

the polemic

Volume III, Number II

The Pole - Page MELN

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, N.Y.

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ONLY A VIRGIN CAN CAPTURE A UNICORN

Nobel winners join School of Science



New Troy noise law affects lovers

A study by the U.S. Census Bureau has just been released and its findings are startling. In less than 80 years, the city of Troy will be totally deserted. How can this be, you may ask? A good question. This summer, the Troy City Council passed a law which attempts to abolish sex.

Disguised as a "noise ordinance", this law states that any sound which can be heard 50 feet from the source is illegal. Its real purpose however, is obvious. The Troy Copulation Ordinance levies incredibly severe penalties against anyone caught making love (unless, of course, it's done in total silence). Why did the Council pass such an assinine law? Another good question.

As the mayor of Troy, Mr. Franz Hasbeen, stated in a recent press conference, "We have decided to abort the city of Troy. It is an experiment that just didn't work. In about 75 years, the city will be totally vacant, because there will be no more children born, and who in their right mind would move here voluntarily? Troy is plagued with unemployment, vagrancy, crime, and just plain ugly citizens. I have failed. Once the city is deserted, maybe someone can move in, start from scratch, and do a better job than I have with the city. What the ordinance is, in effect, is a neutron bomb." Upon pronouncing these words, the mayor consumed a large quantity of sleeping pills and proceeded to jump off the tallest building in Troy, which, by the way, is three stories tall.

(Continued on Page MELN)

George invests

Unbeknownst to most of its students, Rensselaer is in the midst of an economic crisis. Money is tight all over campus, as evidenced by the Administration's recent confiscation of the Unicorn to use it as bathroom tissue in the Frosh Dorms. Various departments in the School of Engineering have already announced their bankruptcy due to lack of incoming students.

The Electrical Engineering department has had very little current interest. Management Engineering reports an even lower interest rate. Computer and Systems Engineering hasn't had a bit of luck recruiting people. Chemical Engineering has been plumbing the depths for applicants. Biomedical Engineering says they'd give an arm and a leg for a prospective freshman. Nuclear Engineering's prospects have been decaying rapidly. Aeronautical Engineering, Environmental Engineering, and all the rest have had little success also, but we could not come up with bad enough puns for them.

The few remaining departments have banded together to form a new group called "Give the Administration More Bucks to Lose Easily" (GAMBLE), in hopes of getting the Institute back on its feet. The group has raised money through a variety of methods, most recently a Brownie sale. They plan to sell Campfire Girls and Girl Scouts in the weeks to come.

The money, in excess of \$30-million (Brownies are very popular at RPI), has been given to Z-Board Chairman and Institute President George Low. Low plans on investing the money in the stock market in an attempt to parlay it into enough to buy RPI the following necessities: a humorous official humor publication, a bevy of 5-foot blonde Swedish nymphettes, a real PAC, a new location for the school, George Servinis, a Who concert in the McNeil Room, and Freedom of Speech.

integrity confiscated

In a surprise move this week, the Office of Human Resources ordered Security to confiscate any trace of integrity on campus.



GEORGE LOW AND HIS FINANCIAL ADVISOR, five-year-old Butch M. Bezzler, study a ticker-tape listing of stock prices.

George feels that these are the types of things that will draw students back to Rensselaer.

George's Financial Advisor, five-year-old Butch M. Bezzler, has Low's total confidence. "Butch stopped us just before we were going to invest it all in South Korean Airlines," says George. Butch has convinced George to invest all the money in an obscure company called Bezzler Inc., manufacturer of the plastic black Zorro mask. Those involved can only wait and see what happens.

Brain Food

THE WORLD RENOWNED

AB

BUDWEISER

GENUINE

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the new Budweiser
representative for RPI

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Campus goes on shopping spree

John Grassvender, Director of Physical Facilities, revealed this week that RPI has decided to purchase, among other buildings, the Atrium, the Kennedy Towers, the Troy Holiday Inn, and the Troy McDonald's.

To explain this, he stated that, "We felt that building all new buildings was getting too expensive and we were sick of all this silly renovating. Besides, we are going to have to replace Troy anyway. How else will we be able to attract industry to the the East Greenbush Technology Center, with it sitting there. This will save us time, just like we're doing with the former Hirsh hill."

The buildings will be converted for use by RPI. The Atrium will be converted into administrative offices, just to make it all the more difficult to get to them to do silly little things like add/drops. Also, because the administration will have all that room to waste, all forms will have to be filled out in triplicate and must be presigned before submission. The Troy Holiday Inn will be converted into classroom space. "It's too nice to be used for RPI students as housing," stated Mr. Grassvender. "Anyway, the food is too expensive."

Additionally, the Music Hall is going to house the new computer system. "Myron got a chapel, so what the heck?", continued Mr. Grassvender.

The McDonald's will be slightly modified into new chemistry labs and there are rumors that the Kennedy Towers (affectionately known to the RPI students as 'Senility Towers') may be rented out to the Department of Defense as a missile silo.

Troy High School will be converted into the new C+CC, while the old building will house the new Ministry of Computing.

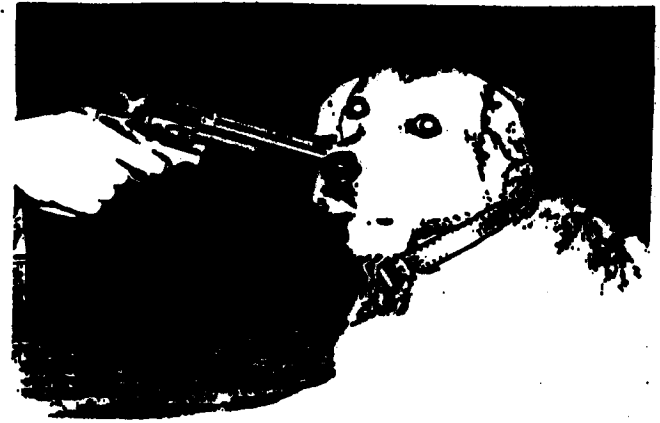
IFC president Tom Collins announced that the frats are going to try to assume control of the Empire State Plaza. "We don't know what we are going to do with it, but we'll think of something," he stated in a candid interview.

George Low called from Japan earlier this week to start negotiations to buy the Brooklyn Bridge. "One of our graduates designed it, and we want to show it off," said Mr. Low in a te-

lephone interview. "We will use it to replace the next bridge in Troy that gives out. Until then, we're going to replace the footbridge over 15th Street with it."

It has also been reported that RPI will be buying Russell Sage. "We feel that it is a necessity for the RPI male population. The ratio isn't good enough yet", stated Mr. Grassvender. "However, we are not going to change the name. If we did, we would have a harder time getting new girls to attend there."

Meanwhile, the remaining buildings in Troy will be demolished, and any new construction will take place on top of the rubble. "It will make a firm foundation for the future of RPI", said Mr. Grassvender. "Anyway, it's the only way we can think of to bring Troy closer to the level of the Institute."



POLE OBITUARY:

BARNEY PIKE 1974-1983

Friday, September 9, 1983 marked the passing of a dear friend of RPI. Barney Pike departed this earthly world late Friday night as a result of a fatal gunshot wound to the head. Barney, long-time patron of the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity, was destroyed to compensate for the shocking failure of a Pike party. Sadly, no one was willing to sacrifice their Friday evening that Barney might live. Funeral services were held Monday, September 12 and were attended by a phenomenal number of people after threats by the ASPCA of "If you don't come to this funeral, we'll shoot this Pike".

Troy goes under

In a surprise press conference early this week, RPI President Gorge Crow announced that the newly renovated Russell Sage Lab was to be auctioned off over Parent's Weekend in order to raise money for the Institute's new Center for Industrial Innovation. Although many have criticized the move as being too drastic, there are many supporters of the proposal.

Director of Campus Renovation Ron Zoni remarked, "Some of us here at Rensselaer find those old drab buildings simply dreadful. I hope that we will be able to unload a few of the other gauche buildings from the old campus. Some people think those buildings are nice, but I think now would be a very convenient time to level them all. We still have the construction equipment left over from our current grass removal project."

Although fliers were distributed at the conference explaining the details of the new campus renewal, the Polemic was unable to obtain a copy as all available leaflets were confiscated by the Office of Human Resources.

When asked about the Union impact of Rensselaer's desperate financial situation, PU Flora Plantski responded, "If selling the Sage building helps Rensselaer, then it also helps the Union; all that money comes out of the same pie."

It is not known how much of the campus could be replaced before the year is out, but Institute officials are hopeful that in a few more years we could have a campus filled with beautiful cubic-looking buildings like the JEC.

STATUTORY
RAPE?



BIG SISTER IS WATCHING YOU!

Troy noise law ...

(Continued from Page MELN)

How can the city get away with such an illegal act? Yet another good question! There are certainly many laws which prohibit the elimination of a culture, but who in the world (besides possibly the National Geographic Society) would come to the Troylets' aid? And they are obviously incapable of helping themselves.

The Council has insured that no one in the city will risk violating the law, by imposing some very strict penalties against anyone caught moaning or groaning. Anyone suspected of breaking the law will be neutered on the spot. The method is dependent upon the volume of the utterance. Any sound over ten decibels will be punished by what the ordinance terms the "chainsaw method". The punishments increase in severity to the maximum sentence, which is called the "plastic explosive method" (specifics can be found in the ordinance itself).

In a related story, the State of New York is currently considering a proposal to secede from the city of Troy.

Institute changes to new, nuclear phone system

David Bets, Director of Telecommunications at RPI, disclosed earlier this week that "in the rush to get the new phone system installed, some of it was incorrectly connected." He went on to explain that if a user of the system pushed the "#" button followed by the "7", the system, instead of activating the "Call Pickup" function, which was not implemented on the system, will immediately, and inadvertently, reroute the call to NORAD's main computer system.

"We couldn't figure out what that red wire was for," said Mr. Bets. "Oh well, that's no great problem. We are sure that Rensselaer students are a mature group of young men and women who wouldn't take advantage of a situation like this."

"I think it's great!", exclaimed Comp. Sci. major Larry Rekcah, as the terminal in his room flashed something about a Professor Falken and Global Thermonuclear War. "I haven't had this much fun since I convinced the Bursar's office computer that it owed me money for tuition. Anyway, this thing plays one mean game of tic-tac-toe."

Peter O'Grotten, Vice-President of IBX (I'm Bell's Xerox), the company that installed the new phone system, was overheard saying, "After a few frat parties, God only knows what hell will break loose," as he climbed aboard a chartered flight to the Northwest Territories.

Mr. Bets, however, assured us that the problem would be fixed as soon as they complete the experimental RPI Wind Tunnel, currently made up of the Communications Center and the JEC, and soon to be finished with the CII. "We've got our priorities. Anyway, by letting a few Comp. Sci. hackers play with the trajectories, we can take care of our problem with MIT once and for all."

Any student (male or female)

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STILL JOIN
THE
EXCITEMENT

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Laura Sinski

make

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excitement looms

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to

gain experience

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Pole

EDITORIAL SECTION

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Special Thanks to CMH

S is for Satire, which is what we write,
T is for Troy Sanitation Department, where all contributions are sent,
A is for Alabaster thighs, smooth firm buttocks, pert young breasts, and...oops, sorry, I got carried away,
F is for Failing out, an act our staff has always been proficient in,
F is for Wiltsie House, home of the Pole and the infamous Wiltsie Boatworks,
B is for Blonde 5-foot Swedish nymphettes, with alabaster thighs and...oops, I got carried away again,
O is for Offending people, something we never, never do; well, almost never,
X is for the Xcellent taste displayed by the people who have prescriptions to the Pole; they are only \$2 a semester, and if you don't have one by now, get your checks to: The Polemic, 202 Wiltsie House, via campus mail,
E is for End, well, almost end,
D is for Disclaimer: Any resemblance between anyone or anything mentioned in this Pole and any real member of the E-Board is purely coincidental; well, almost purely.

Do you want a say?

Are you bored? Do you find yourself with large amounts of free time? Are your grades a lost cause anyway? Are you a ████, uh civic-minded person who wants to "Play a Part"?

The Senate, in conjunction with the Howdy-Doody Leaders Club of America has announced that there are many exciting openings (they are also selling watches, real cheap) on many of the Student Government Boards.

According to Mary Parody, GM, "We are looking for people to participate, both on the major boards and on some of the more obscure boards."

Did you know that there are over 430 different boards in our student government? Fairly amazing, considering that there are only about 70 people on them. Some of these boards are in fairly pitiful shape.

The D-Board, for instance, has no members at all. The Dika Board is supposed to handle student suggestions and effect some measure of quality control and fiscal responsibility on Dika. The board has had problems...

The Senate urgently needs people to work on the PK-Board. The Parking Board is designed to study the problem of no parking areas for students, and make suggestions to the administration. Translation: Take endless crap from irate students, accomplish nothing. This could be for you...

You say you want power? You want to be useful? Perhaps the Z-Board is for you. What's that? Well, that's a secret, but they're important (they think). All important decisions go through this mysterious board. It is from this band of deviants that such cornerstones of RPI as the Tute Screw and WRPI have originated. It should be noted that it is rumored that there is a rather bizarre selection process said to involve the infamous screw among other things. Still, it could be for you...

Remember, you owe it to the school and the students to become involved. So get psyched! All you need is an active desire to waste your time and enough ego to want to feel important.

Contest!

Okay, engineers. Just for fun, let's exercise the outstanding verbal abilities that got us into RPI. Yes, you guessed it, it's time for the quasi-annual Unicorn proofreading contest. As any of you who have attempted to read this piece of journalistic nonsense know, it is riddled with a phenomenal number of typographical errors. For example:

As our illustrious former Editor-in-Chief was fond of saying, it is part of the nature of a humor magazine to be offesnive (relax! I said the magazine, not the staff!) That's why we chose to pick on Troy in this issue—because Troy is so offnsive and misery loves company. I hope all the outraged Troylets, uh, that is, fine citizens of Troy, reading tis will remember that all of this crap we're dumping on their city is supposed to be funny. Besides, nobody will never notice because of all the crap that's already investing the city.

RULES

- 1) Read through the Unicorn and circle any word which is misspelled, mis-used, or just basically doesn't make sense.
- 2) Write the number of errors next to the paragraph and add them up. Write the total number of errors on the cover, along with name, address, and a fifty-word essay entitled "Why I Love The Pole" or "Why I Love The Polemic."

Mail it to:

The Polemic
202 Wiltsie House
RPI

Prizes include:

- First Prize: An autographed copy of the last Unicorn ever published.
- Second Prize: Front row seats at the annual Unicorn-burning ceremonies.
- Third Prize: An official copy of Human Resources version of the US Constitution (i.e. starting with the Second Amendment).

Deadline: All entries must be post-marked by midnight June 17, 2146.

OATMEAL

Pete was feeling a little better. At dinner he had met a girl named Sandy who lived in Davison, and they were going to see The Fantastiks that night. "She's actually fairly good-looking," Pete informed his roommate, Ian, "but she kept talking about her weird roommate, Olga." Pete glanced at the clock. "Holy shit, I've got to go if we're going to get to the play on time. See ya later, Ian."

As Pete and Sandy hurried up the Greene Building steps, they failed to notice a shadowy figure lurking by the Chrinitoid. The figure watched the couple intently. A slow smile spread across its face.

The writer paused. "That should add some suspense to the plot," he thought. "Now what about that heavy machinery? . . . Aha!"

Olga stepped back from her work, a weird grin playing across her face. She had worked right through dinner setting everything up, and now it was done. She had almost panicked when Sandy came back after dinner, but Sandy was so excited about her date tonight she didn't even notice the grease streaks on the floor. "Sandy will really be surprised when she sees what I can do now," thought Olga.

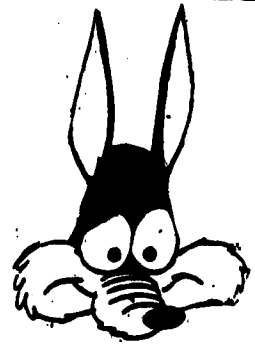
Olga surveyed her handiwork. Not a trace of the 15 suitcases of heavy machinery showed - it was all packed in and above her closet. "Now for the test!," chortled Olga. She opened the closet door and stepped inside. The door slid shut. A low humming began, rising to a crescendo. mmmmMAARRGGHH! A pause. The pause lengthened. A little longer. Just a tad more. Now! The door slowly slid open.



Laura Tanski, PU

Tanski-called Rensselaer a "launch pad from which you can quite literally reach the stars."

Sports



Division by zero

By now it should be common knowledge that RPI is going to be in a new "Ivy League" hockey division. It seems the preppies have been complaining that a school such as Harvard, which stresses academic excellence, cannot compete with a "hockey" school such as Clarkson. Consequently, the Ivy League schools will form their own division (Division I, "AA" League) and RPI has been invited along.

Not being ones to question the motives of the Ivy League, we at the Pole nonetheless wonder why we have been asked into this Ivy covered league. Could it be that George Low's dream of making RPI the preeminent technological university is being realized? God knows George is thrilled that RPI will be in the same group as Harvard, Princeton and Cornell. Perhaps hockey coach, Mike Odessa (known to be all for the change) has conceded that RPI cannot compete on a Division I "A" League level, and is more than happy to be relegated to prepdom (and perhaps a winning season).

Whatever the reason for the upcoming division switching, it is apparent that most of our greatest hockey rivals will now be played in non-ECAC games (if at all), while the games that count will be played against such teams as Brown, Army, and (inexplicably) the University of Vermont.

Supposedly, the Administration will be looking for student input (as if that ever influenced a decision concerning RPI) on this issue throughout the month. Well we want some input, too. What is the benefit of breaking up the division, destroying the hockey rivalries that make the games more interesting (and better attended), and pitting us against teams we don't know or care about? Well George?

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