Students told to leave campus

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/eminent.

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.”

The Marker pictured above indicates where two students were asked to leave either campus or stop handing out “Renew Rensselaer” buttons.

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.”
Changes made to Special Rules of Order

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 Chair Lauren Pencille ’18 presented, first announcing the success of Winter Carnival, which drew in 500 to 1000 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 Polytechnic Union Matthew Rand ‘19, with the Pentecostals and Executive Board, the Student Life intends on making an effort to collect more feedback from student representatives and their constituencies. The committee would be comprised of people appointed by the grand marshals and Executive Board, the Student Life Committee of the Senate, and the Student Life 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/studentsenate.

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PRESIDENT’S

Spring Town Meeting

Thursday, March 22 from 3 – 4 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
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, but 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 personalization of this idea. In my opinion, they were too extreme about what they should be. Reminding myself of how there are no standards for personal health, but they shouldn’t be motivated by your fears. I am in no way a person who is completely confident with my body. Developing a body image that is self-appropriate of my own physical capabilities. Our student experiences at Rensselaer are very diverse and we have the right to stand up for causes we believe in. Our rights to freedom of speech and expression, and to stand up for yourselves if those rights are being threatened. It can be easy to just turn a blind eye given the challenges that being a student poses, but if you value your 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 RPI should not end at protests and Reddit posts; get involved and actively participate in the changes you would like to see. 

Editorial: Anna Koening

Features Editor

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The Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute is published weekly, except during holiday and examination periods, by the students of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute as authorized by the Rensselaer Union. Opinion pieces in this newspaper do not necessarily reflect the views of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute or the students of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute as a whole. The Editorial Board reserves the right to edit for reasons of space, clarity, libel, or style and to compose pieces in this newspaper. The opinions expressed in student columns generally do not represent the opinions of the Record editors. These opinions columnists are students elected by the students to write for the Record. Their term in office is one year. Their opinions are the opinions of the student opinionists. The opinionists are granted on a semesterly or yearly basis by the Editorial Board. Those interested in starting a column should email editor@poly.rpi.edu. The Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute is published weekly, except during holiday and examination periods, by the students of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute as authorized by the Rensselaer Union. Opinion pieces in this newspaper do not necessarily reflect the views of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute or the students of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute as a whole. The Editorial Board reserves the right to edit for reasons of space, clarity, libel, or style and to compose pieces in this newspaper. The opinions expressed in student columns generally do not represent the opinions of the Record editors. These opinions columnists are students elected by the students to write for the Record. Their term in office is one year. Their opinions are the opinions of the student opinionists. The opinionists are granted on a semesterly or yearly basis by the Editorial Board. Those interested in starting a column should email editor@poly.rpi.edu. The Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute is published weekly, except during holiday and examination periods, by the students of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute as authorized by the Rensselaer Union. Opinion pieces in this newspaper do not necessarily reflect the views of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute or the students of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute as a whole. The Editorial Board reserves the right to edit for reasons of space, clarity, libel, or style and to compose pieces in this newspaper. The opinions expressed in student columns generally do not represent the opinions of the Record editors. These opinions columnists are students elected by the students to write for the Record. Their term in office is one year. Their opinions are the opinions of the student opinionists. The opinionists are granted on a semesterly or yearly basis by the Editorial Board. Those interested in starting a column should email editor@poly.rpi.edu.
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.

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 we 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 this 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 but, 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.

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ALBUM RECOMMENDATIONS

Not All The Beautiful Things
What So Not
Recommended by: Brookelyn Parslow

Vertigo
Eddy
Recommended by: Isabella Urban

Bobby Tarantino II
Logic
Recommended by: Sergei Piskun

Want to write about things you’re passionate about? Send us an email at features@poly.rpi.edu!
If you have any funny jokes, send them to comics@poly.rpi.edu and they may be featured in The Poly next week!
Wednesday, March 21, 2018

Comics • 7

**XKCD**

by Randall Munroe

**MONDAY PUNDAY**

by Matthew Broussard

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**RENSSELAER RODEO 2018**

**GM WEEK**

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**SUNDAY**

- Pop-Up 1
  - Union Patio, 11am-2pm
  - Games, Art Activities
  - Winning team wins the Cup! (GM Week)

- Primary Voting (as Needed)
  - Common’s Union, 9am-7pm
  - (RPI Elections)

- Primary Debates (as Needed)
  - Melville Room, 7pm-9pm
  - Debate Club, GM Week)

- Country Two-Step Lesson
  - Mother’s, 7pm-9pm
  - Members of RVT balloon will teach a
  - country two-step lesson and then play
  - music for social dancing (RVT Balloons)

- A Cassette Free-For-All
  - Melville Room, 7pm-9pm
  - Come watch all four A Cassette groups
  - perform: Duly Noted, Partial Credit, The
  - Acoustic Pipes, Renaissance (A Cassette Group)

- UPAC Comedy Presents
  - Daniel Fosmace
  - Nollville Room, 7pm-9pm
  - Members of RVT balloon will perform stand-up
  - comedy (UPAC Comedy)

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**MONDAY 4/2**

- Pop-Up 1
  - Union Patio, 11am-2pm
  - Games, Art Activities
  - Winning team wins the Cup! (GM Week)

- Primary Voting (as Needed)
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**TUESDAY 4/3**

- Student Appreciation Day Debates
  - All Day at the Bookstore!

- Provost’s BBQ
  - Common’s Union, 11am-7pm
  - Entertainment from Clubs and ADPS
  - Music & Arts Festival + Photo activities
  - Lunch location: Anthony Hall (Provost’s GM Week)

- Meanest Man On Campus Debates
  - Melville Room, 5pm-6:30pm
  - (APO)

- Debates
  - Melville 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!

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**SATURDAY 3/31**

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

- **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+

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**FINALE**

- **Field House, 7pm-11pm**
  - **Live Music**
  - Laser Light Show
  - Roller Rink
  - Old Time Photos
  - Mechanical Bull
  - Giant Slide & more!
  - (GM Week)

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**RENSSELAER RODEO**

2018 GM WEEK

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  - Week!

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**Wednesday 4/4**

- Student Appreciation Day Debates
  - All Day at the Bookstore!

- Provost’s BBQ
  - Common’s Union, 11am-7pm
  - Entertainment from Clubs and ADPS
  - Music & Arts Festival + Photo activities
  - Lunch location: Anthony Hall (Provost’s GM Week)

- Meanest Man On Campus Debates
  - Melville Room, 5pm-6:30pm
  - (APO)

- Debates
  - Melville 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!

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**Thursday 4/5**

- Student Appreciation Day Debates
  - All Day at the Bookstore!

- Provost’s BBQ
  - Common’s Union, 11am-7pm
  - Entertainment from Clubs and ADPS
  - Music & Arts Festival + Photo activities
  - Lunch location: Anthony Hall (Provost’s GM Week)

- Meanest Man On Campus Debates
  - Melville Room, 5pm-6:30pm
  - (APO)

- Debates
  - Melville 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!

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**Friday 4/6**

- Student Appreciation Day Debates
  - All Day at the Bookstore!

- Provost’s BBQ
  - Common’s Union, 11am-7pm
  - Entertainment from Clubs and ADPS
  - Music & Arts Festival + Photo activities
  - Lunch location: Anthony Hall (Provost’s GM Week)

- Meanest Man On Campus Debates
  - Melville Room, 5pm-6:30pm
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- Debates
  - Melville Room, 7pm-9pm
  - (RPI Elections, Debate Club)

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Features

Wednesday, March 21, 2018

INSTANT NOODLE REVIEW

Nissin Noodle Bowl “Hot & Spicy”

This noodle bowl is most definitely both hot and spicy as advertised. However, it took away from the flavor itself. There is not beef taste in the broth, but rather an oily feeling and a strange aftertaste. The noodles are thinner than traditional instant noodles, but it is aesthetically pleasing. Noodles and aesthetics is where this noodle bowl shined.

21 pts $0.74 420 cal

Maruchan Ramen Noodle Soup

Another contender for a classic pack of instant ramen, Top Ramen has the same type of noodles as the Maruchan Ramen noodle soup. Alliterating factor is that this product is flavorful, and less salty. Broth is very flavorful and salty. This product has a better broth and seasoning than its direct competitor.

16 pts $0.16 380 cal

Nissin Top Ramen “The Original”

This is what may be referred to as one of the classics. The noodles are thick 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.

18 pts $0.52 380 cal

Conclusion

Out of the many 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.

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 the floor by a man. She establishes her power over many of the male characters throughout the entirety of the movie. However, I do not agree with oversexualizing characters throughout the entirety of the movie.

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.

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