

the polemic

Change of Command Issue

Volume V, Number V III

the Pole - Page W

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, N.Y.

Senators discuss sleeping

After a long, hard break, the Student Senate sat down ready to discuss the latest problems and proposals.

Rich Rockberg, Grand Marshal, made major changes to the senate agenda after seeing the size of the impending work load. The new first item became the topic of rest, and how the Senate could best do it.

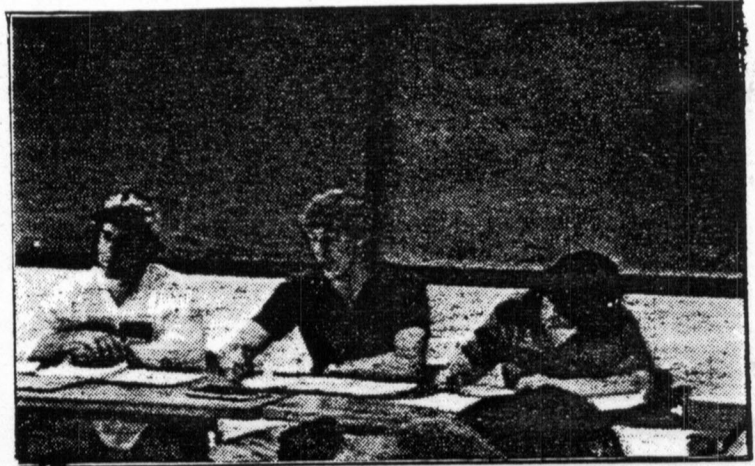
An unprecedentedly long 20 minute meeting proved inconclusive. Arguments ranging from disbanding to organizing Senate "sleep-ins" were thrown around, but after 15 minutes the majority of senators were already off in la-la land.

Wok Wralton, International Foreigner's Conference (IFC) representative, commented that "the Senate has been improving its speed, but the technique is all wong." When asked to elaborate, he said, "Sure, just bling a topic up and we're sure to sreep on it. But usually we get through the minutes and most members are stirred by grest speakels, which is just not up to past standalds! We need to sreep togethel, and before anyfring gets done. Only then..." Wok slowly faded off at this point, leaving only Rockberg teetering, gaviil in hand, at the head of the table.

We approached him for hard facts, but all we could get out of him was: "We'll be the best damn sleepers even if we have to work five minutes on it!"

**MFG Says
Goodbye**

... See Page D



The Student Senate takes action on sleeping. Read story for details.

God floods campus

It looked as if it was going to be another grueling all-nighter in the Nuge computer center. Ralph stared wearily at the glowing green monitor, but it was all the same: error, error, error. He stabbed at the keys for a few minutes more. Nope. Error, error, error. An unexpected message suddenly flashed up on the screen:

Dispatch to Ralph, from God (GEO1), at 2:37 AM: Ralph, I've got to talk to you. Go over to CB for a minute.

Ralph, of course, had no idea who this apparent joker was, but he needed to take a break. As soon as he had moved to the CB, another message came in:

-> Msg from: God

Hello, Ralph

/

/ADD 1 God

/1 OK. Who is this?

/

-> Msg From: God

See what it says right above? "God".

/1 OK. I'll play along....prove it.

/

All at once, Ralph's screen cleared and the MTS logo popped up--- with one major

Continued on Page D

Tuition Increases

In a recent news conference, Acting President Daniel Erg announced that RPI will be raising undergraduate tuition ten percent in the coming year. He went on to explain the many reasons for this increase. "The tuition increase is a vital part of our Rensselaer 2015 program. As you are probably aware, this plan will make RPI on a par with CalTech and MIT.

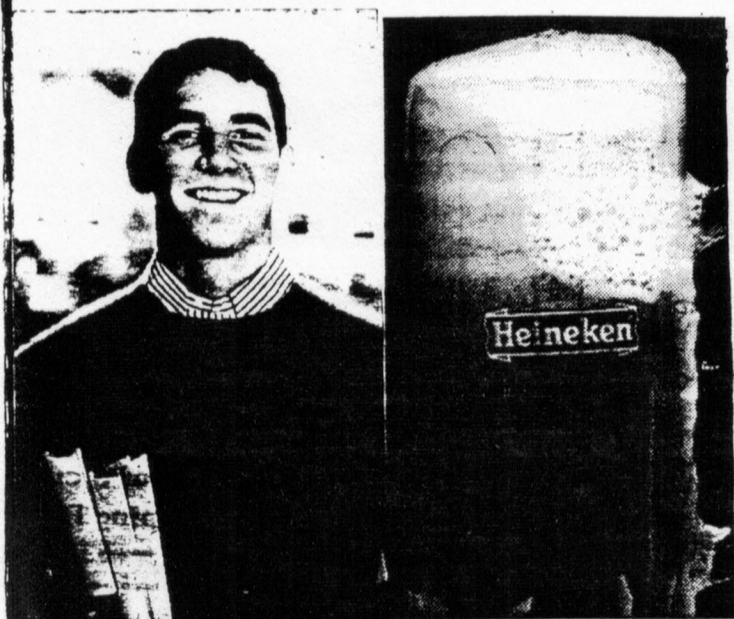
"First, let me explain how we arrived at the figure of ten percent. In the upcoming year MIT has envisioned an eight percent increase and CalTech fourteen percent. So, we took the average.

"But, don't get me wrong. We have big plans for the extra revenue which the increase will create... plans which will put RPI on the technical map. We have already put a fifteen million dollar down payment on a new computer system which will be 1.05 times as fast as our present system and allow for six more users! It should be installed before the end of the decade.

"We have also put a down payment on two more left-handed shooting forwards and are currently searching for a Zamboni cover for the hockey team. Not to neglect other campus athletics, we are also planning on the purchase of a new basketball net for the '87 Gym.

"We are also making efforts to improve campus life. For those students with children, we are constructing a giant sand-box next to the Communications Center."

GET TWO EDUCATIONS FROM ONE COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP.



BE ALL YOU CAN BE.

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costs

\$

Like fine art or fine furniture, a set of *Polemic's* in the bookcase is a sign of success. But how much would you be willing to pay for such a set? We asked some distinguished experts to evaluate the *Polemic*.


"The end papers are unusual. The typography exquisite. Thirty-five dollars," said Ed Iltor of the *New York Times*.

"The raised spine and quality staple are a giveaway. Thirty-four ninety-nine," said Frank Lee.

But we at the *Polemic* aren't asking \$35 or even \$25. If you act now, you can have the complete set of Spring 1985 *Polemics* for only \$1.50. That's right, you will get every issue delivered direct to your campus address. We'll cover April Fool's day, GM Week, straight through to the NBA Championships. The issues are sure to become a collector's item.

But Wait!!!!

That's not all. If you act immediately we'll also throw in, at no additional charge, this handy aluminum staple. A staple is

 (Note: drawn to scale)

a fashion item which no wardrobe should be without. With your first issue you can have a tie clasp, earring, or attractive pendant. After your second issue you will have cufflinks, a set of earrings, a set of garters, or even an effective belt. As you receive more issues, you can wear more of these authentic fashion staples at the same time!

This offer may be withdrawn without advance notice. So act now, operators are standing by.

Send your prescriptions to:

Amazing *Polemic* Prescription Offer
202 Wiltsie House

or

send an MTS message to 'The Polemic'

Come out of the Cold!

Amy Devine sells all!!

Munchies may be served.

God...

Continued From Page W

ifference: another logo of the same style
nderneath it said "SUCKS". The terminal
opped back to CB.

> Msg From: God
ee? Not even OCS would dare do THAT!
/1 Wow, that means you're....

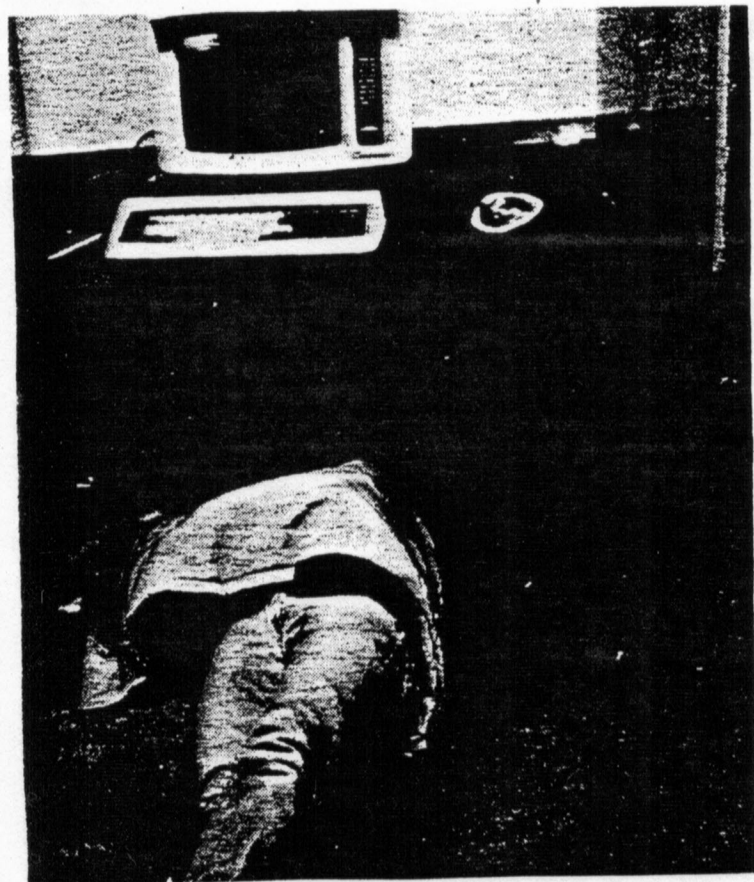
> Msg From: God
Yes...Don't you know me? Do you think a nor-
mal guy could have gotten>>>

> Msg From: God
a man on the Moon in less than 10 years?
/1 But you were just alive! Then you died
and---

> Msg From: God
All that dying stuff was symbolic. Too difficult
to explain now. Anyway>>>

> Msg From: God
I've decided to destroy all the Toads at RPI ex-
cept you.
/1 But I'm not a Toad!

> Msg From: God
Exactly. You're an idiot, but your parents have
bucks. I want to get rid>>>



Ralph does homage.

-> Msg From: God
of all Toads and scholarship students. No more
free lunch.

/1 I see. How?

/

-> Msg From: God
A flood, I think.

/1 Uh, hasn't that one already been used?

/

-> Msg From: God
It worked last time, didn't it?

/1 Yeah, but won't a flood destroy all the
buildings and stuff?

/

-> Msg From: God

No, this time it's going to be a flood of paper
and red ink.

/1 You mean like the "Paper Blob"?

/

-> Msg From: God

Not exactly. I'll just make Sybil crash and
screw all the schedules up>>>

-> Msg From: God

Then I'll flood the campus with millions of
drop/add forms....

/1 Brutal, really brutal.

/

-> Msg From: God

Thanks. One of my better ideas, I think.

/1 What about all the parents at home? They'll
be suspicious.

-> Msg From: God

No problem. They'll get even BIGGER bills than
before, which should>>>

-> Msg From: God

shock them into following the rest of my
plan....

/1 So, I'll actually survive this?

/

-> Msg From: God

Right. You'll be safely housed inside the CII
when it gets done next>>>

/

-> Msg From: God

week. It will be 400 meters long, 40 meters
high, and cost \$400 million>>>

/

-> Msg From: God

or something like that.

/1 Ahem! Strange it's the GEORGE LOW Center
for Industrial Innovation>>>

/1 isn't it?

/

-> Msg From: God

Hey, do I plan ahead or what? Make sure
you're on the top floor of>>>

/

.Continued on Page I

God...

Continued from Page I

> Msg From: God
the CII and near a terminal next Monday, OK?
/1 What about collecting two of everything?

> Msg From: God
What's worth saving? Take a Sagie if it makes
you happy. Here's \$25>>>

> Msg From: God
which should be enough to buy you an extra
bar of soap, and MAYBE a>>>

> Msg From: God
few other things at the Bookstore. Remember,
you'll be in the CII for>>>

-> Msg From: God
40 hours, which is the deadline I've put on
getting in the drop/adds.>>>

-> Msg From: God
Just go COPY GEO1:CASH....Bye now!
Ralph was sceptical, but he followed in-
structions. \$25 magically spat out of the laser
printer.

Dispatch to Ralph, from God (GEO1), at 3:01
am
Oh, by the way, the conditionals on line 200 of
your program don't match.
Bye again!

Ralph shuddered at the thought of all
those add/drops, but at the moment all he
wanted to do was patch his unstructured
masterpiece of a program and get to bed.

A week later, everything looked peaceful
as ever, but this was a Monday of impending
doom. Ralph worked up the courage to peek out
of a window high in the CII. Students were
now milling around frantically, most clutching
the deadly pink and white forms. The scene at
the Registrar's office was one of total mayhem.

"I'm sorry, but you've chosen a graduate
level course."

"What do you mean?! I've double checked
twice!"

"Please be neater when you fill in the
little circles."

"But--"

The next time he had the courage to
check the window, all was quiet. No bustling
students. Nothing. Nothing except millions
upon millions of add/drop forms, ankle deep on
the sidewalks, streets, and any other horizontal
surface-- even the football field. A truck with
a snowplow tried feebly to push some into a
sort of pile, with little success. A few sheets
fluttered from the windows of the Ricketts and

Troy buildings onto the street below. The ter-
minal near Ralph beeped. He signed on and
went to the CB.

-> Msg From: God
Well, there you go....
/ADD 1 God
/1 Are they all...dead?

/

-> Msg From: God
No, but by an incredibly complicated process,
they've all been transferred>>>

/

-> Msg From: God
to other schools with scholarship funds. We're
saving OUR money for>>>

/

-> Msg From: God
the important things, like tacky chrome
sculptures. Of course, people>>>

/

-> Msg From: God
like hockey players are still around. We need
SOMETHING that's a>>>

/

-> Msg From: God
source of school pride, don't we? And, I've
decided that I'll never>>>

/

-> Msg From: God
do this again, since half of the U.S. national
forests were chewed>>>

/

-> Msg From: God
up making all those forms. Besides, we've got
CLASS here at RPI.>>>

/

-> Msg From: God
I'd hate to lose anyone here to HARVARD!
(Blech!) So, as a symbol>>>

/

-> Msg From: God
to commemorate my decision to refrain from such
drastic measures ever>>>

/

-> Msg From: God
again, I will grant Troy TWO days of sunshine
now, per year...

/

/1 Gee, thanks.

/

-> Msg From: God
No problem
/1 Do I have to sacrifice something now to "seal
the covenant"?

/

-> Msg From: God
Don't be a putz.

The End

&pole

EDITORIAL SECTION

&polemic

Vol. V No. VIII

~~Editor-in-Chief~~
CMJHB

Managing Editors
CER MGC PJK

Business Mangler: MGC
Prescription Mangler: CER
Putz: MFG

Creators
JPMTH

Dan Rather, William F. Buckley, Otto Kubar. What do all these great journalists have in common? They all realize the value of experience in journalism. You can't start out on top. To be successful you must have experience. We at the *Polemic* will give you that experience. Cheap.

Are you interested in a high paying, exciting career in the rewarding field of humor production? That's what we at the *Polemic* offer. If you act now, we will offer you hands-on training in computer technology, great literature, modern printing techniques, creative accounting, backing and docking, mass production and destruction, and effective salesmanship. In just twelve weeks you'll be ready to pursue a career in the challenging world of modern literature.

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202 Wiltsie House
or write to
'The Polemic' via
\$MESSAGESYSTEM

Editor criticizes, reflects

By MFG
Editor-in-Chief

After 4 1/2 years at RPI, 3 of that being in charge of *The Polemic*, I am finally leaving "dear old Rensselaer" and, sheepskin in hand (almost), am venturing out into the "Real World" to put my Knowledge and Thoroughness to profitable use. I've done many things here and seen many changes, but one thing hasn't changed since I arrived here in the fall of 1980.

For as long as I've been at RPI the *Poly* has been producing what I can only call fluff. That is to say, the *Poly* adequately covers only innocuous campus news, entertainment, and sporting events each week. This is good, but there is so much missing!

Frankly, the *Poly* needs balls. It has done only *one* ballsey thing in the last five years, which was a gay section. Although of questionable taste, it had an incredible effect! Pages of letters, tons of public awareness, and finally LAAR had a table at the Activities Fair and no fag-bashing or riots occurred (a milestone in RPI history!). Certainly the *Poly* cannot claim lack of knowledge; for example, they deliberately covered up the fact that a recent Grand Marshal was married to an Administration official. What they usually claim is that they "can't" print what they know, and I say, "Why not?"

Otto Kubar is now in charge of the *Polytechnic*, and it looks like we're in for more of the same fluff. Well, Otto, I challenge you to put some life in the *Poly*. Do some investigative reporting, even take a stand once in a while. Perhaps an interesting *Poly* will help you gain staff members. To show what a good sport I am, I'll even give you a few ideas for starters:

Common student opinion has it that the bookstore rips off students by grossly overcharging for books, supplies, and RPI logo paraphernalia. On one or two occasions I have suggested that the E-Board do some price comparisons of our bookstore, area bookstores, and other university bookstores (ie Union, Williams, MIT) to see if the students are really getting a fair shake. To my knowledge, the E-Board has not acted, so why doesn't the *Poly*? A few phone calls, a trip to Union and Williams, and you've got a piece of journalism that would *really* interest students.

Here's a tougher but juicier idea to investigate. RPI Security has really been pushing their escort services lately, but I wonder how willing they are to help students.

-Editor to the letter-

Editor's Note: The Polemic prints letters we receive as a service to our readers. No agreement with the sentiments expressed therein should be implied.)

Dear Sirs:

HEY GUYS, HOW WOULD YOU LIKE AN IDEA FOR A NICE SPRING POEM? HERE IS A LITTLE DITTY FOR YOU FROM AN ANONYMOUS POET.

A G D

Alpha is for animals
Like dogs and cats and such
And when it comes to thinking pow'r
We can't beat them by much.
They're cuter and they're softer
And they cuddle when you're blue
And on top of all the others
They are nicer looking, too.

Gamma is for giddiness
Of which we have a lot.
And not for good and sensible
Which we, i'd say, are not.
And Gamma is for glue and gum
That's sticky and sticks well
And keeps our minds from functioning
Though we can hardly tell.

And Delta is for dummy
Dunce and dodo all at once.
For girls who lose their mealcards
And are paying bucks for lunch.
And out of all the letters
"D's" the most descriptive one
Cause all of us at A.G.D.
Are really very dumb!

I hope you like it. Have a good one.

ELRIC, Lord of Melnibone

Dear Elric: We are forwarding your real name and address to AGD. I hope you enjoy the consequences. Have a good one.

The Editor

Send all mail to:

The Polemic
202 Wiltsie House
Stacwyck, RPI

via campus mail, or to 'The Polemic'
on \$Messagesystem.

Editor . . .

Continued from Page D.

Why doesn't the *Poly* find out? A few scenarios: A woman calls Security to get a lift from the Library to her Stacwyck apartment at night (a long dark walk) - how does Security respond? A guy wants a lift from campus to his Pawling Avenue fraternity house (also a very long, dark, and very cold walk in winter) - will Security take him seriously? Even better: A student calls from downtown Troy to get a ride home because he's too drunk to drive; or a student calls urging Security to give a drunk friend, who would otherwise drive, a ride home. If Security responds quickly and cheerfully to these requests, the resulting *Poly* story would commend them and further publicize the service they provide. On the other hand, if Security fails to act quickly or claims such errands are not part of their duties, they should be blasted for it.

I'm sure there are many other stories out there. I was once told by a faculty member that he personally had been pressured by Mike Adessa to raise a hockey player's grades; I'd like to know if this is a common occurrence. What's the story on our new, improved Myron? I haven't noticed any improvement. There are plenty of things at RPI that students ought to know about that aren't being publicized.

So, Otto Kumbar, if you really stand for quality journalism at Rensselaer (and aren't just looking for a good item on your resume) then act! You're in charge, and the *Poly* will be what you make it. The alternative? If the *Poly* doesn't take on this responsibility, some other (perhaps underground) publication will. Humor publications aren't the only ones at Rensselaer in danger of fading away.

Coming Next Issue

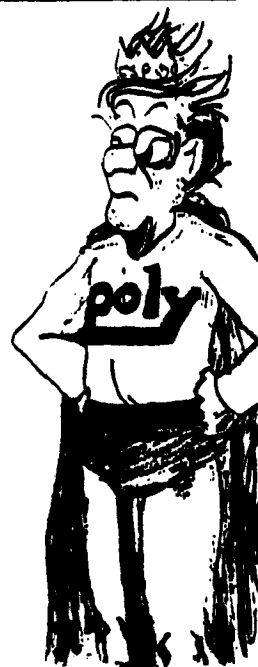
POLYMAN

To fight

Truth

Justice

and the Journalistic way



sports



Engineers drop three straights

In a surprising move, three top Engineer varsity sportsmen were cut for allegedly being "straight." Guy Studley, R. Ealman and "Hete" Rosexual were relieved of their duties last week.

"They didn't live up to their teammates' expectations," explained coach Ian DeButt.

One player was quoted saying "they didn't like to shower with the other fellas." Another added, "and they didn't like our body massages!"

Coach DeButt said the three were very anti-social. "They wouldn't shake hands or go to our sleep-ins. Their dismissal has been a true morale booster, however. The boys are really happy, excited and gay, just flouncing around the court like they had fairy wings or something."

Ealman said that "the team is sick. They would always try to hit us in our private parts so they could 'kiss and make better.' Yechhh!"

The team has improved of late, but they have been spending considerable periods of time before the game and during half time in the locker room instead of out practicing.

Embarrassing Quote of the Month

Acting President Daniel Berg reflects on Rensselaer's future

How does one reflect on the future?

Second place:

"Learn Poly style... which is rather simple."

-Poly composing editor

Rensselaer Word Search

R	E	N	S	S	E	L	E	A	R
E	E	O	Z	R	A	N	Q	E	I
N	U	N	S	A	R	E	N	I	R
S	E	E	S	A	R	C	A	L	E
E	P	T	A	S	E	E	E	P	L
L	A	O	L	L	E	S	O	B	E
L	B	O	L	O	N	L	E	T	S
E	Q	E	V	E	R	Y	A	N	N
A	R	R	R	E	S	T	P	E	E
R	A	E	L	A	E	S	N	E	R

How many spellings of Rensselaer can you find?

