

FEATURES Page 8



Red Sparrow relies on violence and graphic imagery

FEATURES Page 8



The Neighbourhood's new album disappoints

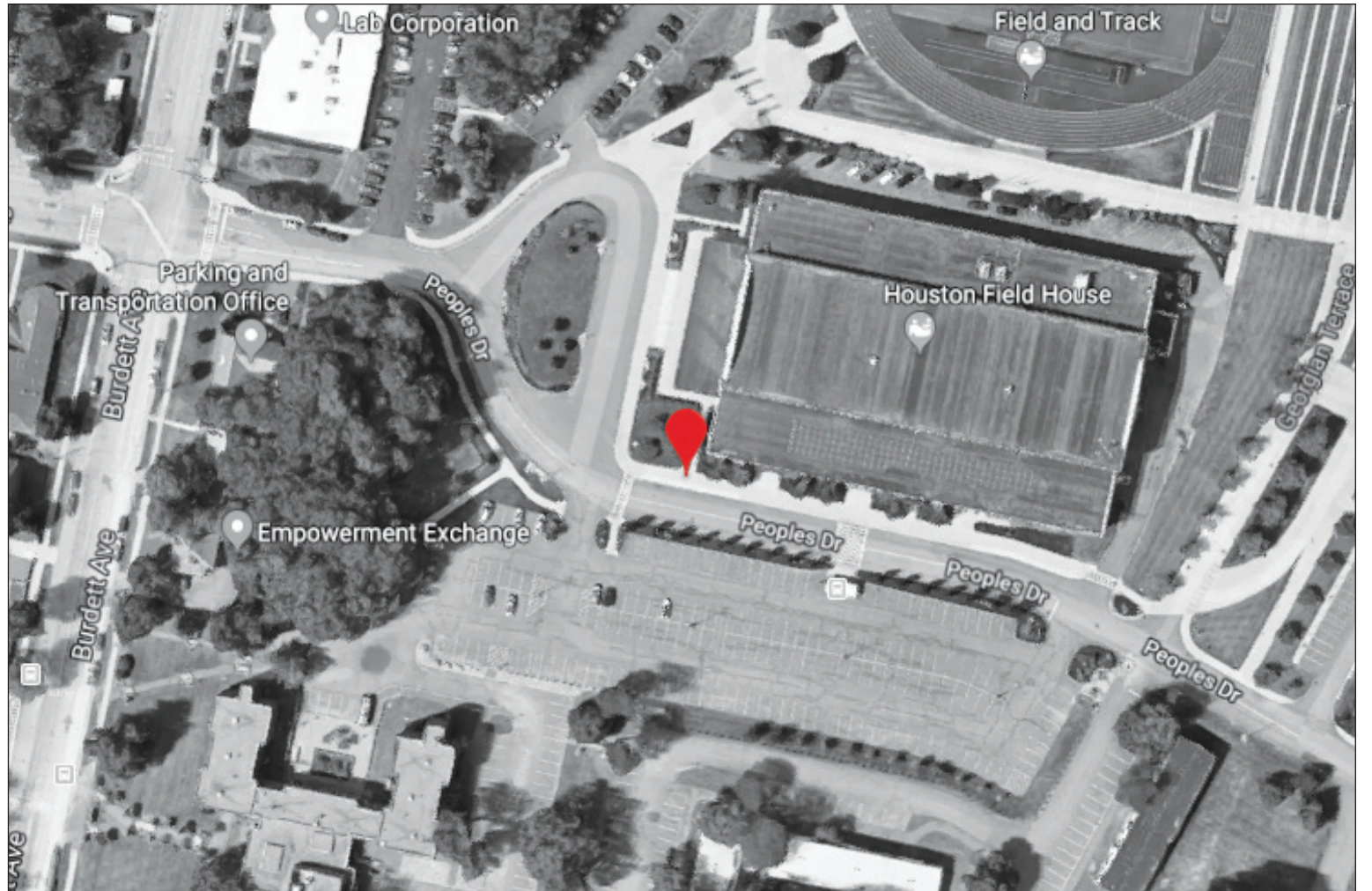
EDITORIAL Page 4

Anna Koenig The importance of body positivity

Staff Editorial Exercise your civic duty as a student

CAMPUS SECURITY

Students told to leave campus



Courtesy of Google

THE MARKER PICTURED above indicates where two students were asked to leave either campus or stop handing out "Renew Rensselaer" buttons.

Darby Burns
Senior Reporter

WHILE HANDING OUT "RENEW RENSSELAER" buttons to the student population, graduate student Michael Gardner was ordered by Public Safety officers to either stop or leave campus.

A couple of hours before the start of the Big Red Freakout hockey game on February 24, Gardner said that two Public Safety officers approached him and one other student, and told them that they couldn't hand out the buttons where they

were—which was by the crosswalk just before the entrance to the Houston Fieldhouse.

Gardner said that, when he held out a tax map that he had brought and told the officers that it was public property, he was informed that it "is private now," because "RPI has eminent domain over this property during hockey games." He said he was also told that he couldn't go towards Sunset Terrace and People's Avenue because that was also private property, and that he had to go down to the corner of

People's and Burdett Avenue.

According to the *Washington Free Beacon*, Vice President for Strategic Communications Richie Hunter said in an email that students can distribute materials on campus, but must have prior authorization to do so. The *Beacon* article can be found at poly.rpi.edu/s/eminent.

Gardner asked Hunter about her statement in an email saying, "upon searching for such a policy, I was unable to locate it; however, I have located several clauses of

the Student Bill of Rights which appear to directly contradict your claim...Would you please direct me to the policy requiring prior authorization to distribute materials on campus?"

Hunter responded with the section of the handbook related to the reservation of buildings, classrooms, and outdoor facilities at Rensselaer. When questioned further, she redirected Gardner to the Student Life Office, and said that "eminent domain is not relevant in this situation." ♦

STUDENT SENATE

Division of Student Life presents accomplishments, future plans

Brookelyn Parslow
Senior Reporter

ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7, MEMBERS OF THE Division of Student Life gathered in the Shelnutt Gallery to present on the past year of progress and goals for the future, and get input and feedback from the Student Senate.

Interim Vice President for Student Life LeNorman Strong began with an explanation of Student Life's purpose, which is to provide support for students, advance the Institute's goals of intellectual agility and multicultural sophistication, and establish partnerships and links that help the division provide for students.

He then elaborated on the accomplishments of Fiscal Year 2018, which included fully

achieving the structural goals of Clustered Learning Advocacy and Support for Students, developing a Greek Life Commons structure—on which Strong is hoping to do more work—and the implementation of the Off Campus Commons.

Student Life also "worked on enhancing student health services availability and accessibility," especially through the implementation of a triage model in the Counseling Center. Executive Director of the Health Center Leslie Lawrence elaborated more on the service, which aims to allow students to be seen on the same day that they seek assistance.

One of the triage counselor's main goals is to work with the student to alleviate stressors on the same day as their visit. Lawrence gave the

theoretical example of a student who is greatly struggling with a class like Data Structures; the counselor would recognize this as a major stressor, and walk the student to the Advising and Learning Assistance Center or, if the situation is bad enough, to their class dean.

Separately, Lawrence said, "If you don't see an appointment on the [health] portal, we always hold back a certain number of appointments. Because I've started to see things on Reddit about how the Student Health Center never has appointments—and I'll admit we've been busy the last month and a half—but we always have extra appointments. Please pick up the phone and call us.

See SENATE, Page 2

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EXECUTIVE BOARD

Changes made to *Special Rules of Order*



Jonathan Caicedo/The Polytechnic

THE GERMAN LONGSWORD CLUB RECEIVES funds to purchase a pair of masks and swords (file photo).

Jonathan Caicedo
Senior Reporter

THIS WEEK'S MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE Board was opened by President of the Union Matthew Rand '19, with the agenda containing several proposals from various on-campus organizations, and discussion on changes to the Board's *Special Rules of Order*.

First up was the report from the committee of the week: UPAC. Programming Board Chair Lauren Pencille '18 presented, first announcing the success of Winter Carnival, which drew in 500 to 1,000 people for events and activities at the East Campus Athletic Campus. Pencille further mentioned that tickets for UPAC Concerts' spring concert, featuring Blackbear, will go on sale Wednesday, March 21. The

P-Board is also planning DCC After Dark, which will take place April 13. Pencille also stated that the P-Board is working with the Union's admin office to create a calendar for all their events, and with other programming groups on campus to prevent conflicts between events occurring at the same time.

Graham Knowles, associate director of the Archer Center, along with several representatives, came to the Board seeking Union affiliation for their organization—the National Society of Leadership and Success. Knowles outlined that the purpose of NSLS, whose chapter at RPI was started July 2017, is to build “student’s leadership capacity” through seminars and various networking events. He further mentioned that, as NSLS sent out induction invitations

to students late last year, there were several concerns from students as to the legitimacy of the organization. Knowles said that Union affiliation and the subsequent listing of the organization on the Union’s website might calm those concerns, providing more legitimacy to the organization. The Board voted to affiliate NSLS with a vote of 7-3-3.

Following the affiliation of NSLS, the Historic European Martial Arts club, also known as the German Longsword club, came seeking a starter budget to begin their organization. Currently, members provide their own equipment, but the club was looking to purchase a pair of masks and swords to have on hand for newer members who might not have the necessary equipment already. The Board passed a motion

to reallocate \$140 from club contingencies to the German Longsword club, voting unanimously 13-0-0.

UPAC Sound then requested to reserve the McNeil room on Sunday, March 26 from 12 pm to 6 pm for a training show. Equipment Chair Kealan Hofler-Marron explained that UPAC Sound is bringing in a sound professional so that they can improve their skills as a club, and better provide services to organizations on campus. Hofler-Marron further mentioned that rooms elsewhere on campus and in the Union will be reserved and serve as study spaces, and that the show will be well advertised with posters beforehand so students know the McNeil room will be unavailable. The Board’s motion to allow UPAC Sound to use the McNeil Room passed 12-0-0.

RPI TV President Jason Lee '19 also came before the Board with a proposal that would reallocate \$2,600 from their current budget to their reserves for the purchase of a new 4K camera next fiscal year. Lee explained that while they believe the camera would make a good addition to their current lineup of equipment, they still would like a demo before the purchase. The demo couldn’t be scheduled before the large purchasing deadline set by the Union. A motion to reallocate the \$2,600 to RPI TV’s reserve account failed with a vote of 4-4-5. After further discussion, the Board decided to move the large purchase deadline back so RPI TV can still purchase the camera this fiscal

year with a vote of 8-3-1.

Next, W2SZ President Galen Gold '20 asked the Board for money to replace some of their hardlines and rotor cables. Gold explained that hardline is the coaxial cable that is used to connect radios in their shack to antennae on their towers. Alongside the cost of the cables themselves, W2SZ would also need to hire tower climbers to replace the cables themselves, as well as perform other routine maintenance and repairs. The E-Board approved a transfer of \$1,678 from club contingencies for W2SZ’s cables with a vote of 12-0-0.

Following W2SZ, Policies Committee Chair Anissa Choiniere '20 presented some recent changes to the Board’s *Special Rules of Order*, notably to the “Audio/Video Recordings and Live-Streaming” section. Following the Senate’s resolution earlier this month, which prohibits any Union body from prohibiting livestreaming at their meetings, the E-Board’s policy had to be changed to reflect this mandate. The language of the policy still states that “The Executive Board or its members are encouraged to not actively take part in live-streaming of meetings,” but removes language that permits the President of the Union from asking guests to remove recordings at her request. The full amended policy is available at poly.rpi.edu/s/cbprop.

A motion to pass the amended *Special Rules of Order* passed 12-0-0. ♦

Senate: *Input from students wanted*

From **Page 1**

I know people nowadays don’t like to use the phone, but we will squeeze you in. Never feel there’s not an appointment.”

Strong, continuing to reflect on Fiscal Year 2018, addressed the implementation of The Arch. “I’ll be candid with you and say that we have data in the office from a recent survey that helps us to understand that students still don’t get it—that there is a huge gap between what the program does and what students believe that it’s doing.”

He recognized that more needs to be done to distribute information about the program, and expressed that Student Life intends on making an effort to collect more student opinions on the matter.

Strong then moved on to Student Life’s many goals and strategies for Fiscal Year 2019.

One goal revolved around increasing student involvement in the capital campaign through student-developed proposals on where to direct donations, so that campaign officers can share these plans with potential donors.

The Arch preparatory course, another initiative which aims to assist students in creating a job search strategy and a plan for making their away semester meaningful, will be available this fall on the Learning Management System.

“Something that has hit us really hard this fall is the fact that our students who might be brilliant with developing technology aren’t so sometimes when it comes to using it, particularly social media,” shared Strong.

Student Life plans to create resources on “digital world realities” to help stu-

dents better understand the implications of social media and its potential to affect job opportunities.

Title IX and sexual misconduct training is currently in place and required for many leadership positions, but Student Life aims to bring that experience to the rest of campus so that the entire community is receiving the same information.

Other goals included increasing services available to international students and underrepresented students, and enhancing the graduate student experience.

Strong then shared updates on some major initiatives, which included the creation of a Student Life advisory committee that would meet frequently to provide more consistent feedback from student representatives and their constituencies. The committee would be comprised of people appointed by the grand marshal and Executive Board, the Student Life Committee of the Student Senate, and the Athlete Student Advisory Committee.

After the presentation, the members of the Division of Student Life opened up for questions from the Senate. The full article about this meeting, including questions asked by students, will be available at a later date at poly.rpi.edu/s/slsenate. ♦

Senate livestreams are available on the Student Government Facebook page.

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PRESIDENT'S Spring Town Meeting



Thursday, March 22 from 3 – 4 p.m.

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The Curtis R. Priem Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center

Featuring

Institute Update • Q&A • Refreshments

rpi.edu to watch the live stream



Rensselaer

Editorial

Wednesday, March 21, 2018

EDITORIAL NOTEBOOK

Developing self-confidence Reflecting on personal growth



Anna Koenig
Associate
Features Editor

OVER SPRING BREAK, I WENT TO MIAMI, Florida with a few of my friends. Once we bought our tickets, we immediately began planning all of the fun things we could do there, becoming especially excited about going to the beach. Yet, as a trip to the beach might warrant, we all were pretty nervous having to deal with the so-called “perfect” beach body stereotype.

In the months leading up to our trip, each of us developed our own personalized regimens to try and get the desired body type. It was the main topic of most of our discussions, until I finally realized

how arbitrary the concept really was.

Throughout my life, my weight has always fluctuated. Looking back at pictures, it’s so interesting to see how different my body was compared to now. Even in the past year, I have lost over 30 pounds. Though losing the weight felt like a great accomplishment, I am in no way a person who is completely confident with my body. No matter, leading up to my Spring Break, I have become much more okay with not having a flatter stomach or no stretch marks.

Diets and exercise are always good to help maintain personal health, but they shouldn’t be motivated by your fears and anxieties brought about by unreasonable standards for what you should be. Reminding myself of how there are no guidelines to a beautiful and healthy body will help push me to become more comfortable with how I look. ♦

STAFF EDITORIAL

Why not change Rensselaer?

Positively affect RPI through continuous civic engagement

WITH SEEMINGLY HIGH LEVELS OF DISCONTENT AND complaints coming from the Rensselaer community through protests and social media, *The Polytechnic* Editorial Board hopes to see students act on these feelings through increased civic engagement. A great way to do this is by running for student government or by attending the Spring Town Meeting this Thursday at 3 pm.

Anyone who has walked around campus in the last couple days might have noticed a proliferation of posters depicting smiling students, campaign promises, and—as is tradition at Rensselaer—confusing acronyms. Both the Executive Board and Student Senate are currently preparing for the campus-wide election that will determine who will make up the new student leadership.

At the time of publication, there were 23 people running for office. This is a significant downturn compared to last year’s election, which had 56 people running. Candidates still have until March 30 to hand in candidacy and nomination forms, but this lack of enthusiasm for student government is worrying. If you’ve ever been interested in making Rensselaer a better place for students, participating in committees—whether you’re elected or not—is one of the most effective ways to do that.

President Shirley Ann Jackson’s biannual town meeting is the best place to reach out to administration and voice your opinion; the president is there to update the community on changes to and plans for Rensselaer, as well as to answer questions and

address concerns. This is the best place to give input on what you would like to see at Rensselaer.

At the most recent Fall Town Meeting, many students and alumni came prepared with thoughtful, difficult questions. A lot has happened since then, including the implementation of the SafeRide program, a director of the Union candidate being given the Human Resources Interview Committee’s prepared questions prior to their interview without the committee’s knowledge, the shortening of Winter Break, Jackson’s endorsement of Professor Chris Bystroff’s email to faculty accusing alumni of racism, and the resolution of the judicial inquiries surrounding protest participation on October 13, 2017.

It can be easy to just turn a blind eye given the challenges that being a student poses, but if you value our campus, make the effort to take some time to reflect on the times you weren’t happy with something on campus, or had an idea to make things better. While the town meeting is being held on a Thursday—a decision we’ve expressed frustrations with in the past due to the inconveniences it poses for students—this is something to prioritize. If there are topics you want to know more about or opinions you would like to express, now is the time.

Your civic engagement at Rensselaer should not end at protests and Reddit posts; get involved and actively participate in the changes you would like to see. ♦

TOP HAT

RPI foils free speech again

HELLO RPI,

I hope you had an enjoyable Spring Break, and that it gave you the chance to recharge before we begin our last leg of the academic year. As a quick reminder, election season is well underway, and it is not too late to run for office! For any questions on elections and campaigning, feel free to reach out to Elections Commission Chairperson Caleb Caraway '19 at union-elections@rpi.edu.

Today, I would like to address a concern that has been developing for a few weeks pertaining to the rights of students on campus. Prior to and during the annual Big Red Freakout! hockey game, students were standing on public sidewalks near the Houston Field House, handing out buttons promoting “Renew Rensselaer” to event attendees as they streamed into the game. Shortly after administrators arrived at the event, these students were approached by Department of Public Safety officers and were instructed to cease handing out such materials, citing



Justin Etzine
Grand Marshal

and Responsibilities does not contain provisions against students sharing materials on campus, yet administrators have cited the section of the Handbook that stipulates facilities must be reserved in advance as a defense for the removal of the students; however, this is not relevant to students exercising the right to free expression both in and out of the classroom, a right RPI has committed to providing its students. Furthermore,

these policies certainly don’t apply to off-campus outdoor spaces. The clause against “operating a business” on campus has also been cited in recent judicial attempts against students, even though students’ opinions by no means constitute a business entity.

College is a time for critical thinking, exploring the morals and ethics of the world around us, and developing our own well-informed views. Our students are exceptionally skilled at this; perhaps this speaks to either the caliber of the students RPI enrolls, or the values our faculty instill in us

through their curricula. Regardless, stifling students’ voices through the manipulation and even outright fabrication of policies and laws does not set a good example for our students. I urge our administration to uphold and promote our collegiate values, especially in the pursuit of “Knowledge & Thoroughness.” I believe we should take pride in the thoroughness our students demonstrate in their thoughts, opinions, and research. And I urge students to always use your voices, to recognize that RPI guarantees freedom of speech and expression, and to stand up for yourselves if those rights are being threatened.

As always, I implore students to keep making their voices heard, to stand by what they believe in, and to always question the assumed. Above all, remember that you have rights. If you have any questions, comments, ideas, or concerns, please feel free to reach out to me at gm@rpi.edu.

Justin Etzine
152nd Grand Marshal

the polytechnic

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ALBUM REVIEW



Courtesy of Columbia Records

IN THEIR THIRD STUDIO ALBUM, *THE NEIGHBOURHOOD EXPERIMENTS* with electronic sounds, while also showcasing classic tones and meaningful lyrics.

Indie album showcases versatility in new sound

Pragati Pant
Senior Reviewer

RELEASED MARCH 9, *THE NEIGHBOURHOOD* CAME OUT JUST AS SPRING BREAK STARTED. I KNEW I was about to spend a relaxing week at home, and an album by The Neighbourhood, one of my favorite bands, was exactly what I craved. However, I wasn't entirely pleased with what I heard.

This self-titled album shows a different side of the band. While The Neighbourhood maintains its typical relaxing flow within the songs, there is a greater emphasis on electronically-influenced music. Specifically, "Softcore," the fifth song in the album, features techno background music with heavy, very obvious autotuned voices. Although autotune is not uncommon within their songs, this song has a very unfitting sound which I, as a big fan of the band, didn't find appealing. I listen to The Neighbourhood for their alluring, more natural tones.

Furthermore, this album, unlike those in the past, was slower than I expected. It was hard for me to sit down and listen to the album all the way through. I had to take a break in the middle, which is not something I have done in the past. My lack of interest in the songs may be due to their repetitive nature, where each song is essentially the previous song but with a few lyrical changes. While I wasn't pleased with the overall structure of the album, this does not mean that there aren't individual songs worth listening to within the album.

Regardless of the experimental songs within *The Neighbourhood*, I was still able to enjoy parts of the album. As a fan, I can still appreciate the similarities of older songs from the band that shined through. One of my favorite aspects of this band is that they bring a slow comforting tune to the majority of their songs, mainly with stories of rebellious teenagers in love. The third song in the album, "Nervous," adhered to their typical storytelling, which I found inviting. This song describes the nervousness that comes with opening up to love, and is more in touch with their usual alternative sound. Another song that caught my attention was the second song in the album, "Scary Love." Following their previously mentioned trend, this song describes the intensity and uncertainty of falling in love. Both songs highlight The Neighbourhood's strengths, reassuring their longtime fans that the old, desired sound of the band hasn't completely changed.

Altogether, this self-titled album features a variety of songs, ranging from those that fall under the band's expected sound to those that make the band more versatile. Whether you are a fan of The Neighbourhood or not, there is most likely something for you in this album. With the overarching message of how we need to be loved in order to be happy, this album provides a calming, yet intriguing experience fit for a lazy Saturday afternoon. ♦

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MOVIE REVIEW

Hola horror genre, adios sleep schedule

Weston Brousseau
Staff Reviewer

I AM NOT USUALLY A HORROR MOVIE PERSON, so when my best friend and I sat down to watch *Veronica* while we teased "I'm not scared, you're scared," we had no idea what were in for. We had heard that this movie was the scariest movie on Netflix, and we thought that maybe it wouldn't be that bad.

We were wrong. The movie is in Spanish, which would typically dissuade me it but, do not let that stop you from watching. Horror is a universal language that is fluently spoken throughout this movie.

The movie follows the story of Veronica, a young school girl who uses a Ouija board

and accidentally finds herself haunted by an evil force. As far as plots go, this movie is pretty cut and dry as a standard ghost story. This is understandable, as the movie is actually based on a true story—a fact that does little to help me sleep at night. The story is one of the major things that holds the movie back. However, the performances in this film shine through.

The cast of *Veronica* is a very talented group that I may never have heard of had I not seen this movie. The main actress,

Sandra Escacena, is an absolute star throughout the film, despite this being her first major film. Escacena even won the CEC Award for best new actress for this movie. The real feeling of horror comes from the subtlety of Paco Plaza and his team of writers. Paco Plaza is a decorated horror veteran who has, over the course of his career, won 18 awards and been nominated for 19 more. Plaza is the director of the REC series, a trio of found footage horror movies that have been terrifying people since 2007.

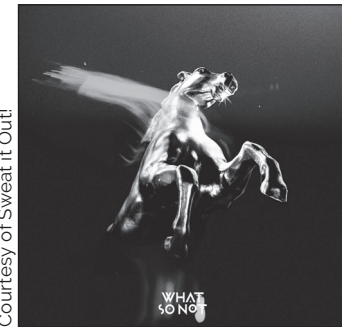
This movie is scary, not because of the special effects, gore, or even the jump scares, but because the fear seems to sink in from the first few moments of the movie, and sits

there until hours after the credits roll. This movie had me guessing at every shadow and running from every sound and carried through the night as I walked around my own house. While I can't necessarily endorse this movie as being the scariest movie on Netflix, because I have seen movies that were maybe slightly scarier, this movie is absolutely terrifying; I highly recommend it to anyone who enjoys a good scare every now and then. ♦

Veronica
8.5/10

"Solid horror flick with impressive acting, despite a fairly basic story."

ALBUM RECOMMENDATIONS



Courtesy of Sweat It Out!

Not All The Beautiful Things

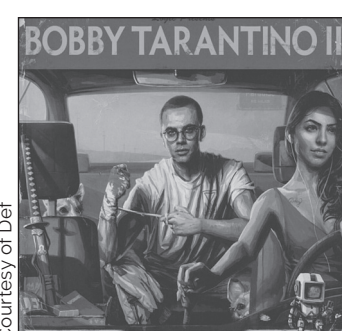
What So Not
Recommended by:
Brookelyn Parslow



Courtesy of MCMXCV

Vertigo

Eden
Recommended by:
Isabella Urban



Courtesy of Def

Bobby Tarantino II

Logic
Recommended by:
Serge Piskun

DILBERT

by Scott Adams

TOP TEN LIST



Fast Food Memes

10. Papa John's Obamacare
9. Doritos Locos Tacos
8. SpaghettiOs Pearl Harbor
7. Chick-Fil-A Sunday
6. Panda Express meat rice
5. Chipotle E-Coli
4. IKEA horse meat
3. Jared from Subway
2. McDonald's pink slime
1. Burger King foot lettuce

WORD FIND by Weston Brousseau

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

Countries to travel to

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

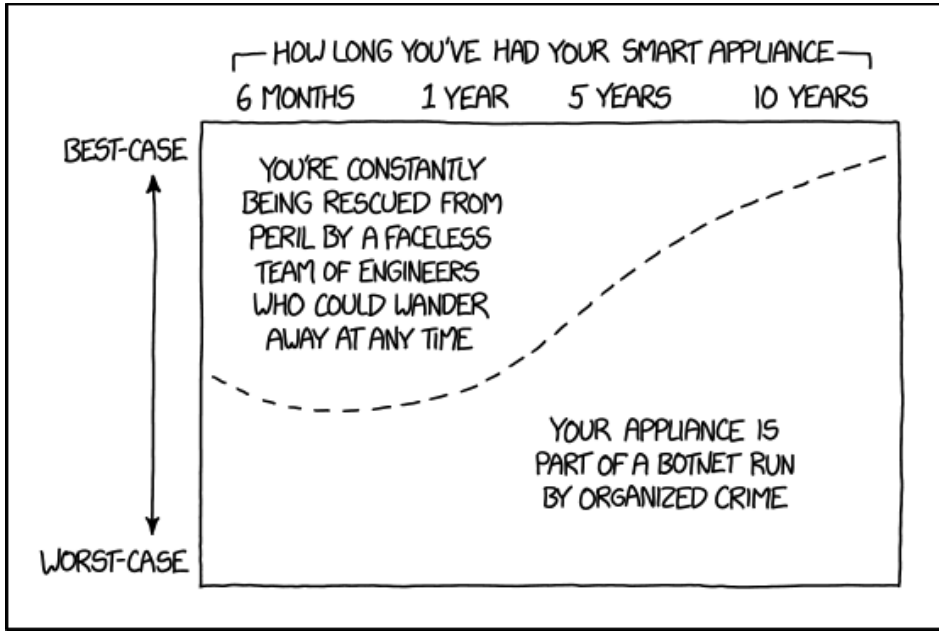
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| Argentina | France | Malta | Singapore |
| Australia | Greece | Mexico | Spain |
| Barbados | Italy | Morocco | Thailand |
| Brazil | Japan | Philippines | |

If you have any funny jokes, send them to comics@poly.rpi.edu and they may be featured in *The Poly* next week!

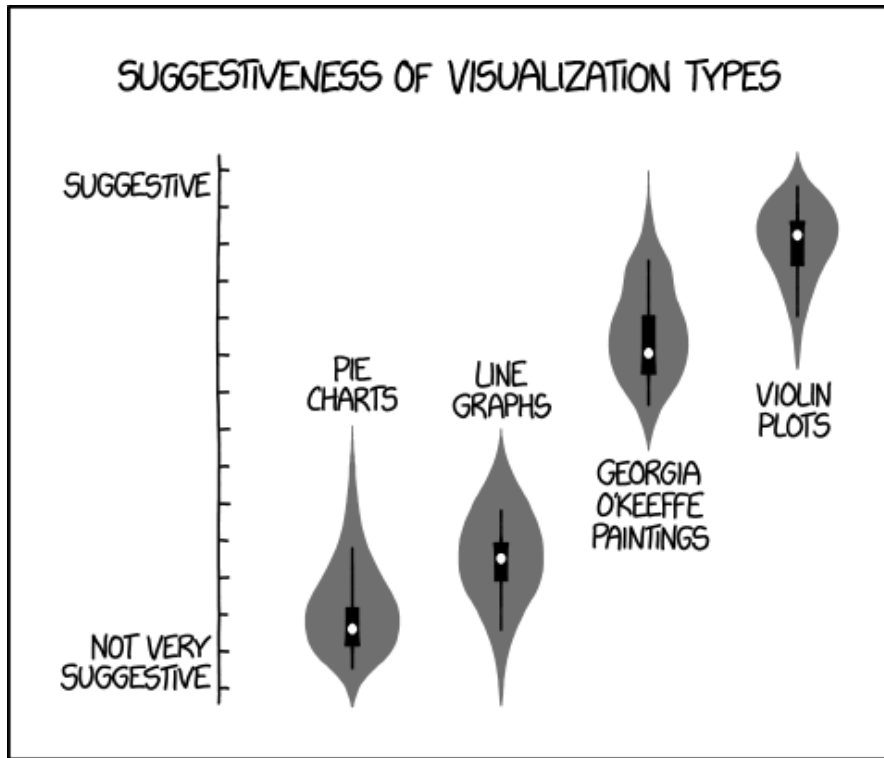
XKCD

by Randall Munroe

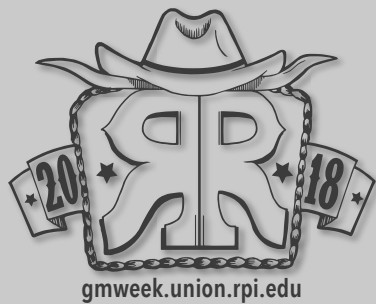
MONDAY PUNDAY by Matthew Broussard



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gmweek.union.rpi.edu

RENSSELAER RODEO 2018 GM WEEK

SATURDAY 3/31

- ★ GM Week Kickoff!
- ★ MEAN GIRLS
DCC 308, 7pm-2am
Showing of Mean Girls at 7pm, 9:30pm, and 12am. Tickets are \$2.50/person. (UPAC Cinema, Student Government)

SUNDAY

MONDAY 4/2

- ★ Pop-Up 1
Union Patio, 11am-2pm
Spin-Art Frisbees
Snowman's Ice Cream! (GM Week)
- ★ Primary Debates (As Needed)
McNeil Room, 5pm-7pm
(Debate Club, GM Week)
- ★ Country Two-Step Lesson
Mother's, 7pm-9pm
Members of RPI Ballroom will teach a country two-step lesson and then play music for social dancing. (RPI Ballroom)
- ★ A Cappella Free4All
McNeil Room, 7pm-9pm
Come watch all four A Cappella groups perform: Duly Noted, Partial Credit, The Rusty Pipes, Rensselyrics! (A Cappella Groups)
- ★ UPAC Comedy Presents
Daniel Franzese
McNeil Room, 9pm
Daniel Franzese who plays Damien in Mean Girls will be performing stand-up comedy. (UPAC Comedy)

TUESDAY 4/3

- ★ Primary Voting (As Needed)
Commons, DCC, Union, 9am-7pm
(RPI Elections)
- ★ Pop-Up 2
Union Patio, 11am-2pm
Big Chair Photos and Stromboli from DeFazio's! (GM Week)
- ★ Solar S'Mores
Union Patio, 1pm-4pm
Use the sun to make delicious food with Resident Student Association!
- ★ Erg-A-Thon
Union Patio (Near Horseshoe) 5pm-5pm
The RPI Crew Club presents its annual Erg-A-Thon, where rowing machines are set up and we row for 24 hours.
- ★ Tradition's Scavenger Hunt
Heffner Alumni House, 7pm-9pm
The Red & White Organization will be putting on their annual scavenger hunt around campus. Teams consist of 3-5 members and prizes will be gift cards of up to \$150!
- ★ Speakers Forum: Kyle Pope
EMPAC, 7:30pm-9pm
Columbia Journalism Review Editor in Chief (Speakers Forum)
- ★ GM Week Trivia with Perry
Clubhouse Pub, 7:30pm-10pm
Join us for a fun-filled evening of trivia with host Perry Laskaris. Prizes, food, and fun for all! 21+

WEDNESDAY 4/4

- ## GM DAY! NO CLASSES
- ★ Student Appreciation Day Discounts
All Day at the Bookstore!
 - ★ Provost's BBQ
Commons Field, 11am-3pm
Entertainment from Clubs and ADPS
Music & Arts Festival + Rodeo activities.
Rain Location: Armory (Provost/ GM Week)
 - ★ Meanest Man On Campus Debates
McNeil Room, 5pm-6:30pm
(APO)
 - ★ Debates
McNeil Room, 7pm-9pm
(RPI Elections, Debate Club)
 - ★ The Magnificent Seven
DCC 308, 9:30pm
UPAC Cinema presents a FREE showing of The Magnificent Seven during GM Week.

THURSDAY 4/5

- ★ VOTING
Commons, DCC, Union, 9am-7pm
Vote and get your GM Week Mug! (RPI Elections)
- ★ weR Mugshots
Outside RSDH, 9am-2pm
The Red & White Organization will be taking pictures of students on voting day with their new mugs! All students, are encouraged to come and get their picture taken!
- ★ Pop-Up 3
Union Patio, 3pm-6pm
Airbrush tattoos, Dumplings from Lee Lin! (GM Week)
- ★ Logo Reveal Party
McNeil Room, 4pm-6pm
T-shirts, cupcakes, giveaways, & more! (MAP Committee)
- ★ Rensselaer Rodeo BBQ
Mothers, 6pm-8pm
The Rodeo Roast! Patrons will enjoy a three-course meal with beers that complement the food. 21+ (Clubhouse Pub)
- ★ GM PU Roast
McNeil Room, 8pm-9:30pm

FRIDAY 4/6

- ★ Veteran's Lounge Grand Opening
McNeil Room, 3pm-4pm
Short remarks honoring our student, staff and faculty veterans followed by a viewing of the new lounge.
- ## FINALE
- Field House, 7pm-11pm
 - ★ Election Results
 - ★ Live Music
 - ★ Laser Light Show
 - ★ Roller Rink
 - ★ Old Time Photos
 - ★ Mechanical Bull
 - ★ Giant Slide & more! (GM Week)

SATURDAY

Features

Wednesday, March 21, 2018

INSTANT NOODLE REVIEW

Anahit Hovhannisyan
Senior Reviewer

Ramen is classic to college campuses all around the US. Have we ever considered which brand is the best? Members of *The Poly*, including Anna Koenig '21, Serge Piskun '20, Crystal Vejar '20, and I aim to find out.

For this tasting, we have sampled the following products in beef flavors: Nissin Noodle Bowl "Hot & Spicy," Maruchan Ramen Noodle Soup, Nissin Top Ramen "The Original," and NongShim Shin Ramyun Noodle Soup. As alternatives to ramen, we have also considered: NongShim Pho, a Vietnamese rice noodle soup, and Maruchan Yakisoba, a teriyaki beef-flavored noodle. Each product was graded in the following categories, using a one to ten scale: aesthetic, smell, noodle, and broth. The sum of each category gave a total out of 40. This value, along with general comments from the *Poly* reviewers is listed below.

Nissin Noodle Bowl "Hot & Spicy"

21 pts
\$0.74
420 cal

This noodle bowl is most definitely both hot and spicy as advertised. However, it took away from the flavor itself. There is no beef taste in the broth, but rather an oily feeling and a strange aftertaste. The noodles are thinner than traditional instant ramen, but it is aesthetically pleasing. Noodles and aesthetics is where this noodle bowl shined.

Maruchan Ramen Noodle Soup

16 pts
\$0.16
380 cal

Another contender for a classic pack of instant ramen, Top Ramen has the same type of noodles as the Maruchan Ramen noodle soup. A differentiating factor is this product's flavorful, and less salty, broth. Aesthetically equal, this product had better broth and smell than its direct competitor.

Nissin Top Ramen "The Original"

18 pts
\$0.22
380 cal

This is what may be referred to as one of the classics. The noodles are thicker and more reminiscent of what one would expect from instant ramen. However, the broth is very salty and tasted only of warm water. This product won most of its points from noodles.

NongShim Pho

25 pts
\$1.93
200 cal

Immediately, the broth is fragrant with hints of cloves and cinnamon. Its taste was just as flavorful, and salty. The rice noodles, which are gluten-free, initially felt rubber-like, but paired well with the broth. This option felt the healthiest, considering its vegetables, spices, and calorie count.

Maruchan Yakisoba

25 pts
\$0.57
500 cal

It offers a sweet alternative to the otherwise sodium filled soups. Its sauce was smooth and paired well with ramen-style noodles. Although it lacked smell, this product was both aesthetically pleasing and a refreshing alternative. When asked which of the alternatives the reviewers would purchase again, three of the four volunteers opted for this product.

NongShim Shin Ramyun Noodle Soup

23 pts
\$0.94
500 cal

Labeled as "gourmet," this noodle soup is spicy and flavorful, winning in the broth category. It includes mushrooms, and various vegetables, which increases its aesthetic appeal. Although it lacks in smell, it makes up for it in all other categories.

Conclusion

Out of the ramen options, NongShim Shin Ramyun Noodle Soup won in terms of points, but not in price. This product had the most flavorful broth, but at a cost. When considering the two cheapest alternatives, Nissin Top Ramen was a better contender than Maruchan in terms of taste. As for alternatives, both NongShim Pho and Maruchan Yakisoba are interesting to consider as they match in score. However, the style of food largely differs. Ultimately, each meal took roughly five minutes to cook and required limited kitchen tools. As a college meal to enjoy in a dorm room, all instant ramen comes out a winner.

MOVIE REVIEW

Red Sparrow different than expected

Elena Smalline
A Special to The Poly

THE RED SPARROW, STARRING JENNIFER LAWRENCE, is a strange movie with many varying sequences of events. The opening scene is a ballet. Jennifer Lawrence stands on-stage in pointe shoes and a red dress, pirouetting and leaping across the stage, only to be pushed to a career-ending injury. This is only the beginning of many sequences of unfortunate events. Nonetheless, the characters draw you in, despite the actors' Russian accents that were lacking in true authenticity.

This movie was quite mainstreamed. It was advertised during the Super Bowl, as well as in commercials on NBC and ABC networks. It appears exciting—a true thriller. Because of how often the movie was advertised, you would not expect the movie to be so incredibly cruel and graphic. Even though it was rated R, the people that I went with were not anticipating such a spectacle.

The movie included graphic blood, as well as female nudity, graphic sex, and a full male frontal. Personally, I was not

expecting so much, especially from a movie so widely advertised.

In addition, the main character was sent to a school where she was trained to seduce men to gain information, which, in and of itself, seems a bit sexist. It appears to suggest that women can only be helpful if they are able to prey on men's sexual weaknesses. In addition, there were graphic scenes of physical torture for information, as well as heavy pools of blood.

Nevertheless, the movie was exciting. It kept you on the edge of your seat, leaving you to never know what was going to happen next. It ended with a grand finale that you would never have expected. In addition, Jennifer Lawrence, although lacking in a true Russian accent, played a strong female character who showed little fear. She established her power over many of the male characters throughout the entirety of the movie. However, I do not agree with oversexualizing female characters in many movies, and this movie proved to be no different.

Joel Edgerton played an American CIA agent, and he and Lawrence certainly had chemistry. The overall acting in the movie was believable, and led to excitement and

tension throughout the movie. If you want a suspenseful movie, I certainly recommend it, but I want to warn you that the movie was

graphic, sexist at times, and sexually perverse. If you can stomach that though, it's definitely the movie for you. ♦



Courtesy of 20th Century Fox

RED SPARROW RECEIVES mixed reviews, being criticized for its reliance on graphic violence and sex to drive the storyline.