

The Polemic

Volume 1, Number V

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, N.Y.

Rensselaer prepares for nuclear attack

If you hear your next door neighbor in RAHP digging one afternoon, don't be alarmed. Actually, we at the Pole recommend you go assist him. For, the Polemic is proud to announce, this is Rensselaer Nuclear Preparedness Week (NAP Week). All over campus, people will be constructing shelters, buying canned goods, and practicing how not to panic in the face of death and destruction.

NAP Week was proposed by the administration in order to increase student awareness of the outside world and foster a spirit of togetherness. The theme song, as chosen by the Senate, is "We'll All Go Together When We Go" by Tom Lehrer, and the logo of this (hopefully) annual event is a skull-and-crossbones superimposed over a mushroom cloud. Events will include a Missile Command Tournament, speakers from The End Is Near, Inc., and films of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings.

Although there doesn't actually appear to be any immediate danger of nuclear attack, we at the Pole would advise you to enjoy it while you can. Besides, the practice of how not to panic is extremely practical at 'Tute. So learn your lessons well, for if the "Final Week" isn't here soon, Finals Week approaches for certain.

C&CC provides devil worship

The Chapel + Cultural Center, in a surprise release yesterday, announced its intention to expand its religious offerings to include devil worship.

When questioned as to the reason for this sudden development, those in charge would only say that it was due to overwhelming demand on the part of students, faculty, and administration alike.

Although the faction has been allotted one of the less spacious meeting rooms in the C+CC, the members of the Rensselaer Satanic Community (RSC) are stated to be quite pleased with the arrangement, and consider it to be quite a step up from their former place of worship, the attic of Church VI in the Quad.

Black mass will be held in the basement of the C+CC on Saturdays at twelve o'clock midnight. All are invited to attend and participate.



With two Senators quitting, and having his abilities downgraded in RPI's most popular publication (and in the Poly), it was no surprise this week when the GM attempted suicide by strangulation.

*** To MDW & friends . . .
We f--ked up! SORRY! ***

H&SS courses offered for Spring 1982

Language, Literature & Communication

41.1510 TA I Kwang
41.1520 TA II Bukarida

The primary goal of these courses will be to instruct the student in the language of the RPI Teaching Assistant. Topics to be discussed include: Faulty Choice of Nouns, Incorrect Conjugation of Verbs, The Ageless Mystery of the Utterly Meaningless Sentence, and Mispronunciation of the Greek Alphabet. Prerequisites: Physics I Lab, Physics II Lab.

41.1610 English I Smith
41.1620 English II Jones

The primary goal of these courses will be to instruct the Teaching Assistant in the language of the RPI Student. Topics discussed include: Proper Choice of Nouns, Correct Conjugation of Verbs, 1001 Handy Expletives, and Proper Pronunciation of Such Difficult English Words as "The".

42.4440 Resnick
The Wit and Wisdom of Halliday & Resnick

A study of the outstanding literary techniques of the Cheech & Chong of the Physics world, Halliday & Resnick. Particular emphasis will be placed on their rapturously funny derivation of Maxwell's Equations, and their poignant and touching handling of simple harmonic motion. Prerequisites: Physics I, II, III, Masochism I.

The Arts

46.2320 Schlep
Computer Collage

Instruction in various techniques of recycling computer output into works of modern art. Such techniques as computer papier mache, and covering objects such as station wagons with antiholes will be discussed.

46.2420 Mangle
DECwriter Sculpture

Instruction in various techniques of recycling DECwriters into works of modern art. Such techniques as punching, kicking, scraping, head-butting, sledge-hammering, chain-sawing, torching, dissolving in acid, and tossing out of residence hall windows will be discussed. Students will be encouraged to develop new techniques through independent projects.

History & Political Science

52.2300 Lemon
Arthur, Carter, and Other Memorable Presidents

What set such presidents as Chester A. Arthur, Jimmy Carter, Rutherford B. Hayes, and Millard Fillmore apart from the rest of the pack? This course considers their impact on the office of the Presidency, or lack thereof. Also discussed will be the high probability of Ronald Reagan joining this elite group.

53.4640 Ruiney
Nazism, the Moral Majority, and Other Political Nightmares

This course will study the inhumane and vicious acts of Adolph Hitler, Benito Mussolini, and the Right Reverend Jerry Fallwell. Also studied will be: Idi Amin, Jim Jones, Ronald Reagan, Alexander Haig, and the current RPI Student Government.

(continued page 3)



Rensselaer Gothic

H&SS courses ...

Human Dimensions Center

49.4965 Feinsteiowitz
Tailoring--the Art of
Measuring for Clothing

This course provides instruction in the basic measurement of human dimensions. Along with the technical aspects of the use of the tape measure, various socio-cultural phenomena such as designer jeans and the I- Can't-Believe-It's-A-Girdle will be discussed.

Psychology

56.2521 Yinyang
Schizo Lab I,II

A practical analysis of the schizoid properties in the human mind. Various mind-altering substances will be administered to the students to bring out this latent schizophrenia, and their corresponding behavioral changes will be observed. Class will meet once weekly at two different locations, both of which have required attendance. There is a lab fee for the chemicals used.

56.4341 Staff
Human Sexuality Lab

A practical application of the coursework learned in course 56.4340-- Human Sexuality. Methods of birth control will be investigated, as well as various methods of stimulation. Offered in conjunction with Russell Sage College.

Anthropology & Sociology

54.6960 Yeti
Troylets--The Missing Link

This course will investigate the evolution of man, with special emphasis on how the peculiar species "troylet" fits into the evolutionary chain. Topics to be discussed include: Trojans as primitive toolmakers, and the similarities between the inhabitants of Troy and simean monkeys. A class experiment will investigate whether Troy adolescents can learn by using the reward/punishment system-- a hunk of cheese vs. 110 volts of electricity.

Empire demolishes Union

In case you still haven't noticed, there's a gaping, smoldering hole where the Student Union used to be. That is the most glaring evidence on campus of the strangest event ever witnessed, although there are shattered windows and some other minor damage left from that bizarre Saturday night. On that night, according to all accounts, a small fleet of what appeared to be TIE fighters straight out of Star Wars zipped out of the skies and blasted away happily. The next day the Pole staff contacted Darth Vader to confirm the identity of the attackers. Vader, being the Empire's top military man, admitted to the attack but refused to justify it.

We canvassed the students for their opinions; no two were the same. They ranged from "Target practice" to "The Players hired them out to make room for a P.A.C." to "Daka probably had a health inspection due and wanted to get rid of the evidence." But the most likely rumor is being spread across campus by the Rebel Alliance. According to spokesperson Princess Leia Organa, "Vader asked out a Sagie and she turned him down for an R.P.I. man. Naturally, Darth threw a mild tamtam...er...tantrum. His original plans were to destroy West Hall, but one of his aides told him you'd be grateful, which he'd never be able to live with." She refused to comment on the Alliance's plans for retaliation, which leaves us waiting for the revenge of the Jedi.



WELL?

the pole

EDITORIAL SECTION

the polemic

Vol. II, No. V

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CIGG, LGAN, REB

Travel Arrangements: WMK

The editors of this rag deny everything. We don't have any affiliation of any kind whatsoever, so we can't get in trouble like the Unicorn did. Anything submitted to the Polemic becomes the property of the Troy Sanitation Department. Actually, we welcome contributions. Send 'em in to us.

'Tute got you down? The Pole prescription is for you. To prescribe to the Pole, write for details.

You want to contact us? Really? If you really want to, you can reach us by writing thru Myron-mail to Polemic. Or by intercampus mail to: Polemic, 202 Wiltsie House, RPI, Troy, NY, 12181. Or come to Wiltsie and see us. Or don't.

the polemic

PROOF OF PURCHASE SEAL



Video programs

Now that SVAN has finished "Matchmaker", its own version of TV's "The Dating Game", we have to wonder what show they will do a version of next. There are certainly enough possibilities here at RPI. How about our own G.M. and P.U. in a Rensselaer version of "The Odd Couple"? If they don't go for that, SVAN could capitalize on the resemblance of certain 'Tute personalities to TV celebrities. Alan Meltzer could be a big hit as "Kojak". Or what about George Low as "My Favorite Martian"?

POOR PETE

With the 1981-82 school year only two months old, we are hearing alot about what an awful job the GM is doing. Many people, dissatisfied with Pete Traversy's performance, remember fondly when Bill Duggan was at the helm. Yet somehow this year's Senate seems as productive as last year's, and is certainly more fun to watch! With editorials in campus publications making fun of him all the time, and some even contemplating his resignation, of course he can't be effective; the Trustees take one look at him and say, "Is he really representative of the student body?" And, of course, that's exactly what he is. We elected him, folks; he's the peoples' choice! Now what does that say about R.P.I. students . . . ?

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Get Psyched!

GET MORE PSYCHED

sports



CLASS OF

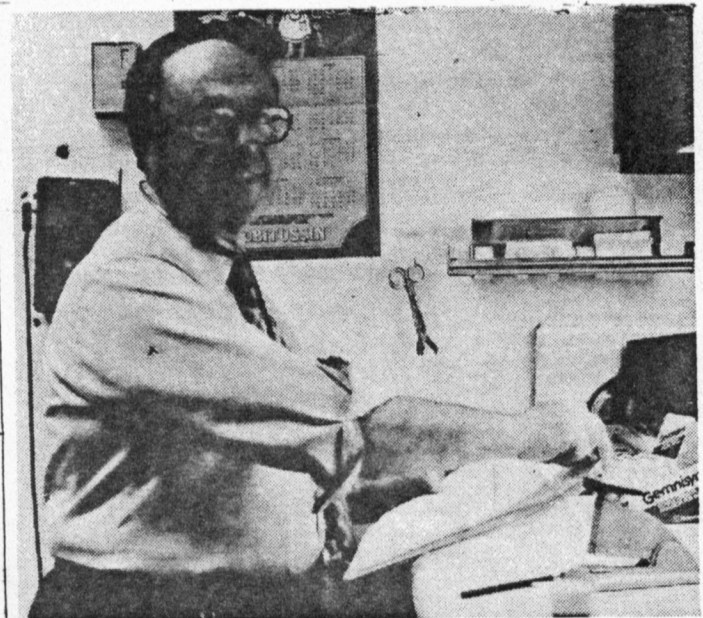
82

**NEEDS
PEOPLE**



Athlete of the Week

Dr. Pahl is the champion in an event little known to those outside the faculty of R.P.I. The event is held to get rid of the voluminous amounts of paperwork that gather in staff offices; it is held once a semester; it is called the "RPI Semiannual Grand Staple-Off." The purpose is to staple together all the papers commonly found lying around the offices and filing them in the circular file. Shown here practicing his skill, Dr. Pahl achieved the remarkable time of 16 offices cleared in 3 hours, 45 minutes, and 13.9 seconds, a new campus record. The entire campus should congratulate Dr. Pahl in his effort to clear up paperwork, a true staple for the R.P.I. community. Good going, Doc!



alcohol worship

After the Engineers' humiliating loss to Union 21 - 7 on Homecoming Weekend, the Engineers' coach Dave Lhite decided to take a closer look at Union training methods. After going undercover and spying in the Union locker room, Dave got exclusive photos showing the secret of Union's success. A reprint at right shows that alcohol is really the cause of Union's winning streak. In fact, Union players are so grateful for the aid getting drunk before the games provides that they have started a cult worshipping alcohol as the god of sports, Union, and students in general. Dave said that he is looking into this idea to help pull the Engineers out of their slump; the players are understandably enthusiastic about the idea. Said one Engineer, "Now that's what I call school spirit!"

SPORTS THIS WEEK