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STUDENT SENATE

Student Senate overrides E-Board policy on livestreaming, recording

Brookelyn Parslow
Senior Reporter

ON WEDNESDAY, THE STUDENT SENATE passed a resolution regarding the recording and livestreaming of open student government body meetings, approved the *Grand Marshal Week 2018 Handbook*, and failed to approve the appointment of an Executive Board representative.

The Senate resolved to “make all open meetings of student government bodies recordable or open to livestreaming by any member of the Union, and to stipulate that all Union policies that state otherwise must be updated accordingly.” The resolution passed unanimously and can be seen in its entirety at poly.rpi.edu/s/l srp.

The resolution was made in response to an amendment to the *Rensselaer Union Executive Board Special Rules of Order* that prohibits livestreaming; the amendment further states that anyone who records meetings must announce that they are doing so and “immediately stop recording when asked to by the President.” According to the Union “may also request that all copies of an audio or video recording be deleted in front of the President if there is reason to believe the recording captured sensitive or confidential information.”

“These policies are adopted to ensure the privacy of any party presenting sensitive financial or personal information to the Board and to allow the Board to freely express its opinions



Nicholas Luczak/The Polytechnic

ON WEDNESDAY, THE STUDENT SENATE RESOLVED to make all public meetings open to recording.

without interruption from biased parties,” the policy later reads.

The discussion of livestreaming was initially brought up to the Board by Independent Senator Stefanie Warner '19.

According to Warner, she “asked for a simple discussion on the idea of livestreaming their meetings” and had “what [she] thought was a good discussion” in an E-Board meeting on January 25. Warner

later worked with the Policies Committee and helped create a survey for Board members. She was never informed of the results or informed of the additions to, and vote on, the policy.

“These are the people who are handling quite literally the tax dollars of the people that we represent. There should be more accountability, not less,” expressed graduate student Steve Sperazza.

Many senators agreed that if information is sensitive enough that it should not be livestreamed or recorded, the Executive Board should exercise its ability to close the meeting.

President of the Union Matt Rand '19 was made aware of the resolution via an email following the meeting, in which Grand Marshal

See SENATE, **Page 2**

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Flying Club budget balanced

Darby Burns
Senior Reporter

ON THURSDAY, THE EXECUTIVE BOARD HAD A BUSY meeting; it approved the motions for several clubs, along with a new ICA/club representative.

The meeting started out with a motion from the RPI Flying Club asking for the funds to balance their budget. Due to a delay in processing, a series of charges went to this fiscal year as opposed to last fiscal year when they occurred. These were charges for a national competition that took place in May of last year. Because of the delay, the club ended last year with a very large surplus in their budget from all the dues that were intended to go towards these expenses. Director of the Mueller Center Steven Allard said that the club, “did absolutely nothing wrong,” and explained that this kind of thing happens occasionally for events that take place late in the fiscal year.

There was a brief discussion of where the funds should come from, resulting in the motion to “allow the RPI Flying Club to overspend their budget by \$3563 to balance the budget to account for costs incurred by last fiscal year’s NIFA Competition to Goal A Program 3 CW AW,” that passed 13-0-0.

The Gaming Club came before the board for a second time asking for money to cover the cost of entrance and travel for their attendance to the World Boardgaming Championships. The club had gone before the Board previously on February 1, asking only for a subsidy on the cost of admission to the competition. The motion then was tabled to give the club the opportunity to come up with a complete estimate of the cost including travel. In the discussion of the motion, it was questioned whether the funds should come out this year’s contingency fund or next year’s.

The motion was rewritten to consolidate the \$440 for the tickets and \$430.28 for the

travel expenses into one fee. Class of 2019 Representative David Raab '19 brought up that those going to the competition rearranged their travel and lodging plans so that they could be in compliance with Union policy in the hopes of receiving more funds. He also said that, “just know that if you do approve everything, that you are changing the decision that was made to the budget.”

The motion to “allocate \$870.28 to provide the full cost of admission and a 60-40 travel expense split for four members of the Gaming Club to attend the WBC in July,” passed 11-1-1.

Next to come before the Board were the Global Medical Brigades asked for a 40 percent subsidy of the cost of a bus round trip to the airport necessary for them to go on their trip to Honduras to provide medical aid and relief there. They also asked for a loan for

See BOARD, **Page 2**

Senate: E-Board member appointment not approved

From **Page 1**

Justin Etzine '18 wrote, "As the chief policymaking body of the Union, the Student Senate has enacted this resolution as a new Union policy." The resolution was attached.

The Senate also approved a motion to amend the *Bylaws of the Rensselaer Union Student Senate* by replacing all instances of "Rules and Elections Committee" with "Elections Commission."

Elections Commission Chairperson Caleb Caraway '19 explained that while looking through old GM Week handbooks, he learned that the committee was formerly responsible for more than elections; it was also in charge of keeping records of all club bylaws and constitutions. The committee now focuses entirely on elections, and Caraway felt the name change to Elections Commission would be more appropriate. The motion passed unanimously.

Caraway also presented the *Grand Marshal Week 2018 Handbook* with some major changes, the largest of which transfers the responsibility of entering nominations from members of the committee to candidates, candidate assistants, and candidate proxies. Nominations will be entered through the elections website, which can be found at elections.union.rpi.edu, and validated by the committee.

Other large changes included restricting the presiding grand marshal and president of the Union from being candidate assistants, allowing candidates besides the grand marshal and president of the Union to pollsit, and removing a line about the use of sign holders on the 15th Street footbridge, since they no longer exist.

Warner expressed concerns about Section 2, Item 3 of the elections rules, which stated, "Campaign materials shared equally between candidates may

be charged equally between the candidates." She felt that this could be misinterpreted to benefit candidates. An amendment to the motion that changed the word "may" to "must" was passed unanimously.

The *Grand Marshal Week 2018 Handbook* was then approved unanimously.

The Senate discussed Rand's appointment of Deepika Senthilnathan '21 as a club/ICA representative of the Executive Board. The motion to approve the appointment was tied 8-8-2, which then left Etzine with a vote. He abstained and the motion failed 8-8-3.

When asked to share a few words about herself, Senthilnathan expressed that she is "really excited to bring forth [her] ideas and support them by voting." Her introduction was followed by a series of questions from members of the Senate.

When asked by Sperazza to elaborate on the aforementioned ideas, Senthilnathan shared that, "during our meetings when we would recognize certain clubs, we would all have, like, an open discussion about how we feel. Some of my points that might be made would be more relevant and backed up with a voting right."

"I'm a little worried about attendance. I was curious if you have any plans in mind as to how you could attend regularly," expressed Warner later in the discussion.

Senthilnathan responded and said that she is currently only involved in the Indian Students Association and that they only meet a couple times each semester, so it won't get in the way.

According to the Executive Board meeting minutes that are posted online at poly.rpi.edu/s/emin—which contain attendance sheets—Senthilnathan was present at five of the 11 meetings that have occurred since she joined the Board.

The Senate meets on Wednesdays at 8 pm in the Shelnut Gallery. ♦

Board: Email read

Representative received 'personal attack'

From **Page 1**

the other 60 percent of the cost which they planned to pay back after their annual fundraising event, weR Gold. They explained that they are only asking for money for the bus to get to the airport, and that they are paying for the entire cost of the rest of the trip themselves. When asked why they hadn't asked for money to cover the cost to get to the airport before, they said that in the past they hadn't been big enough to go alone so they had partnered with other schools.

When the Board began to discuss the motion, Vice President of the Union Rasika Ekhalikar '18 brought up the idea of giving them the full amount and not requiring them to pay it back, saying that everyone going is already paying so much money and that paying for this will make the Board look good. It was also mentioned that the money from their annual fundraiser typically goes towards buying medications to take with them, and that by asking for repayment of the 60 percent it would be taking money away from that. The motion was rewritten to be to "reallocate \$1350 from contingencies to Goal E, Program 1, Line 5 of the RPI Global Medical Brigades fiscal year 2018 budget, for the 100 CD AW subsidy of round-trip busing costs between RPI and JFK airport," which passed 11-0-2.

President of the Union Matthew Rand '19 briefly discussed the resignation of former Club/ICA representative Brookelyn Parslow '20, explaining that she resigned due to the large time commitment she has as the editor in chief of *The Polytechnic*.

A motion to approve Deepika Senthilnathan '21 as a Club/ICA representative passed 12-0-1. This came on the heels of a discussion regarding her failure to be approved for the same position by the Student Senate the night before. More information about the Senate's decision can be found at poly.rpi.edu/s/senover8.

During the member reports, Club/ICA Representative and Business Operations Committee Chairperson Kay Sun '19 read an email she received criticizing the Business Operations Committee and making personal attacks regarding her performance as an Executive Board member. The email included the statements, "you are a terrible leader," "bus ops didn't accomplish anything because of you," and "you would resign if you cared." Rand responded saying that he would speak to her after the meeting because an email like that is "inappropriate and has to be addressed."

Sun followed up by saying that "it's not just that it hurt me... I don't want E-Board reps to have to face the threat of being personally attacked or personally threatened, especially when the attack is on a personal level."

The Executive Board meets every Thursday at 8 pm in the Shelnut Gallery. ♦

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Editorial

Wednesday, February 21, 2018

DERBY

PU shares Executive Board's justification for banning recordings: privacy, comfort

HELLO EVERYONE! I APOLOGIZE FOR MY RECENT LAPSE in writing Derby articles for you all, but I wanted to check in and catch you all up to date. Usually, I like to start with a few pleasantries, but given all the information to get through, I will get started right away.

First, for anyone who missed it, the Union Annual Report Committee, a joint committee of the Senate and the Executive Board, successfully wrote and submitted the *Union Annual Report* for Fiscal Year 2019 to the Senate last week. That document was passed by the Senate and the report was forwarded on to Vice President Le Norman Strong, the Interim Vice President for Student Life, and has now been reviewed by Dr. Jackson in anticipation for review by the Board of Trustees. For anyone who is not familiar with the overall process for submitting the *Union Annual Report*, what I outlined above is the traditional route that the document takes on its way to the Board of Trustees. Once the Senate approves the document, the President of the Union releases the report to the Division of Student Life, specifically the Vice President and Assistant Vice Presidents. From there, the Division of Student Life forwards the document to the Division of Finance, as well as the Office of the President. Once the leadership of all of the aforementioned divisions reviews the document, the report is finally submitted to the Board of Trustees for their ultimate review and approval. As of now, that is where the document is and once the Board of Trustees have had a chance to review it, I should have an update for you all!

Secondly, I have noticed and received a lot of confusion

regarding the Executive Board's decision to restrict the ability for individuals to livestream our meetings that was ultimately overruled by a decision of the Senate. I want to be clear that the Executive Board did not act to restrict the rights of the public. The Board never sponsored a livestream of our meetings for a number of reasons which ultimately culminated to our (now void) decision to restrict that. Our meetings have always been open to the public, and our meeting minutes are publicly available on the Student Government website.

The Board's decision was one that was made for what we believed to allow for the best possible environment for us to conduct business. As many of you are aware, the normal operations of the Executive Board in our general body meetings usually accomplish one of two goals: assist clubs

with funding or operational support to provide programming to the club, or to start a new club on our campus. Both of these pieces of business are extremely important, but also extremely personal. Clubs, in my view, provide a livelihood to the members of our student body. A home, a place that provides structure and an extra dimension to a student's experience at Rensselaer. So, when a club comes before the Board to ask for money, the determination has a very personal effect. Often, our decisions are the difference between a student paying out-of-pocket for a trip or a program and the Union funding that endeavor. Often, these decisions are both extremely personal and critical. In receiving feedback from club officers, it was determined that a camera would be a deterrent to many clubs who would feel uncomfortable coming to ask for support from

the Board. Inherently, a camera would deter individuals and hinder the Board's ability to perform our duties. And lastly, it helps to protect the members of the Board who have to make these personal decisions. For example, during the Turning Point discussion that was live streamed, multiple reports of personal attacks on members of the Board surfaced during and after the discussion. What kind of organization can effectively promote fairness, equity, and good governance in an environment where student members of that very group are attacked and shamed for making the tough decisions they are required to? I understand that as a student government body, we have a responsibility to our constituents. But, if that constituency is uncomfortable coming before the Board because they are uncomfortable by the presence of a camera, and members of that Board receive communications disparaging their character that ultimately affects their ability to execute their job function, is the decision to allow live streaming truly the best decision? Maybe it is, but the Board made the informed decision that it wasn't for the best. It is quite a shame that no one asked for input from the Executive Board before unilaterally overturning our decision. I can only hope that it does not act to deter our clubs and organizations from coming to ask for support.

Thank you all, should anyone have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me at pu@rpi.edu.



Matthew Rand

President of the Union

Matthew Rand
128th President of the Union

EDITOR'S CORNER

Union E-Board should prioritize transparency

SINCE RESIGNING FROM THE RENSSELAER UNION Executive Board, I have had a bunch of people ask me why. In the Board's most recent meeting, President of the Union Matt Rand '19 said that it was because of *The Poly*. To an extent, that's true. The time commitments that I have—the largest of those is likely *The Poly*—prevented me from being as present as I wanted to be. But it wasn't just that.

While copy reading articles in our office, I got to Rand's Derby. For transparency, I made absolutely no changes to that article. I read it and felt the need to respond, so I let it go through our normal copy process and was as hands off as I could be.

On February 8, while I was still a member of the Board, amendments to the *Special Rules of Order* were proposed and passed. They required anyone recording Board meetings to "make it known to everyone present at the start of the recording" and to "immediately stop recording when asked to by the President." They also gave the president of the Union the authority to request that all copies of recordings be deleted in his presence.

It further prohibited the livestreaming of any meetings. The end of the policy included the following statement: "These policies are adopted to ensure the privacy of any party presenting sensitive financial or personal information to the Board and to allow the Board to freely express its opinions without interruption from biased parties."

The amendments passed with a vote of 15-1-1. I was the only person on the Board who voted no. This policy was later overruled by the Student Senate with a resolution that passed unanimously.

In his Derby, Rand responds to the confusion surrounding the Board's decision. In it, he

writes, "I want to be clear that the Executive Board did not act to restrict the rights of the public." This is blatantly false. These meetings are open to the public. New York State law on recording is one-party consent, which gives anyone the freedom to record any phone call or conversation in which that person is involved. This includes public meetings of the Board. By requiring these recordings to be announced and giving Rand the authority to "request" that recordings be deleted, the Board is doing nothing but restricting the rights of the public.

Rand explains that the decision was made because it creates the "best possible environment for us to conduct business." He later elaborates, "it helps protect the members of the Board who have to make these personal decisions."

This topic came up multiple times while I was on the Board. When I moved to release the minutes from the closed meeting regarding the Outing Club, many members expressed that they didn't want their individual names attached to their

words. Frankly, this never made sense to me. Why are you on the Board if you cannot confidently—and publicly—stand behind the reasons for your decisions? Why are you on the Board if you do not want feedback on that reasoning so that you can improve for the sake of your constituency?

You are not a member of the Board for you. You are a member of the Board because people elected a president of the Union who stood for what they believed in, who they trusted with the million-dollar budget of the Union. The president of the Union then picked you, because he felt you were well-suited to accomplish his—and therefore the majority of the student body's—goals. I am not saying

that being a member of the Board should be a dreadful experience, but there are undoubtedly going to be difficult, uncomfortable times. When those times come, the Board should never prioritize their comfort over the fundamental rights of the student body.

So, yes, I did leave because of time commitments. But, I also left because I could not handle the Board's near-unanimous desire to "freely express its opinions without interruptions from biased parties." I could not handle the

groupthink. I could not handle the exhaustion from being one of the only people on the Board unopposed to accountability and transparency. I tried my hardest to just fight the good fight and stick it out, but I couldn't do it anymore.

On the bright side, your right to record and livestream public meetings has been reaffirmed by the Student Senate! Please exercise those rights and pay attention to the Board's decisions—it is your money that they're working with. ♦



Brookelyn Parslow
Editor in Chief

the polytechnic

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EDITORIAL NOTEBOOKS

Glass blowing checked off bucket list, studio added

I LIKE GLASS. I STARTED GLASS science research during my freshman year at Rensselaer, eager to learn something new and foreign. I walked into this field blind, as naive as a freshman can be, but with open hands. Since then, I've learned how to make glass and how to explain its behavior. Most importantly, I've learned how finical it is—and in some sense that's a trait we share. Outside this technical window of perspective, I've always found the art of glass special. A "bucket list" item of mine, you could say, has been glass blowing.

Last year, I visited the Corning Museum of Glass and felt like I had found a home I was never looking for. The museum is huge. It's a melting pot (or crucible) of science and art—a perfect equilibrium. Throughout the day, professional glass blowers show off their craft in demonstrations. Surrounded by furnaces at 1500 degrees Celsius, the artists hold long blowpipes with molten glass on the end, constantly spinning them to keep a smooth, spherical shape. I didn't have a chance to make my own art piece—al-

though the opportunity was there for me to try—but I walked out itching to experience it myself.

Last semester, I crossed glass blowing off my bucket list. I found a small art studio in Canaan, New York and made no excuses. The goal was to make a paperweight, and I could choose up to four colors to use. Let me add, when someone asks you to pick four colors, you suddenly have no idea where to start, and the decision process may take roughly 30 minutes to an hour (but that could just be me). Anyway, the instructor was very skilled in the art, having worked in glass blowing for 20 years, and he explained the science behind how colored glasses interact. It was interesting to learn about glass from an artist's perspective. When it came to the lesson, and after I (finally) picked my colors, I was handed a pipe with molten glass at the end and told to roll it inside the furnace. The pipe wasn't heavy. Instead, the challenge lay in rotating the pipe at a constant

rate and maintaining a balance. A lot of glass blowing has to do with gravity. There is actually a surprising amount of physics involved, even if it's just based on intuition and experience.

I loved it. I have my paperweight on my table as a reminder of my achievement—however wonky it came out. I'm incredibly happy that I tried glass blowing after having wanted to do it for so long. It's important to remember that even as busy college students, we can set out to complete our non-academic goals. Our college careers are so short, but that doesn't mean we can't make the most of them. For all we know, the excuses will never end.

Although I've crossed "glass blowing" from my bucket list, I've added "glass blowing studio" to the top. Is it unreasonable to want a glass blowing studio? Yes. Do I care? No. ♦



Anahit Hovhannisyan
de facto
Features Editor

Editor inconvenienced by Canadian tendencies

WHEN I WAS IN CANADA OVER SPRING BREAK, SOME friends and I decided to take advantage of the 18+ drinking age and go on a pub crawl. For the uninitiated, a pub crawl is an event where you buy a ticket that covers a free drink and cover fee for a few different clubs, with the caveat being that you only stay in each bar for about an hour. Our crawl cost \$29 Canadian Dollars and went to a bar and three clubs. Throughout the entire event, one thing prevented us from having a good time: servers being unreasonable.

We got to the first bar a bit late, and had a bit of trouble finding the pub crawl guides. When we finally got to them, they gave us a free drink and sent us on our way to find a table in the already crowded bar. Then, when we ordered the signature deal, 25 shots for 25 CAD, the bartender looked at our money, looked at us, and turned away to serve some other customer. Apparently, since we didn't include a tip with our initial purchase, we were deemed unservable. In our American eyes, this was highway robbery.

Maybe this is the case back home, we wouldn't know; only one of my friends was over 21 and she doesn't go out to bars. Either way, the act of turn-

ing away a paying customer due to them not tipping before receiving any actual service is baffling to me. Tips should be reflective of a job well done; when the customer feels like the server did the best they could and provided at least satisfactory service. I won't say to reserve tips for over-the-top service, as servers aren't paid enough to go without tips (a whole problem by itself which needs addressing). But I am saying that servers should not expect a tip before the service is given in the first place.

I assumed this would be an isolated incident, but it happened to at least one of my friends at every bar we visited to. At one of them, the bartender flat out took the drink back, and left my friend fuming. At the fourth bar, we just gave up and didn't order anything. I came home from this experience jaded and apprehensive about going to bars here once I turn 21.

The only hypotheses I have about the bad Canadian service is due to the pub crawl itself. Maybe the bartenders were fed up with the influx of American tourists and decided to do whatever they wanted to them. But even that, while understandable, isn't a good thing to do when you're in the service industry. Something has to change. ♦



Serge Piskun
Copy Editor

Poly Snapshots

Photos and interviews by Nicholas Luczak

The Question:

What's your favorite emoji?



Evan Weatherly
ELEC '20



Sydney Sobol
CHEG '20



Santiago Davila
CHEG '20



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Features

Wednesday, February 21, 2018

MOVIE REVIEW

Black Panther's successes: political commentary, talented cast, characters

Weston Brousseau
A Special to The Poly

AS THE NEWEST INSTILLATION IN THE MARVEL Cinematic Universe, *Black Panther* is a true work of art and a gold standard of what superhero movies should be. One of the cardinal problems (the kryptonite, if you will) of the MCU—really superheroes as a whole—is weakly written villains. However, the villain Erik Killmonger, played by Michael B. Jordan, is one of the more compelling characters I have seen in any superhero movie, villain or otherwise. Killmonger serves as the movie's political commentary on the world today through his juxtaposition with *Black Panther*, played by Chadwick Boseman, and his own character arc.

The movie does an excellent job of speaking to the nature of what it means to be black anywhere, but it in particular focuses on America's own history with African Americans. Killmonger plays an African-American son of a Wakandan native, and he follows an almost revenge story throughout the movie. His revenge story is both a personal grudge against T'Challa, or Black Panther, but also a revenge story for the history and oppression of black people. However, the story does not let the political commentary hinder plot or character development.

The characters in *Black Panther* have some incredible writing behind them that is only highlighted by the uber-talented cast. For example, Okoye, played by Danai Gurira, is probably one of the most badass women to hit the big screen this year, and her presence is felt from the moment she steps on screen to the moment the credits roll. Gurira isn't the only notable actress, as both Lupita Nyong'o and Letitia Wright seem to steal the show from Boseman. Nyong'o, who plays T'Challa's love interest, is a wonderfully written character even if Nyong'o's chemistry with Boseman seems to be lacking throughout the film. Wright, however, shines in her interaction with Boseman as they bring a great sibling rivalry into the film. And Boseman's portrayal of T'Challa is almost as great, if only limited by Boseman almost overplaying the stoic nature of the king of Wakanda. Regardless, some of the fight scenes in this movie were



Courtesy of Marvel Studios

THE NEW BLACK PANTHER MOVIE SHOWCASES Marvel's Wakandan superhero, who receives power from the Panther God, Bast.

among the most visually appealing I have ever seen; and director Ryan Coogler should really be applauded for doing such an excellent job.

Black Panther is a truly amazing movie that has been blessed with a talented cast

and complex story. Jordan's acting is especially noteworthy as one of the most interesting and complex villains the MCU has to offer. However, Jordan is complimented by the story that really gives him

and every other character room to shine and develop.

I highly encourage that everyone go and see this film, but for MCU fans this film is an absolute must-watch. ♦

CLUB SPOTLIGHT

SWE Outreach rewarding, educational

Pragati Pant
Staff Reviewer

EARLIER THIS SEMESTER, I ATTENDED MY FIRST SOCIETY OF Women Engineers' Outreach Committee. As a member of SWE, I wanted to check out what this committee was about.

The main goal of the club is to reach out to the local youth, and share our passion for science and engineering with them. They are responsible for volunteering and running events that involve educational, hands-on experiments. Even though I am a new member, I am definitely enjoying my experience so far on the Outreach Committee.

This past Saturday, SWE Outreach held Girlbusters Day, an event in collaboration with Girl Scouts. As you may be able to tell from the name of the event, it was based on the popular TV show *Mythbusters*. Just like in the show, the focus of this event was to see if common myths could be busted. The girls from Girl Scouts were given proper instructions and materials to conduct small experiments among their peers; these results

were then recorded to conclude if the myth was busted or not.

Since the event was run mainly by SWE Outreach, I had the opportunity to help present the experiments to the girls. One particular myth I enjoyed busting was "Can you cook an egg on the sidewalk?" To demonstrate this, committee members had to come up with an approach to mimic a sidewalk, since we couldn't use an actual sidewalk. The final decision was to use a slab of concrete and heat it to the approximate temperature of a typical hot summer day. An egg was then cracked on this surface to see if it would cook or not. After a few minutes of waiting, the Girl Scouts came to the consensus that the egg was not cooking. While this was such a trivial experiment, I would say that everyone had fun planning it as well as following through with it.

Other myths included were: "Can you predict the outcome of a coin flip?" and, "Do soda, coffee, or tea stain your teeth?" Throughout the entirety of this event, the most important part was to involve the young scientists and show them that science is part of our everyday lives.

Altogether, Girlbusters Day was a fun, educational experience. I enjoyed my time with all the girls, getting to know them and their interests in science, and helping run the experiments. Because members of SWE Outreach come from different majors and science backgrounds, I was happy to see how we were able to bring together our ideas to make this event enjoyable for everyone. And although this was only my second event with SWE Outreach, I am definitely going to continue being a member of this committee.

This is a great club to meet other women in engineering and science, as well as get to know the local Troy and Albany communities better. Additionally, all the members are very inviting and would love to see other female students involved in our events.

If you are interested in volunteering or planning events with the local youth, this might be the place for you. Feel free to stop by at one of our weekly meetings on Thursday nights at 7 pm in room 3502 in the Union! ♦

ALBUM REVIEW

Timberlake is bringin' country, flannel back



Courtesy of RCA

JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE DEDICATES *Man of the Woods* to his family and home of Tennessee.

Anahit Hovhannisyanyan

Senior Reviewer

AMIDST HIS EVER-ENCOMPASSING PERFORMANCE AT THE SUPER BOWL LII HALFTIME SHOW, Justin Timberlake released his fifth studio album, *Man of the Woods*—listed first in the *Billboard Top 200* this week. Named after his son, Silas, meaning “of the forest” in Latin, the album was inspired by Timberlake’s home roots in Memphis, Tennessee and dedicated to his family.

Three singles were released in the month of January to prepare fans for the album. “Filthy,” a song featuring an EDM style, was first released January 5. Next came “Supplies,” a hip-hop inspired song about being dependable and resourceful, filled with vocals in between verses. Lastly, on January 25, Timberlake released “Say Something” featuring Chris Stapleton along with a music video. Largely different from the previous two singles, “Say Something” incorporates guitar melodies, and a folk sound. Overall, *Man of the Woods* offers a variety of tracks reminiscent of Timberlake’s pop days and possibly reveals a new side of the artist.

Four music videos accompany the album, one for each single and one for “Man of the Woods.” Most notable is the six minute video for “Say Something,” which was filmed live in one continuous take. Set in the Bradbury Building in Los Angeles, the video features Timberlake as he builds the melody first using a drum controller, then vocals, and then an acoustic guitar. He walks through the building, passing birdcage elevators and wrought iron staircases occupied by fellow musicians, until Chris Stapleton makes an appearance. The video ends with an accompanying 60-person chorus, filling the room with a warm tone. On another note, the video for “Man of the Woods” contrasts the poetry of “Say Something” with silly dancing and a scene with multiple Timberlakes portraying different roles. With a light-hearted theme, this music video shows Timberlake’s versatile style.

Stapleton was an accidental artist featured in the album, as he was originally included in the project to assist with songwriting. Having contributed to “Morning Light,” “The Hard Stuff,” and “Say Something,” Stapleton was asked to sing as a part of the collaboration. In an interview with *Billboard*, Stapleton says, “I really just went out to Los Angeles to write songs with him ... It came out great. I had a blast with him, he’s a great creative force and one of those guys that if you get a chance to work with him, you should.”

Information for an album tour starting in March has been released. Timberlake suggests performances for the tour will strictly take place in arenas. “I wanted to do the show in arenas because I wanted to bring the outside in,” says Timberlake to Jimmy Fallon in a *Tonight Show* interview.

In a brief video trailer, Timberlake says, “It’s personal,” indicating the importance of this five-year long project. Ultimately, his matured persona shines through in this album, introducing a new country perspective—and a daring new look with flannels and beanies. Who knows where Timberlake will go next? ♦

MOVIE RECOMMENDATIONS



Courtesy of A24

The Florida Project

Recommended by:
Brookelyn Parslow



Courtesy of TriStar Pictures

Baby Driver

Recommended by:
Nicholas Luczak



Courtesy of Magnet Releasing

John Dies at the End

Recommended by:
Serge Piskun

ALBUM MENTIONS

**Home of the Strange
Young the Giant**

Recommended by:
Anahit Hovhannisyanyan

**Fabulist
Slenderbodies**

Recommended by:
Serge Piskun
Jonathan Caicedo

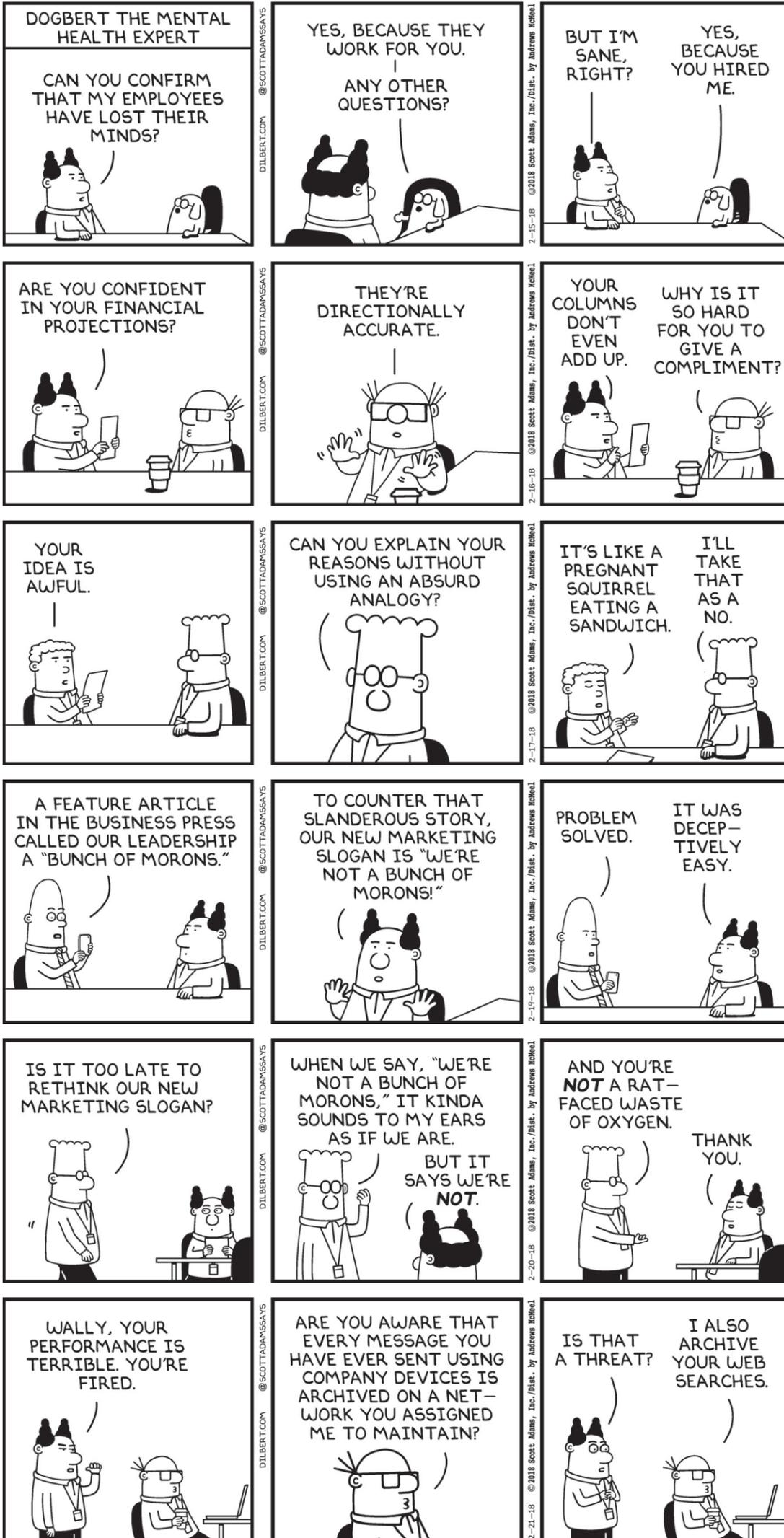
**What Everyone's
Thinking
AJR**

Recommended by:
Maria Kozdroy

DILBERT

by Scott Adams

TOP TEN LIST



- First World Problems**
10. When your GrubHub takes forever to deliver
 9. When *The Polytechnic* finishes at 6 am
 8. When your Uber cancels on you
 7. When your coffee is too hot
 6. When RPI takes-backsies on snow days
 5. When it's too hot/cold in lecture halls
 4. When the wifi takes 5 seconds to connect
 3. When your 8 am is at 8 am
 2. When the Snapchat update is trash
 1. When your two-day shipping takes three days

WORDFIND by Tyler Carney

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

Least Known Presidents

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

- | | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|------------|
| Arthur | Harding | McKinley | Tyler |
| Buchanan | Harrison | Monroe | Washington |
| Fillmore | Hayes | Pierce | |
| Ford | | Taylor | |

Join us at our closing nights in RU 3418 on Tuesdays at 7 pm.