattered about are a series of old CRT televisions that periodically display words and images, contributing to the reminiscent feel of Sesame Street. Off along the sides are more sets, extending the performance area.

This is a truly entertaining show with well-rendered characters, fun and lighthearted musical numbers, and a touching story to tell. I encourage all to check it out this Friday at 8 pm. You can reserve your tickets ahead at <https://poly.rpi.edu/s/players>. ♦

We are pleased to announce that we are welcoming a new column to the paper, called

ASK BROOKELYN

Ask Brookelyn is a general advice column that we'll be experimenting with for the next couple of issues.

Be sure to send your questions to poly.rpi.edu/ASK

CAMPUS EVENT

Drag show displays professional, student talent



Brookelyn Parslow/The Polytechnic

THIS PAST FRIDAY, RENSSELAER PRIDE ALLIANCE HOSTED the Spring Drag Show, which featured both professional drag queens and aspiring student performers.