President Meets President
Seligman Attends State of the Union Address

By Angela Lai
Publisher

A new Department of Public Safety (DPS) patrol unit is set to roll out next month, coming in the wake of the kidnapping of two University seniors in early December. The new unit, which will focus on giving DPS a visible and accessible presence on campus, will start patrolling on Sunday, Feb. 7, almost a month to the day after the students were abducted and held at gunpoint in an off-campus house.

UR President Joel Seligman announced the unit in a recent email to students, which discussed both the kidnapping and a Monroe County Grand Jury indictment against six defendants involved in the abduction.

In his email, Seligman called the kidnapping "an isolated and unusual set of circumstances" and emphasized that campus safety is a priority for his administration. Along with authorizing the unit, Seligman said he had begun reviewing what further steps can be taken to bolster campus safety and combat drug use on campus.

Seligman explained in a separate email that the patrol unit had already been in "advanced planning stages" before the kidnapping and the November drug robbery in Brooks Crossing. He has been linked to by local media. Part of its goal is to expand the success of DPS' Adopt-A-Hall program, which began in 2014 and assigns each residential hall its own officer. Director of Public Safety Mark Fischer said that recent events may have advanced the implementation of the unit by a week or two after DPS met with Seligman, but he noted that the platoon's creation had already been in progress.

Fischer explained that the new unit, which will focus on "developing a proactive patrol that's going to interact with the entire community to help address issues before they become a big problem." It's kind of a community-policing model, actually," he added. "It's very important to anticipate issues, to be visible, to interact with the entire community.

Proactive patrol that's going to involve giving DPS a visible and accessible presence on campus, will start patrolling on Sunday, Feb. 7, almost a month to the day after the students were abducted and held at gunpoint in an off-campus house.

UR President Joel Seligman, Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi, and Representative Louise Slaughter mingle in Pelosi's Capitol Hill office before President Barack Obama's State of the Union address Jan. 12.

The new unit, which will focus on giving DPS a visible and accessible presence on campus, will start patrolling on Sunday, Feb. 7, almost a month to the day after the students were abducted and held at gunpoint in an off-campus house.

By Justin Trombly
Managing Editor

UR met U.S. last week in the form of a handshake between the president of the University and the President of the United States. University President Joel Seligman met President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama last Tuesday night after the Commander in Chief's final State of the Union address in Washington, D.C.

Seligman attended the speech as the guest of Rep. Louise Slaughter (D-NY), the congresswoman for New York's 25th Congressional District, which includes Rochester and its suburbs. A release put out less than a week before the address announced Seligman's attendance. "I was so happy to have my good friend, Joel, as my guest for this historic speech," the statement from Slaughter reads. "He's been an extraordinary leader and has done wonderful things for the university and our local economy." Seligman was not the only guest from higher education—Sen. Chuck Schumer (D-NY) invited a Syracuse University undergraduate facing significant college debt. These invitations come at a time when the issue of financial aid and the cost of a college education weigh heavily on the minds of many Americans. While President Obama did speak about how to make college more affordable during the address, he focused more on the proposal to make two-year community college programs free for students; he mentioned past reductions to student loans, but did not talk about further changes.

By Justin Trombly
Managing Editor

For the second time in about as many months, an underclassman has filled the Students Association (SA) Senate seat of an upperclassman who resigned. Junior Samantha Lienert resigned from her seat on Dec. 11, and Andria Rabenold, a sophomore, was appointed to fill the vacancy.

In her letter of resignation, Lienert cited a hostile atmosphere within Senate and SA Government, which she described as a "bullying organization," as the primary motives for her departure. "I have seen multiple people being personally attacked for views that are different from others, myself included," Lienert wrote in the letter addressed to Speaker of the Senate Ethan Bidna and Deputy Speaker Joshua Hill. "As with all deliberative bodies, there will be disagreements; however, the handling of these disagreements was disappointing and disrespectful in many cases. Bidna acknowledged that there have been "some growing pains" in the Senate as the body has adopted new changes, but said he could not comment on Lienert's specific experience. In separate statements, Senators Christian Keenan and Nicholas Piere echoed Bidna's theme of adjustment and transition, both pointing to the overwhelming number of new senators this year. "It seemed very disorganized early on," Keenan, who praised Lienert as a senator, said. Both, however, said there was some truth to Lienert's claims. As did Senator Zoe James, who said she has thought about resigning herself. "There were a lot of times when I felt like my voice didn't matter," James said. "Sitting in that room you can definitely feel the bias, you can tell that a handful of people want something and if they want it nothin- thing you say or do will matter." Lienert explained on Jan. 14, pointing to the overwhelming number of new senators this year. "It seemed very disorganized early on," Keenan, who praised Lienert as a senator, said. Both, however, said there was some truth to Lienert's claims. As did Senator Zoe James, who said she has thought about resigning herself. "There were a lot of times when I felt like my voice didn't matter," James said. "Sitting in that room you can definitely feel the bias, you can tell that a handful of people want something and if they want it nothin- thing you say or do will matter." Lienert explained on Jan. 14.
**Students Showcase Skills at Activities Fair**

Junior Daniel Rubeny juggles at the Student’s Activities Fair to demonstrate skills acquired through his participation in Strong Jugglers. Dozens of groups went to the Fair in the hopes of attracting new members to join Strong Jugglers.

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**This Week on Campus**

**Thursday January 21**

**The Ever-Better Entrepreneur Exhibit**

Rush Rhees Library, 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

This exhibit will highlight some of the University of Rochester’s finest entrepreneurs and allow them to share some of their secrets to success. This event is open to all.

**Talk on Sleep Issues**

Kate Gleason Auditorium, 12:10 P.M. - 12:50 P.M.

The Center for Community Health in association with the Central Library of Rochester Monroe County is offering a free health talk on sleep. The talk is free and open to the public.

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**Friday January 22**

**Town Hall on Race**

Gwen On Room, 3:30 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.

The Presidential Commission on Race and Diversity will be hosting an open forum on race to members of the University community. President Seligman will be in attendance.

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**Saturday January 23**

**MLK Jr. Commemorative Address**

Bridge Lounge, 6:00 P.M.

President of the National Urban League, Marc Morial, will be presenting the annual MLK commemorative address. This event is free and open to the public.

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**Sunday January 24**

**Adult Coloring**

College Town Bookstore, 4:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.

Barnes & Noble will be hosting an adult coloring session to promote creativity and as a way to destress. This event is open to all.

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**Public Safety Update**

**Flooding in Morey Hall Causes Minor Damage**

BY AMANDA MARQUEZ
NEWS EDITOR

1. On Jan. 15, UR staff reported water leaking out of the ceiling near room 228A in Morey Hall. When the responding officers arrived, they found a large pool of water beginning to flood the area. The tunnel to Morey was closed for a short period of time due to the flooding. UR facilities later determined that the leak was caused by a failed fan coil located in room 321. The water to the area was shut off, and environmental services took charge in handling the cleanup. Several offices in Morey experienced mild water damage.

Fire alarm in Rush Rhees Library

2. On Jan. 18, the fire alarm in Rush Rhees library was activated. The fire alarm activation was determined to be smoke from burned food that traveled to a resident lounge. Rochester Fire Department (RFD) responded, checked the area, and then gave residents permission to re-enter the building once it was safe. No injuries or damage occurred.

Fire alarm in Crosby

3. On Jan. 18, the fire alarm in Crosby Hall was activated. The cause of the fire alarm activation was determined to be smoke from burned food that traveled to a resident lounge. Rochester Fire Department (RFD) responded, checked the area, and then gave residents permission to re-enter the building once it was safe. No injuries or damage occurred.

Fire alarm in Gale

4. On Jan. 18, the fire alarm in Gale House was activated. Rochester Fire Department (RFD) responded, and the cause was determined to be burned food. No injuries or damage occurred.

Marquez is a member of the class of 2017.
Rochester Ranked the Happiest City in the U.S.

BY SAM PASSANISI  COPY EDITOR

How happy are you to be in Rochester? According to a two-year-old ranking that recently resurfaced on social media, Rochesterians have good reason to be glad they live here. In an article published in April 2014 by Credit Donkey, a “credit card comparison and financial education” website, Rochester was called the happiest city for working people. The article compared the unemployment rate, average annual salary, and other data from various metropolitan areas to arrive at the rankings for the happiest American cities.

Looking at the report, the math behind the rankings is a little hard to follow. The article lists unemployment rate as the first criterion, linking low unemployment to higher levels of happiness. Next, Credit Donkey took the average commute time (from U.S. Census data) and factored this into the ranking at double the weight of the unemployment data. “Few things are worse than sitting in traffic for two hours every day,” Credit Donkey reasons.

The next criteria for a city’s happiness ranking is annual income and what Credit Donkey calls their “Frustration Index”—the likelihood that the computers or copiers in your office are frustrating to work with. From the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Credit Donkey looked at data on the number of office machine repair work orders in the cities. “The more repairers per 10,000 residents,” Credit Donkey explains, “the higher the presence of poorly functioning office equipment.” “Frustration Index” for each city was weighted at 50%, so it’s less of an influence on the happiness ranking.

The final thing Credit Donkey considers in their ranking is the probability of having a nice boss. “That’s hard to measure,” the article admits, but Credit Donkey found a metric for it. They use data from the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), the federal office in charge of monitoring and enforcing employment discrimination laws. To estimate the average niceness of a city’s employers, Credit Donkey used the number of EEOC complaints per capita.

After the calculations, Rochester ends up coming in first place on the list, ahead of Buffalo, New York; Hartford, Connecticut; Minneapolis, Minnesota; and Salt Lake City, Utah. Looking at the data for the top two spots, this appears to be largely because of the double-weighted commute time statistic—in every other category, Rochester was middle-ranked or worse. Rochester had the second-highest “Frustration Index” of the top ten cities, the fourth-highest amount of complaints to the EEOC, and the fourth-highest unemployment. Still, Rochester’s unemployment at 6.1 percent in April 2014, compared to national unemployment of 6.2 percent in that same month. However, Rochester and Buffalo were tied for the lowest average commute times, at 20.9 minutes, pushing them to the top two spots.

“The number crunchers at CreditDonkey looked into the world of academics to see what the latest research says drives happiness,” Credit Donkey founder Charles Tran said in an email. He emphasized that the weight placed on commute time, pointing out that “sitting in traffic is a horrible way to start your morning.”

In another article, from Oct 2014, Credit Donkey ranked the top ten happiest cities in New York state. The October report used different criteria, including the number of restaurants per capita, the violent crime rate, the percentage of income spent on housing, and the percentage of residents who are divorced. Commute time and annual income were still factored into the ranking, as well as the percentage of residents who woke up before 5 a.m. for work. Cities with more early risers were rated as being happier, in Credit Donkey’s report, on the grounds that “students have linked getting up early to higher levels of personal and professional satisfaction.” Neither Rochester nor Buffalo were ranked in the top ten in the Oct article, with the top spot instead going to Saratoga Springs.

The April Credit Donkey article summed up Rochester’s first-place ranking as a product of short commute time and relatively low unemployment, compared to other cities around the country. There was also one more factor, not counted among the quantifiable data, the article adds. “And then there are the hot dogs,” i.e. Rochester’s signature red and/or white hot dogs, the article concludes. “You haven’t lived until you’ve had one.”

Passanisi is a member of the class of 2017.

Seligman and Slaughter Share Achievements

ADDRESS FROM PAGE 1  Several adjustments to the current system of financial aid are being considered in a bill that Congress is expected to review in the coming year. Some of these changes may include simplifications to the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and changed interest rates for student loans. In an article published by the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle, Seligman was quoted as supporting simplifications to the application process, saying it’s “in everybody’s best interest.”

Seligman said that he was “honored” by Representative Slaughter’s invitation. It was a “once in a lifetime experience,” he said, as he had never been to a State of the Union address. He described one particular moment—that of President Obama’s standing ovation before the speech—as one especially struck him; he felt “the sense that this was a redemptory moment—a sense of summing up for the president. In a partisan city, there was greater warmth,” he suspects, “than usual.”

Prior to the address, Slaughter and Seligman attended several receptions, in which they spoke with area representatives from both parties. Seligman also had the opportunity to meet Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi and other invited guests. His invitation followed a period of achievements for Seligman and Slaughter’s partnership. Recently, their work together contributed to Rochester’s selection as the headquarters for a new photonics institute, an establishment that will bring millions in grant money to the area and create scores of jobs for the region. Seligman noted the importance of partnerships between research universities and “government at all levels, business corporations, labor, and other constituents.” He added that the State has been “crucially supportive” of many University projects.

A few days after the State of the Union address, on Jan. 15, Slaughter announced in a press release further grants awarded to the University of Rochester totaling 2.6 million. These grants will go towards funding medical research for a variety of topics. Curtis is a member of the class of 2017.

Did you hear the news? The Campus Times is launching a new website.

Coming soon at campustimes.org.
Indictment Released in Kidnapping Case, Sexual Assault Alleged

BY JUSTIN TROMBLY
MANAGING EDITOR

Six suspects arrested in the Dec. 5 kidnapping of two UR seniors have been charged with a litany of crimes—including predatory sexual assault—according to a release from the Monroe County District Attorney’s Office.

The press release, attached in an email sent by University President Joel Seligman on Jan. 6, detailed the unsealed grand jury indictment against six of the seven people arrested after a SWAT team raided a property to rescue the students exactly one month prior.

That raid came after the two seniors were held at gunpoint and terrorized for hours inside a rundown home at 22 Harvest Street, on the northeast side of the city.

Both were beaten and robbed of money, identification numbers, according to the criminal complaint released after the rescue. One had been shot twice in the leg with a 22-caliber rifle.

“The crimes charged in the indictment unsealed today are indicative of the violent nature of the abduction and the extreme torture the victims underwent while being held for over 40 hours on Harvest Street,” the release from District Attorney Sandra Doorley says.

The indictment, available online in redacted form, describes 84 counts of a range of crimes—various types of assault, kidnapping, robbery, and weapons charges.

Two of the defendants, Dennis Perez, 25, and Lydell Strickland, 26, were charged with a combined 18 counts of first-degree predatory sexual assault, a felony, according to Doorley’s release.

The rest of the charges levied against Perez and Strickland were identical: four counts of first-degree kidnapping, two counts of first-degree assault, two counts of first-degree gang assault, six counts of first-degree robbery, two counts of second-degree robbery, two counts of third-degree criminal possession of a weapon, and first-degree criminal use of a firearm, all felonies.

David Alcaraz-Ubilis, 24, was charged with two counts of second-degree kidnapping, two counts of first-degree assault, first-degree criminal use of a firearm, third-degree criminal possession of a weapon—all felonies—and fourth-degree criminal possession of a weapon, a misdemeanor.

Ruth Lora, who was arraigned in December with the other defendants, was not listed in the indictment.

First-degree kidnapping is a class A-I felony, the highest crime category in New York state, with a minimum sentence of between 15 and 25 years.

First-degree predatory sexual assault is a class A-II felony, the second-highest crime category in the state, with a minimum sentence of between 10 and 25 years for predatory sexual assault.

“The investigation is still active and may yield additional defendants and charges,” Doorley said in the release. “We remain cautious about commenting on the specific facts and will not speculate on motive or other details that could hinder a complete and thorough investigation.”

Trombly is a member of the class of 2018.

Unit Will Support, Not Target, Students

Fischer said the selection process is ongoing and headed by Lieutenants Daniel Schermerhorn and Joseph Reed, the latter of which has been involved in student-centric programs for years.

Students should expect the new patrol officers to interact with them if they cross paths on campus, Fischer said, if only to ask how they’re doing. He stressed that these officers are not out to get students. Rather, they will support them and ensure their safety.

Lai and Trombly are members of the class of 2018.

Current Senators Support Resignee’s Complaints

Bidna said on Jan. 14 that since no other juniors ran in last spring's election, the Senate followed the precedent set by the All-Campus Judicial Council (ACJC) ruling in Almast v. Student’s Associated Senate on Oct. 30, the result of an appeal contesting the Senate’s decision to fill a seat via a selection committee.

ACJC decided in favor of sophomore Anmol Almast, who was offered and accepted a Senate seat after being the next-highest vote-getter in the Spring 2015 election.

Rabenold, who Bidna described as committed and enthusiastic, said she is “very excited to join the Senate table and work on new and continuing projects throughout the semester.”

“I am confident she will be a strong addition to the table and a powerful advocate for students,” Bidna said of the new senator.

Trombly is a member of the class of 2018.

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Want to join the Campus Times?

General Interest Meeting Monday
1/25
8pm
102 WilCo
As we begin this decidedly snowier semester, we here at the Campus Times are embarking on a beginning of another sort. With this new year, a new editorial staff will make up the Editorial Board.

Put plainly, the function of the Editorial Board is to express an opinion that we believe represents every last Yellowjacket; rather, an opinion that is representative of every last UR student. With every single piece of writing that we publish, we’re entrusted with the responsibility to represent the student body and the Rochester community. Our promise for 2016 is to provide the University with relevant, thought provoking writing that consistently maintains a tradition of excellence. As a student-run publication, we’re entrusted with a great deal power. And this year, we’re sitting in on Student Association meetings or fact-checking late into night down in the bowels of Wilson Commons; we’re working to ensure that our writing that consistently maintains a tradition of excellence. As a student-run publication, we’re entrusted with a great deal power. And this year, we’re sitting in on Student Association meetings or fact-checking late into night down in the bowels of Wilson Commons; we’re working to ensure that we’re staying on track with the most pressing issues both on this campus and in the world. Obviously, it isn’t possible to accurately represent the opinions of every last Yellowjacket; rather, the Editorial Board will provide an opinion that we believe represents the best interests of the student body.

Through oft-mocked, the concept of “realism” is something the Editorial Board takes seriously. Endeavoring to improve the accuracy, timeliness, and impact of the opinions we share is not just a guiding principle—it’s something that’s tangibly manifested every day, whether we’re writing on Student Association meetings or fact-checking late into night down in the bowels of Wilson Commons, where the CT office calls home. Our promise for 2016 is to provide the University with relevant, thought provoking writing that consistently maintains a tradition of excellence. As a student-run publication, we’re entrusted with a great deal power. And this year, we intend to show you why we earned it in the first place.

The information that has come to light regarding the recent kidnapping and torture of two UR students shocked not only this campus, but the entire Rochester community. Their harrowing tale of abduction and survival is still difficult for many to swallow. The CT applauds the efforts made by President Seligman and his administration towards transparency and the timeliness with which they shared information relevant to the situation with the student body. Transparency is a crucial element to developing trust between anyone, let alone the administration and the student body.

With change comes growing pain, but nonetheless, the CT is poised for a watershed year. With a top-notch staff and blueprints for 2016, we have every reason to be excited—and you should be, too.

Ransom is a member of the class of 2017.

Goals of the Editorial Board

1. To publish opinion pieces and articles that accurately represent the opinions of every last UR student.
2. To provide the University with relevant, thought-provoking writing that consistently maintains a tradition of excellence.
3. To ensure that our writing that consistently maintains a tradition of excellence.

Administrative Transparency

The information that has come to light regarding the recent kidnapping and torture of two UR students shocked not only this campus, but the entire Rochester community. Their harrowing tale of abduction and survival is still difficult for many to swallow.

The CT applauds the efforts made by President Seligman and his administration towards transparency and the timeliness with which they shared information relevant to the situation with the student body.

Transparency is a crucial element to developing trust between anyone, let alone the administration and the student body.

One only has to look to our own court system to witness the battle for increased transparency in everything from NSA probe records to police dash cams. As the inner workings of our government bodies become more public, we should see this not as letting down our defenses, but as a step towards rebuilding American trust.

If we are to continue to move forward as a community, dedicated to bringing students into the light, it should continue.
The State of the Union...

BY JAKE SWEELY

A little over a week ago, President Obama delivered his final State of the Union address, once again to a largely hostile Congress, and once again to a nation polarized and fed up with establishment politics in Washington. Unlike his past speeches on the state of our nation, the President did not discuss policy goals or threaten to veto time-wasting bills pushed through by the Republican Congress, which simply wants to tell its constituency that the Democrat in the White House is leading our country in the wrong direction. The visibly-aged and calm leader used his “short” hour-long address to remind the American public of the themes and successes of his presidency, and more importantly, to call for an end to the partisan nature of modern American politics. The Republican Party, for all the problems and ideological schisms it’s going through, is a very organized machine. During Obama’s two terms in office, the Democrats have given up the largest Republican majority in Congress since before the Great Depression, a dozen governors, and almost a thousand seats in state legislatures to our friends across the aisle. This is largely due to the Republican dominance of the “message war.” Even as the man in the White House has achieved lasting progress through his eight years in office, his approval ratings have been lucky to reach 50 percent through much of his tenure. It would take hours of research and analysis to lay out the numerous achievements that President Obama has accomplished since 2009, but thankfully, Michael Grunwald of Politico already did so in an article titled “The Nation He Built,” if you’re interested in a more exhaustive list. But in the name of defending our Commander in chief, I’ll name a few. In seven short years, the economy has turned around from the second-greatest financial catastrophe in history. In a record 79 executiveutive months of private-sector job growth, Unemployment is low, the stock market is at record heights, millions of Americans have health insurance, and it is obvious that we have not, the rise of medical costs has slowed immensely, gay people can get married, coal-powered plants are being replaced by solar panels daily. Obama bin Laden is dead and, in Obama’s own words, “the state of our union is strong.”

But the President did not choose to take the time to brag about his major achievements, which rival those of Franklin D. Roosevelt and Lyndon Johnson reported. Rather, he spent much of his time talking about his biggest failure: allowing Washington to become more polarized, not less so, as he promised. Obama warned the nation that the question is not whether we stand apart, as we have been doing for years. We are in a year where we have a chance of being shut out of our own government, and the President did not force us apart further.

This message of conciliation and a desire to have an end to the partisan nature of American politics would merely continue espousing his assertions, chief among them that the party is at odds with the American people in this time of uncertainty has arguably led to the populist appeal of Donald Trump that they do not see in their leader. This President, and they appear to see some kind of promise in the State of our Union, is strong.”

In reality, President Obama’s speech reflected his need to defend his legacy, his best way to achieve this goal, but being open to a discussion of strategies to move in the right direction. President Obama expressed his regret that their parties and ideologies are now separated by a great schism, which is surely one of his greatest failures as president. When he was elected in 2008, Obama won by a considerable margin, but to the surprise of many long-time Republican voters. That gave him the opportunity to expand his base and unite the country. Instead, nearly eight years later, we are more divided than ever. His talk of bipartisanship and needing to “make our politics reflect what’s best in us,” is all well and good, but it would be foolish to expect a change in attitude from these politicians in the near future. In defense of his legacy, President Obama belittled the concerns of many who feel that the United States is weakening in terms of foreign policy. While many Americans are currently fearful for their safety and security at a time when terrorists seem to be on the rise, President Obama was largely dismissive of these concerns. In a year where we have seen terrorist attacks abroad in Paris and in our own country in the port of many long-time Republicans and Democrats are—no, but rather naïve nor blind. We all have different experiences and ideas that give us unique perspectives and diverse ideas. This should be embraced, not attacked. The only way our nation can move forward and work toward achieving liberty and justice for all Americans is through compromise, respectful debate, and cooperation where possible. For more on this topic, see my colleague, Bill O’Neill, a Democrat from Massachusetts, and former President Ronald Reagan had immensely different political views, but they achieved success by working together and by remaining person- ally friendly with one another. President Obama, in his last major address to the nation, reminded us of the importance of working together. It’s time to listen to our President and engage in dialogue with our fellow Americans, not dismiss them or deny the legitimacy of their views.

...And a Rebuttal

BY ANNA GARVEY

In the midst of an ugly and exhausting primary election season, the American political class took a brief pause last week to come together and listen to President Obama’s final State of the Union address. Leading up to the speech, the Obama administration hinted that this final address would take on a different tone than his past speeches on the state of our union is strong.”

In reality, President Obama’s speech reflected his need to defend his legacy, his best way to achieve this goal, but being open to a discussion of strategies to move in the right direction. President Obama expressed his regret that their parties and ideologies are now separated by a great schism, which is surely one of his greatest failures as president. When he was elected in 2008, Obama won by a considerable margin, but to the surprise of many long-time Republican voters. That gave him the opportunity to expand his base and unite the country. Instead, nearly eight years later, we are more divided than ever. His talk of bipartisanship and needing to “make our politics reflect what’s best in us,” is all well and good, but it would be foolish to expect a change in attitude from these politicians in the near future. In defense of his legacy, President Obama belittled the concerns of many who feel that the United States is weakening in terms of foreign policy. While many Americans are currently fearful for their safety and security at a time when terrorists seem to be on the rise, President Obama was largely dismissive of these concerns. In a year where we have seen terrorist attacks abroad in Paris and in our own country in the port of many long-time Republicans and Democrats of-...
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### War on Winter: Fighting Snow with Facilities

**BY SHAE RHINEHART | INTERNSHIP FEATURES EDITOR**

I steadied the cup of coffee in my hands as the UR Facilities truck rumbled down the road and looked out the mountain snow in the corner of the Med Center parking lot. I tried without success to imagine Ron’s morning, but all I could think about was my own difficulties trying to scrape the ice off my car. Ron’s job was a hundred times harder.

“If there’s snow coming down a couple inches an hour and we drive to campus, it’s not always gonna look neat,” said Ron. “The work keeps getting undone, but we keep trying. We do the best we can to make the roads and paths passable for cars and people alike.”

I had spent the past hour riding around the UR Facilities department. Witnessing Ron Nelson, as he walked me through the different lots and spaces his department is responsible for during the snow removal process. What struck me more than anything was his easy acceptance of an insurmountable problem: the snow always won. A parking lot plowed once could be snow-packed again a few hours later. An early morning call-in for an inch of snowfall might change abruptly into a snowstorm. Snow removal is repetitive, unpredictable, and often unrecognized, but it is a process that thousands of people rely upon.

The Horticulture & Grounds department, a support operation under Facilities & Services, is the team that monitors the snow and ice removal process. Snow is unpredictable, but the snow removal process is not. They begin preparations for the winter season in early autumn, deciding which areas to prioritize for service from the last. They work under an extensive snow plan, and each worker’s winter schedule is revised from late November to the last week of March to provide on-site 24-hour coverage, Monday through Friday. They frequently check the weather forecast and have off-site monitoring even on the weekends.

Turning into the new children’s hospital, I couldn’t believe how adeptly Ron navigated the tight parking lot in the large snow truck. He didn’t seem to notice the squeeze as he related his morning routine. “When we get a call to come in, we all know what we usually do,” he said. “We’ll come in sometime between two and three in the morning. People start arriving for work at daybreak, so it’s very important that we make sure everyone has a spot to park their car by that time.”

This is especially critical at the Medical Center. As the largest employer in Rochester, every parking spot is necessary. Some people get based in from another parking lot a few miles away, and some parking lots have three-deep car parking. In the tighter lots, it is essential that the snow is cleared at 10 p.m. as much as possible because people are boxed in by the snowfall. There are parking spots that are completely empty, as they cannot reliably support the weight of both cars and snow.

According to Dave Nelson, Acting Manager of Horticulture & Grounds, the time and workforce needed to clear away the snowfall “greatly depends on the amount and type of precipitation.” Reliably, however, it “takes anywhere between 10-15 staff to completely clear the River Campus’ roadways, sidewalks, entryways, and parking lots.”

The first priority in snow removal is to clear the roadways on both the River Campus and the Medical Center, ensuring the safe passage of emergency vehicles and vehicles for staff. For the Medical Center, specifically, the Emergency Department and ambulance drop-off are the two most essential areas to cover.

“Perhaps the greatest challenge that we are confronted with is preparing for the unpredictability of lake-effect snow that is so prevalent in our area,” Nelson said. “Narrow bands of lake effect snow could mean the difference between accumulating less than an inch of snow in one area and several inches only a few miles away.”

Unpredictability contributes to the second most important challenge that they face: the variable amount of precipitation, giving vehicular traffic during a snow event. It is significantly easier to clear away the snow if it comes earlier in the morning or the night before so that the team has time to plow and salt everything. Once the snow is on the ground, there is a lot they can do without blowing-in the vehicles.

In the truck, Ron motioned toward a big yellow tractor off in the corner of one of the lots. “That’s one of the tractors we use when there is too much snow for the pickup trucks to manage,” he said. He then listed off the variety of vehicles they use to clear the snow: “We mainly use pickup trucks for the roads, but we also use big pay loaders, tractors with plows, machines with brooms on them to clear the sidewalks, and salter trucks that follow the tractors.”

Different areas require different tools. Sidewalks are cleared with different vehicles than parking lots, and those parking lots have different requirements for what plows can be used on their surfaces. Near the Saunders Research Building, the parking lot is a special challenge, in that it absorbs and drains water that collects on it. Its surface is sometimes so sensitive, with a rubber edge can be used on it, older parking lots can take the standard metal-plated plows. The type of snow also makes a difference. It is easier to clear away powdered snow than heavy, near snow that is subject to wind drift. There are places on campus that must be constantly checked on during heavy snow events, as the wind can frequently blow it off the roofs.

If that wasn’t enough for a team of 10-15 to manage, every doorway must be cleared, loading docks and handicapped ramps need to be accessible, and even garage rooftops and loading docks emptied, as they cannot reliably support the weight of both cars and snow.

There is understandable logic behind the mysterious staircase phenomenon—the point, each year, when half of the outdoor staircases are blocked off and left untouched all winter. It is a cogent effort to prioritize the process of clearing the roads from campus. With so much ground to cover, the snow removal team has a plan for working as efficiently as possible in every place on campus.

“We think of our snow removal crews as the ‘first responders,’” Nelson said. “On call 24/7” during the winter season, our dedicated staff is usually called in the late night and in the early morning hours, traveling in hazardous conditions on their way into the University, to begin the process of removing snow and applying salt. During major events, our staff remains on duty until the event is over.

“As one could imagine, removing snow and ice in a short amount of time throughout the various University campuses, to include clearing more than 65 emergency egresses, can be a herculean effort.” To put it simply, if the University’s traffic due to an emergency due to snow and no unnecessary travel was allowed, only essential travel would be here working, clearing the snow, and keeping the University passable for cars and people alike.

Rhinehart is a contributing writer for the class of 2018.

### Foreign Focus: Copenhagen, Denmark

**BY SOPHIE ZHANG | CONTRIBUTING WRITER**

Copenhagen is the most popular city in Denmark, a beautiful Scandinavian country located in Northern Europe. This was the last stop of this Oscar-nominated film “The Danish Girl” was shot, attracting millions of people from all over the world to this city. Before I started my studies abroad, I had expected Copenhagen to be a beautiful city, but I didn’t think it would be as charming and full of unique architecture as it was.

In the past fall semester, the two Rutherford sisters—junior Carly Rutherford and senior Chrissy Rutherford—both took part in the Danish Institute for Study Abroad (DIS) program and spent their fall semester in Copenhagen, Denmark, where she spent the fall semester.

While studying economics abroad, Carly loved to go to Tivoli, the most famous amusement park in Copenhagen. It is not just a park, but also a theme park for Disney’s theme parks. She also enjoyed just walking along the canal in the city center and spending time in small local coffee shops or cafes. She also described her favorite Danish food, the traditional Danish dessert “hygge,” which a mixture of fresh fruits, three layers of whipped cream, and a thin layer of icing on top.

Carly also noted the differences between Denmark and the U.S. Saying that “there’s a different mindset over there, more communal focus. People here know them, they are just like us.”

In addition to her studies in Denmark, Carly also traveled to Copenhagen and Ireland. She met UN members, heads of Russian-based enterprises and Russian government officials in Moscow. Most importantly, she got to apply the principles and theories about Russia she learned in the classroom to real life. As a dedicated UC Celtic club dancer, Carly and her sister got to see the Billie Eilish music, after they left Russia and crossed the continent. “It was a lot of fun,” Carly commented.

Carly’s belief in the importance of experience has changed her forever. “I now believe that I have a more global perspective than I once had,” she said. “This came from both my classes and outside experiences. I think I have developed a sense of different perspectives and have learned to move forward from that. I have become more independent. I think my sister was there with me, there were many times that I needed to settle something that no one else could.”

Zhang is a member of the class of 2017.
Realistic Rochester Resolutions

BY ALLISON RECIT
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Welcome back to school, Yellowjackets! With the new year and the new semester underway, it’s time to make your resolutions for the future. There’s always the standard promise to go to the gym or to eat better, but our student body has some more ambitious ideas.

Most students are focusing on their academic pursuits. Sophomore Logan Recht says, “My resolution is to get a 4.0.” Freshman Sophie Sackstein wants to do well, too — by reading her chemistry textbook.

Our student body has some more ambitious ideas.

Others are more concerned about dealing with the elements of beautiful, but frozen, upstate New York. Senior Philip Meyers is hoping to “walk to class without freezing in the cold.”

Many students are also hoping to motivate themselves to continue attending club meetings and office hours, even if it means trudging through the snow and ice outside. A few have outlined plans to buy another pair of gloves or new boots.

Many just plan to focus on themselves. Sophomore Rachel Gehring hopes to find “personal happiness.” Senior Ezekiel Starling wants the same, adding, as he took out his earbuds, “that he also wants to make more music.”

Despite all this, some students are wondering why a resolution can only be made once a year, and are constantly shaking up the established system. Sophomore Margaret Thursten explains, “I’m planning on giving myself challenges every week.” She argues that small goals are the best way to avoid becoming discouraged and allow flexibility for changing priorities.

A few have outlined plans to buy another pair of gloves or boots.

Siri, Take The Wheel

BY AARON LIM
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Get ready to ditch your car—not for some revolutionaries advancing in transportation, but simply for someone else’s. The Detroit-based automotive giant General Motors announced early this January that it is investing a whopping 500 million dollars in Lyft, a ride-hailing company based in size only by its more popular and powerful rival, Uber. General Motors’ goal is to build an army of robot (i.e., driverless) cars that can get you where you want as quickly and efficiently as possible at your beck and call.

The technology behind Lyft is not all that radical. Most modern cars already have the brains to operate in relatively safe environments. These brains are called LiDAR cameras. They have the power to see and speak, through smart radars and media players, and they can even feel, using a plethora of sensors and gauges.

What your car does not have is brainpower. At least, not on the scale required for real-time driving autonomy. Advances in computer engineering, however, have allowed us to jam even more of these increasingly-powerful metal brains inside smaller and tighter spaces. It is now possible for the next generation of cars to make bigger decisions based on senses of sight, hearing, and touch.

Whenever anyone comes out with a new autonomous technology, concerns begin to arise about how much control the machines really have. Although the idea of cars enslaving humanity seems far-fetched, there are a number of issues to worry about.

Although the idea of cars enslaving humanity seems far-fetched, there are a number of issues to worry about. And, if different companies produce different cars, will those cars be able to communicate effectively with one another on the road?

Yes, there is good reason for one’s concern over the implementation of “thinking” cars. But if this technology can be realized, there are some impressive positives to be had.

The American Automobile Association (AAA) reports that the annual cost for owning and maintaining a car in 2015 was 8,698 dollars and could be as high as 10,649 dollars depending on the type of car driven. A network of self-driving cars would eliminate the need to own one yourself, saving hundreds of thousands of dollars over a lifetime. Also, a rise in the popularity of ride-sharing would decrease the number of cars on the road, easing traffic and positively impacting the environment.

As for safety, if the majority of cars on the road are able to constantly communicate with each other, the likelihood of any kind of serious accident significantly decreases. Humans can be careless, whereas computers are always alert—they just need to be taught how to drive.

Although the public might be skeptical about the rise of self-driving cars, they are coming whether we are ready or not. General Motors is not the only corporation to dip its toes into the pool of self-driving technology. Ford has partnered with Google, and Apple with Tesla, in attempts to gain footing in the race to dominate this up-and-coming market. These companies are triumphant in both the automotive and technology industries, and if they set their sights on self-driving cars then that is what we’re going to get.

Lim is a member of the class of 2017.
The Keys to a Successful Long-Distance Relationship

BY AMANDA MARQUEZ
NEWS EDITOR

New year, new you! Or should I say: new year, new boo? If you’re anything like me, winter break has served as your chance to rekindle a romance with your ex, start something new with an old friend, or break out of your shell and finally go on that long-anticipated—but totally low key—tinder date. (Anyone else? No? Just me, I guess.) Whatever your love story is, if you and your bae are trying out this new relationship hundreds of miles apart, have no fear. For I hold the (major) keys to making it work long distance. These six tips, inspired by the ever-wise DJ Khaled, will guide you through the journey of a successful relationship and keep the anniversaries coming for a long time. #Anotherone.

“Always have faith. Always have hope.”
It’s no secret that the last few days of winter break are bittersweet, especially if you’re unsure of when you’ll see your S.O. next. At this stage in your relationship, the best thing you can do is cherish the time you have left and not worry about the obstacles you’re soon to face. Keep your spirits high and stay optimistic. If you want it to work, it will.

“Smh they get mad when u have joy.”
Being back on campus after a shamelessly unproductive month can feel like a total drag, but when you have someone who wakes you up with emoji-filled good morning texts, listens to you complain about daily nuisances and talks to you on the phone until you fall asleep, you’ll find an unusual pep to your daily routine. It’s no surprise that the people around you might become a little bitter when you can’t stop talking about how great it is to “not have to try” when getting ready in the morning, or how you finally have someone to be in constant conversation with throughout the day. If their responses keep getting shorter and colder every time you talk about how happy you are, it’s probably time to lay off the relationship topic for a while. This might be a good opportunity to put your love skills to the test and be an awesome wingman or wingwoman for your single friends. Besides, what else are you going to do at parties now that hookups are out of the question?

“They will try to close the door on u, just open it.”
So a few weeks have passed, and you and your S.O. are getting antsy about seeing each other. This is usually the time when the random, stupid arguments you swore you’d never have come into the picture, along with one worded texts and drama over who that person in the photo they just Instagrammed is. It’s easy to spiral into a jealous craze, especially with how prevalent social media is in our lives these days. But don’t let it get to you. Whenever you feel like picking apart a half-assed text message or getting angry over their liking someone’s photo or tweet, take a second and breathe. It’s one thing to catch them blatantly flirting, but being friends with people of the opposite sex doesn’t warrant a fight. Whether you’re starting the fights or trying to end them, don’t call it quits just yet. Keep the door to your heart open.

New year, new you! Or should I say: new year, new boo?
If there’s anything my long distance relationship has taught me, it’s patience, how to overcome temptation and how to have a fun night out without depending on a hookup to make it all worthwhile. It’s natural to let a relationship change you, but be aware of the types of changes you make. Don’t let the experience convert you into a hermit who’s constantly glued to technology. Of course, you should take pride in staying connected to someone who’s so far away, but don’t forget to take pride in being able to focus on other things that are important to you and staying tight with your friends at school.

Marquez is a member of the class of 2017.
A Proposal to Make Football Safer

BY CHRIS BOCK CONTRIBUTING WRITER

After leaving the day-to-day hustle of becoming ever better to pursue becoming ever faster this past winter break, I’ve found myself with a lot of time to stew on and ponder deep thoughts. Things such as "should I tell my family I’m behind the Bern?" and "How can I improve myself in order truly get difficulty?" all crossed my mind. But, after I watched Ryan Fitzpatrick and the Jets throw away their hopes for a productive season a few Sundays ago, I all thought about was what it would be like to make a different kind of ball game we foolishly called football safer.

I mean, sure, they have helmets, pads, and the weight of the entire offcutting staff (if you’re Tom Brady), but I’m not convinced that’s enough. Players would be much less likely to damage each other if all the padding was just removed entirely. Maybe just have a guard for the sensitive area, like the skins. On the topic of hitting people, we need to talk about time. For starters, all of that time in between plays and every other time the clock stops just gives players the opportunity to recover and hit each other harder on the next play. I think the obvious solution is not to stop the clock for anything except the half.

On the sixth day on campus, my true love gave to me / six Frat Quad parties. On the seventh day on campus, my true love gave to me / seven hookups. On the eighth day on campus, my true love gave to me / eight fire drills. On the ninth day on campus, my true love gave to me / nine Pepto Bismol after Danforth. On the tenth day on campus, my true love gave to me / ten Hillside rip-offs. On the eleventh day on campus, my true love gave to me / eleven Smile-Inducing. On the twelfth day on campus, my true love gave to me / twelve Holy Communion.

In hindsight, break isn’t so bad. But I am also really excited to imagine day ever past 12.”

By Francis Schenkelberg

The 12 Days of Rochester

BY FRANK DETTRE- SCHENKELBERG CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Going home for break after a brutal semester was exactly what I needed following finals. I realized through the course has covered a plethora of history, yet it has never been taught as a subject. Many students have never heard of the many social movements that took place on campus or the many changes that have occurred. This year as an elective, I registered for The Age of Enlightenment, and I found it to be one of the most interesting courses I have taken.

In this course, we explore the ideas and events that led to the Enlightenment, a period of intellectual and cultural change that took place in the 18th century. The Enlightenment was a time of questioning authority and traditional beliefs, and it led to many of the ideas that we take for granted today. We learned about the new sciences, such as astronomy and medicine, and the role they played in shaping our understanding of the world. We also explored the ideas of philosophers such as Voltaire, Rousseau, and Kant, who called for the rejection of tradition and the rejection of the old system of thought.

The Enlightenment was also a time of political change, and we examined the role it played in the French Revolution. We learned about the ideas of the philosophers of the Enlightenment, such as Jean-Jacques Rousseau, who called for a more democratic society, and we discussed the effect these ideas had on the Revolution. We also explored the role of religion in the Enlightenment, and we discussed the ideas of thinkers such as Voltaire, who called for the rejection of the Catholic Church.

In conclusion, this course has been fascinating, and I have enjoyed learning about the history and ideas of the Enlightenment. I have come away with a greater appreciation for the many changes that have taken place in the world, and I have a better understanding of the ideas and events that led to these changes. I would highly recommend this course to anyone interested in history or philosophy.
Early on the morning of Jan. 14, the nominations for the 88th Academy Awards were announced. Sadly, for the second straight year, there was not a single person of color recognized among the nominees. The reaction, much like last year's, was as swift as it was outraged.

"#OscarsSoWhite has become the hashtag of choice, often accompanied by exclamations of shock and disappointment at the lack of diversity in the talent the Academy chose to reward. The last unofficial census revealed that Academy of MotionPictures and Sciences (AMPAS) is roughly 94 percent white, 77 percent male, and 54 percent over the age of 60. These factors lead many to conclude that the Academy is nothing more than another colonial power—excluding the possibilities of anyone besides straight, white men. How else, as so many have asked, could Will Smith, O'Shea Jackson, Michael B. Jordan, Idris Elba, and all of the other performers of color have not been nominated?

This is where the discussion gets tricky. It does, of course, seem odd that, in an industry that purports to represent America, the most prominently recognized performers (the mention directors, writers, and editors) tend to be overwhelmingly white. When it comes to nominations, it's reductive and rather unhelpful to cry foul at the exclusion of people of color if the performances don't really warrant that reaction.

Idris Elba is a prime example. Elba was excellent as the lead in "Beasts of No Nation," an inverted and grim opening track with Snipes' voice is warped, raspy, and critical of the government. Bowie defined and the music biopic—including being recreated in a Black image, much to the delight of audiences. The Oscars are fun, in a bad politically, the amount of work that goes into coming out of an album like "Blackstar" will no doubt be considered a counterpoint to Bowie's 1977 album "Heroes".

"Blackstar" rounds out Bowie's discography quite nicely, providing some semblance of closure. In the critical revueal of Bowie's discography that is certain to come, "Blackstar" will no doubt be considered a work that deserves to be listened alongside Bowie's masterpiece Berlin trilogy, which consists of the albums "Low," "Heroes," and "Lodger," all produced in the late 70s when Bowie was living in West Berlin.

If "Blackstar" tells us anything, it's that Bowie wanted to be remembered as himself, not Ziggy Stardust or Aladdin Sane. "Blackstar" stands on its own as an incredibly personal work of art and farewell. Bowie will never perform the album live, something too heartwarming to bear.
Goodbye, Alan Rickman

BY SAAD USMANI
SENIOR STAFF

Days after the death of legendary actor David Bowie, the world lost another great in the death of actor Alan Rickman from cancer on Jan. 14. It’s here, listening to John Williams’ nostalgic score, that I realize how much Alan Rickman impacted the lives of our generation. The “Harry Potter” series was a staple of our childhood growing up, with all the wizardry and magic that enveloped our imaginations. Many of us knew the character played by Alan Rickman, Snape, as one in the most loathed and hated characters in the film series, with his villainous sense of wit and eventual redemption. His role in that film franchise, along with 67 of his other acting credits, including “Die Hard,” “Robin Hood,” and “Swimming Pool,” were uniquely memorable. Rickman never failed to add flavor to whichever project he was involved with. Rickman was born in West London, England in 1946. He pursued acting, but it wasn’t until his mid-30s that he joined the Royal Shakespeare Company, which served as a launching pad for his lucrative career. He spent his time working on numerous plays with the company, while also playing roles in serials and radio dramas. His name rose to prominence in the 80s when he took on the villainous role of Hans Gruber in “Die Hard.” Rickman took on other roles in Hollywood, and even earned a Golden Globe for his work in “Rasputin: Dark Servant of Destiny,” but nothing would prepare him for the immediate fame and success of the “Harry Potter” global phenomenon we are all so familiar with. It’s been said that J.K. Rowling wanted Rickman to play the role of Snape from the start, but Rickman had his reservations. To convince him, she apparently gave him backstory to the character that was not released to the public until the final “Harry Potter” book was published in 2007. It would have been interesting to see what would have happened if Rickman had not taken on that career-defining role, but we’re glad we live in a world where he did. During and after the successful run of “Harry Potter,” Rickman was also seen playing roles in “Alice in Wonderland.” Lee Daniels’ “The Butler” and “Love Actually.” Not since the death of Robin Williams has an actor so ingrained in our childhood passed away. It certainly will be hard to look back at Rickman’s movies and not feel a bit emotional, but that’s a testament to his work. Thank you for lighting up our hearts, Mr. Rickman; we raise our wands toward you and appreciate the film merely on its own aesthetic terms. Made for a scant 12 million dollars, it overcomes its budget to wash the viewers with its exuberant and perfection; there’s not a frame of this gloriously lavish film that doesn’t seem purposeful and deeply felt. The cinematic craftsmanship of incredible Edward Lachman, constantly frames the characters through windows and doors, on house-hold objects between them, as if it is the will of the society around them that is pushing them apart. Certain shots, even simple ones of a train moving in a circle, or of Therese standing in a circle with her manipulative tendencies, stirrings that the film almost render itself. The images and sounds are so stirring that the film almost renders the audience how Therese shows the audience how Therese uses her seeming innocence as a façade to mask both her fears and her manipulativeness. Cate Blanchett’s performance, while not as internal, is no less important to the overall success of the film. Blanchett is both forceful and vulnerable in the role, Carol’s elegance contrasting greatly with Therese’s awkwardness. As Therese says, she no longer keeps the large crowds of people anymore. According to playwright An- thony Chekhov, “If you say in your name. Always. Usmani is a member of the class of 2017.”

A Queen Dethroned

BY RAGGA KANAKAM
COPY EDITOR

Two weeks ago, we witnessed the unexpected dethroning of Queen Jennifer Lawrence when she called out a reporter at the Golden Globes for looking at her phone. Though neither the reporter nor Lawrence have commented on the events, pretty much everyone else has. Some claim that it was just a dry joke that fell flat, whereas others claim that she just had too much alcohol. However, the dominant “theory” remains that the reporter was not a native English-speaker and was looking at her phone to relay his questions better. No matter what you believe, it would not be hard to admit that she was rude by interrupting his question about how she feels about the Oscars by condescendingly eating. “We’re at the Golden Globes. If you put your phone down, you’d know that.” Everyone fell in love with Lawrence when she was new to the scene. She was Mystique. She was Katniss. She was quiet and quirky and didn’t seem to be like the others. Her flaws were loveworthy. Lawrence has always been the girl that seemed down-to-earth, the type to talk about how she loves to eat or go out to do things that “normal people” do. She always had a screw-you personality, which made her endearing to the audience. “You’re an actress like me!” people exclaimed. Her shirked turn very cookie-cutter, after a while. Her once-down-to-earth character appeared to be disingenuous.

The first time that it started to get a bit tedious was when the media reported like gospel that she had eaten Doritos in the white dress that she wore in “American Hustle.” Everyone screamed, “Ah! How quirky and just-like-you-and-me she is! She is so random, LOL!” All she did was sprinkle cheese onto the dress was cheap to make, it’s not random, LOL!” All she did was sprinkle cheese onto the dress was cheap to make, it’s not random, LOL!”

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SENIOR STAFF

Oscar Watch: A Christmas ‘Carol’

BY SCOTT ABRAMS
A&E EDITOR

Giving into the charms of Todd Haynes’ “Carol” is kind of like falling in love; you begin to slowly surrender, until you do so all at once. The film concerns the relationship that develops between Therese Belivet (Rooney Mara), a young, naïve shop girl, and Carol Aird (Cate Blanchett), a divorced society woman. They “meet-cute”: Carol goes to buy her daughter a doll from the department store Therese works at, but Therese convinces her to buy a train set for the little girl instead. The two part, and that’s— until Therese notices that Carol has (purposefully?) left her gloves on the counter and sends the train set home. Two weeks ago, we witnessed the unexpected dethroning of Queen Jennifer Lawrence when she called out a reporter at the Golden Globes for looking at her phone. Through neither the reporter nor Lawrence have commented on the events, pretty much everyone else has. Some claim that it was just a dry joke that fell flat, whereas others claim that she just had too much alcohol. However, the dominant “theory” remains that the reporter was not a native English-speaker and was looking at her phone to relay his questions better. No matter what you believe, it would not be hard to admit that she was rude by interrupting his question about how she feels about the Oscars by condescendingly eating. “We’re at the Golden Globes. If you put your phone down, you’d know that.” Everyone fell in love with Lawrence when she was new to the scene. She was Mystique. She was Katniss. She was quiet and quirky and didn’t seem to be like the others. Her flaws were loveworthy. Lawrence has always been the girl that seemed down-to-earth, the type to talk about how she loves to eat or go out to do things that “normal people” do. She always had a screw-you personality, which made her endearing to the audience. “You’re an actress like me!” people exclaimed. Her shirked turn very cookie-cutter, after a while. Her once-down-to-earth character appeared to be disingenuous.

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hours to 3 days.
Celebrity Worship is Fleeting

BY JESSE BERNSTEIN

On June 17, 1972, five men were found snoop ing around the Democratic National Convention headquarters at the Watergate complex. Hilarity ensued.

Of course, it’s a bit more complicated than that. Following the arrest of those men, an investigation was undertaken that revealed a line of corruption leading all the way up the President of the United States, Richard Milhous Nixon. That investigation was undertaken in large part by two men working at the Washington Post. Today, the names Carl Bernstein and Bob Woodward are synonymous with investigative journalism, but when they undertook the story of their lives, they were simply two young reporters with a hunch.

Though the book is far more detailed and exact, the 1976 film—starring Dustin Hoffman and Robert Redford—expresses the paranoia of the era in all of its creeping eeriness. It remains, to this day, perhaps the greatest journalism drama ever made. Accompanied by a subtle, sparingly-used score from David Shire, Hoffman and Redford fight the government, their editors, and each other in pursuit of the truth—a truth that few people wanted to believe. Buoyed by strong supporting performances from Jason Robards and Hal Holbrook, the two lead play off each other magnificently, each representing a different type of actor: Redford, the square-jawed, classic Hollywood hero; and Hoffman, from the new wave of character actors taking on lead roles.

In light of the recent success of “Spotlight,” interest in “All The President’s Men” and other investigative dramas has seen a bit of an uptick, and with good cause: if you ever want proof that the pen can be mightier than the sword, this is your film.

Second Half has Yellowjackets Facing UAA Rivals

BY JAKE SEHNERT
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

As the second semester gets underway, the Yellowjackets’ basketball season is reaching its halfway point, where each team looks to earn a spot in the tournament and a chance to win it all. Both teams are returning home after a quick three-game road trip to begin conference play. Women’s basketball now sits on top of the conference standings, while the men’s team looks to move up in the standings while sitting fifth in the University Athletic Association (UAA).

The team is led by sophomore forward Jillian Seltzer, scoring 17.4 points and grabbing 5.5 boards per game. She is boasting an impressive scoring margin of 14.6 points per game over their opponents. The team is absolutely on fire in the midst of an eight-game winning streak, blowing past all of its opponents with ease. The team is 13–1 and playing fantastic basketball while sitting fifth in the conference standings, gaining a double-double with Alexandra Leslie, nearly averaging a double-double with her three-point shooting and grabbing 5.5 boards per game as well. Over break, the team won two games in blowout fashion, outscoring their opponents by twenty points or more. They outscored Ramapo College 67–46, led by junior guard Sarah Kaminsky’s 12 points and a career high of 16 points for sophomore forward Jillian Silvestri. The Jackets also beat Brandeis University 63–49, led by Alexandra Leslie (16–8) and Lauren Deming (13–4).

The Yellowjackets play their next game against Case Western Reserve University this Friday in the Palestra. The men’s basketball team has slowed to a 8–6 record after getting off to a 6–2 start. Jared Seltzer, scoring 17.4 points and grabbing 8.6 boards per game, and Sam Borst-Smith, putting up 16.1 points, dishing 4.3 assists, and stealing the ball 2.2 times per game, have shouldered the team’s offense while also leading the team in minutes played. Players such as junior Mack Montague and sophomore Tucker Knox have helped spread the floor with their three-point shooting margin.

Sophomore Al Leslie puts up 30 points, knocking off UAA rival NYU.

The men’s basketball team is 12–1 New York University in the country, Los Angeles. St. Louis Rams to Los Angeles at the start of the 2016 NFL season. The move was part of the NFL’s attempt to reenter the second-largest media market in the country, Los Angeles. St. Louis was by far one of their lowest-producing markets. In the past two seasons, the Rams have produced the lowest and third-lowest revenues out of all 32 teams in the NFL.

The last time the St. Louis Rams were a competitive football team was circa 1999, when most college students were just starting elementary school. They were nicknamed “The Greatest Show on Turf” and had a record-setting offense from 1999-2001 behind football legends: Kurt Warner, Marshall Faulk, Bruce Isaac, and Tony Hollis. Since 2001, they have had just one winning season (one with more wins than losses) and only two playoff appearances. A change for this organization was inevitable.

“I think what happened over the last years is we had two outstanding opportunities, both of these projects were outstanding,” NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell said at a news conference 11 hours before the voting began.

Many thought that the San Diego Chargers were the front-runners for the nod to move to Los Angeles. Some fans were so sure that they were saying their final goodbyes at the Chargers’ last game of the 2015-2016 regular season. Their proposal was a two-for-one, where both the Raiders and Chargers would relocate and share a stadium in Carson, Calif. It was the tipping point for the Rams in getting the nod was owner Stanley Kroenke’s plan to finance and build a new stadium in Inglewood, CA, which is estimated to cost around 1.9 billion dollars. Instead, the Chargers now have one year to decide whether to join the Rams or to try to make things work in San Diego. If they choose to stay, the option will go to the Raiders. Los Angeles is familiar territory for the Rams. From 1946 to 1994, they were the Los Angeles Rams, and a consistent playoff team in the 70s and 80s. The original L.A. Rams were best known for being the home of Eric Dickerson, who is seventh on the all-time rushing list, and arguably one of the greatest running backs ever to play the game.

Not only does the move affect the organization and its players, but it also affects the fan base that supported the team in St. Louis. In an effort to prevent the relocation, each team’s current city was given the opportunity to make a proposal to entice the NFL to stay in that market. Unfortunately, none of the proposals were enough to impress the owners. When talks about relocating became serious, the NFL hosted public hearings in which fans could voice their opinions. Many fans showed up to condemn Kroenke, who had given up on St. Louis. He was once revered for bringing communities, for the teams, for the league in general. Stability is something that we’ve taken a great deal of pride in.”

“To his credit, the NFL has been stable. The last relocation happened almost 20 years ago, when the Houston Oilers moved to Tennessee in 1997, becoming the Tennessee Titans. But in the end, the NFL is still a business. The league will continue to follow the money because you don’t earn 7.2 billion dollars a year in revenue for following your heart. In the end, it’s the numbers you follow.

Kinder is a Take Five Scholar.
1. How did squash become a part of your life?
I have been playing squash for 14 years, since I was a teenager. My father got me into squash, and we've always been serious about it, practicing every day, traveling a lot for tournaments, in and outside of Japan. Looking back, squash has always been a part of me—perhaps more than just a part.

2. What inspires you to keep playing?
The characteristics of squash: Squash is an individual sport, and it requires so many physical and mental abilities, which makes it a very interesting sport because there are so many styles of game. My style of game is attacking, constantly putting pressure on my opponent. But 12 of my teammates play differently, each has his own style, such as offensive, clever, all-around, and tricky. My biggest disadvantage is height and reach, in general, but it is actually an advantage compared toigger players, because I can move quicker on the court than most of them, and am able to easily hit more shots that require physical flexibility and quickness. So even if you are a few shots behind your opponent, you can still cover the advantages with possibly only one of your own advantages that others don't have.

3. How did it feel to play for the Japanese National team?
It is obviously fun and gives me a great feeling of representing my own country. But, at the same time, there is a little bit of pressure from expectation of which actually makes me play better because pressure usually gives me motivation to focus and perform well.

4. The Jackets are facing number one-ranked Trinity College this coming Sunday. How are you and your team going to prepare for that match?
We just had an away weekend, beating Columbia 9-0 and strong Yale 5-4. But in order to come back with a win from Trinity, we have to get over the feeling of achievement/bad play, because I can move quicker on the court than most of them, and am able to easily hit more shots that require physical flexibility and quickness. So even if you are a few shots behind your opponent, you can still cover the advantages with possibly only one of your own advantages that others don't have.

5. What has been your biggest challenge in the sport?
My biggest challenge was World Junior Team Championship in 2012 in Qatar. My team (including current teammate Tomotaka Endo) was seeded somewhere around 14 out of about 20 teams. But that was our last team tournament we would ever play before turning 19, so we were very determined about finishing in as high a place as possible. And we did our best and finished sixth in the world. That was my biggest challenge and biggest achievement of my whole career up until now.

6. Would you rather sing karaoke with Ricky Gervais or Serena Williams?
Serena Williams! I kind of feel familiar with her because she is a tennis player you know,acket sports.

Powell is a member of the class of 2018.
Sophomore Ryosei Kobayashi stretches to save a ball.

Katz spikes a volleyball while competing in the Chile-hosted games.

It was “awesome, one of my favorite rugby players during the ceremony. It was there before. If a player is happy, why should they have to hide that? It makes the players relatable and the game more fun.

3. Despite football’s place atop America’s sports hierarchy, concern about concessions may end up hurting the popularity of the game down the road. Some progress has been made to make the game safer. Despite this, I’d like to see 2016 be the start of even bigger changes. Any helmet-to-helmet hit that is deemed to have been at all avoidable—which is pretty much all of them—should result in an automatic suspension, as decided by an NFL committee.

This would be similar to the format in which the NHL does not allow punishments for dirty hits. Sure, there will be backlash at first, but that’s going to be the case with practically any rule change. Player safety needs to be prioritized.

4. It’s hard to argue with ESPN’s self-proclamation as “The Worldwide Leader in Sports.” The company adds a lot of value to the sports world, but also seems to be increasingly infatuating these games, but the United States as well.

Shira and her Team USA volleyball teammates from all over the country convened in New York City for two days of training before departing for Santiago. They were greeted by thousands of fans, bright lights, and loud music during the opening ceremony. Shira was host- ed upon the shoulders of American Jewish pride through sports. UR Athletics and spectators alike traded pins, t-shirts, hats, and even their athletic gear. According to Katz, “Everyone thought the USA stuff was the coolest.” After a match, a Peruvian woman confronted her with enthusiasm and said, “I need that jersey,” referring to Katz’s sweat-soaked game-worn uniform. “Are you sure you want this?” Katz replied. “Yet!”

The sophomore noted that it was interesting and foreign to play under international rules that differed from U.S. regulations. Because of these altered styles of play, it was “imperative to be an all-around player,” she said.

Despite these changes, Katz and her teammates had no shortage of success, cruising through round-robin, group-style play. She was proud to say that she “hit two players in the face,” spiking the ball over the course of her four competitions. The USA squad faced Brazil in the championship round. After falling behind two-games-to-none in a best-of-five match, they batted back to tie the match at two games apiece, before ultimately coming up a little short in the deciding game. Katz is proud to show her silver medal, a medal that she and all of her teammates were awarded in an Olympic-esque ceremony following the championship match.

In any event, Katz took much more from this competition than just a few victories and a piece of silver. She referred to her teammates as “life long friends” and “amazing people.”

Over the course of their week-and-a-half here trip, Katz and her teammates seemed to have built a special bond, a unique camaraderie that created relationships she would never forget. She spoke about her days off in which they volunteered at a hospital entertaining children who awaited their treatments. “It was really special because this was one of the poorest places in Chile,” Katz said. “Perhaps it was these experiences that brought the group so tightly together in only a short period of less than two weeks,” Katz said. “We all got along so well […]. We all loved each other.”

“Everyone thought the USA stuff was the coolest,” Katz said, referring to her team’s performance in the championship match against Brazil.

Katz’s experience reminds us of the power sports have to bring people together from all over the world. Sports—in this case, volleyball—can be a great bonding experience, fostering international relationships that would be to accept the outward signs of emotion that are so often frowned upon in the game. Jose Mora, former Team USA player during last year’s post-season was exactly the kind of action that can bring in more fans. When a star player hits a big home run, they shouldn’t have to act like they’ve been there before. It is

He:60” claim more prominence? This year’s competition was strong enough to show that “First Take” for a perfect example of the type of useless debate the network has embraced. Whether there are two legitimate sides to an issue or not, the show pits talking heads against each other—arguing away and producing some truly inane content. In 2016, how about these manufactured arguments take a backseat on ESPN and let the network’s finer works, like the investigative reporting on programs such as “Outside the Lines” and “E:60” claim more prominence? Finally, I hope that sports can serve as a form of diplomacy in our troubled world. Complex global conflicts may not be solved, but let’s hope that sports can bring us all a bit closer in 2016 and beyond.

Katz spikes a volleyball while competing in the Chile-hosted games.

Shapiro is a member of the class of 2016.