ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Ross discusses his future plans
Plans for increased communication revealed, new off-campus programs

In regards to the Save the Union protest and Dr. Shirley Jackson’s Spring Town Meeting, Dr. Ross revealed he has received many emails and questions from students and members of the community. Dr. Ross explained that he was thankful that we live in a democracy as anybody wanting to protest peacefully can find whatever works for them. He encouraged people to ask questions, to educate themselves and take responsibility for their actions.

In terms of communication with the students, Dr. Ross revealed that he intends to hold regular meetings for students to come ask questions and get answers. He explained that he would rather be proactive than reactive and continued to emphasize that communication has to be in all directions. Dr. Ross also expressed that it was important for student leaders to have channels to disseminate back to their students as well.

Dr. Ross also had begun to formulate ways to improve communication, he spoke on his idea of “rules of engagement,” a system that will have set dates for responses from the administration regarding proposals and relevant ideas from the student government. Dr. Ross emphasized that it was important for student work to get the attention that it deserves.

The Vice President of Student Life also encouraged input into the restructuring of Student Life. Dr. Ross expressed that it was easier to have input from people face to face. Moving forward, he hopes to get off on a better Union. The motion, which cited her dedication to students, friendly face, and welcoming attitude she brought with her to the Union passed 18-0-0 and will be signed by the members of the Senate.

To conclude the meeting, Ilori reminded senators that he would be beginning talks with the Vice President of Student Life Frank E. Ross. He asked anyone interested in participating to contact him for more information, senator or otherwise.

STUDENT SENATE

New leaders voted in, E-Board bylaws reviewed

When asked about the Off-Campus Commons, Dr. Ross shared the plans for a building directed at off-campus students as a dedicated space for the students who live off campus. The building will be located on 15th street and under the purview of Dean Cary Dresher. The Commons will allow Student Life to have a space that will help with programming for the off-campus students and be deliberately targeted at programming for students based on where they are individually.
President of the Union Chip Kircner '17 held a meeting with the old members of the Executive Board to continue with ongoing business.

The E-Board needed to discuss a proposal to purchase new tables and chairs for the McNeil Room. The selected chairs have red and black vinyl upholstery, and the tables have wheels that can be locked for easy rearrangement.

Associate Director of Union Operations Joe Campo looked through transaction data of the McNeil Room during lunch hours, and found that thousands of members of the community use the space just between the hours of 11 am to 2 pm. Since the current tables and chairs are fifteen years old, he feels that it is important they be replaced.

The current tables and chairs would be moved to another location on campus that needs them. The Darrin Communications Center was mentioned as a location that needs more table space.

Director of Student Activities Cameron McLean also recommended that trolleys be purchased to easily move the tables and chairs out of the way for performances, debates, and other Union events.

The E-Board then approved $140,885.42 for the purchase of 331 chairs and 67 tables in a 14-0-0 vote.

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Next, Destination Imagination came to seek approval for their travel plans 14-0-0. The E-Board also approved the hiring of a new Communication Specialist and Administration Specialist, unanimously.

The E-Board approved their travel plans 14-0-0.

Graduate student Yijie Guo came before the Board approved their travel plans 14-0-0.

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The E-Board discussed whether it would be best to spend money now on the units, or wait to improve the building that they are being housed in. Ultimately, it was decided that getting the new units was of high importance, and the E-Board approved the reallocation of funds from the W2SZ budget to pay for new air conditioners in a 10-1-0 vote.

The last item on the E-Board’s agenda was to fix the issue the Student Senate had with the suggested bylaw changes. The motion was to revise the proposed amendment to Article V, Section 7 of the E-Board Bylaws, to read “These rules of order shall be subordinate to the Bylaws unless the rules of order specifically state otherwise; these rules of order may only supersede Article V or VI of the Bylaws and only if approved prior to the meeting where they shall take effect.” The vote failed 9-3-0 because it requires two-thirds of the voting body of the E-Board to have attended the meeting.
TroyByDesign

Saturday, May 7th
12 pm - 4 pm

Tech Valley Center of Gravity

30 3rd St.
Troy, NY 12180

TroyByDesign is a collaboration between community partners and RPI organizations. This yearly event brings together designers and makers from the Troy community and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute campus to showcase work, stimulate imagination, and foster collaboration.

learn more at troybydesign.com
Saying goodbye for the sake of improving yourself

OFFTENTIMES, on this long road of life, we forget where we’re going. The trees that you pass don’t look as welcoming any more. Your feet may be dragging as you will yourself to keep going—there has to be something at the end of it. We, as a people, have entrench ourselves in a “light at the end of the tunnel” philosophy. We feel obligated to finish things we never had to begin in the first place. And when we do realize that it’s not the path we thought we started down—the street signs were just a little jumbled up—those around us rush in and reassure us that it will indeed all be fine, we just have to keep going.

I recently caught myself wondering; I had gotten lost on my grand adventure, but I was sure that it was the right turn. My time at college over the past two years has been less of a rollercoaster and more of a plain old coaster. It was as though I was a moth and had seen the first flickering light that I found interesting and let it consume me, never realizing that I had left the hundred of lamps in the room. To be quite frank, I got stuck. And this is the truth. This is who I am. This is The Poly. This newspaper is everything to me. When I showed up on campus, I threw myself into the making of The Poly and just never left. I earned the title “Stockholm Syndrome” my first semester for, and quote, “joining into the light and never leaving.” And it was true. I never did want to leave; I wanted to make the paper better and better. In what seemed like the blink of an eye, every editor on the paper that I looked up to and had taught me everything I knew disappeared. Leaves were being taken, members quit, and friends just didn’t have the time to commit to it anymore. My good friends Jack and Tyler were the only ones left who had been there when I and, coincidentally, they had started. Although we had an editor in chief, he was busy and burnt out. And that left everything to Tyler.

Tyler is the most steadfast person I know. He knows how to get things done well, efficiently, and to the best of his ability, with all a spoken word cup of around 10 words an hour. He’s kind, passionate about Sodexo employees serving him his own food at Commons, and an avid Halo player.

Jack is the one pillar I have ever needed. He stepped up when no one else would. He has a heart of gold, is a blue control deck master, and is a true best friend. Jack may be quiet with a smile like honey, but he gets fired up about all the right things. He and Tyler took my cuts and remained tenfold (although I was sure I was the worst offender of pushing their butts where there was nothing for everything was falling around us). During the past year on The Poly, I seem to have taken a wrong turn. Although I met some really wonderful people, I think that all of the shadows and uneven ground I felt was due to the stress that life put me under for the sole reason that I do not think I acted the way I thought I would. I know that I am sweet, caring, and compassionate towards others, but this year was not.

I want to take this notebook to acknowledge everyone on the Poly staff. I have pushed too hard, too fast, and expected too much. Thank you for being patient with my impatience. Thank you for letting me try and teach you the best that I could. Though it may not have seemed like it, everything I did was in the name of my love for you and the paper that I poured my soul into. I tried to help in the only ways I knew how.

I’ve decided to stop wandering around now. It’s time that my tenure at The Poly came to an end. As I looked in the mirror and could not recognize the person I saw, I realized that it’s time for a change. I can’t teach you the Poly stuff, anything more. It’s your turn to be the teacher—your turn to step up. I did a lot of hard work, and I’m proud to be able to say that. Still, you’ve taught me more, and I’ve even more to hope to teach you. Nevertheless, it’s about time I went looking for the Stephanie that I used to be—a happy one, and a sweet one. So, thank you for everything. Thank you for all of your Tuesday nights I love you all, and wish you the very best on your own journeys. I hope that if you find yourself lost, you won’t forget that you’re not obligated to do anything. Not everyone has to have a purpose in life, nor does anyone actually have a map to it, no matter how much they want to ‘try’ to convince you otherwise. It doesn’t matter if things get stuck. I never did want to leave the end of the tunnel. This is your path, your happiness. There will be other adventures awaiting wherever you choose to look.

Justin Etzine
Managing Editor

End of the year with a fresh set of E-Board members

Hey RPI! I hope everyone is surviving the project and exam rush of finals week. Only one more week of classes separates us from a much overdue summer break. I for one cannot wait to take a few weeks off. I also want to congratulate all who will graduate in three and a half weeks, and I wish you good luck in your future careers.

This past week I interviewed over thirty candidates for next year’s Executive Board. There was an extremely talented group of applicants this year which made decisions as to who I would recommend for the Board pretty difficult. Reiterating some information from my Derby last week, I select 17 members of the Executive Board; one from each undergraduate class year, a graduate student, seven who represent clubs within the Union, and five members at large. However, I have only selected 15 seats to be appointed this week in order to save space for the incoming freshman class. Each candidate has been chosen based on a unique perspective to the Executive Board and how they can help create a functioning executive team. I look forward to working with them all during the upcoming year.

Since this is my last Derby of the year I also wanted to give you some information on how the Executive Board prepares for the start of the Fall semester. Each year all members of the Executive Board go through training in all things Rensselaer Union. For full days before classes start the Board will be undergoing intensive amount of training related to Union operations, finances, and procedures that same training all members also undergo leadership and team training with the help of the
In memory of Mark Smith

The Poly Editorial Board was deeply saddened to learn of the passing of former Dean of Students Mark Smith. Dean Smith served the Rensselaer community for 30 years in a number of roles, where he always ensured that students were his highest priority in every situation. We are grateful to Dean Smith for his contributions to RPI and, in particular, his dedication to the students of RPI.

Dean Smith served as an assistant dean of students for nine years, the director of the Office of Minority Student Affairs for five years, and the dean of students for over 16 years. In each role, he was the advocate for students. As the dean of students, Mark Smith reached out to many students and families in their time of need, and often helped students struggling with the transition to college life. Smith had a commanding personality, and he used his outwardness to serve as a focused and fair leader. His dedication to the Institute and its students was inspiring, and his presence on campus will be sincerely missed.

Our sincerest condolences go out to Dean Smith’s family. His visitation will be held at the Rensselaer Chapel and Cultural Center at 10 am this Wednesday, with the funeral to follow at 1 pm.

The Poly will be holding open elections Sunday, May 8th at 11 am in Ellsworth RU 3602.

LISTENING IN ON THE SOUNDS OF RENSSELER

Ben Detwiler hoped to make the world a better place. That hope died when he was killed by a drunk driver.

What should you do to stop a friend from driving drunk? Whatever you have to say to Friends don’t let friends drive drunk.

RPI Dance Club offers beginner and advanced classes in ALL STYLES: Hip Hop, Modern, Ballet, JAZZ, and Tap!

Clubs need and how E-Board representatives fit into club operations. When all is said and done E-Board reps also devote time to sitting down with club leaders to learn from them just what their clubs need and how E-Board representatives fit into club operations. When all is said and done every member of the Board will be an expert, regardless of their background or experience in the Union.

On an unrelated note, UPAC Concerts, in collaboration with the class councils and the Union 125th Anniversary Committee, hosted the Chainsmokers on Wednesday at ECA V. I wanted to take the time to thank everyone involved in making this possible and for all of the hard work they poured into its success. Special shout-out to Andreas Zourelli, Katherine Kounas, Belvia Huo, and Paolo Hockemüller as well as Amy Corron, Cameron McLean and the entire admin staff in the Union for their work. Thanks for a great year. Let’s make the next one even better.

HAVE YOU EVER WANTED TO LEARN HOW TO DANCE?

OPEN TO BOTH RPI STUDENTS AND THE RPI COMMUNITY

MONDAY Jazz
TUESDAY Ballet
WEDNESDAY Hip Hop
THURSDAY Modern

STYLES: Hip Hop, Modern, Ballet, JAZZ, and Tap!

What would you do to stop a friend from driving drunk? Whatever you have to say to Friends don’t let friends drive drunk.

Vegetarian or in any other way. Some with disdain for the fresh-faced noobs. Is that all Players is? Hell no. When I joined Players (and college) I wanted to talk about assumptions and a logical fallacy of composition. As I said, I’m told I even have some kind of “fan club” within this paper. By the time this article has reached your eyeholes, I will be partway through my final production with the RPI Players: The Mystery of Edwin Drood.

As far as last goes, this is an intriguing one: Drood is a musical with an incomplete story, and by making assumptions about the plot threads provided, the audience is charged with making their own conclusions. While I undoubtedly made Players, and the talented people who make up its ranks, you didn’t come here for a sappy editorial about things I can’t replace, and frankly, I don’t want to write such an article. Instead, I want to talk about assumptions and a logical fallacy of composition. As Drood tells us, “Quick conclusions often lead the best of us astray.” and the fallacy of composition is all about quick conclusions.

It’s something that any RPI student has probably encountered, and it might have gone something like this:

“One goes to RPI because that a school for nerds who don’t leave their rooms?”

That’s facile reasoning: looking at a subset (in this case, of people) and assuming that it is representative of the larger whole. From a logical standpoint, this facile reasoning frustrates me; from an emotional standpoint, it saddens me deeply. Storytime: I auditioned for, and joined, Partial Credit in the fall of my junior year, which brought me into the remarkably political world of RPI’s a cappella groups. While the situation is continually improving, there was, and to an extent still is, tension between the groups. In some cases, this tension includes other organizations on campus, like the time that UPAC Sound was hired to mic a multi-group performance. I don’t know if you’ve ever had to run sound for an a cappella show—I certainly haven’t—but apparently it is not an easy task, and not something that an inexperienced operator should take on alone. In this particular event, however, the UPAC Sound coordinator intentionally (I am told) sent only the greenest members of the club to the show, with a safety net of any kind. Consequently, the sound quality was understandably shaky. Among some members of the a cappella groups, this created resentment that, to this day, hasn’t fully dissipated. This story brings with it an accompanying moral.

The Poly will be holding open elections Sunday, May 8th at 11 am in Ellsworth RU 3602.

MUSICAL

TUESDAY

MONDAY

RPI Dance Club offers beginner and advanced classes in ALL STYLES: Hip Hop, Modern, Ballet, JAZZ, and Tap!

WHAT WOULD YOU DO TO STOP A FRIEND FROM DRIVING DRUNK?

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Sports

Wednesday, May 4, 2016

BASEBALL

RPI goes 3-1 against Vassar College Brewers

Jack Wellhofer
Senior Reporter

THE ENGINEERS PLAYED A WHOPPING six games this past week, going 3-1 overall. Earlier in the week, Rensselaer faced Williams College and Western New England University, losing 4-0 and 4-1, respectively.

In the win against Western New England last Thursday, the Engineers were unable to send a man home and the game ended with the same score. Rensselaer was home against Western New England last Thursday. The Golden Bears got off to an early start, scoring a run in the first inning thanks to a hit-by-pitch, a stolen base, and a flyout to left. The Engineers were able to find their momentum in the second inning, putting the Engineers on the board. However, that was the only run that RPI put up for the rest of the game, while Western New England put two more; one in the fifth and one in the ninth, with a final score of 4-1.

In the win against St. Lawrence last Friday, the Engineers scored two wins in the bottom of the first to keep the momentum up. The rally started with two outs, when senior Sarah Lawrence reached first and advanced to second on a throwing error by third base. Sophomore Ethan Meister hit a massive triple deep into right center, sending Lawrence home. The Vassar shortstop overthrew the ball on its way to third, sending Meister home for an effective home run. The Engineers were up 2-0.

Junior Yahiel Jinenez made it to first on a throwing error by the pitcher in the fifth. Sophomore Christian Spagnuola performed a sacrifice bunt to advance Jinenez to second, and then to third on a wild pitch. Sophomore J.T. Sawyer had an RBI single to center, which wrapped up the scoring for the inning.

The fourth and final run of Saturday’s first game came from senior Anthony Desmos, who hit a solo home run. Vassar was unable to answer what the Engineers threw at them, and the Engineers took the 3-1 win.

Saturday’s second game started with a bang, as sophomore attacker Sophie Hager scored three times—while sophomore attacker Allie Claroni and senior midfielder Erin Sarkis scored five goals, on Saturday with a wire-to-wire win over the University of Rochester at East Campus Athletic Village Stadium. The Engineers defeated RIT 8-7 two weeks ago at East Campus Athletic Village Stadium.

RPI’s women’s lacrosse finished their season on Saturday, splitting two games against the University of Rochester on Friday and a loss to Rochester Institute of Technology on Saturday. In the win against the Yellowjackets, junior attacker Sophie Hager scored three times, while freshman midfielder Maddy Aslissan and senior midfielder Mackenzie O’Neil added two each. Junior midfielder Carly Kirchner and freshman midfielder Abbey Salvon also scored.

Kirchner scored following a Rochester goal, and gave the Engineers a 1-2 lead. Next, Hager and O’Neil both scored their 20th goals of the season to extend the Rensselaer lead to 4-1. Twice in the second half Rochester came within one goal of RPI. But each time RPI answered the bell. O’Neil scored her second goal of the game to put the Engineers up 7-5. Then Hager finished her hat trick, finding the back of the net with eight minutes remaining to give the Engineers an 8-6 cushion.

The following game, RIT attacker Sage Sarkis scored five goals, on Saturday to lead the Tigers past the Engineers 12-9. For the Engineers, Hager scored a season-high six points—netting three goals and adding three assists—while sophomore attacker Ali Claroni and senior midfielder Erin DeLuca scored twice each. A double and flyout resulted in the only run Vassar could manage, which occurred in the bottom of the fourth. The very next inning the Engineers added on even more runs, with a single from freshman Tyler Stephens and doubles from Desmos and M. Lawrence. At the end of the fifth the score was 7-1. Although Vassar would score no more runs for the remainder of the game, the Engineers put up an additional three runs in the top of the sixth, ending the game 10-1 for RPI. In their last game of the weekend, M. Lawrence was the first to score. In the third inning, he doubled to left field and then advanced to third on a passed ball. While Hawkins flew out to left field, he was able to make it home and put one up for the Engineers.

In the fourth, S. Lawrence singled to left field and then advanced to second when Meister had a hit toward the third baseman, who fumbled it while fielding the ball. Spagnuola then walked, loading the bases. Junior Justin Valente flew out to center field, but did manage to send S. Lawrence home.

The last run of the inning came when M. Lawrence singled to right, opening up the opportunity for Spagnuola to score. The score was now 3-0. The last inning of the game ended up being the sixth, where the Engineers put up three more runs. The remainder of the game was called off due to weather. Runs came from Valente, Stephens, and Desmond thanks to a number of singles and good baserunning from the team.

The Engineers will play their last home game against Union College on Wednesday, May 4 at 3:30 pm, and then will conclude their season with the last Liberty League match against St. Lawrence University away on Saturday.

LACROSSE

Men triumph in 18-12 victory over Clarkson

Joseph Saulsbury
Senior Reporter

RPI men’s lacrosse took care of business early against Clarkson University on Saturday, scoring 17 of the game’s first 21 goals en route to a 22-12 win over the Golden Knights.

Freshman attacker JT Kelly scored a career high four goals and four assists. Junior attacker Brent Mann also scored four goals and three assists in the last of which marked his 50th goal of the year. The Engineers took a 10-3 lead into halftime and extended that lead further in the second half.

Clarkson came back, scoring the last seven goals of the game; however, it was too little for the Golden Knights.

The Engineers went on to a final score of 12-3 overall with the win and 5-2 in the Liberty League Conference. This Saturday they will travel to St. Lawrence University to face the Saints in the Liberty League Tournament Semifinals. St. Lawrence defeated RPI 8-7 two weeks ago at East Campus Athletic Village Stadium.

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SENIOR STEPHEN SCHIAVONE HURLS the ball from the pitcher’s mound during Saturday’s game.
SOFTBALL

Engineers win one, lose one against Skidmore College

Rensselaer rises to 27-8 record as the playoffs approach

Maria Kozdroy
Senior Reporter

The softball team travelled north to Skidmore College this Saturday for their last regular season doubleheader. The Engineers broke even, winning 15-3 for the first game and losing 6-5 for the second.

Junior Stephanie Caudle pitched the first game, with six strikeouts in five innings. For offense, junior left fielder Morgan Kollmeier had two RBIs on her two hits: a single to right in the fourth and then opposite field to left in the fifth.

The second game kept going back and forth, with the Thoroughbreds finishing on top after they scored in the bottom of the fifth to secure the lead for the next two innings.

Sophomore shortstop Victoria Greco earned two RBIs off her triple down the left field in the fourth, leaving the Engineers up 5-3 going into the bottom of the inning. Senior Victoria Hepworth pitched 4.2 innings, facing 31 batters and allowing eight hits, five walks, while picking up three strikeouts.

Caudle came in for the relief for the Engineers, yet Rensselaer could not get the bats going, while their opponents did, leaving Saratoga on a 6-5 loss.

As the regular season has come to a close, Kollmeier shared her experience of the season. “Going into this season, we knew we had a lot of talent but talent can only take you so far. As the season has progressed, we have shown a lot of heart, drive, and will to win. We’ve continued to find ways to win no matter the situation, and all of the girls have stepped up big to make this happen. Our pitchers have been throwing great, the infield has been making some awesome plays, and the outfield has been solid all year. We play our best when the pressure is on, and that’s exactly what we have right now. Looking ahead, we have the chance to host the Liberty League playoffs if a couple of league games between other schools go our way. Our coach is making sure we stay focused on the games we have ahead and continue to work hard.”

The Engineers will travel to Rochester, N.Y. to play the Skidmore College Thoroughbreds for the first game of the Liberty League tournament on Thursday, May 5.

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Jonathan Caicedo/The Polytechnic

RPI WILL compete in the Liberty League tournament on Thursday.
TOP TEN LIST

10. Business degree
9. Union
8. Cam Hackett
7. Out of the driveway
6. The Cloud
5. Deadlifts
4. Western Digital
3. Singers
2. Peyton Manning all last year
1. Dat ass

Yu-Gi-Oh Cards

Blue-Eyes W Dragon
Insect Queen
Red-Eyes B Dragon

Change of Heart
Jinzo
Relinquished

Dark Magician
Kuriboh
Sifter

Exodia
Obelisk
Thousand Dragon

Gagagigo
Polymerization
Toon World

Great Moth
Pot of Greed

Harpie Lady

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SUDOKU

1 9 7
6 2 5
8 3 9

5 4 2
7 8 1
9 1 5

3 5 9
2 4 8
6 1 7

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

SUDOKU

DILBERT

by Scott Adams

MY DATE LASTED 3 MINUTES.

WHAT'S THE BIGGEST RISK WITH YOUR PLAN?

IT'S PEOPLE, THEY'RE TERRIBLE ONCE YOU GET TO KNOW THEM.

THEN DON'T GET TO KNOW THEM.

I TRIED THAT WITH YOU AND IT DIDN'T WORK.

CATBERT, EVIL DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES

PEOPLE ARE COMPLAINING THAT YOU'RE ANTISOCIAL.

DON'T TALK TO TED UNTIL I HAVE TIME TO TELL HIM I CULT HIS PROJECT.

WHEN WILL THAT BE?

I DON'T KNOW MY EUROPEAN VACATION STARTS TOMORROW.

DO YOU HAVE TEN SECONDS TO TALK?

CHECK BACK IN FIFTEEN DAYS.

I SAW YOU TALKING TO MY BOSS. DID I SAY ANYTHING ABOUT MY PROJECT?

YOUR HESITANT RESPONSE TELLS ME YOU KNOW SOMETHING AND HE ASKED NOT TO TELL ME.

IS SOME-THING TERRIBLE GOING TO HAPPEN TO ME?

I THINK YOU KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT MY PROJECT AND YOUR BOSS TOLD YOU TO KEEP QUIET.

HA! YOU JUST CONFIRMED IT BY AVOIDING EYE CONTACT!

MAYBE YOU COULD GET YOUR OWN TAIL.

WHY? WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO HIDE?

DILBERT

by Scott Adams

WORDS CAN BE FOUND FORWARDS, BACKWARDS, UP, DOWN, AND IN BOTH DIAGONALS.

Blue-Eyes W Dragon
Insect Queen
Red-Eyes B Dragon

Change of Heart
Jinzo
Relinquished

Dark Magician
Kuriboh
Sifter

Exodia
Obelisk
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Gagagigo
Polymerization
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Great Moth
Pot of Greed

Harpie Lady

Star Wars: The Force Awakens

Wednesday • May 4, 2016
7 pm, 10 pm • DCC 308 • $2.50

Friday • May 6, 2016
7 pm, 10 pm, 1 am • DCC 308 • $2.50

One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest

Saturday • May 7, 2016
7 pm, 9:30 pm, 12am • DCC 308 • $2.50

Do you like drawing comics?
Draw comics for The Poly!
Email us at comics@poly.rpi.edu
Eighth Wonder offered awesome dancing performances after hours of practice and showed the charm of hip-hop dancing to the Rensselaer community.

This year’s event drew more visitors than ever before. Private pilots landed at Schenectady County Airport and were able to taxi their aircraft right up to the event and park beside the Air National Guard’s C-130 Hercules, which was brought across the airport from the 109th Wing based at the airport. This aircraft was accompanied by a crew who gave tours and an airport fire truck which gave demonstrations. LifeNet, the New York state aerial medivac, also attended the event with a helicopter that was open for tours.

The Empire State Aerosciences Museum, where the event was held, offered discounted admission to tour the classic aircraft inside. With so much to see and do, the Thiers Memorial Fly-in and Car Show has something for everyone, and the RPI Flying Club encourages all who are interested to follow the event on Facebook for a further recap of this year’s event as well as updates for the next.

The RPI flying club hosted a memorial fly-in in honor of a former club president, Lawrence Thiers ’99.

Photos: Students show up strong to After Dark

From Page 11

Participants of the Vermonster eating competition enjoyed free ice cream, while trying their best to finish the cold chunk of Ben & Jerry’s as fast as possible.

Members of the RPI Capoeira club perform at Union After Dark on April 29, 2015 in the McNeil Room. The group paired off and staged exhibition matches.

Sidney Kochman/The Polytechnic

Sidney Kochman/The Polytechnic
CAMPUS EVENT

RPI students demonstrated talents for art
Numerous fun activities and excellent performances during event brought students together

BOOK REVIEW

Original book thrills reviewer, surprises

Gone Girl makes readers’ teeth chatter by displaying Amy’s ridiculously deliberate crime

Nathan Dorer
Senior Reviewer

RELEASED IN JUNE OF 2012, GILLIAN FLYNN’S Gone Girl reached critical acclaim and a number one spot on the New York Times Best Seller List within its first few months on shelves. The book comes as Flynn’s third, and within its first few months on shelves. Critics were widely impressed with Flynn’s carefully emotional prose.

The novel begins, Nick’s first-person narration immediately gives the reader some insight into the conflict in the book; the reader is swept into the morning of Nick and Amy’s anniversary, and Nick sheepishly explains that he and his wife had been unable to communicate effectively for the last several years. However, the novel takes a turn for the worse when Nick comes home to find that Amy is missing, and his house has been ruined. Nick’s story alternates with entries from Amy’s diary in which she explains the arch of their marriage: mutual attraction, excited lovers, devoted spouses, and estranged would-be divorcees. As the first part of the book progresses, things begin to look increasingly grim for Amy; while initially her disappearance was ruled true and false is made murky by howNick’s story alternates with entries from Amy’s diary in which she explains the arch of their marriage: mutual attraction, excited lovers, devoted spouses, and estranged would-be divorcees. As the first part of the book progresses, things begin to look increasingly grim for Amy; while initially her disappearance was ruled a kidnapping, it soon turns to foul play. More and more, the clues begin to point towards Nick as a murderer, and his testimony in his part of the narrative becomes increasingly clouded. However, it soon becomes clear that Amy has managed to frame Nick for her murder, and the conflict becomes a battle of wits to prove that Amy has set Nick up. In the second part of the book, readers earn some insight into Amy’s process as she switches from journal entries to personal narrative, and her evil genius becomes one of the most compelling points of the book.

The craft of Gone Girl lies in the contradicting stories of the two narrators. Flynn has managed to create a story where the reader can get the backbone of the events, but what’s true and false is made murky by how much they contradict one another. There’s an overarching cycle: the police present evidence, Nick refutes the evidence, and Amy explains what she wanted the evidence to look like. The author hasn’t abused one unreliable narrator; she’s created a story that relies on the faults of both. Flynn also sold herself in the ability to distinguish the voices of Nick and Amy. Throughout the entire novel, Amy’s voice manages to shift perfectly to her actions; she’s innocent and overwhelmed while she’s falling for Nick, a woman scorned as their marriage dissolves, and a cunning sociopath when she frames him for the murder. Meanwhile, Nick presents himself alternately as the victim and the martyr as Amy’s careful plan unfolds before police. The author has managed to make her characters intriguing and distinct amidst her storyline, and she allows the faultiness of both protagonists to take center stage.

Gone Girl is remarkably well put together; it’s original, it’s pressing, and it’s absolutely thrilling to know what is going through the minds of Nick and Amy as the two try to condemn one another. There’s a sense of combativeness that drives the book, and the story is almost chronically well thought out.

Sidney Kochman/ The Polytechnic

SHEER IDIOCY PERFORM one of their improv games at Union After Dark this past Friday. The idiots played a series of games to the delight of the audience in the McNeil Room. The Polytechnic

ON FRIDAY EVENING, THE RENSSELAER UNION WAS FILLED WITH students enjoying many activities and events as part of the semesterly Union After Dark event. Performances were put on by clubs such as Juggling Club, Sheer Idocy, the Eighth Wonder, Capoeira, and the Ballroom Dance Club. Music was provided by Joey Lucier, In Ashes, Da unh Music, and Monsters in the Attic. Face painting, board games, and caricaturization took place throughout the Union. Candy—both normal and cotton—and popcorn, and pizza found their ways into the digestive tracts of many event attendees. Other clubs, namely UPAC Lights and UPAC Sound, played supporting roles in the festivities. On of the most anticipated events on the schedule was the Vermonster Challenge. Although I was photographing the competition instead of stuffing my face with copious amounts of ice cream, I had a blast walking among the teams and capturing their seemingly inhuman feats of consumption. My camera and I became unwitting participants in the carnage unfolding on the floor of the McNeil room as chunks of half-chocolate, half-vanilla ice cream flew considerable distances through the air and landed on my lens and shirt.

The winning team consumed an entire Vermonster, or 20 scoops of ice cream, in one minute and 59 seconds. Union After Dark was a wonderful showcase of what makes Rensselaer unique. A variety of student-run clubs and groups had an opportunity to perform for the community. Keep an eye out for the next one for pure Friday night entertainment.
Chris Leong
Senior Reviewer

On April 27, 2016, the Chainsmokers and Kip Chapman performed at East Campus Arena, hosted by UPAC Concerts.

House music and electro have surged in popularity in recent years; the genre is great for parties and turning the energy level up a bit. Artists such as Dillon Francis, Don Diablo, Dash Berlin, and of course, The Chainsmokers, make it onto playlists regularly. Having a great set of speakers helps when listening to this kind of music; but there is the next best thing: concerts. Festivals such as Ultra Music Festival and Electric Zoo are huge, multiple-day ordeals which have any kind of electro music the heart desires and are an amazing time. Actually, it is probably worth noting that if you can’t purchase speakers, concert tickets are accordingly expensive.

A fantastic point to note about live sets are the different styles the artists take in their originales and even covers. With electronic music especially, DJs can mix well-known songs, sounding just as good, if not better than, the original. That’s what I love about the genre—how creative the DJs can be with pre-existing material.

Kip Chapman began with his set at 8 pm. Hailing from New York City, Chapman is a DJ who demonstrated different electro elements during his performance. His combination of dubstep, house, trap, and EDM together made for a smooth hour-long mix. The set started off with a remix of “Heartbeat” by Pegboard Nerds, which included a hard dubstep drop. Later in the show, he made a more progressive take on “Deep Down Low” by Valentino Khan, which was followed immediately by an uptempo mix of “One Dance” by Drake, his second single off of Views. About 40 minutes in, Chapman’s EDM take on “CoCo” by O.T. Genasis was hilariously received by the RPI crowd. The final mix was Axwell Λ Ingrosso’s “Sun Is Shining” into a rolling beat which ended the opening set. For the full RPI mix, check out his soundcloud at http://soundcloud.com/kipchapman

The Chainsmokers came on promptly after Chapman, to a cheering crowd. Also from New York, N.Y, Andrew Taggart and Alex Pall have seen a meteoric rise to fame with their song, “#Selfie,” hitting number one in the US Dance charts in 2014, which they unfortunately did not play at the concert. Two years later, they are still widely popular, with an official album in 2015 and having regularly toured at UMF since 2014. Earlier this year, they played on the worldwide stage at UMF and gave a similar setlist.

Although the music started clipping out halfway through the set, the duo figured it out and adjusted their music accordingly and it was not a problem for the rest of the show. In classic DJ fashion, the duo gave fantastic remixes of “Under the Bridge” by the Red Hot Chili Peppers, “Rather Be” by Clean Bandit, “7 Years” by Lukas Graham, and “Love Yourself” by Justin Bieber. They also added a small sample of “Circle of Life” from the Lion King. Adding a little variety to their performance; they slipped in “Scary Monsters and Nice Sprites” by Skrillex; a nice little blast from 2010’s past. Since I love house, especially bass heavy house, I lit up when I heard “Heaven” by Drezo, which was also featured on Dillon Francis’ ‘Diplo & Friends’ Mix under his deep house alias, DJ Hanzel.

From their own music, they also played “Don’t Let Me Down”, “Roses”, “Kanye”, and “Split (Only U)” with Tiesto. Other than the small audio hiccup midway through the show, the set had seamless transitions between songs and really did a great job in riling up RPI.

Thanks to UPAC Concerts for organizing this monster of an event, and Chainsmokers and Kip Chapman for coming out to perform.

Courtesy of Devin Nguyen/Rensselaer Union

EDM pair brings house music to ECAV

Features