REVIEW

Troy poke restaurant opens new shop

On Monday, October 30, editors of The Polytechnic reported on Bespoki Bowl, a Korean-Hawaiian fusion restaurant in downtown Troy. Bespoki Bowl was located in Troy Kitchen until last month, when they opened their own restaurant at the location where The Flying Chicken used to be.

Serge Piskun

I got a classic poke bowl with salmon and tuna. Overall, the food was good—the fish was fresh, and the toppings were flavorful. I liked the differing flavor profiles that all came together in the bowl. The rice itself was flavored in a sort of spicy mayo, which added a new element to the dish. I wish there were a bit more of it, though. For those who don’t know what poke is, it’s a traditional Hawaiian dish consisting of raw fish on rice or greens, with a variety of toppings. Think sushi, but loose and in a bowl.

Maria Kozdroy

I ordered the poke bowl; I’ve had it in the past at Troy Kitchen and was super pumped to try it again. I had it with rice, spicy mayo, all the toppings, salmon, and yellowtail. I am bummed out that the fish is not cut on demand, as if you were watching the chef prepare it at a sushi bar. All the ingredients were very fresh and delicious! However, the rice was left with no sauce or toppings as it was at the bottom of the bowl. The spicy mayo came in clutch and added a yummy touch to the entire dish.

Jonathan Caicedo

I got Bespoki’s bulgogi bowl. When K-Plate moved out of Troy Kitchen this past spring, Bespoki was quick to offer their version of K-Plate’s signature dish to fill the bulgogi void. The bowl is available with either house sauce (standard Korean BBQ sauce), spicy mayo, or both. While I only got house sauce, I’m told you really can’t go wrong with either selection. The beef was well-cooked and extremely flavorful. The bowl also included lettuce, and was served over a bed of rice. Overall, it is a very cohesive dish, and all the flavors worked exceptionally well together. While I would have enjoyed a side of radish like in K-Plate’s offering, I was still very satisfied. Altogether I do think K-Plate has a slight edge in this domain, mainly in authenticity, Bespoki has proved to be quite a rival in the bulgogi department.

Bespoki Bowl offers fresh dishes in an open, modern environment where individuals can pop in and order a lunch and eat it right then and there. The poke bowls are perfect for customization, and the platters themselves can also be customized with the variety of sauces they offer. We all agreed that the dishes were a bit too small for a dinner though, and the prices are a bit too high for a lunch. That doesn’t mean the food isn’t enjoyable; between the poke, bowls, and specialty plates, there’s going to be something for everyone! We just wish it were more affordable for college students so that we could have it all the time.

STUDENT EVENT

Domino lovers dream of club creation

On October 25, Lily Hevesh ’21 hosted a domino topping interest meeting. Hevesh is making big efforts to bring domino topping to RPI. With a developed career on YouTube and a 1.3 million subscriber following, professional domino artist Hevesh has created domino structures for well-known artists such as Katy Perry and Will Smith. With such a developed background, she, along with fellow YouTube domino artist Shane O’Brien ’18, hopes to bring domino topping culture to campus.

The interest meeting featured reference videos to introduce the art of domino topping to those who attended. Hevesh then outlined the basics of domino building, giving tips on domino spacings, simple lines, turns, and pyramids. Attendees had the opportunity to let their imaginations run wild and create domino structures while practicing the basics. Students quickly formed groups and worked on their own individual structures together with others, resulting in large projects. With the allotted free building hour, students created pyramids, swirls, text structures, and more. Once in awhile, an accidental toppling would be heard across the room, accompanied by boos of disapproval from fellow peers.

Wednesday meetings will feature a short introduction of a domino technique, followed by free time to build and practice. Throughout the year, Hevesh also aims to host daylong builds to create massive structures, otherwise impossible during short meetings. After its completion, the build would be open for all to witness the falldown. If all goes well, the interest meeting will eventually become a Union-affiliated club. Hevesh hopes to bring domino topping culture to RPI and encourage students to learn patience and perseverance while applying problem solving skills to the design process. Much of domino topping incorporates physics with the understanding of the mechanics of solid objects and inelastic collisions. Whether interested in engineering, mathematics, or architecture, or design, domino topping may be a unique hobby to explore.
It is said that dance is the universal language which requires no other ability than an innate passion. Nowhere was this truth more evident than at Saturday’s Jump, Jive, and Jazz event hosted by RPI Ballroom Dance. The event was open to the public during Family Weekend, and as such drew an eager crowd of family members and newcomers alike.

The event started with a half-hour long lesson under the Lindy Hop Swing group, which deals specifically with the unique art of ‘20s era swing dance. Participants were asked to rotate partners and switch roles as leaders and followers, allowing for dancers to get experience in all facets of the dance style. While the participants were largely beginners, instructors were very friendly and open to answering any questions that people had, while being clear in their demonstrations of different technique. The thing that really struck me was how approachable and friendly everyone was; after the first few minutes, all pretenses were dropped, and people just had a good time while learning.

After the introductory lessons, the crowd was invited to join the instructors in dancing to live music performed by the Concert Jazz Orchestra. The ensemble did a fantastic job of starting off with approachable songs to dance to, such as classics like “It Don’t Mean a Thing,” and later challenged more advanced dancers with faster tempo pieces. You really got the sense that people were enjoying themselves—from dancers, young and old, to spectators, many of whom were delighted to see their family members developing dance skills.

After an hour of traditional jazz pieces, the Concert Jazz Orchestra took their well-deserved leave, and the 8th Street Swing Band took the stage to provide some more swing-oriented pieces for participants to try their newfound skills on. Once again, these pieces varied in tempo, allowing for both experienced and beginner swing dancers to try their hand at dance. When the faster tempo pieces came on, skilled members of Ballroom Dance really got a chance to show off and wow onlookers.
Happy 253rd birthday, Stephen van Rensselaer!

**TOP TEN**

10. Mr. Skeltal
9. Roundcube
8. David S. Pumpkins
7. Snapchat streak hourglass
6. Incorrect bad grade in LMS
5. Actual bad grade in LMS
4. Bursar bills
3. SIS Man
2. Chemistry
1. Sidney Kochman

**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.

Lpzxqpez txj *mts* jt tyjpdpkr utdrjmpez pu dtujfn v dvjm yqtcfrd. Cxj lpzxqpez txj *smvj* jt tyjpdpkr pu dtujfn etj. - Evjr lpfbrq

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**Come dance with RPI Ballroom at our Social Dance Tango**

Saturday, November 4 @ 7 PM
Academy Hall Auditorium

$2 Early Bird Sign-Up: tinyurl.com/nov4social
$5 at the door
No partner or experience necessary!
I feel déjà vu: A French expression commonly used to express familiarity. As my junior year progresses, I’ve come across a familiar feeling— one of being at a crossroads. The last time I felt this way was four years ago, as a junior in high school, deciding my future college and career. I was fortunate enough to pick both a school and major I have grown to love, but another turning point in my life has surfaced and yet again I must make a decision: graduate school or industry?

As a materials engineer, I work in a field that features both science and engineering. Although it may seem narrow, specific to one aspect of engineering, it actually spans across all engineering fields, as well as science fields like physics and chemistry. The curriculum focuses on understanding all aspects of materials: mechanical and electrical properties, kinetics, thermodynamics, synthesis and processes, materials selection, and more. These courses review the properties of those different materials and why they behave the way they do, as well as how materials may be processed and applied to engineering. Overall, a materials graduate has options, and options mean decisions.

My options include academia and industry. Academia means furthering my scientific knowledge of materials in an environment I am familiar with, while industry means gaining hands-on experience in a new setting and testing my skills. Considering the pros of each option, academia will enrich my education and make me more appealing to industry down the road. It will also feed my curiosity and willingness to learn. On the other hand, industry will teach me about business, and creating tangible value, significant research, will allow me to apply what I’ve learned and take a much-needed break from student life.

There is something to be said about a change of pace. This may be an unpopular opinion, but I find excitement in moving forward, changing my scenery, and accepting a new challenge. That’s how I felt about college, at least, coming to RPI from New York City. I could satisfy this feeling by either option: getting a master’s degree or Ph.D. at a different university, or working at a company. However, regardless of where I go, a student’s lifestyle has little variety. Industry, on the other hand, offers a new community altogether.

Neither path hinders pursuit of the other—so my consequences are low. I may pursue graduate school after working at a company or work at a company, after graduate school. This question of where to go after graduation probably stumps many of us. Ultimately, it’s important to remember what will improve your quality of life and happiness without costing too much. For the time being, I’ve settled on pursuing a job in industry. Where will I go after graduation? I’ll answer that when I feel my next déjà vu.

Our commitment to ethical journalism

Publicizing our Code of Ethics, ensuring standards of objectivity, professionalism

LAST WEEK, THE POLY POSTED ITS CODE of Ethics online for public viewing. It can be found at poly.rpi.edu/ethics.

In it, we outline some of the general standards that we hold ourselves to while representing the newspaper. This includes, but is not limited to, dealing with conflicts of interest when members of The Poly are involved in organizations that The Poly is covering, handling intimate details of a person’s life, and keeping stories confidential until they happen.

Each semester, The Poly Editorial Board votes to approve a code of ethics as part of our commitment to professionalism and honesty. The approved Code is not exhaustive, as we can’t predict all situations that we might find ourselves in. However, we expect all members of The Poly to hold themselves accountable for all that we do.

The Poly’s reputation is based on its ability to objectively report on campus news. We seek to understand the multiple sides of each issue we cover and ensure that we do not exclude any given viewpoint. Our purpose, as stated in our constitution, is to keep the members of the Rensselaer community informed of all pertinent events, to lead student opinion, and to provide other material for reader enjoyment. The best way for us to do this is to earn the community’s trust with each article that we publish. Although we may not always be the first to break news, we take time to ensure that we can gather the facts so that we can stand behind every word we write.

We are always looking to improve our work. Your feedback is crucial to this, and we encourage you to share your thoughts with us. Additionally, if you believe that The Poly or a member of The Poly is operating in a way that doesn’t represent responsible journalism, please email us at poly@rpi.edu.
Shuttle tracking system updates released

Hello, RPI!

The application now also links to the schedules for the various shuttle routes available for users. This project is being led by Joseph Lyon '20, and a number of students have been collaborating on the project. Some of the planned changes moving forward include notifications when shuttles are nearby and time estimates for shuttle arrivals.

With the Crossgates Mall shuttles program, we held our first run of the semester earlier this month, and we saw heavy participation in the program. Kudos to the project lead, Jenna Freedberg '18, and the students involved in the project for all of their hard work in making this program a continued success! The next shuttle will be run this Saturday, November 4, which lines up with the release of Thor: Ragnarok. Be sure to take advantage of this program!

Finally, with the Late Night Weekend Shuttle program, the Facilities and Services Committee, chaired by Nancy Bush '19, has been working closely with Parking and Transportation Services on this program’s release. The program has been well received by students, and several hundred students have made use of the shuttles in the first few months. We’re excited to continue working with the department to provide feedback on what student needs are, specifically with respect to transportation.

These are just a number of projects that are in progress for the benefit of the student body. I’m looking forward to sharing updates about projects we have made progress on regularly, but feel free to reach out to me at gmw@rpi.edu to share any ideas, ask any questions, or voice any concerns!

Finally, happy Halloween to everyone!

Justin Etzine
152nd Grand Marshal

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Hello, everyone, and happy Wednesday!

I hope that you all enjoyed Family Weekend and got to spend some well-earned quality time with your families. From Homecoming Convocation on Saturday morning, to Fan Fest outside of the Houston Field House Saturday afternoon, and the hockey game Saturday night, the campus was alive with families re-connecting at the semester’s halfway point. I know I was happy to have my own parents here this year, especially after last year when my mom “accidentally” planned my parents’ 25th wedding anniversary for the same weekend as Family Weekend. I mean, I understand why someone might disagree. Some of you might try to claim that Christmas movies are better. I would like to contest that claim with two examples.

It’s The Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown came out in 1966. Halloweentown came out in 1998. These two films serve as the pinnacle of holiday movies. Charlie Brown, the immortal comic created by Charles M. Schulz, is a timeless classic. It includes one of the most iconic animated scenes of all-time, including Snoopy as a flying ace fighting the infamous Red Baron, and is filled with the jolly Peanuts tune that takes us all back to a simpler time. Halloweentown, on the other hand, was a modern coming-of-age story in which a young witch not only discovers her place in the world, but saves her friends, family, and home in the process. If you have never seen these movies, please take the time this holiday season to watch them. You will not regret your experience.

This week, I want to take a moment to talk about something very important to me—something that I think is very important this time of year, especially around the holidays. And that, ladies and gentleman, is Halloween. Now, you might be asking, “Matt, why is Halloweentown so important? Why are you writing about it in your Derby?” Well, there’s a really simple answer. Halloween movies are the best type of holiday movies. Period. End of story.

Now, I know that some of you might disagree. Some of you might try to claim that Christmas movies are better. I would like to contest that claim with two examples. The Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown came out in 1966. Halloweentown came out in 1998. These two films serve as the pinnacle of holiday movies. Charlie Brown, the immortal comic created by Charles M. Schulz, is a timeless classic. It includes one of the most iconic animated scenes of all-time, including Snoopy as a flying ace fighting the infamous Red Baron, and is filled with the jolly Peanuts tune that takes us all back to a simpler time. Halloweentown, on the other hand, was a modern coming-of-age story in which a young witch not only discovers her place in the world, but saves her friends, family, and home in the process. If you have never seen these movies, please take the time this holiday season to watch them. You will not regret your experience.

Finally, as we begin to make our schedules for next semester, we begin to look towards the spring and plan for the future.

We will soon see the snow falling, finals coming, and Thanksgiving and Christmas will be right around the corner. For club officers we also see budgeting approaching! Important dates include Friday, November 17, the date preliminary budgets must be entered in Club Management System, and Monday, November 27, the deadline for final budgets to be entered into CMS. If you have any questions about your budgets please contact your Executive Board Representatives or stop by my office hours. We are here to help!

Matthew Rand
128th President of the Union
LGBT professional networking club approved

Sidney Kochman  
Senior Reporter

The Executive Board had a busy agenda on Thursday, approving Lavender Ambassadors—a professional networking group for LGBT students and allies—fireworks during the GM Week 2018 finale, and an increase in RPI Flying Club’s subsidy.

Lavender Ambassadors applied and was approved 19-0-0 to be a Union-recognized club. It sets itself apart from other LGBT organizations on campus with a focus on issues in the workplace. President Jay Luppino ’18 said that there is a higher rate of LGBT students dropping out of college, which Lavender Ambassadors aims to reduce through professional networking and workplace opportunities. According to Luppino, “about 60 people” attended the club’s three meetings last year, and there are 30 people who are interested in becoming members after the club’s approval.

Lavender Ambassadors was provided with a starter constitution, by which all newly recognized clubs are required to govern themselves. Representative Brooklyn Pastor ’20 asked if a provision in this constitution that required the club to maintain membership information and make it available to the Board applied to Lavender Ambassadors. Club Operations Committee chairperson Erica Lane ’18 responded, saying that the Protected Class Policy overrides this provision, and therefore the club would only be required to reveal the identities of its members after a vote of the E-Board. Even then, the membership list would be treated as confidential and kept in the Admin Office. A motion to allow Lavender Ambassadors to operate under the Protected Class Policy passed 19-0-0.

RPI Flying Club President Stephen Hansen ’18 came before the Board to request more funding. He said that the club budgeted for approximately 40 club members, but this semester there has been a surge up to 74 current, dues-paying members. Much of the interest has been from freshmen, he added, and Flying Club needs more flight hours to train additional pilots. The club requested its flight hour subsidy be increased by $717 and its reception fund be increased by $170. A motion to reallocate a total of $887 from the club contingencies budget to the Flying Club budget passed 18-0-1.

GM Week Committee Chairperson Andrew Kiselik ’19 presented on behalf of the GM Week Committee to request that the E-Board guarantee to cover up to $15,000 in damages due to fireworks during the GM Week 2018 finale. Previously, fireworks had been launched from the East Campus Athletics Village, but damage to a synthetic field surface caused RPI Athletics not to approve this request. Director of Student Activities Cameron McLean said that Vice President for Administration Claude Rounds has tentatively approved fireworks on the ‘66 Field, and she wants the Union to be able to say that it could cover any damage.

There were a number of questions about the expense. Member at Large Jared Segal ’19 asked if they were worth the cost, and Kiselik said that the committee thought fireworks would be the best option. Member at Large Jared Segal ’19 asked if the committee considered other ideas, to which Kiselik replied that the committee talked it over and “a lot of people think fireworks would be a good part of the week.” Pastor pointed out that the $15,000 guarantee on top of the $3,000 cost of the fireworks means that they could potentially cost $18,000 in total. She said that, with that additional money, the GM Week Committee could have other “really good” events that could be “more influential” than just fireworks.

However, McLean reassured the Board that damages would cost nowhere near $15,000. A motion to cover up to $15,000 in damages from GM Week fireworks passed 15-0-3. The money would come from the facilities reserves fund, if necessary.

In his report, President of the Union Matthew Rand ’19 said that temporary furniture for the new Student Veterans Lounge is coming in piece by piece, and he is working on a date and time for the lounge’s ribbon cutting. Rand said that additional interviews for director of the Union candidates will occur on Tuesday, November 7 and Friday, November 10, and that the E-Board will be leading the interviews. He hopes that the Board will have a motion on the director of the Union by November 16. Rand also shared that Rafael Gonzalez, the Union’s assistant director of student activities, has put in his two weeks’ notice, and the Multicultural Leadership Council that Gonzalez works closely with may become a standing committee of the E-Board.

Lane shared an update from the Club Operations Committee, saying that she has found that many E-Board and policies cite the Policies Committee, but now that the Club Operations Committee exists, references will need to be updated. According to Lane, over 30 new clubs have applied to be recognized by the Union this semester.

UPAC Comedy came before the Board with the intent to have unused money reallocated within its budget so that it could have a larger Last Day of Classes Show, which is scheduled for December 13. The money is from a cancelled Family Weekend show and revenue from their Tape Face show. Vice President of the Union Rasika Ekhilakar ’18 pointed out that this would be a reallocation within the same line item, so UPAC Comedy doesn’t need to have this approved by the Board. No motion was made.

New routes added to annual light walk

Darby Burns  
Senior Reporter

At the Student Senate meeting on October 30, the Senate discussed its plans for the annual light walk to take place at the meeting’s close. Every year, members of the Senate split up into groups to walk around campus and the surrounding area to look for anything that could potentially be unsafe, such as lights that are out or bushes that block the sidewalk. Anything they find gets reported to either the Department of Public Safety or the city of Troy, depending on the location. In the meeting, Senator Nancy Bush ’19 spoke about a couple of new routes that had been added to the light walk; one on the way to City Station and another along 6th Street. She also mentioned that, this year, the new Associate Dean of the Off Campus Commons Kelly THibault was invited and would be joining Director of Public Safety Jerry Matthews.

When The Poly asked Grand Marshal Justin Etzine ’18 if he will be participating in future interviews done by the Human Resources Interview Committee, citing a Reddit post from earlier that day, titled “HR excluding GM from future Director of the Union interviews; E-Board required to sign NDA.” Etzine responded that he would be participating and that the Reddit post was the first he had heard of the issue. Shortly after the post went up, he was added to the list and informed by the Division of Human Resources that it was just an accident.
President’s FALL TOWN MEETING

Thursday, November 2
3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

EMPAC
The Curtis R. Priem Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center

FEATURING
Institute Update | Q&A | Refreshments

rpi.edu to watch the live stream
**Dutchmen take Black Saturday victory**

**Jacob Kaplan**  
**Senior Reporter**

The Black Saturday hockey game occurred during Family Weekend when the Engineers played Union College, eventually losing 4-2. The game was played in front of a sold-out stadium and was the sixth game of the season.

Union managed the first goal of the game 11 minutes into the first quarter. Rensselaer was unable to answer for the rest of the quarter. On top of this, the Engineers faced two Union power plays in the first quarter alone. It took until the middle of the second period for Rensselaer to answer the first goal by Union. At 11:04 in the second quarter, the Engineers answered with a shot by Jake Marcello ’20, assisted by Matt Harris ’21 and Brady Wiffen ’19. Wiffen passed out to Harris, who sent the puck across the ice to Marcello near the goal. Nearly nine minutes later, Wiffen scored a goal of his own, bringing the Engineers to a 2-1 lead. This was the end of the Engineers’ scoring potential, however, and Union opened the third period with a shot to tie. The third period saw three goals by Union. The first was only three minutes into the opening. Ten minutes later, Union followed with a goal during a power play, and they ended the quarter with a final goal at 19:57. The game saw a clear advantage by Union, who had 22 extra seconds in power play, with two more power plays than RPI. The deficit is more apparent in the goalie statistics. Rensselaer goalie Chase Perry ’19 had 25 saves, while Union’s goalie only had 13, reflecting fewer shots on the Dutchmen’s goal.

The Engineers play Clarkson and St. Lawrence away this weekend on Friday and Saturday.

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**Splashing victory for RPI swimmers**

**Joseph Lyon**  
**Senior Reporter**

The RPI swimming and diving teams competed against Ithaca this weekend at the Robison Pool to kick off their season of 2014-104. The men and women’s teams were victorious; the women won 194-104, and the men won 191-106.5.

The Engineers pulled ahead early, with a victory by the women in the first 11 events straight. The men’s team won 12 events total. The men’s and women’s dive teams, however, did not perform as well. The men’s dive team won 14-5, but the women’s lost 16-3.

The men’s team saw several great performances, including individual wins by Trevor Maxfield ’20, who won both the 1,000 yard and 500 yard freestyle, with an impressive 10:10.38 and 4:59.51 respectively. Also Noah Pan ’19 had impressive performances winning the 100 and 200 yard backstroke.

The women’s team managed several individual event victories as well, including those of Jessica Savo ’18, who won the 200 freestyle and 200 breaststroke, and Amanda Wang ’19, who won the 100 backstroke.

The Engineers will swim again this weekend at WPI.

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**Engineers fall to Golden Knights**

**Jacob Kaplan**  
**Senior Reporter**

Rensselaer tied 0-0 against Vassar College on Wednesday, but won 2-0 against Clarkson University on Saturday. The games put the Engineers at 8-7-2 for the season, enough to advance them to the Liberty League playoffs.

Wednesday’s game was scoreless for the first half. Vassar took the lead in the 52nd minute when a free kick from 20 yards out made it to the top left corner of Rensselaer’s goal. The Engineers made several attempts at closing the gap. Stephanie May ’18 and Hannah Bordogna ’18 each had three shot attempts, as did Jacquie Richard ’20 and Emily Kaplan ’20. Goalie Joey Lyons ’20 finished with four saves.

Dalí Alarían ’18 put the Engineers on the board in the third minute of Saturday’s game after heading a cross from Richard. The lead continued in the second half, with Clarkson failing to make up any ground. The Engineers widened that lead after, Olenka Sokó ’21 kicked in a short-range shot after a pass from Alexis Castrellón ’20. Lyons stopped Clarkson’s only shot attempt that made it to the goal, ending the game with 2-0 shutout. The Engineers also ended with a massive shot advantage of 22-6.

The Engineers will advance to the Liberty League playoffs as its fifth seed.

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**Like lights? Like websites? poly.rpi.edu/lights**