

the polemic

Volume III, Number XI

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, N.Y.

Pole picks new targets



In a surprise news conference, the Polemic revealed a radical shift in attitude towards several prominent RPI figures. The editors announced that they will no longer be picking on Jim LaPaste and Paul Queensborough.

When asked by our reporters, why, the editors had varying responses. One editor just sat staring straight ahead as if he were some sort of vegetable, like a carrot or something. Another kept jumping up and down, first saying: "I resign, I resign"; then, "We've gotta put an issue out, right away. C'mon we got to get to work."; and "I don't have time. I have other commitments. I resign!" The newly formed editorial board looked precisely that and one kept insanely babbling something about how existential and erotic the experience of being thrown from a chariot could be. Finally, the cur-

rent editor in chief, KDJAKG, stood up and began to explain.

"We at the Pole feel that during the past year we have spent too much time harassing these guys. We were only kidding. Trying to make people laugh, you know. Maybe now and then using our publication to inflict subliminal advertising messages on our readers. (Wait here's one now:

BUY THE POLEMIC

end subliminal message)

But hey, we really think that Jim and Paul are swell guys; besides we found someone even better to harass, Mary Levity and Laura Sunburnski. We at the Pole do hereby proclaim to do our best to wreak havoc with our chosen targets."

Incidentally, Mary Levity and Laura Sunburnski were recently announced as having been elected to the offices of GM and PU respectfully.



Drunk driver honored at banquet

In an incredible display of marksmanship, a Rensselaer student scored a colossal total of points on a recent night while drunk and driving. Glen Livet, the student responsible, was honored at a banquet last week for his skill.

The evening's toastmaster, Dean Knows, related the incident in vivid detail. "First Glen polished off half a beerball of Genny, which is a feat in itself." The audience, mostly composed of members of RAWME (Rensselaer Association for White Male Engineers) laughed appreciatively. "Next, he left his dorm, and headed down Burdett." At this point, the guest of honor corrected the Dean. "No, 'swas Fiffteenthhh Street", he slurred. More laughs. "Fifteenth Street, then. He hit two ROTC's in uniform (25 points each + 10 point bonus for uniforms), 5 Troylets (15 points each), and an Urchin (20 points, they're smaller targets). He proceeded up Hoosick, without hitting anyone (-10 points), to Burdett. This run, he hit a Polemic editor (50 points + 25 point bonus from Ms. O.), a fraternity dog (10 points, he didn't get any brothers), and, for the grand finale, 20 kids just getting out of a baseball game from Troy High (15 points each). The grand total was FIVE HUNDRED and THIRTY POINTS! Way to go, Glen." The audience again cheered for the guest of honor, who was too drunk to respond coherently to the cheers.

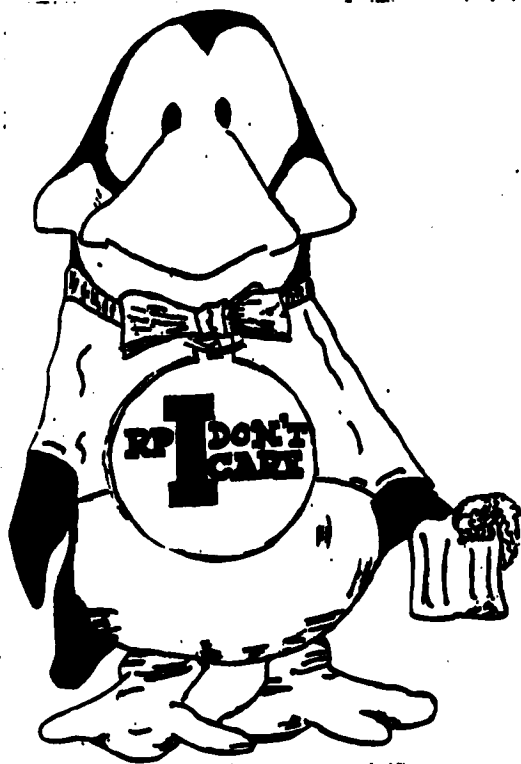
The Polemic, in a surprise news conference, extended its hearty congratulations to Glen, but warned others who would try and duplicate his feat:

"He who drinks too much beer gets city cop for chaser."

SPELLING ERROR OF THE WEEK:

What's wrong with this headline?

Glass confirms his genuis



PENGUINGATE

In a surprise news conference, the Rensselaer Union announced the adoption of a cute, animal symbol of their feelings for the students. As depicted here, the Penguingate "RPI Don't Care" Penguin will soon be as prominent as the long-since-extinct "RPI Care" Dog.

Help spend

\$4,500,000.00

Join the Executive Board!!!

Interested

contact

Laura Trampski

ABOUT THE

BAHAMAS!

Sign up for an interview on the Student Government

Bulletin Board near the Lobby Desk

Positions Available

Classes of '84, '85, '86 and Graduate

the pole

EDITORIAL SECTION

the polemic

Vol. III, No. XI

Editor in Chief

KDJAKG

Creators

JPMTH

- | | |
|---------------------|-----|
| Obnoxious Editor | MFG |
| News Editor | EAM |
| Features Editor | DAG |
| Sports Editor | KJK |
| Photography Editor | ALG |
| Composing Editor | JGS |
| Advertising Manager | SNC |

Editorial Board: KDWRPJAMEJKGKBK
 Staff: PJK, REB, SAP, CDB, PDM, ADR
 Business Manager: WMK
 Glue and Razors: The Andrews Sisters
 Special thanks to: CMH

"TROLPS!", cursed the Vlonase Ambassador as his small flying saucer crash-landed in the center of a large technological university in upper New York State which shall remain anonymous. The Ambassador climbed from his ship and asked the nearest students to take him to their leader. The students, intent on reaching the nearest party, failed to notice that the Ambassador looked like a Campbell's Soup lid with skin the color and texture of pistachio ice cream, and merely pointed at the Student Union.

At the Union, a friendly receptionist's desk informed him that all government leaders were "campaigning" at a local party. The Ambassador discovered the only activity in the offices was in a cramped room behind a large poster of a weird horse with a horn on its

(Continued on Page 2)

¢ No Cents ¢

a penny saved...

In a surprise new conference, the Polemic released the following editorial:

The Senate must be congratulated on its concern for the financial burden of the students. It appears no matter is too small or too trivial for the RPI Student Senate to devote a large part of their time in the interests of the students' wallets. Note this excerpt from the Senate meeting of April 28, 1983:

SENATE MINUTES
 April 28, 1983
 Page 2

UNDERGRADUATE ACTIVITY FEE:

Mary got word from down the hill that the activity fee for Undergraduates set by the last Senate (\$172.23) was unacceptable as it could not be evenly divided by two.

MOTION: Meyer (Hastings) The Undergraduate activity fee be set at \$172.24.
 The motion failed 11-6-1.

Motion: Herbert (O'Brien) The Undergraduate activity fee be set at \$172.22.
 The motion passed 18-0-0.

Yes, the Senate, after being reminded by the Pitt that the Activity Fee is paid by the semester and therefore must be divisible by two, went straight to work. At last, after much deliberation and discussion, and the presentation of and subsequent voting upon of two motions, the Senate had managed to save every RPI student one cent off of their RPI bill, bringing the estimated cost of attendance down to \$12,385.99. It is certainly comforting to know that the Senate is using its time efficiently in devoted interest to the students' concerns.

Bank by Popular Demand: OKO
 GM WEEK EVENT. This personal good for one like from any participating OKO member. Have a good week.

Dear Laura,

These coupons don't have expiration dates, and we have three or four-hundred sitting around the office. What's the exchange rate? What can we get for fifty or so coupons?

--The Pole

poleytecnic

announces the opening of the following

positions: **Editor in Chief**
Managing Editors (2)
News Editor
Features Editor
Sports Editor
Photography Editor
Composing Editor
Advertising Manager
Business Manager

Elections will be held Friday,
May 29, at 5 pm in
Union Room 231-B (Poley office).

Sign up for opening on the Poleydoor
prior to elections.

Cereal

Suddenly, the vision of Godot began to waver, and took on the form of a rather knurdly-looking wimp with, of all things, a slide-rule at his belt. Stalking over to the electrical boxes, the vision flipped the main breaker, and the lights blazed. Myron was back in action.

The vision turned toward Dave and John, a 3270 materializing beside it. Mesmerized, Jon and Dave watched as it very deliberately hit SHIFT-SHIFTLOCK-RESET. The world began to waver, and there was a flash.

"That's 202 Wiltsie? OK, thanks, Stan." Sid had no sooner hung up when the world began to waver and there was a flash.

Sid slowly came back to reality, aided by the poundings of... Dave, that was it. Beside him, an IBM PC glowed "PROGRAM TELEPORT DELETED".

"COME ON SID, WAKE UP!"

"What are you doing here?", cried Sid. "And come to think of it, where am I?"

Dave snorted, "Only in your own room in the Quad. . . and I'm your roommate, REMEMBER?"

Sid didn't. In fact, the last thing he did remember was finishing a

Box...

(Continued from Page 1.732)

forehead. The lone student there sat surrounded by blank papers. He calmly told the Ambassador that all little green men stories went to a Polemic at 202 Wiltsie House. Discovering this intrepid band of students, the Ambassador was treated to genuine humor.

He was informed that the Polemic was not associated with the Union or any of the groups of organic beings associated with that building. The Ambassador noted ideas from the students flowing in from Campus Mail or Myron Mail and being passed on to the Troy Sanitation Department. Pleased with their hospitality, though they all claimed to be not responsible, the Ambassador signed a treaty giving The Polemic \$2.00 for a semester's prescription to their publication. The Ambassador was last seen masquerading as a CRT terminal somewhere on campus.

(Editor's Note: Any resemblance between anyone or anything depicted here to anything alive, dead, or in Student Government is purely coincidental.)

(Editor's chord: At a surprise news conference held just now, the Polemic announced the end of its staff box.)

book about P1, a computer that comes alive He was sure he had never seen Dave before, but he did recognize his alleged roommate.

"Martha is pretty pissed at you, Sid," continued Dave, "she didn't appreciate your little gift at all--she claims that Tyrannosaurus Rex is just too lifelike!" Seeing Sid's blank look, Dave said sarcastically, "You do remember Martha, your girlfriend?"

"Huh?", thought Sid, as memories of a French castle came to him from nowhere.

"She left you a note", Dave informed Sid. "She has gone up to to Wiltsie for the Polemic's regularly-scheduled news conference. And she says you had better get that final story to her for 'Cereal', and make good! They need it by tonight!"

(Continued on Page 2.236)



POLEY WATCH

DIAL 270-6611

Have you been hassled, or harassed?

Do you know anyone who has?

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R.P.I. POLEY WATCH

THE IDENTITIES OF ALL INFORMANTS WILL BE KEPT STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL.

TOGETHER,
we can help New York

TAKE A BITE OUT OF CRIME!

Submitted by:

The Campus Law Enforcement
POLEY PREVENTION UNIT
Open 24 Hours

Cereal

(Continued from Page 2)

But at that point, lost in confusion, Sid wasn't even listening anymore. Dave stalked from the room, muttering something about his weird roommate.

Jon, still groggy, walked into the VCC thinking, "I've STILL got to do that Data Structures project." Had he but noticed the calendar on the wall, he would have realized his project was already 15 months late. "Oh my God, empty teminals! What's wrong?", he cried. But the "Computer Down" light wasn't on (as if THAT meant anything), so Jon sat down at a free terminal and signed on.

Research

At a surprise news conference this week, it was revealed that the effect of humor on the average student at a technological university is the most recent study being conducted by Professor I. Sneer of the Psychology department. When questioned about the strange topic, Prof. Sneer replied "Well, aside from the effect of SEX on students like those here at the 'Tute, it was the shortest thing I could think of to study."

The professor's experiment consisted of hooking 250 students up to an apparatus that measured the intensity of the laughs generated by several different types of humorous matter. They were: a Harry Meiners lecture, a Polemic, a Polytechnic, and a Three Stooges movie. Then the students were given an F-test to do. The result of the test as compared to the student's previous record on F-tests was the factor by which positive or negative influence was determined. Prof. Sneer feels that the humor should have a bad effect on the test results, which is why students at RPI do so well. Unfortunately, the more the students laughed at something, as well as the more they laughed overall, the better they did on the tests. This held true in the Harry Meiners case especially--no one laughed, and everyone who took the test after seeing that segment flunked.

Prof. Sneer is determined, though. Convinced that these results were "just a fluke", he is going to try again, this time using a Stephen Wiberly lecture, a Unicorn, a Woody Allen movie, and the student's 1983-84 bill from the 'Tute.

The E-Board was out chasing butterflies when the Senate held a surprise news conference to cut them down to size. However, the E-Board managed to duck and sidestep the issues.



Geek Column

Let me start by commenting on GM Week. I hope you all got as much studying done as I did. Pity though; the Wimp Party lost again.

Did you all go to the surprise news conference and hear the latest from Hewlett-Packard? Next month they will be coming out with a new model: the HP 10^{6.3}. All the specs are coming out in this month's Digital Life, so we can all memorize them before the

model hits the marketplace.

I hope you'll all be able to attend this week's meeting of GEEK (Gathering of Eggheads, Einsteins, and Knurds). This week's agenda includes a stimulating lecture on the benefits of using fluorescent highlighters, to be followed by a discussion of the role of antisocial behavior in today's society.

Once a fool...

Now gather 'round kiddies, it's that time of the semester again--the time when we try to test the truth of the idea "Once a Fool, Always a Fool". Yes, we want you to part with your hard-earned cash for another semester of everybody's favorite bird-cage liner, The Polemic.

"Why should I do it again?", you may ask. Well, I'll tell you. What other campus humor magazine could you read and get at least one laugh per issue? Certainly not the Unicorn! And where else could you read about the secret love life of our beloved ex-GM? Certainly not the Poly! And where else could you read stories whose imagery evoke visions of aardvarks performing unnatural acts in French castles? Certainly not in the Gorgon! And where can you find more surprise news conferences? Nowhere, but in the Pole!

Now for the schpiel: We need the money! We get no Union funds, our staff are all cheap, so we need your support. How else could we continue to bring you programs like "Masterpiece Theater"? Remember: Without your support, we would fall over!

Here's the deal. You send us \$2 (checks, please) through campus mail, and we run off to The Bahamas with Laura. Actually, for the \$2, we'll give you a semester full of fun and semi-jocularly in the form of The Polemic, delivered right to your door every two weeks or so.

You must give us an address on campus somewhere, either a campus dorm (anywhere but Colonie), or a Union mailbox (Frat, club, Stu Gov), or a friend's dorm room. We also take gift prescriptions, so if you really hate someone, give him (or her) the Pole!

If you're graduating, or live off campus and have nowhere on campus to have us deliver, never fear. The Pole has special mail rates! For \$3.50, we will mail your Poles anywhere!

Mail the attached form and the check to: 202 Wiltsie House, Stacwyck. Make your check out to: "The Polemic". If you want to get involved, we're having a meeting this Saturday at 2:00 at 202 Wiltsie to discuss the upcoming summer issue.

If you order before midnight tonight, we'll throw in a free life-size replica of Lee Wilcox, molded totally out of beef jerky.

Well, order away!

I'm still a jerk! Send me The Pole for another semester! And do it quick, I'm running out of toilet paper!

Name: _____

Address: _____

What you get if you cross a Dean with a Grand Marshal: _____

SPORTS

Ex-laxwomen examine retention factors

In a surprise news conference, Beth Hollybark, the Head Coach of the Women's Lacrosse team, announced that her team was doing their part to keep RPI on the cutting edge of technological advancement.

"Since we spend so much time eating our opponents dust on the field, I thought that with a little regulation and documentation of this phenomenon, the team could make a substantial contribution to RPI in Biological research since we cannot seem to make one in Athletics", said Hollybark. Several weeks ago, with the help of Joyce Dimwatt, the Mad Bactologist, Coach Hollybark implemented her radical new diet as part of her team's normal training schedule.

"At first everything was going well," admitted Hollybark. "Then came the MMOC contest."

Being caught up in the titanic struggle between Dimwatt, the Loser Ladies, and Pope A-pox-ious, Hollybark found her team's regular food being watered down by the constant influx of precipitation.

"It was like eating mud pies", commented Hollybark, who staunchly participated in her own training program. The team soon developed inflammation of the digestional tract resulting in alternating bouts of constipation and diarrhea. Hollybark refused to turn to the Infirmary for medical aid, claiming that a change of diet would aggravate the situation, and that "everything would come out all right in the end."

However, since the institution of the research phase of the training, several team members have quit the squad. The attrition rate has risen considerably during the current "wea-

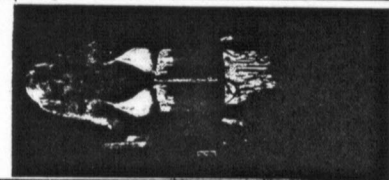


Record broken

In a surprise news conference held earlier this week, RPI President George Low announced that the Institute had broken the Guinness Record for surprise news conferences held in one week. Low said that he was very happy that RPI would get its name into the Guinness Book of World Records, and he would attempt to have the school break even more records, to get even more famous.

Said Low, "I intend first to go for a record that should be simple for us to break. We're only three short of the record for most Task Forces formed by a university in one year. Not only that, with the new GM and PU, we're assured the 'Most Incompetence in Student Government' record. We've got the World's Largest Lemon working as Editor-in-Chief of the campus newspaper, and The Unicorn has 'World's Biggest Waste of Time' locked up."

The enthusiasm about record-making has apparently spread to downtown Troy and the girls at Sage are hard at work on the World's Biggest Kielbasa. We at the Pole wish the best of luck all of these potential record setters.



ther crisis". When questioned about this situation, Hollybark replied that she believes that her team will soon stabilize about a few key members.

"The team core is strong," she insisted. "They are all old field hockey players and are used to hardships such as this."

Before the news conference could continue, Hollybark excused herself and ran for the nearest rest room.