Dorm Flood Leaves Students Out to Dry

Students Unhappy After University Denies Liability for Property Damages

BY MADELINE BLACKBURN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

“I came back to a disaster,” said Jen Ogawa, a sophomore resident of Gale House. “Everything I had here is destroyed. I don’t know what I’m going to do now.”

Ogawa was just one of approximately 40 Gale residents to see their dorms and property destroyed by a record Rochester snowfall, making its decision.

The University will, in general, remain in operation and continue regular services and schedules regardless of adverse weather conditions,” she said. “This continuation of regular activity is important to meet the needs of students in a residential University community, with more than 75 percent of undergraduates living in campus housing.”

Miller added that exceptions to the policy can be made. On Tuesday, this was the case with the William E. Simon School of Business Administration and UR Medical Center School of Nursing.

Nearby, Monroe Community College, St. John Fisher College, SUNY Brockport, Nazareth College, Rochester Institute of Technology, Colgate Rochester Divinity School, and Finger Lakes Community College all closed Tuesday, according to the University of Rochester and Finger Lakes Community College all closed Tuesday, according to the University of Rochester Democrat & Chronicle.

Several students who signed the petition cited the University’s closures of the Simon School and School of Nursing—as well as other schools’ closures—in their grievances.

“If it’s unsafe for students to attend classes at one of the school’s, it’s unsafe for everyone else to go,” junior Nicholas Porter wrote in a comment on the petition.

In other comments on the petition and in interviews, students expressed concerns for the safety of commuter students, physically disabled persons, and faculty and staff too, pointing to the beds, around a corner and down a hallway from the lounge. Residents of suite 430 said that no windows nor the balcony door were open.

The water poured through four floors worth of suites, down stairwells, and into the basement. Schumacher noted that water continued to flow into the Gale House lobby from upper floors for nearly 30 minutes after it had been turned off.

Water from the pipe flowed over and through many of the building’s heat sources, warming it. Schumacher said he felt hot water dripping onto his skin when he re-entered the lobby on the first floor. He noted that the water in the lobby was steaming.

Upon returning to her room about thirty minutes after a building-wide evacuation, Ogawa opened the door to her third-floor suite to find half an inch of dark water throughout the lounge and the suite’s hallway. Vapor was drifting out of her lounge heater. Her room, she said, was “an absolute disaster.”

Three corkboard ceiling panels had partially disintegrated and fallen onto her bed; the walls adjacent to her bed were caked with greyish slime, and a cloudy puddle had soaked her entire bed set. Ogawa’s roommate, sophomore Dominick Schumacher, witnessed a similar scene upon entering her room, where three ceiling tiles had fallen onto his belongings.

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UR students Rebecca Block ’18 and Ted Hancock ’18 participate in the Eighth Annual 19th Ward family ice skating party.

PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE

Bicycle Stolen Outside Sue B. (1)
FEB. 10, 11 A.M.-FEB. 11, 11 A.M.—A student reported his bike stolen from the bike rack outside of Susan B. Anthony residence hall. The student said that he had secured the bike, and that the lock was also stolen.

Flooding in Gale (2)
FEB. 14—Officers responded to the activation of a fire alarm in Gate House. Officers found water flowing down the stairwell on the 30/40 side. Officers determined the source of water to be a broken sprinkler head in the living room of room 430.

Sue B. Dorm Room Intruded (3)
FEB. 15—An unidentified male entered the room of a student living in Susan B. Anthony residence hall shortly after she had gone to bed. The man was asking for money when the student’s roommate came home. The suspect pushed past the roommate and fled. DPS secured the bike, and that the lock was also stolen.

Student Asleep in Rush Rhees Library (4)
FEB. 16—A student fell asleep in Rush Rhees Library, and awoke in darkness. She didn’t know how to get out of the library, so she called DPS. Officers met up with the student and escorted her out.

THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS

THURSDAY | FEBRUARY 18
RELAY FOR LIFE GALA
STARRIDGE SUITES, 10 P.M.-1 A.M.
The Relay for Life Gala is a 21+ formal event that will raise money for the American Cancer Society. Tickets, which include food and two drink tickets, are $25, and are sold at the Common Market and at the door.

PELICULAS PHOTOS
GOWEN ROOM, 6 P.M.-8:30 P.M.
The Phi Chapter of Phi Iota Alpha Fraternity, Inc. and the Paul J. Burger Intercultural Center will be hosting a free screening of “The Liberator.” The movie will be followed by a discussion on the context of the movie.

FRIDAY | FEBRUARY 19
UR NIGHT AT AMERKS HOCKEY
BLUE CROSS ARENA, 8 P.M.-9:30 P.M.
Join the UR community for an exciting night of hockey, accompanied by appearances of various University-affiliated organizations.

SATURDAY | FEBRUARY 20
METRO MASTI
WILSON COMMONS MAY ROOM, 7 P.M.-9 P.M.
ADITI will be hosting an evening of food and dance influenced by South Asian metropolis. Tickets are $12 for University students and $15 for University faculty, staff, and graduate students.

THE DANISH GIRL
HOT’Y AUDITORIUM, 7 P.M.-9:15 P.M.
Join the UR Cinema Group for a showing of the film “The Danish Girl.” Tickets are $3 and available at the Common Market, or at the door 30 minutes before showtime.

SUNDAY | FEBRUARY 21
BLACK HISTORY MONTH FAMILY DAY
MEMORIAL ART GALLERY, 12 P.M.-4 P.M.
Celebrate Black History Month with hands-on art activities, music, and dance demonstrations. This suggested donation of attending the event is $5 per family.

STUDENT DEGREE RECITAL
EASTMAN EAST WING RECITAL HALL, 9 P.M.-10:30 P.M.
The Eastman School of Music will be showcasing the musical talents of Sarah Brown, who will be performing on the trumpet.

CORRECTIONS

An article in last week’s issue titled "Basketball Beats the Buzzer" (News, Page 1) incorrectly stated the Monroe College basketball game was made in a game on Saturday, Feb. 6. The game actually occurred on Sunday, Feb. 7.

An article in the Jan. 28 issue titled “New URMC Facility Makes Healthcare Accessible to Rochester” (News, Page 3) implied that services offered at the new Manhattan Square Park facility would be covered by students’ mandatory health fee. The facility, while part of the University, is not part of University Health Services (UHS), and, while students are welcome at the facility, any services rendered will need to be paid for out-of-pocket or billed to the patient’s insurance provider. Students’ insurance is paid at UHS before seeking care at the Manhattan Square facility.

If you are sponsoring an event that you wish to submit for the calendar, please email news@campustimes.org by Monday evening with a brief summary, including the date, time, location, sponsor, and cost of admission.

Climate Survey Achieves Only Modest Success

Many Students Fail to Contribute Thoughts, Despite Reminders

BY JESSICA HARPER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Last fall, students protested and demanded for an improved campus climate.

But since the Campus Climate Survey was launched nearly three weeks ago by the University in conjunction with The Higher Education Research Institute at UCLA, they’ve remained relatively silent.

If you believe the banner hanging in Wilson Commons, revealing that fewer than one-third of undergraduates have responded to the survey.

Students were given several reminders via email,Blackboard, Facebook, word of mouth, and the Weekly Buzz, encouraging them to fill out the survey. In an email to University staff, Director of the University’s Intercultural Center Jessica Guzman-Rea wrote that the survey asks about students’ academic work, interaction with faculty and peers, participation in campus activities, perceptions of the climate on campus, and use of campus services.

The information collected by the survey will be utilized by faculty and administration “to better understand and improve the College experience.”

Many students who have filled out the survey said that it provides an effective and efficient channel to voicing concerns some may not feel comfortable with or have time to communicate.

“If UR is responsive to students’ concerns and makes effective changes on our campus,” sophomore Josh Veronica said, “it will show students that the survey is worth taking [in the future].”

The half hour it has taken most students to complete the survey seems like least culprit in deterring students from taking it.

When asked why she didn’t fill out the survey, junior Kelsey Casimira said, “Honestly, I don’t have time for that. From what I’ve heard, it’s a long survey, and I’m just too busy.”

Harper is a member of the Class of 2017.

WANT TO MAKE HEADLINES?

Join the Campus Times.
Email news@campustimes.org

ANNOUNCEMENT

The spring semester test of AlertUR, the University’s emergency notification system, will occur on Thursday, Feb. 25 at 6 p.m. The test will not disrupt scheduled activities.

The system, designed to quickly transmit news and instructions to the faculty, students, and staff of the University (including the Medical Center) in the event of an emergency, is tested twice per year. All students are automatically enrolled in the system via their UR email.

More information is available at www.rochester.edu/alertur.
**#SayHerName Speaker Extols Activism**

**BY SAM PASSANISI**  
**SENIOR STAFF**

"Powerful people cannot afford to educate the people that they oppress," she began, because once you are truly educated, you will not ask for power. You will take it.

With that quote from the 20th-century historian and Pan-Africanist scholar John Henrik Clarke, Rosa Clemente launched into a speech that would center on the importance of education while touching on activism, racial identity, and women’s rights in America.

Clemente is a doctoral student in the Afro-American studies program at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. In addition to her academic career, she is a journalist and an activist in the Black Lives Matter movement. Clemente’s speech, titled #SayHerName (in reference to a social media hashtag that seeks to acknowledge violence against Black and Latina women) was sponsored by the Black Students’ Union (BSU) as part of its schedule of events for Black History Month.

Clemente has been involved in political activism for many years, most prominently when she ran (as the Green Party candidate) for President of the United States on the Green Party ticket in 2008, the first woman of color to do so. Clemente is also a co-founder of the National Hip-Hop Political Convention and became involved in the Black Lives Matter movement after the shooting of Trayvon Martin in 2012.

In her speech, Clemente described the trajectory of her career and work. She described how she became affiliated with the grassroots Black Lives Matter movement, which grew out of controversy surrounding the shooting of unarmed Black teenager Trayvon Martin by neighborhood watch member George Zimmerman. Clemente remembered thinking it was strange that the term “Black Lives Matter” would even need to be said in an age when the U.S. had elected its first Black president. However, she noted, the current generation of college students is beginning to recognize the ongoing racial issues and tensions in America.

“We’re beginning to be skeptical of the policies coming out of the White House,” Clemente said, noting that even under the Democratic Obama administration, America is far from a post-racial society.

Clemente did not shy away from controversial topics or contrarian positions. She began, in fact, by cautioning the audience that “what I’m going to say is not going to be palatable to a lot of folks.” During the course of her speech, Clemente criticized both Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders, and expressed her dissatisfaction with the Democratic Party in general.

Herself a Black Puerto Rican born in the Bronx, New York, Clemente also devoted part of her speech to the topics of racial and gender identity, especially in regard to the intersection of Black and Latino cultures. She noted that more and more Latino people have begun to identify as Black or Afro-Latino, and that the history of Latino activism, including the Puerto Rican independence movement, is closely associated with what she called the “Black radical tradition.”

Clemente closed her speech by returning to the theme of education, noting the contributions of students and academics to the Black Lives Matter movement.

"You can be part of that history," Clemente concluded. She urged students to become involved as leaders, activists, and organizers, saying, "Don’t have your sons or daughters come to you in 50 years and say, ‘I’m reading about the Black Lives Matter movement—were you involved?’"

Passanisi is a member of the Class of 2017.

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**Curriculum Reviewed, Changes Recommended**

**BY JULIA CURTIS**  
**CONTRIBUTING WRITER**

The Curriculum Review Committee released a full report of their investigation into the effectiveness of the Rochester Curriculum last Friday. The committee, organized one-and-a-half years ago, recommends a total of 33 changes to the College’s hallmark program.

The report contains recommendations to the University for changes under the categories of General Education, Writing and Communication, Experiential Learning, Global Engagement, and Career Preparation. Most of these changes are minor, and the committee emphasizes its support and satisfaction overall with the current state of the Curriculum.

The Committee was established by Deans Peter Lennie and Richard Feldman; its members are comprised of faculty, staff, and students. The objective of the Committee was to complete a full review of the Curriculum. This was the first review since the Curriculum was first approved in 1995 and went into effect with the graduating class of 2000.

Among the 33 recommendations are adjustments to the cluster system. The report recommends that the University recognize credits completed by students outside of the required two (one for each discipline). This would particularly affect engineering majors who choose to complete an additional cluster in the humanities or social sciences, or for students of any discipline who complete a cluster in an area that would be appealing to a potential employer or graduate school.

The report recommends that all introductory courses count toward some cluster, so that students, take any class that interests them.

The report recommends that UR try to increase this number, as many college graduates nationwide cite study abroad as their most important college experience.

Specific recommendations to make this experience more accessible for students in all disciplines include:

- A list of approved courses by department.
- More accessible publicity for underwater research opportunities.

The report encourages more support and publicity for undergraduate research opportunities in order to make this experience more accessible for students in all disciplines.

It also recommends standardizing the number of Independent Study and Independent Research courses across departments.

Currently, about one-third of UR undergraduates choose to study abroad. The report recommends that UR try to increase this number, as many college graduates nationwide cite study abroad as their most important college experience.

Among the changes under the categories of General Education, Writing and Communication, Experiential Learning, Global Engagement, and Career Preparation, the report emphasizes the need for better explanations of the registration process for these different courses to students.

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Pipe Bursts in Gale

STORMS / SNOW

Scientists have discovered a new type of shape-memory polymer that can be programmed to retain a temporary shape before it is triggered by heat to revert back to its original form. This discovery, announced by Associate Professor of Chemical Engineering Mitch Ananthamadri, could have significant implications for the field of materials science.

FLOOD FROM PAGE 1

Thomas Rouse, Assistant Director for Residential Life, emailed all affected students soon after the incident, urging them to close their windows, and to do their laundry as soon as possible.

Students were also advised to find an alternate place to stay, though temporary housing would be provided in the Hill Court seminar rooms if they couldn’t find anywhere else to go.

Professional cleaning company Servpro vacuumed the rooms and cleared away broken ceiling tiles throughout Sunday, leaving behind fans that had to be kept running during the night. After, students were told by Residential Life that they could return to their dorms on Monday, as mold might grow in affected spaces. "I didn't want people walking into our suite," she said.

Several students who stayed in their dorms on the night of the incident said they couldn't sleep. One sophomore said she was uncomfortable keeping doors open with loud fans blowing in the room. "I didn't want people walking into our suite," she said.

Schumacher said about five to 10 of his residents slept in River Campus rooms—though they would need to keep doors open.

Later on Sunday, Residential Life officials told affected students they could return to their dorms without issue.

But issues arose. Schumacher said some of his residents complained of "allergic reactions and very, very bad smells," as well as "sneezing, coughing, [and] having trouble breathing." Campus 310 reporters who visited an affected suite also noted an unpleasant smell.

Schumacher said that when he tried to knock on dorm doors, residents could not hear him because of the fans. He had to enter suites to speak with them, and was incredulous as to how residents could sleep with the noise. Some described the way items appeared to have been hastily tossed onto desks and chairs during the cleanup. As well, Schumacher said, most of the affected had told him their spaces were not dry as of Tuesday. To complaining residents, Schumacher relayed a message: "Real life says it's being handled."

On Wednesday, Contomanolis said the condition of the rooms was "excellent." Contomanolis also called concerns that mold might grow in affected spaces "impossible," adding that Servpro used the University’s only official mold remover, Vizunish.

In Ogawa and Kaufman’s suite, Kaufman lost his laptop, printer, extension cord, rental textbook, and dress shoes that had been underneath the chair. Ogawa lost her Nintendo 3DS, the chair onto which her dumbbells and her bed sheets. Kaufman estimated his total losses to be about 2,000 dollars—Ogawa lost, near 1,000 dollars.

An effort is being made by the Student Association (SA) Government to catalog the damages incurred by Gale residents. The effort, spearheaded by sophomore Anmol Almast and junior Tannis Fontai, is still in an early stage, and SA President Grant Dever has encouraged affected students to reach out to their parents and school administrators in the meantime.

"I don't know how I'm going to pay for it," Ogawa said. "I talked to my dad, but I'm still not sure."

Blackburn is a member of the Class of 2018. Editor-in-Chief Saurav Ramou and Managing Editor Justin Trombly contributed to this piece.

Researchers Discover Polymer

Researchers have discovered a new type of shape-memory polymer that can be programmed to retain a temporary shape before it is triggered by heat to revert back to its original form. This discovery, announced by Associate Professor of Chemical Engineering Mitch Ananthamadri, could have significant implications for the field of materials science.

"Our shape-memory polymer is like a rubber band that can lock itself into a new shape when stretched," Ananthamadri said.

"But a simple touch causes it to recoil back to its original shape," Ananthamadri added.

Ananthamadri explained that the key to creating the new polymer was learning how to control crystallization when the material is stretched or cooled. Small segments of the polymer align in the same areas, called crystals, while polymer chains are locally stretched as the material is deformed. The polymer shape becomes more and more stable as the number of crystallites grows, which makes the process of returning back to its initial shape increasingly difficult.

By including molecular linkages to connect the individual polymer strands, Ananthamadri’s group discovered a way to tune the trigger temperature.

After experimenting with the number and type of linkages used—which inhibit crystallization when the material is stretched—they were able to adjust the material’s stability and precisely set the melting point at which the shape change is triggered.

Ananthamadri believes that the shape-memory polymer could have a variety of applications, including sutures, artificial skin, body-heated assisted medical dressers, and self-fitting clothing.

Ortego is a member of the Class of 2019.
Dining prices aren’t ideal. With the “unlimited” Declining plan, many students don’t run out, even though it is still very possible to spend all 2,100 dollars worth of Declining throughout the semester. This is kind-of-abused. When all’s said and done, this equates to around 20 dollars a day. To put this in perspective, for a dollar a day, I could sponsor a child in Haiti. If I was feeling like less of a good person, I could buy about a case-and-a-third of Guinness beer a day.

Additionally, I could eat two or three high quality meals a day off campus at some of my favorite restaurants. Pellegino’s typically costs me about 6.50 dollars for a seven inch sub. Pizza Stop will gladly sell me two slices of their specialty pizza and a Snapple for eight dollars.

I understand that there are costs associated with supplying an entire campus with food. This makes sense, and I ad- mire that UR gives students a wide variety of options. Having multiple dining halls, food to serve those who need special accommodations, and continuing to entertain more creative options is not cheap. With this in mind, I thought that was why there was such a large overhead cost on top of the meal plan and that the original conversion was not a real dollar to a dollar of declining, but actually a decent amount more.

The thing that is more frus- trating to me than the actual cost of the plan is the quality of goods on campus. But, more so than the cost of goods on campus, is the discrepancies between different locations that accept declining through- out campus.

For instance, I have started to go to the Medical Center often, and typically purchase a chicken sandwich, large fries, and Pure Leaf—brand iced tea. The meal is quite enjoyable, especially when I am charged a dollar or two fewer than the cost of just a chicken sandwich and fries without the tea at the Pit. The food at the Pit is no worse—I would say both meals are pret- ty solid. The only difference is the cost. Now I am sure there are reasons for this. Maybe the Medical Center would rather not price gouge indi- viduals preparing to save lives or those stressing about their loved ones, and I respect that. But, the school should be able to cut costs a decent amount. A major concern shouldn’t be knowing how much to order and supply to patrons.

Having compared the costs of food between establish- ments that accept Declining, (the Medical Center and the Pit), one thing which may be the most frustrating is the price difference between blimpie and the pit. I under- stand that it can be hard to compare the costs of a sub to a burrito bowl, Panda Bowl, or pizza. With this in mind, it is fairly simple to look at the cost between two identi- cal goods. A Gatorade in the cooler at Blimpie is 14 cents cheaper than one in the Pit. I know it isn’t much, but it is about the principle. If Blimpie can afford to sell items more cheaply, I am certain the Pit can, too.

When everything’s said and done, I respect that the school is doing an awesome job pro- viding a variety of dining op- tions to cater to many indi- viduals, and does a great job hiring awesome workers who care about supplying high-quality food. I just don’t fully understand how dining op- tions with the same food have different costs.

Kueit is a member of the Class of 2017.

Students should not be held liable for University-caused damage.

When the school’s infra- structure isn’t quite robust enough to withstand the chill of December, a Rock COA should be concerned. When a pipe bursts from the cold in a chronically-chilly residential lounge with no open windows to speak of, students should be upset. And when the Univer- sity claims non-liability after half of Gale House floods, de- stroying multiple floors worth of residents’ possessions—in- cluding laptops, textbooks, and schoolwork—students should be outraged.

This Office, for Residen- tial Life & Housing Services Housing Contract stipulates that the University is not re- sponsible for lost or damaged property. This is reasonable, in most cases, and, given that all students who live on campus contribute to this contract at the beginning of each school year, it is unsurprising that the Uni- versity will not compensate the students affected by the flood.

Students’ inquiries about compensation to Residential Life officials, through email and in-person, have been met with polite but no-uncertain- terms responses, quoting the Contract.

But when the University it- self is the sole party that could have prevented the dam- age, it is irresponsible not to redress students’ grievances. The non-liability that the Uni-

versity claims is contractu- ally sound, but morally apple- nant.

Some undergraduates re- ceived an email from a Resi- dential Life official last week, which read, ‘‘The Rock COA is doing an awesome job pro- tecting against damage’’—this merely reminded them to keep their things close and stay away from furniture away from the heat- ers, containing no information about what cold water can do to water pipes. This failure to include that information, however, should not have mat- tered: lounge windows on the fourth floor do not open, and an open window elsewhere in the suite could not easily have caused the temperature to drop low enough in the lounge to freeze a pipe.

Some students affected have homeowner’s or tenant’s in- surance—but many don’t. Students can purchase insur- ance to protect against damage caused by themselves or other students, but should not have to buy insurance—especially from the University, were it an option—to protect against University-caused damage. Further, students have a rea- sonable expectation that their dormitory will not flood or otherwise prove dangerous or uninhabitable due to circum- stances beyond their control—and that they will not have to take responsibility for it when it does.

UR is the only party that can reasonably be held responsible for last weekend’s catastrophe. Gale House residents should be held liable for student- caused damage. Between stolen dining hall utensils and dishes, vandalism to school property, and time and manpower de- voted to dealing with prevent- able—but expected—disasters (Public Safety responses to drunk and belligerent party- goers, for instance), the Uni- versity incurs tremendous in- cisental costs. We expect the University to charge students, and for this, we do not and should not expect, however, to shoulder the burden for damages be- yond our control. To be sure, the University is not directly avoiding responsibility, but in a case like this, refusing to take responsibility amounts to the same thing. Providing ac- commodations and drying out the space are things that the University needed to do, but true acceptance of responsibility comes with recompense for student losses.

Indeed, the University has no legal obligation to address these damages, but using con- tractual argu-able-bargain as an ex- cuse for inaction is callous. It’s as simple as doing the right thing. And by any reasonable moral barometer, it is not right to leave students out to dry like this.
On Douglass Closing

BY NICK ANDREACCHI

This past week, Douglass Dining Hall was closed due to the snow. To many, especially freshmen living in the Susan B. Anthony Building, this is not that detrimental of an occurrence, as Danforth is but an elevator ride away. But what about your average high-motor sophomore? Having been on this campus for over a year and a half, I find myself slowly conforming to the society around me by becoming a creature of habit. This personable trait of mine has influenced multiple facets of my everyday life—facets such as my sleep schedule, nightly exercise, and most importantly, food. Most students at this University create schedules that limit themselves to thirty to forty-five minute breaks in between classes. I, of course, am one of these people. Due to these small windows of time to eat, many students find themselves limited to eating at one of the few dining options at the heart of River Campus. These options include Wilson Commons, Douglass, and Grab & Go.

Douglass is ideal for people looking to quickly use one of unlimited meal swipes to feast on stale potato chips and flourless brownies, or as I like to call it, the “Breakfast of a Champions.” As for Grab & Go, students can grab their favorite sandwich or salad, bag of chips, fruit, drink, and cookie all for the cost of a swipe.

And finally, the hub of all upperclassmen, Wilson Commons, is best known for satisfying an urge for a burrito without E. Coli or sending any college student to artificially preserved Heaven with that sweet taste of orange chicken. The main difference between Wilson and our other two options is that Wilson Commons food is generally never at the cost of a meal swipe. As an ambitious sophomore, I found myself retaining the same mindset I had a year ago when choosing my meal plan, and decided to limit my amount of declining severely in order to have unlimited access to certain dining halls. Up until this past week, I had thought this was the best option out there. To my surprise, I was horrendously wrong.

Upon hearing that Douglass was closed, I had no idea what I was going to do. Do I wait to eat food when I get out of class at eight-thirty that night, or do I give in and eat at the pit like a normal sophomore should do? Ultimately, I found pride had taken over completely and I decided to refrain from eating until I was out of class later that night. As a message to all students younger than me, do not follow in my footsteps. Don’t give yourself such a terrible class schedule, don’t get the unlimited swipe plans, and never trust the Rochester weather. Andreachi is a member of the Class of 2018.

On the Death of Justice Scalia

BY JASON ALTABET

No one, no matter how politically disinclined, could have possibly missed the last several days of talk regarding the death of Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia. He was a luminary in popular culture and in law—a man both hated and loved. Here at the University, the reaction certainly centered on the former group, with people ranging in opinion. Scalia was just that: a well-liked judge, so to speak, mostly implicitly, but more than a few times with outright and explicit happiness. To be clear, I’m not writing this piece to rebuff those individu-
als, nor should you expect to read 700 words fawning over the late justice, or a citation of the piece by Justice Ginsburg lamenting her friendship with Antonin Scalia. Instead, I wanted to write this because, as someone who is more than a little interested in law, there is a huge part of Scalia’s legacy that few people really know about. Let’s start with flag burning. Scalia, being a rather conservative justice, opposed the act. At least that’s what someone might expect from the “leader of the conservative legal movement.” Rather, Scalia was a powerful advocate of First Amendment protections, of protections against unwarranted search and seizure, and of defendants’ Sixth Amendment rights. In the flag burning case, Texas v. Johnson, a member of the Revolutionary Communist Youth Brigade was arrested in Texas for burning a flag outside the 1984 Republican National Convention. Accused of “vandalizing respected objects,” he was convicted and sent to prison for a year. In a 5–4 decision, Scalia joined the majority in declaring that the First Amendment specifically forbids the stifling of speech and that speech was considered to go beyond just words. Scalia argued that despite his dislike of flag burning, it is simply unconstitutional for the government to repress people’s free expression to avoid a possible dissatisfaction with the state of the nation through the burning of the flag. For fans of video games, Brown v. Entertainment Merchants Association (EMA) may be of interest. In this case, California attempted to ban the sale of certain violent video games, with the EMA arguing it as a violation of their First Amendment rights. Scalia, writing for the majority, eviscerated California’s argument that they had to ban the game to protect children and stated that there should be no restrictions on media. Stephen Breyer, a Dem-
ocratic justice, joined those in the minority arguing that the government could ban media, going so far as to write that the government could create un-probable or arbitrary restrictions. In Maryland v. King, Alonzo King Jr., upon arrest for assault in Maryland, had a DNA swab taken from him that linked him to an unsolved case from 2003. His lawyers argued, all the way to the Supreme Court, that such a swab constituted an unwarranted search in violation of the Fourth Amendment. The court ruled 5–4 in favor of Mary-
l’and’s swab, with Scalia writing a vigorous dissent, arguing the majority opinion as simply unconscionable. He explained that Maryland’s argument—that they took the DNA from the defendant to simply identify him and that the linking of the defendant to another crime as a happy accident—as simply unbelievable. In perhaps his most well-known line, the jus-
tice laments, “The proud men who wrote the charter of our liberties would not have been so eager to open their mouths for royal inspection.” Once again Justice Breyer joined the majority in supporting the swab.

In another Fourth Amendment case, Scalia declared in a concurring verdict that police had no right to use thermal imaging to scan someone’s home, that there is a “firm but also bright line” to security in one’s property.

Time and again Scalia also defended the rights of a defend-
ant under the Sixth Amend-
ment. In one opinion, he as-
saulted the government in a case that involved testimony not by an in-person witness, but by a tape recording, with no hope of cross-examination by the defense. In another, he argued that those facing evidence by DNA or other forensics have the right to face the technicians involved and explore their methodology. In another, he lampooned the police for stopping a car based on a vague 911 description and then arresting the driver for possession of marijuana. In many of these cases, Demo-
cratic justices seemed to switch sides, so it’s no wonder Kevin King, Vice-President of Fami-
ties Against Mandatory Mini-
mum-Words writes, “With Justice Scalia’s passing, conservatism might have lost its best friend on the Supreme Court. But all of us who believe in the rights of the accused lost a good friend, too.”

At least that’s what someone might expect from the “leader of the conservative legal movement.”

We don’t know who President Obama will appoint as the new justice for the court, or whether that individual will be confirmed. But, whoever ends up taking Scalia’s seat, don’t assume they will protect First, Fourth, or Sixth Amendment rights like the departed jus-
tice has, or that a Democratic Supreme Court means a more liberal one.

Altachet is a member of the Class of 2017.
**FEATURES**

**Sheep and Watermelons: Art in the Tunnels**

**Exploring the Mysterious Paintings Outside Art & Music Library**

BY RAAGA KANAKAM
COPY EDITOR

Walking past the Art & Music Library, you may have noticed the unique art that lines the walls outside. Piquing students’ interest, these pieces have left many wondering where they came from and why they’re here.

“The place where students live, study, and develop cognitive abilities needs to be culturally conscious,” added Associate Professor of Art Allen Topolski, who is also on the committee. “Art advances the way we think about the world we inhabit, and art in public spaces provides common ground for exchange of ideas. The presence of visual art establishes habits of mind that affect the way we traverse experience.”

Bollmann said this area was chosen to display the art simply because the walls were blank. The Art & Music Library already had a space at its entrance to display student art, “so ‘it seemed like a natural extension to bring art into the public spaces.’”

Currently, all work on display is by students.

“Most of the works in that hallway now are owned by the Art & Art History department,” Topolski said. “Most of them came into ownership through a purchase prize that is given in either the annual undergraduate juried exhibition in Hartnett [Gallery], or from the studio art majors’ senior thesis exhibitions.”

Bollmann said that a piece is chosen if it moves the committee. They are not solely chosen for their technical prowess or aesthetic appeal. Topolski added, “they are meant to be engaging and thought-provoking.”

The pieces that are currently on display have been there for a few years, and the committee has plans to eventually switch them out with other pieces, possibly by commencement in May.

“They will go back to their permanent home with Art & Art History,” said Bollmann of the current works. “We’ve gone to Sage and looked at a recent 2-D show that they’ve had up, and we’ve picked out our favorites to bring into the hallway.”

Hanging art directly on the walls is costly, requiring asbestos abatement, so a railing system was set in place to allow the paintings to be hung easily.

**Their goal is to have student work featured throughout the entire hallway— all the way to ITS.**

Bollmann said that the rail system is already in place between the elevator and the Digital Humanities Center. Topolski noted that repurposable frames for swapping out prints and drawings were currently being planned to allow for easier and more regular switching of student pieces. Once the frames are acquired, their goal is to have student work featured throughout the entire hallway—all the way to ITS.

Bollmann said that the current works are limited to photography, digital images, and illustrations because “three-dimensional work is harder to tie down.”

The benches outside the Art & Music Library were commissioned from two local artists. They are bolted into the concrete, so they are not at risk of being stolen. Any other sculptures, however, might pose a challenge to security.

One section of interest in the current gallery is the pair of drawings both titled “Girl Math.” The original artwork, by Anna Saltman ’15, was a graph displaying insecurities of girls. It was recently responded to by junior Lia Klein, with a piece featuring actual math proofs.

“Lia wanted to offer a real equation for those not recognizing the irony of Anna Saltman’s piece,” Topolski said. “I’ve been walking past Anna’s ‘Girl Math’ piece for however long its been up,” Klein said, “and every single time I would see it I would wonder why I didn’t realize she was being ironic. I thought that she was actually saying that girl math is counting calories. Her response intended to send the message that girl math is just math.”

Despite now understanding that the piece is meant to be ironic, Klein chose to leave her artwork up. “I still have the piece up because I don’t think that the original intent of the artist is that important,” she explained. “What’s more important is how the piece is perceived. If I didn’t realize that the piece is ironic just by looking at it, is it really ironic?”

“I believe that people will continue to walk past that piece and not realize the irony, as I did for so long. And as long as that’s happening, I want my piece up next to it as a response.”

Sophomore Gabrielle Scllard said that the response to “Girl Math” was her favorite piece. “I really like the idea that girl math isn’t different from boy math,” she said. “Girl math is just math—because math shouldn’t be gendered. It’s really important to me as a female and as a math major to have that hanging there as a response.”

Other pieces include one with a watermelon seed sprouting in someone’s stomach, and one of a sheep jumping down a flight of stairs. Those two are from a series of six that “illustrate or diagram rules for behavior that (the artist) saddled himself with in his youth—a kind of self-indoctrination,” according to Topolski. For example, the image of the watermelon seed refers to the belief that if someone eats a watermelon seed, a watermelon plant will sprout from his or her stomach.

Topolski said that, for the sheep piece, the childhood trick of counting sheep to fall asleep and the number of steps the artist could jump down “merged illegally.”

Regarding the possibility of any future three-dimensional installations in the space, Bollmann said that there is a ten-year plan for the building concerning all 2-D and 3-D art. “Eventually, the Art & Music Library will be relocated to a new location, and that’s far down the line,” he said. “For now, though, the space will remain two-dimensional but thought-provoking as ever.”

Kanakam is a member of the Class of 2017.

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Public Opinion on Pubic Hair

BY SIMRANJIT GREWAL
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Pubic hair has always been personal, but it’s also been publicized since the dawn of civilization. In Ancient Egypt, abra- sive depilatory agents and fire were used to burn off all body hair below the neck, including, courageously, the genital area. Jumping forward to the 1960s and 1970s in the United States, letting hair grow in its natural, unperturbed state became a way to stick it to “the man.” Rebels against cultural confor- mity introduced the world to the ‘70s bush.

Later, however, as women’s clothes became shorter and the bikini became socially acceptable, bikini waxes and other hair removal methods came to be pressed upon women. The growing power of the media has been a push for celebrating pubic hair. The Internet has even documented cases of people dyeing their armpit hair and their pubic hair in wild colors. The proliferation of porn culture, the lasting impacts of feminist and free love move- ments, and “Sex in the City” have confused many as to what is “normal” for pubic hair. The real normal, meanwhile, re- mains under the radar, as this is a topic that many feel uncom- fortable speaking on.

To gauge the pubic hair cli- matology at the University of Roch- ester, I created an anonymous survey on multiple UR Facebook groups. For a tabo- topic, I was surprised to get 76 responses that represented all class years, with 60 females and 16 male respondents. Survey respondents were asked how they maintain their pubic hair and were allowed to choose more than one option.

A little over half kept their hair trimmed. In second place was bald all over, and “untouched” came in third. Four of those surveyed had shaved designs, like landing strips or triangles. Four others answered without an explanation. None had colored or bedazzled genital regions.

A lot of the anxiety about pubic hair might stem from how peoples’ sexual partners feel about the hair. Thus, the second question on the survey asked how they preferred their partners’ pubic hair. A few didn’t respond, on account of being asexual or not having a partner. Of those who did, 67.1 percent preferred their partners’ hair trimmed. In second place was “don’t care” and in third was “bald back to front.” Eight people preferred “untouched.”

As for your own hair, do it with what you will. For those worried about their potential partners’ preference, have confidence in knowing that 22.4 percent of the people I surveyed don’t care, and that many others chose multiple preferences for that question. Take comfort in knowing that there is no “normal” when it comes to pubic hair.

Grewal is a member of the Class of 2017.

Want to feature something unique on campus?

Write for features.
Email features@campustimes.org.
You just got out of your third class of the day, and it’s only 12:30 p.m. All you want is to meet up with your friends and get something to eat, but everyone has a different schedule, and making impromptu plans over text is practically impossible.

Enter Joseph Lau and Nikhil Viswanathan, a pair of San Francisco-based app developers wanting to change the way you make plans. Their solution is called “Down to Lunch” (DTL), and it has swept across college campuses throughout the U.S.

According to its website, DTL was released in August of last year, and initially was meant to be a tool for Joe and Nikhil’s personal friends. Soon after, the app was discovered by a freshman attending the University of Georgia, and exploded in popularity across the campus. By January, the app had hit phones across the country. Less than a year since its inception, DTL reached the Top 20 on Apple’s App Store, and was being used for everything from meeting for coffee to throwing DTL-themed parties.

You may have realized that this is not the first app of its kind. Apps like Hangster and Shortnotice have also attempted to make on-the-spot meetups easier and less awkward. DTL’s simplicity succeeds where other apps have failed. After installing the app, you set up your name and phone number, and it will automatically find friends who also have DTL on their phone. Whenever you find yourself with some free time, simply select a category, a location, and hit the big square button in the middle of the screen. All of your friends will get a notification that you want to hang out, and they have the option to text you back through the app.

If you are afraid that DTL casts too large of a net with its notification approach, fear not. There are plenty of customizable features that let you be as selective as you wish. If you want to just hang out with your closest friends, for example, you can create a list of specific people, and only send your DTL notification to them. If you want to get together with a study group, you can create a separate list for that. Despite the name of the app, DTL is flexible enough to be used for any occasion. Some of the options available on the app are: Down to Dinner, Down to Chill, Down to Study, Down to Gym, Down to Drink, and Down to Get a Ride. It even has location-specific options. UR has Down to DFO, Down to Douglass, Down to Gleason, Down to GAC, and Down to College Town.

I was skeptical of DTL at first, but after trying it out, I can honestly say it works really well. One day after class I brought some food to the library to get some work done. Feeling a little lonely, I alerted some friends that I was down to study at the POA. Within twenty minutes, two people showed up. Twenty minutes after that, three more showed up, and we had a successful, spontaneous study session happening. There was no need for awkwardly asking for people to join me, and no negotiating times and locations over text. I just let people know where I was and that I was free, and everything happened naturally.

DTL is a simple and innovative way to make impulsive planning more achievable and accessible. But, you might ask, could this be just another fad, as easily forgotten as Flappy Bird or YO? Sure, it could be. However, the difference between DTL and apps like YO is that DTL effectively serves a real need. Its sustained growth over the past year is evidence of its effectiveness, and there are no signs of a slowdown anytime soon. So the next time you find yourself bored and alone, just ask: “You DTL?”

Lim is a member of the Class of 2017.
Poking Fun at the News

BY NATE KUHRT

HUMOR EDITOR

“We are really sorry, but in our defense, we have no idea why school would be closed,” Austin Cook, Director of Plowing at the University of Rochester, said in response to student complaints of excessive snow on campus.

College students across campus (not RIT or any other neighboring schools), were found guarding a wall to class on Tuesday—at least, for the few whose professors stuck to their guns in the "path of least resistance," knowledge after the area was blasted with snow. Many students complained that it was not fair of officials to make students sacrifice their safety for an education. Senior Kyle Smith said, "The school was really good for it to try and keep the school open. It was cold, and deep, and dangerous. Also, screw my housemates for not warning me before I left for class."

Professors were also upset. "I guess if the school really doesn’t want our opinion on whether it is possible to make it to teach," Prof. D'Antona, of the Hypothetical Department, said. "In theory, University of Rochester is not responsible for the mistake of keeping school open. But hypothetically, I think it’d be a better outcome had we been there. For instance, maybe our campus would have been better had we been on the same page.”

"Students voiced their frustration to administrators through petitions, which will be viewed by the Students Association in order to create change. An anonymous administration source said, "I don’t think we will really look too far into that petition. If we receive all these complaints, we’ll just have a greater probability of getting in our day off for our religious holidays. I really trust Austin to clear this up in the future.”

"We expect to be plowed this week in terms of plowing the roads, sidewalks, and even the parking lots," Cook replied, "I am not sure why; our first mistake may have been to trust that damn groundhog. I guess he really got our hopes up and caused us to ignore things like the weather station. Our second mistake probably had to do with funding issues—a significant part of our budget went to repair the flooding in Gale, which also falls under Facilities.”

"But don’t worry, things will change," he said. "Regardless of the faults in our preparation, we really want to improve for the next snowstorm. We will make sure to really change something up. I think we may ask students to bring shovels along to class. No matter what, we will do our best to make sure the next snow day is not really long. Not totally clear. More stands for better, and we strive to improve every time we are tested."

With this in mind, being ever better is unrealistic."

Kuhr is a member of the Class of 2017.

Snow Problem

UR Snow Problems

BY NATE KUHRT

HUMOR EDITOR

As a few white kids from the suburbs, of course I understand the difficulty keeping up with the loosely translated subtitles. I need coffee.

5:00 p.m.: I consider taking a nap, but my hunger is more powerful than my desire to sleep. Being close to starvation this day is taking its toll and I am forced to heat up old Chinese food in order to stay awake. I decide to mix a cream Ale for good measure.

5:30 p.m.: "Rush Hour 2" is next up—an amazing movie indeed. With all the race-related jokes and themes that persist between Chris Tucker and Jackie Chan, this classic could never be released today, but it’s great for some politically incorrect comic relief.

6:00 p.m.: "Rush Hour" follows. This is not a typo—we watched the second one first. After experiencing a piece of the golden era of movies, we weren’t ready to leave and decided to play the original. This film pairs well with a crisp bottle of red wine.

8:30 p.m.: I’m nearly exhausted after watching three or four hours of essentially the same fantastic movie. No regrets, though—we knew what we were getting into when we decided to watch a couple of beers with breakfast.

9:00 p.m.: If you’re still with me, thank you. Rest assured that my day is almost over. We listen to "The Life of Pablo," a few times and clear our dance floor to jump around and rap along to lyrics that we’ve learned all of since the album's release three days ago. Firmly and naturally on the Genny train at this point, we realize we haven’t done anything today and will continue to accomplish that while feeling better than ever before.
Rochester Seeks to Become Pitch Perfect at ICCA

BY SCOTT ABRAMS
ASSISTANT EDITOR

UR will host one of the ICCA Central quarterfinal rounds of the International Championship of Collegiate A Cappella (ICCA) on Saturday, Feb. 27. Nine groups, including UR’s After Hours, will have the chance to move on to the semifinal round, which will be held at the University at Buffalo on April 2.

ICCA, which fans of the film “Pitch Perfect” may recognize, began in 1996 as a competition to award the best groups in a cappella. ICCA divides the country into several regions, in which there are quarterfinal and semifinal rounds. The winner of each semifinal moves on to the final round in New York City.

The opportunity for UR to host a quarterfinal event, which will take place in the Latty and Cindy Bloch Alumni and Advance Center, was awarded to the school last year after the Midnight Ramblers participated in their quarterfinal held at Ithaca High School. Where they were awarded second place and Music Director Ben Hall won Best Arrangement. “When we were deliberating, I didn’t know—I had no idea—what that meant,” Queenan said. “But those advantages also come with some pressures, even if the group seems remarkably prepared to deal with them. I think that there is pressure to win regardless of how far we make it, and we’re always trying to do our best to win regardless of having won last year,” Queenan said. “But it’s just an opportunity to do the best that we can do and that deserves to win will win, and if we don’t win, then some other group was just better. And that’s good for them, it’s not bad for us.”

If After Hours emerges victorious against the Ramblers at semifinals, Queenan admits that there would be some friendly competition with the group, but that “we’re all in good fun.”

Scott Lamm, the Ramblers’ General Manager, agrees, and also hopes that students will turn up to support a cappella community on campus. “It’s definitely an opportunity that the students have never had before.”

“I think the student body should go because it’s just super important to have school pride”, Queenan added.

While Varsity Vocals typically sell tickets for ICCA quarterfinals, the Ramblers have partnered with Campus Activities Board to sell a limited number of discounted tickets to students for seven dollars. The discounted tickets will go on sale at the Common Market on Friday, Feb. 19, and will include a bus ride to the Advancement Center.

Abrams is a member of the Class of 2018.

Opera Singers Light Up Eastman Voice Competition

BY RAAGA KANAKAM
COPY EDITOR

The Friends of Eastman Opera hosted the fifteenth-annual Voice Competition on Feb. 12 in the Seabright Room by accomplished opera singer Kim Witman, the competition proceeded with each competitor, either a student or alumnus of the Eastman School of Music, first singing one out of their three prepared pieces, and then singing another prepared piece chosen by Witman.

The night started off with Keely Futterer, a second-year doctoral student, singing “Martern aller Arten” from Mozart’s “Die Entführung aus dem Serail.” Considered a challenge for sopranos, the piece seemed to come naturally to Futterer, who sang with the strength and beauty expected of those taking it on, setting the bar high for the other competitors. She continued with “Rusalka’s Song to the Moon” from Dvořák’s “Rusalka.” This soft, fairy-tale aria showed a character’s many lavers to another character, so Müller brought the space on the stage well,audience with the love of the piece, and was able to immediately switch gears and swoon the audience.

Cody Müller took on the stage next with Massenet’s “Epopse quelque brave fille” from Manon. He continued with “Madamina, il catalogo è queste” from Mozart’s “Don Giovanni.” This comedic performance earned many laughs from the audience with a theatrical performance by Müller. In this catalogue aria, the character lists his titular lovers to another character, so Müller brought a small pocketbook to “read” the names from, and wasn’t afraid to bring comedy to the stage.

Second-year graduate student Kimberly Merril followed Gounod, singing a piece from Puccini’s “La bohème” called “Sì, mi chiamano Mimi.” She continued with Verdi’s “O, nè ridi poi ma Paolo” from “Rigoletto.” Though she had a strong voice, she was mostly static in terms of movement, barely moving around the space or gesturing. This led to a mostly bland performance, from the audience’s perspective.

Second-year master’s student Alan Clance graced the stage next, with a strong performance of “Avant de quitter ces lieux” from “Faust” by Charles Gounod, followed by “Hai gia vinta la cause” from Mozart’s “Le nozze di Figaro.” Cline showcased his talent well with his pieces and showed that he had a very strong voice, and was able to fill the hall with sound.

Second-year master student Kate Witterer followed, singing a piece from “Iris elet herbe” from “Die lustigen Weiber von Windsor” by Nicolai. She used the space and the stage well, walking around and emoting the words she was singing, allowing even those who didn’t know the piece to understand it. As a comedy, the piece required much from the singer, and Nachtigal was able to deliver the words she was singing, allowing even those who didn’t know the piece to understand it.

Senior dual-degree student Isaiah Assor came after Nachtigal, with “Aprite un po’ quegli occhi” from “Le nozze di Figaro,” the third competitor of the night to draw from the famous opera. He next sang “Look! Through the port comes a passing ship” from “Billy Budd” by Britten, making him the first of the night to perform an English-language piece.

Senior dual-degree student Emily Helenbrook took on the next piece with “Freni vuoi” from “Wether” by Massenet. After that, her performance of “Alfa selva, al prato” from “Il re pastore” by Mozart elicited the strongest reaction from the audience that evening, with
The Oscar Series: ‘Mad Max: Fury Road’ Blazes Ahead

BY SAM PASSANISI

Senior Staff

“Fury Road” could be described with about equal accuracy as a reboot and as a continuation of the saga. It’s a reboot in the sense that it’s the first film to feature an actor other than Mel Gibson as the titular ex-con Max Rockatansky. And while “Fury Road” has a fresh plot, it does feature extensive reuse of elements and entire scenes from the first three movies. The climactic chases from the second and third films are repeated here, sometimes shot-for-shot. It’s a sequel, though, in the sense that no continuity is broken—nothing from the first three films is overwritten. All four movies take place in the same terrible future (which gets progressively worse with each movie). The quasi-Bondian switch from Gibson to Tom Hardy doesn’t change a thing about Max as a character—he’s still as taciturn, haunted, and unlikable as ever.

Miller’s towering imagination takes a car chase through a desert and transforms it into an punk fantasy epic.

Film technology has come a long way in the thirty years since “Mad Max 3: Beyond Thunderdome,” and so have George Miller’s finances. The gutter-punk aesthetic and car fetishism of the Mad Max universe are taken to the nth degree here, and the film itself is a violent ballet of visual brilliancy. Even the coloring of the film is aggressive, a high-contrast, high-ocante palette of orange Namibian sand and blue Australian sky. The first Mad Max movie took place in a setting that film punkitsu migh t call

“five minutes in the future.” It’s an apocalyptic nightmare as is but it’s kind of a slow-moving apocalypse. Law and order are just starting to break down, and the main story is the dwindling supply of gasoline (“guzzoline,” in the pidgin parlance of the series). There are still RAD推送, traders, and a semblance of government. Things get rather worse in the second and third films, set in a barely-survivable wasteland. By the time of the fourth film, civilization is completely in ruins—a nuclear war has poisoned the atmosphere and the soil, and there’s a new order in the three barbaric nation states of the Citadel, Gas Town, and the Bulletin Farm.

More than just the colors and the setting have been amped up in Fury Road—the character, too, are more outlandish than ever. Hugh Keays-Byrne, who played the antagonist and gang leader Toecutter in the first film, is back as Immortal Joe, the greedy warlord bad of “Fury Road.” Toecutter, while certainly a cruel dude, had something of the petty criminal about him. Immortal Joe, on the other hand, is a full-fledged warlord. He commands a mountain of trade underground aquifer, a fleet of souped-up and deadly vehicles, and an army of devoted unto-death Warboys who wor-ship their god and would gladly die in his service. It’s that relentless grandiosity that makes the movie so wonderful. Sure, the movie might be one long, blood-soaked car chase, but to dismiss it for that would be an injustice. Miller’s towering imagination takes a car chase through the desert and transforms it into an punk fantasy epic. The magic is in the brutal land radiation—in tow, Furiosa is intent on taking with her childhood home, a barely-re-membered paradise called the Green Place of Many Mothers. “Fury Road” is a movie that was almost never made. It was stuck in the development stage for years, with filming attempts made and aborted in 2001, 2005, and 2007. Finally, thirty years after the end of the first trilogy, the saga continues, and Mad Max fans are very glad it did.

Passanisi is a member of the Class of 2017.

With ‘Pablo,’ Kanye West Grows Up—Sorta

BY AARON SCHEFFER

Senior Staff

It is hard to tell if Kanye West’s newest album, “The Life of Pablo,” is a eulogy for celebrity, a plea for attention, a return to Kanye’s roots as a producer, or merely superficial. It’s likely a combination of those places. More than anything, though, it is a show, a display of West’s braggedocio and persona, with brief bits that allude to West’s flawed charac-ter, and faith.

On this album, it’s difficult to tell whether West is trying too hard or not enough. At times, his lyrics come off as needlessly inappropriate, and the production of tracks seems lazy—vaguely similar, each one un-mish-mash of tracks that sound unnecessary, a re-work, with West originaly performed with Sia singing some of Sia’s parts and the album, controlled and highly effec-tive. It’s one of the stron-gest albums used by Kanye in the album, controlled and highly effec-tive. It’s one of the stron-gest albums used by Kanye in the album. It’s one of the stron-gest albums used by Kanye in the album. It’s one of the stron-gest albums used by Kanye in the album.

That way, it’s much like West’s Twitter feed. “Famous,” which features Rihanna singing the hook—“I just wanted you to know,” she croons—is one of the more enjoyable songs on the album, despite the childish misogyny at its beginning. On “Famous,” Kanye comes out swinging for other than Mel Gibson as the main story is the dwindling supply of gasoline (“guzzoline,” in the pidgin parlance of the series). There are still RAD推送, traders, and a semblance of government. Things get rather worse in the second and third films, set in a barely-survivable wasteland. By the time of the fourth film, civilization is completely in ruins—a nuclear war has poisoned the atmosphere and the soil, and there’s a new order in the three barbaric nation states of the Citadel, Gas Town, and the Bulletin Farm.

More than just the colors and the setting have been amped up in Fury Road—the character, too, are more outlandish than ever. Hugh Keays-Byrne, who played the antagonist and gang leader Toecutter in the first film, is back as Immortal Joe, the greedy warlord bad of “Fury Road.” Toecutter, while certainly a cruel dude, had something of the petty criminal about him. Immortal Joe, on the other hand, is a full-fledged warlord. He commands a mountain of trade underground aquifer, a fleet of souped-up and deadly vehicles, and an army of devoted unto-death Warboys who worship their god and would gladly die in his service. It’s that relentless grandiosity that makes the movie so wonderful. Sure, the movie might be one long, blood-soaked car chase, but to dismiss it for that would be an injustice. Miller’s towering imagination takes a car chase through the desert and transforms it into an punk fantasy epic. The magic is in the brutal land radiation—in tow, Furiosa is intent on taking with her childhood home, a barely-re-membered paradise called the Green Place of Many Mothers. “Fury Road” is a movie that was almost never made. It was stuck in the development stage for years, with filming attempts made and aborted in 2001, 2005, and 2007. Finally, thirty years after the end of the first trilogy, the saga continues, and Mad Max fans are very glad it did.

Passanisi is a member of the Class of 2017.

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‘Hail, Caesar!’ is a Solid B-Plus

BY JESSE BERNSTEIN
OPINIONS EDITOR

“She’s gone!” the director exclaims. Baird Whitlock, who is highly respected for his charm and wit, must decide whether he’s going to keep his job as a producer. All the while, Mannix is concerned about the well-being of his employees. As he searches high and low for Whitlock, his competence never comes into question to anyone but himself. In a way, he’s stepped straight out of the movies to help to produce—square-jawed, selfless, and strong.

Howie Dobie is the opposite. His golden retriever, being as eager as he is oblivious to his own shortcomings. But when he performs a few tricks, he has his up, he’s too mindless. A reminder of why those golden retrievers are so damn popular—they’re a lot of fun to be around.

The film focuses primarily on Mannix. Between self-flaunting trips to confession, he must decide whether he’s going to continue working at the studio, as an attractive job offer from Lockheed Martin beckons. All the while, Mannix is consulted by the Jesus character, a secular saint bearing the cross of his employees, constantly putting the needs of others before his own. Brolin gives Mannix a smoldering façade of assuredness that drops in private moments, letting his professionalism serve as a manifestation of his own moral convictions. As he searches high and low for Whitlock, his competence never comes into question to anyone but himself. In a way, he’s stepped straight out of the movies to help to produce—square-jawed, selfless, and strong.

With so many pieces up in the air, quite a few of them hit the floor with a thud. The Coen brothers’ latest effort tries to capture the madcap silliness of some of their earlier efforts, but without enough fully-flushed-out characters. ‘Hail, Caesar!’ can feel as empty as many of the movies it mocks.

The film is the basis of ‘Hail, Caesar!’ the always funny, in a way that reminds me of a lot of my favorite Disney Channel shows airing at the same time period (e.g., ‘Suite Life of Zack and Cody’ or ‘Hannah Montana’). If you watched these shows as a kid, think back to the blistered, rushed, high tone of Cody’s dialog. In those times he lamented that Zack would end up in jail some day. Or, think back to the classic scene in ‘Hannah Montana’ where Miley spilled spaghetti all over herself, her face exuded shock, and her arms sort of sprung up and then bounced back down to her sides. I think they displayed it in the show’s opening credits.

In 2007, Dylan’s humor activated the same type of squirming, gleeful reaction in me that those shows did. I say, though, that he was the more unvarnished, unregretted version of what Disney was doing at that time. It’s pretty interesting to see what happens to Dylan at up to these days. If you ask my channel, you’ll see that he’s in a band called ‘The Ruby Shots.’ They have a really cool sound, in my opinion. It has an alt-pop feel to it, which harkens back to the very era in which his videos were created. They are really good. Aside from a video uploaded four years ago entitled ‘Dylan’s Couch Episode 19: The Interview’ in which Dylan slowly raises his head into the camera’s view and says “hello,” it seems that Dylan’s Couch is done. That’s okay, because his videos will live forever as a time capsule for the 2007-2008 era in which his videos were created. They are really good.

Bernstein is a member of the Class of 2018.

‘Dylan’s Couch’ is Very Comfortable

BY JEFF HOWARD
OPINIONS EDITOR

“Dylan’s Couch” is a 2007–2008 YouTube series that features Dylan, a 14-year old who shares anecdotes of his life in school, at home, and with friends. I remember watching Dylan’s Couch with my cousin in our grandma’s computer room, while he was still coming out with new episodes. It’s honestly a trip for me to think that it’s been nine years since those videos ended. It’s even a big trip for me to watch those videos now and notice how the camera quality, cultural references, and hackneyed editing style all call back to the distinct feeling of the mid-to-late 2000s.

One of the quintessential Dylan’s Couch episodes is a 2007 video titled “Dylan’s Couch – Episode Eight – The Project.” In it, Dylan talks about a history project he had in War with a partner who didn’t know the first thing about American History. The best part of the story is the beginning when Dylan talks for maybe three seconds about something that happened to him, says “And I was like…,” and then proceeds to show his reaction/facial expression over a short clip of music or sound effects.

Dylan’s mannerisms are exuberant and funny, in a way that reminds me of a lot of my favorite Disney Channel shows airing at the same time period (e.g., ‘Suite Life of Zack and Cody’ or ‘Hannah Montana’). If you watched these shows as a kid, think back to the blistered, rushed, high tone of Cody’s dialog. In those times he lamented that Zack would end up in jail some day. Or, think back to the classic scene in ‘Hannah Montana’ where Miley spilled spaghetti all over herself, her face exuded shock, and her arms sort of sprung up and then bounced back down to her sides. I think they displayed it in the show’s opening credits.

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Howard is a member of the Class of 2017.
UR Buzzer-Beaters React to Their Unexpected Fame

BY OWEN GABBEY CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Two UR Men’s Basketball players—Mack Montague and Sam Borst-Smith both juniors—have found out what it means to be overnight sensations.

“I think it was pretty surprising at first,” Montague said of the attention he’s gained since a video of him and his peer’s last-second basketball play went viral last week. “But it’s been a fun experience having so much support from friends and family.”

The viral video of Montague and Borst-Smith’s game-winning play now has over 300,000 views on YouTube and made the number-two spot on SportsCenter’s Top 10 plays on Super Bowl Sunday. Fox Sports picked it up, as did Deadspin. Sports media juggernaut Bleacher Report released a clip of the play that garnered over 1,000,000 reweets.

In the Yellowjackets’ Feb. 7 contest against the University of Chicago Maroons, Montague and Borst-Smith found themselves in trouble. Their team had squandered a 15-point lead in the final four minutes of regulation, forcing overtime. Chicago pulled ahead, and held a three-point lead with 2.7 seconds left in the game. Borst-Smith was fouled, and, as a result, knocked down his first free throw. Knowing they needed to get the ball back to have a chance at victory even if he hit the next free throw. Borst-Smith was forced to open UR’s bag of tricks.

The rest, as they say, is history. Borst-Smith intentionally bounced the ball off the front of the rim, got it back, and hit it to Montague in the corner. From there, Montague sank a three to give Rochester the win. The two players who set up the buzzer-beating play, the accomplishment didn’t initially sink in. “For me, personally, it didn’t hit home right away,” Borst-Smith said. “But then, a week later, you’re still getting notifications that some random guy in Germany who has this video on his page. It’s pretty funny stuff.”

As for the play itself, while both players noted it is a common tactic in end-of-game scenarios, they said they hadn’t tried it out much before that fateful play.

“We really practice it, really,” Borst-Smith said. “We talk about the situation, but Coach [Luke Fleckerz] never really tells us ‘we’re going to practice missing shots today.’”

To make this whirlwind of attention even crazier for these two, the game came in the midst of what has now grown to an eight-game winning streak, one that has positioned them at 16-6 overall and tied for first in their conference.

“Coach has been saying a lot that we find a way to win, and [this game] was kind of a reminder of that, and that we’re a talented group,” Borst-Smith said.

Nevertheless, the Yellowjackets are aware of the moving on with their season and not getting caught up in the viral moment. “Coach is always saying ‘Keep your horizons in.’ So, while that was a great moment, it’s not one of our goals as a team,” Montague said.

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NBA All-Star Weekend Delivers

BY SEAN CORCORAN CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Mid-February marks the time of year that NBA players relish. The season is well underway, the All-Star season—is the back-to-back games, the road trips—they all leave the players desperate for some time off. That time off, however, has arrived.

The sixty-five annual weekend festivities were held in Toronto on Saturday night. The contest pitted Drake vs. Team Canada and the game’s MVP was Arcade Fire frontman Win Butler, who finished with 15 points.

Borst-Smith had a strong day in the BBVA Compass Rising Star Challenge. The contest pitted rookies vs. sophomores (second-year players), and this time, the U.S. came out on top, defeating the World squad with 141-134 at the Air Canada Centre. Zach LaVine (defending champ) contending for the title. The contest quickly turned into a showdown between Gordon and LaVine, both of whom are Pac-12 products in their second NBA seasons. LaVine came out on top by a perfect score of 200, as opposed to Gordon’s 197, with a between-the-legs dunk from just inside the free-throw line in the final round.

When Jabari Parker posterized Klay Thompson with a reverse slam dunk contest. The event had Detroit’s Andre Drummond, Denver’s Will Barton, Orlando’s Aaron Gordon, and Zach LaVine (defending champ) contending for the title.

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“Coach has been saying a lot that we find a way to win, and [this game] was kind of a reminder of that, and that we’re a talented group,” Borst-Smith said.

Scandalized Manning Not So Pure

BY RASHAD MOORE CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Regrettably, another twist in the Peyton “The Superstar” Manning melodrama reveals itself with the discovery that Manning was known for her professional-quality wit, a talent that we find a way to win, and (this game) was kind of a reminder of that, and that we’re a talented group,” Borst-Smith said.

Nevertheless, the Yellowjackets are aware of the moving on with their season and not getting caught up in the viral moment. “Coach is always saying ‘Keep your horizons in.’ So, while that was a great moment, it’s not one of our goals as a team,” Montague said.

While this one play won’t define their season, it’s not much of a question that this past week will be one to remember for these two players.

The attention from so many places outside of Rochester and the Division III basketball community is unusual, and that does not seem to be lost on them. As Montague put it, “Growing up playing basketball, this is basically a dream come true, to be on ESPN.”

Gabby is a member of the Class of 2018.

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Gabby is a member of the Class of 2018. 
Kitchen Sees Individual Progression and Collective Support

BY AUDREY GOLDFARB
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

UR Track and Field continued a successful season this past weekend at the Metro Track National Invitational meet in Staten Island. Junior middle-distance runner Samanthia Kitchen nearly overcame a 27-year-old record, posting a mile time of 4:58.53, the second fastest in school history.

Out of all of your teammates and coaches, past and present, who have you learned the most from and why?

I’ve definitely learned the most from my present coach, Eddie Novara. He really knows how to capitalize on athletes’ talent and make them all around stronger runners. But beyond that, his commitment and enthusiasm for the sport is infectious, and I think that this method of training has really helped me avoid both physical and mental barriers surrounding the sport, it is really amazing.

What motivates you?

This is a hard question because there are so many things that motivate me. My coaches, my teammates, my competitors and myself. I really think that this season, my biggest motivation has come from myself. I’ve had a lot of injuries in the past couple of years that have either prevented me from competing, or prevented me from competing to my fullest potential. Having only one more year after this to run track, the clock started ticking for me and I realized that it was now or never.

What do you love about competing?

I honestly think that there is no bigger rush than when you PR (set a personal record) in an event, or when you watch one of your teammates do the same. Although we run against other schools, track is one of those sports that is basically self vs. self. Being able to see progression in the form of faster times from the beginning of the season, or over a career, is incredible and really a testament to how hard you’ve trained. I think running is as much of a mental sport as it is a physical one, and when you see people overcoming all the physical and mental barriers surrounding the sport, it is really amazing.

In what ways is track an individual sport and in what ways is it a team sport?

On the one hand, track is the ultimate individual sport, because no one can really help you during a competition but yourself. You have to be willing to put yourself out there knowing that once you’re racing, everything is completely up to you. People can tell you to run faster, but in the end, the only person that you have to fall back on is yourself. On the other hand, track is more a team sport than most people know. All of our championship meets are team-scored and it can get very strategic (as far as) putting certain people in certain events to maximize points. Teammates really support each other during races, and I would argue there is no louder and harder cheering at any sporting event than when two competitors are neck in neck at the end of a race. Additionally, relay teams are very team-oriented, and everyone on the team is running for each other.

Would you rather go to a Kardashian family reunion or go on a road trip with the cast of “Parks and Recreation,” and why?

I would definitely rather go to a Kardashian family reunion. Like, are they actually really like that on TV? Also, the drama would be absolutely hilarious.

Goldfarb is a member of the Class of 2019.

STANDINGS

UAA MEN’S BASKETBALL

Semifinals

1. 16-2
2. 19-7
3. 17-9
4. 14-12

URWT Falters at Ithaca, Tough Match Against Colgate for All

BY RAHUL UPADHYA
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

This Saturday, the UR men’s tennis team will take on the Colgate Raiders in Hamilton, NY. So far this season, the Yellowjackets are 1–2, following a heartbreaking loss to Ithaca College this past weekend by a tiny 5-4 margin. Senior Ben Shapiro and sophomore Andrew Nuino helped carry the team by outperforming Ithaca in the singles and doubles end of the competition.

Some players to look out for this weekend against Colgate University are Aaron Mevorach (6–1) and Ben Shapiro (5-2) in singles and Ian Baranowski/Aaron Mevorach (7–2) in doubles. This dynamic tandem has accounted for close to half of the ‘Jackets wins so far in the season. According to Shapiro, do not expect the lineup to change much at all this weekend. The same core of players should be intact for this upcoming match.

On the other end of the court, Colgate is looking to pose a major challenge. This is a Division I opponent that definitely has the incentive to pick up a win this Saturday. Up until this point, Colgate has picked up wins on the road in dominating fashion against Le Moyne (7–0), St. Bonaventure (5–2), and Hartford (7–0). However, they are coming off a close loss on the road to Sacred Heart in Fairfield. Since this game against the Yellowjackets will be Colgate’s first match at home, it is sure to be an intense one. The charge will be led by captains Nick Halle, Nick Laub, and Mark Pronchick, who are all seniors and will be sure to bring their best tennis to the courts for this home opener.

No matter what the result is, this will be a crucial matchup for the Yellowjackets. Competing on the road against a Division I team will be a difficult feat.

Following the men’s match, UR women’s tennis (URWT) will face off against the Raiders on the road as well. Led by seniors Christine Ho and Molly Goodman, the Yellowjackets will be facing off against a well-rounded Colgate team in their season opener.

URWT will be starting their season fresh, and they will need all the energy they can get against this tough Colgate squad. The opposition will be led by captains Katie Grant and Jennifer Ho, as the team is coming off of a dominant 7-0 shutout win at Hartford and an upsetting 4–3 loss at Sacred Heart.

Upadhya is a member of the Class of 2017.

LAST WEEK’S SCORES

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Women’s Basketball vs. Brandeis University - L 65-89
Men’s Basketball vs. Brandeis University - W 71-54

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Women’s Basketball vs. New York University - W 89-55
Men’s Basketball vs. New York University - W 75-83
Men’s Squash vs. University of Toronto - W 7-0
Men’s Tennis vs. Ithaca College - L 4-7

THIS WEEK’S SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17 - SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20
Men’s Swimming & Diving at UAA Championships - Rochester, NY - 10:00 A.M.*
Women’s Swimming & Diving at UAA Championships - Rochester, NY - 10:00 A.M.*

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Women’s Basketball vs. Case Western Reserve - Cleveland, OH - 6:00 PM
Men’s Basketball vs. Case Western Reserve - Cleveland, OH - 8:00 PM

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Men’s Tennis vs. Colgate University - Hamilton, NY - 10:00 A.M.
Women’s Tennis vs. Colgate University - Hamilton, NY - 2:00 PM
Men’s Track and Field at Golden Eagle Run - Brockport, NY - 10:00 A.M.
Women’s Track and Field at Golden Eagle Run - Brockport, NY - 10:00 A.M.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Men’s Basketball vs. Carnegie Mellon - Pittsburgh, PA - 12:00 PM
Women’s Basketball vs. Carnegie Mellon - Pittsburgh, PA - 2:00 PM
UR Hoops Hosts Cancer Awareness Night Against Brandeis

BY BELLA DRAGO
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The UR basketball court displayed a sea of pink to spread breast cancer awareness last Friday. The Yellowjackets basketball teams joined forces with the Wilmot Cancer Institute at the UR Medical Center in hopes of raising funds and bringing attention to breast cancer.

Sophomore forward Cassandra McCambridge commented on the event, saying how tremendous the event was for this cause, and said she thought the gesture of donating ticket money to the foundation was laudable. To both teams, it was a special event—the teams played not only for points, but for the purpose of finding a cure.

URWBB ranked first in the East Region by the NCAA Division III Women’s Basketball Committee, played a rigorous game, but lost to the Brandeis Judges by a score of 69–65. Sophomore guard Al Leslie scored an impressive 19 points for UR, and sophomore guard Lauren Deming scored a praiseworthy 13 points.

In the second quarter of the game, the ‘Jackets failed to make field goal attempts after an intense first quarter. The Judges took advantage of this and managed to gain a two-point lead within four minutes of the second quarter. Seemingly losing hope, URWBB fell behind as the second quarter progressed, and the discrepancy appreciated to a score of 60–49.

Despite Brandeis’ lead, UR persevered. Aided by the top scorer of the game, Leslie brought the team nine points through admirable three-point plays. With an additional three points from Deming, the Yellowjackets caught up quickly making the score 67–63 with only 20 seconds remaining in the game.

In short order, the ‘Jackets managed to gain an extra basket, adding two points to their score. Brandeis, however, gov- erned the last seconds of the game, ultimately winning by two points.

URWBB skillfully clutched a win against Brandeis that evening, defeating their opponent 71–76.

With an outstanding game, junior guard Sam Borst-Smith led the team to victory by scoring 23 points, 8 rebounds, and three assists. Along with Borst-Smith, sophomore forward Tucker Knox had a season best with 10 points and seven rebounds.

Sophomore Ray Pelka noted the “flatness” that ensued with the first few pivotal minutes of the game, but after game adjustments and time-outs by Coach Flockerzi, the ‘Jackets were able to take control and dominate for the rest of the game.

By halftime, the Yellowjackets led by 10 points due to Borst-Smith’s performance. The second half was consistent with the first, and UR kept their lead throughout the game.

The ‘Jackets’ securing of this win left them 15–6 overall and 8–2 in the UAA. UR has now won seven games, including six straight at home.

Both basketball squads are set to play at Case Western Reserve University this Friday in Ohio, and will then travel to Pittsburgh to play Carnegie Mellon University on Sunday. They will return to play at home on Feb. 27 against Emory University.

Drago is a member of the Class of 2018.

Tennis Legend King Visits and Inspires Rochester

BY JACKIE POWELL
SPORTS EDITOR

Dressed in a light pink suit, a dark turtleneck underneath, and a glass of water, Billie Jean King delivers her keynote address at a luncheon honoring Sue B. Anthony at the Riverside Convention Center in Rochester.

She then continued to address how offended she became when others approached her with the words: “Thank you for all you’ve done for women’s tennis.” Right as she began to describe why this is distasteful, she heard what her breathing sounded like on the microphone. She became flustered, and although King comes off as a millennial at heart, someone who is always looking forward, she couldn’t help but portray her actual age from her comedic interactions with the microphone.

“I would spend the rest of my life fighting for equal rights for all.”

Later, King explained one of her equal pay campaigns. After winning the 1968 Wimbledon Championships, she was paid a mere 750 pounds for the defeat, while her male counterpart received a forfeit 2000-pound check for the victory. King explained how she and her male counterpart received a buoyant 2000-pound check for the victory.

In closing her address, King told her audience of donors and college students about what it means in her eyes to “win.” King doesn’t believe that you can only win in the tennis court—she believes you win by making history.

“98 percent of winning is showing up—and that’s all of yourself: your head, heart and guts. And that’s how you win by making history—minute by minute, moment by moment,” King concluded.

King continued the final, motivational portion of her address by empowering everyone sitting in the convention center to always think of themselves as influencers. “You are never going to know how someone is going to touch your life or how you will touch theirs,” she said.

But before she left the stage, King had one last promise, and that was to hit some signed tennis balls into the convention center. Although King is well past her prime, she hit those balls with just as much gusto as she had back in 1968. King may have the physique of a 72-year-old, but her heart and soul will be forever young.

Powell is a member of the Class of 2018.