Inside this CT

Obama vs. Romney

Two students discuss who performed best in Tuesday’s presidential debate.

Field hockey flies ahead

Field Hockey improved its record to 12-3, continuing a four-game winning streak.

Dance delights

Diversity of Dance showcased the talents of UR’s many dance groups.

Thursday’s weather

PM Showers/Wind High 66, Low 47

Field Hockey

Iconic journalist Barbara Walters delivered the Melora Wiesendanger keynote address to a packed Kodak Hall on Saturday, Oct. 13.

Walters’ journalistic insight inspires in keynote address

By Lea Buletti

News Editor

Melissa Goldin

Editor-in-Chief

As one of the most iconic female journalists in history, Barbara Walters seems to have gleaned ample insight on life from the fact that, appropriately for a journalist, she seems much more comfortable asking the questions and soliciting information on the lives of others, rather than answering them or discussing her own.

Walters, who is currently the creator, co-host and executive producer of ABC’s “The View,” and has interviewed every U.S. president since Richard Nixon, in addition to a large span of famous world figures and celebrities, delivered a well-received keynote address consisting primarily of interview anecdotes tailored to the audience as opposed to speaking about her own life achievements on Saturday, Oct. 13 in Kodak Hall.

UR President Joel Seligman introduced Walters as the “journalist of our age” and a “gracious, thoughtful individual.” A short retrospective video of Walters’ life played after Seligman’s introduction, serving as an impressive reminder of the numerous interviews Walters has conducted. Where she took the stage, Walters nonchalantly said that watching the video had been a “trip down memory lane.”

She recalled her “Today Show” days when, while living across from Carnegie Hall, the “ladies of the evening” would see her get into a limo and drive away.

“I gave them hope,” Walters said, to laughter.

By Angela Remus

Staff Writer

The Service Employees International Union (SEIU) and UR have been negotiating new contracts for service workers at the River Campus and the UR Medical Center (URMC). In May, both sides reached an agreement.

This resulted in protests and picket lines at URMC on Friday, Oct. 12 and on the River Campus on Saturday, Oct. 13.

Workers covered by the union include patient care technicians, nursing unit secretaries, surgical assistants, environmental service staff, food service staff, transportation staff and materials processing staff. Although several non-economic issues such as hiring rules and funding for an education program for workers have been decided, the most contentious issues regarding changes in health care, child care and wages have yet to be resolved.

The union workers’ current contract, which covers 1,800 workers, expired on Sept. 22 and has been extended three times as negotiations have continued. These discussions on Sept. 28 and Oct. 8 broke off without any resolutions. Negotiations, which are taking place with a federal mediator, resumed again on Monday, Oct. 13, continuing into Tuesday, Oct. 16. The contract has been extended until Saturday, Oct. 20.

According to Teri D’Agostino, spokesperson for the University on the matter, the union has asked for an increased contribution to their existing health care plan with

UR invests $4 million in Frat Quad, incorporates houses into ResLife

By Lea Buletti

News Editor

Per the recommendations of a Fraternity Quad Task Force (FQTF), the University will spend $4 million on extensive renovations to the six Fraternity Quad houses this summer, and will eventually incorporate them into UR’s Residential Life (ResLife) system.

The historic houses — Delta Kappa Epsilon, Sigma Alpha Mu, Sigma Chi, Psi Upsilon, Alpha Delta Phi and Theta Chi — were built in the 1930s and have been owned by UR for several decades. However, each fraternity has had the financial responsibility of house maintenance, which resulted in deteriorations of maintenance over the years, ultimately leading to the University’s decision to renovate the houses.

Dean of the College Rich Feldman stressed that the change will not affect the relationship of fraternities with Fraternity & Sorority Affairs (FSA), nor how the fraternities operate, stating that the focus is on the management of the buildings.

While the University stopped in and assisted with maintenance that involved health and safety issues, less crucial work has not been done over the years.

“It was getting worse and worse,” Feldman said. “The maintenance will be adequate all along now. The houses won’t fall into the condition they are in now.”

Work such as drainage, windows, heating systems, painting, cleaning, porch stability, accessibility issues and more will be addressed this summer, with the hope of bringing the buildings up to ResLife standards, Feldman said.

Despite what some have perceived as the implication that the University is tightening its control over the Frat Quad, as disciplinary issues on the Quad are “true and troubling,” they are a separate issue from the University’s decision to assume maintenance responsibility, Feldman explained.

“My view is that this is saving the Frat Quad,” he said. “The system was deteriorating. Like a fad, it did not have the resources.”

The decision to fund the maintenance was made following the recommendations of the FQTF, which consists of “influential people in the University community” who were either currently or formerly involved in fraternity and sorority life at UR. They were charged with rectifying the “downward spiral,” Feldman said.

Chairman of the Interfraternity Council (IFC), Chaplin of Sigma Phi Epsilon and senior Matthew Schumick said that he thinks the University’s decision demonstrates that they

UR, labor unions remain unable to reach agreement on contract

By Angela Remus

Staff Writer

The National Union of Hospital Employees Union (NUHEU) and the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) have been negotiating new contracts for service workers in the River Campus and UR have been negotiat-

UR announced its decision to fund deferred maintenance in six Fraternity Quad houses this summer. This announcement comes amidst what some say has been a changing social climate on the Frat Quad.

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DRUJE BURGESS / T-DTTS EDITOR

DINERS GET DOWN IN DOUGLASS AT IMPROMPTU NJR JAM
No Jackets Required held an impromptu performance and serenaded students eating dinner in Douglass Dining Hall on Wednesday, Oct. 17 to promote their show “American Legends,” which will be held this Friday, Oct. 19.

READ THE WORLD CONVERSATION SERIES:
BENJAMIN STEIN AND BRIAN ZUMHAGEN
6 P.M., PLUTZIK LIBRARY, RUSH RHEES LIBRARY
Benjamin Stein will read from his novel “The Canvass” along with journalist Brian Zumhagen, his translator.

ARTIST’S TALK: ROBIN GERMANY
4 P.M., GOWEN ROOM, WILSON COMMONS
Robin Germany, an artist, and professor of photography at Texas Tech University, will discuss her exhibition, “Watermark,” a collection of underwater photographs.

FRIDAY
LEADERSHIP LUNCHEON
12:30 - 1:30 P.M., DOUGLASS LEADERSHIP HOUSE
Enjoy a free lunch while listening to the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee discuss the civil rights movement, race and activism. RSVP to leadership@rochester.edu.

NJR PRESENTS: ‘AMERICAN LEGENDS’
4:30 - 6 P.M., ROOM 2110-E, DEWEY HALL
No Jackets Required will perform the best of classic American music, including folk, rock, soul and the blues. Tickets, which can be purchased at the Common Market or at the door, are $3 for UR students and $5 for everyone else.

QI GONG WORKSHOP
4 - 6 P.M., SPINIFFER DANCE STUDIO
Join founder of Rochester’s Qi Gong Institute for a free workshop in Qi Gong, a form of movement that incorporates spinal stretches with visualization and breathing to foster wellness.

Viennese Ball
8 P.M. - 12 A.M., MAY ROOM, WILSON COMMONS
Come watch returns ofFOK’s “Arrested Development” with the InterClass Living Community in celebration of the show’s upcoming fourth season and movie release. Pizza and drinks will be served.

Saturday
WOMEN, PROFESSIONS AND POLITICS:
SYMPOSIUM IN HONOR OF LYNN GORDON
10 A.M. - 5 P.M., WELLES-BROWN ROOM, RUSH RHEES LIBRARY
Lunch will be provided at this symposium held in honor of UR History Professor Lynn Gordon, RSVP to kathryn.klimek@rochester.edu by Friday, Oct. 12 to attend.

LIBERTY IN NORTH KOREA COFFEE HOUSE
7 - 9 P.M., FREE LOUNGE, SUSAN B. ANTHONY RESIDENCE HALLS
UR’s LNK chapter, a nonprofit which helps North Korean refugees, will sponsor a night of a cappella and dance performances with coffee and bubble tea. The event costs $3, which can be paid in cash at the door.

KARAOKE PARTY
7 - 10 P.M., DRUMAS HOUSE
Come sing karaoke and enjoy complimentary video games, food and drinks. The event, which is sponsored by Alpha Kappa Psi, is free and open to all UR students.

Sunday
WHAT’S UP: PAUL BURGOTT
2 P.M., MEMORIAL ART GALLERY
University Vice President and Dean Paul Burgott will speak about UR’s early history to kick off the “Memorial Art Gallery: 100 Years of Art for the Community” exhibit.

SECURITY UPDATE
Driver fails to espy, hits pedestrian

1. On Sunday, Oct. 14, at 6:59 p.m., UR Security officers responded to a car accident on Joseph C. Wilson Boulevard near the Interfaith Chapel. According to UR Security Investigator Roger Keirsbilck, an undergraduate received lacerations to his head after crossing the road and getting struck by a car.

   Through the undergraduate could not remember what happened before the collision, officers determined that he had been within the crosswalk. The driver, also an undergraduate, said he was driving toward Alumni Road at the speed limit but did not see the other student in time to break.

   Rural/Metro Medical Service transported the undergraduate to the Strong Memorial Hospital Emergency Department for care. The driver was not injured, but his windshield and door were damaged.

Kitchen slip-up starts stoveop smolder

2. On Friday, Oct. 12, at 11:13 a.m., Security officers and the Rochester Fire Department responded to a smoke alarm in the George Washington Goler House. Firefighters discovered the source of the smoke — a third-floor apartment — but found that the fire had already been extinguished, Keirsbilck said.

   The resident of the apartment said she had unknowingly placed an electric tea kettle on the stove top, causing the kettle to ignite. She then extinguished the fire before evacuating the building.

Firefighters determined that there was no danger and officers contacted maintenance to replace the damaged stove. No injuries were incurred.

Concert crasher carted off

3. On Saturday, Oct. 13, at 9:03 p.m., a Security officer patrolling the Eastman School of Music recognized a man who had previously been warned to stay off the property.

   The man, Carlos Smith, 39, of Rochester, who has a history of interrupting concerts, said he was attending his cousin’s performance. The officer detained Smith and contacted Rochester Police, Keirsbilck said. Police officers investigated Smith’s claim and, upon finding it untrue, arrested him for trespassing.

Electronics vanish from Goergen locker

4. On Sunday, Oct. 14, at 4:52 p.m., Security officers responded to a theft in the women’s locker room inside the Robert B. Goergen Athletic Center. Members of a student performance group said that an iPod dock and Sony camera — both belonging to the group — vanished, despite having been secured in a locker.

   Officers examined the locker, which was still secured, but found no signs of forced entry, Keirsbilck said. According to the group, it had been several days between the time the items were last seen and when they were reported missing. The students did not file a police report.

Gould is a member of the class of 2014. Information provided by UR Security.

It is the policy of the Campus Times to correct all erroneous information as quickly as possible. If you believe you have a correction, please email editor@campustimes.org.
Presidential Symposium panelists tackle fate of the humanities

BY CASEY GOULD
NEWS EDITOR

The subject of the humanities’ role in today’s world brought over a hundred UR alumni and a handful of students to the sixth annual Presidential Symposium entitled “The Humanities, Artistic Expression and the Digital Age” on Saturday, Oct. 13 in Strong Auditorium as part of Melinda Week.

Stanley Fish, a professor of law at Florida International University, exchanged discourse with fellow panelists Katherine Hayes ’77, director of graduate studies at Duke University and Tod Machover, a music and media professor at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, during the event’s heated 90 minutes.

Dean for Humanities and Interdisciplinary Studies Thomas DiPiero — who stood in at the last moment for moderator Hugo Sonnenschein ’61 — asked Fish how relevant the digital humanities are to present academia.

Fish, a self-proclaimed “print scholar,” said digitizing the humanities is an attempt to become “more like the sciences,” and will lead to nothing but “perhaps more funding.”

Criticalizing Fish’s analysis as “partial and, in places, incorrect,” Hayes argued that it reflected the dated views of someone averse to change.

Machover added that technology’s ubiquity is reason alone to not remain neutral about the digital age.

“Technology holds a great deal of power if you take advantage of it,” he said. “If you don’t, you become a slave.”

Fish clarified that he had “only ad- miration” for the other panelists and “no quarrel with the creativity of technology.” He also acknowledged that choosing not to enter the digital revolution is “the hermeneutic of scars remaining.”

After the moderated discussion concluded, DiPiero opened the floor for audience members to ask questions.

One audience member questioned whether digitizing the humanities, while used as an instrument to veneer the world, replaces their fundamental humanity, producing murmurs and nods of agreement throughout the room.

Hayles replied that though humanity is, by its name, essential to the humanities, it cannot be considered an intrinsic, immutable idea.

“It’s neither historical nor trans- scendent, but requires constant interrogation,” she said.

After a few more queries, UR President Joel Seligman chimed in. Admitting that “it’s not an easy ques-

DiPiero had the final say, encour-

Dean for Humanities and Interdisciplinary Studies Thomas DiPiero moderated this year’s Presidential Symposium on Saturday, Oct. 13 during Melinda Weekend. The guest panel assessed the convergence of technology and the humanities.

Fluke among panelists who debate merits of ACA, state of health care

BY LEAH BILETTI
NEWS EDITOR

After being thrust into the national spotlight following discriminatory remarks made by conservative pundit Rush Limbaugh last March — remarks that garnered national attention even at UR following a professor’s controversial blog post — Sandra Fluke, an attorney and women’s rights activist, spoke at a panel discussion entitled “Sick of it: Issues of Health Care in Contem- porary America” on Friday, Oct. 12 during Melinda Weekend.

The Susan B. Anthony Institute for Gender & Women’s Studies (SBAI) presented a luncheon prior to the event’s heated 90 minutes.

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Goergen Teaching Awards recognize three outstanding professors

BY KATHY KONOWITCH CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Three UR professors and a theologian discussed the merits and drawbacks of Obamacare at a widely attended panel discussion on Monday, Oct. 15 in Hoyt Auditorium.

The University recognized this year’s recipients. The University’s “best [health care] plan is still not as good as the one [the union] provides and costs more and less covers what you need. It essentially amounts to a pay cut.”

An online calculator accessible to employees, according to D’Agostino, can assist workers in deciding which plan is best for them. Without using the calculator, D’Agostino said that “union members … wouldn’t be able to know how their true costs will change.” D’Agostino further stated that “there can be hidden costs in plans. You might not pay premiums under the current plan, but you have to ask at the plan holistically — how much you pay for doctor’s visits, how much you pay if you’re hospitalized, things like that.”

Other controversial issues include UR’s offer of a one percent wage increase and a supplemental cost for child care options, a necessity for working mothers, union members say.

According to the union fact sheet, the average wage of a full-time service worker is $27,900. The poverty line for a family of four is $23,050.

Dawn Marshall-Hosier, an employee at Danforth Dining Center, has worked at UR for 18 years.

“We can’t afford anything less than we have,” Marshall-Hosier said of the negotiations. “The model of the University is ‘Me-liorating,’ so these workers come to work to perform these services to the best of their ability. It’s really important that we’re here to meet the needs that students have, but at the same time, we need to be taken care of.”

Remus is a member of the class of the 2013.

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Three UR professors and a theologian discussed the merits and drawbacks of Obam- care at a widely attended panel discussion on Monday, Oct. 15 in Hoyt Auditorium. The University recognized this year’s recipients. When asked about why Frontier was a deserving recipient of this award, faculty members said that it is a result of her dedication and contribution to undergraduate education in large part because of her ability to engage students in the classroom.

Teitelman is a member of the class of 2016.

UR service workers cite health care as issue stalling labor contract talks

BY SARAH TEITELMAN STAFF WRITER

The Goergen Awards for Excel- lence in Undergraduate Teaching, which recognize faculty members who have made substantial con- tributions to the undergraduate experience at UR, were formally presented on Friday, Oct. 12. The University recognized this year’s winners, who were chosen from among the College’s 300- plus faculty members, during a luncheon and award ceremony. Chosen for their passion for learning and their ability to inspire the same enthusiasm in students, Mark Bocko, Alison Frontier and Richard Kaeuper are this year’s recipients. Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering Mark Bocko has worked at the Uni- versity for over 30 years. He has taught classes on solid-state devices, microwaves, nonlinear dynamics, circuits and engineering design. It’s extremely rewarding to be recognized with the Goergen Teaching Award,” Bocko said. It was a nice opportunity to pause and reflect on why I love teaching and to come together with former students and colleagues to express my own gratitude for the great students and colleagues that I’ve been lucky to have at UR.” Bocko has also won four other teaching awards at UR, which include the Excellence in Under- graduate Teaching Award from the Hajim School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, Professor of the Year from the University’s Students’ Association Senate and the Graduate Dean’s Award for Meritorious Service in Ph.D. Education.

History Professor Richard Kaeuper has been at the University since 1969. As an erudite on western Europe, Kaeuper focuses specifically on the medieval ages. In addition to teaching at the University, Kaeuper has also published several books. He said that it was “a great honor” to receive the Goergen award this year. He also noted that it “easily encouraging to be teaching a lifetime and have it be supported and rewarded by the University.” In addition to the Goergen award, Kaeuper is a two-time recipient of the UR Students’ Association’s Award for Teaching Excellence (1986, 1999) and a recipient of the Edward Peck Curtis Teaching Award in 1990.

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In Q&A, Walters discusses state of network news, her legacy in women’s role

ANNEXED FROM PAGE 1 added, “I’m here to inspire you.”

The first interview Walters recounted was with Barbara Walters at ABC News in December 2011. Walters is the only American to have interviewed Assissi as recently as 2016.

In her interview, she showed Assisi pictures of people being tortured and killed. He even denied the atrocities. Assisi said that the country is moving forward with reforms and that he was confident in the future.

On Wednesday, October 18, 2012 / NEWS

Tablet l Batman Walters spoke with UN President Joachim von der Leyen during a question and answer session after her keynote address.

JONNE PARK / PHOTOGRAPHER

The keynote address ended with a question and answer session between Walters and UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, which centered on Walters’ view of the state of network news, which Walters said she thinks has changed “enormously.”

She explained how the content of the news itself has changed based on the preferences of viewers — hardly anyone seems to want the hard news anymore, preferring to be lighter, more cheerful and fun.

Walters was positive about the progress in network news’ receptiveness toward women, as she had a large hand in advancing since her career took off in the 1960s.

If I’m proud of anything, that’s the legacy I’ve left,” Walters said.

Baldini and Goldin are members of the class of 2013.

In Q&A, Walters discusses state of network news, her legacy in women’s role

MAINTENANCE FROM PAGE 1

“definitely want to improve Greek life on campus” and that it will not take long to do it.

He said that while he thinks the fraternities could have raised the money needed for the renovations themselves, it is not clear what could have taken far more time and organization.

The University is fronting $4 million for Greek life — that present housing rates are set to be increased by an average of 10 percent next year, he hopes the goal is to keep the active society.

The University has agreed to cover the cost of any and all renovations, to bring the houses to a standard that will not be negative once they are toured.

The university will continue to own the property but it will be sold to an outside entity.

There’s a responsibility that the Greek alumni have to do something that gives life to the university,” she said. “I'm very warm-hearted,” she said. “I can live,” Walters said. “Walters then moved away from the social scene to off campus venues.

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Changing social climate of Frat Quad unrelated to administrative decision

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She also mentioned that the Frat Quad’s social climate is indeed changing, but that this change is not directly related to the changes made by the administration.

Much of the social scene has shifted off campus, she said, for example, which he said is troubling. As she spoke about Reves, who was described as “the most extraordinary man I’ve ever met,” a somber feeling overtook the crowd.

Walters lifted the audience back into her belief in the need to live life too quickly. She then stated that she wanted to preserve the heritage of these rooms, the character. Walters’ story involves an important meal for fraternities is dinner.

Dining plans to solicit the input of members of the class of 2013.

Director of Residential Life Laurel Conlonolas said that FAR was indeed changing, but that the social life was the same and this change was made, it wouldn’t be that big of a deal, he said, stressing the fact that the Frat Quad is and always has been in constant flux.

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Director of Residential Life Laurel Conlonolas said that FAR was indeed changing, but that the social life was the same and this change was made, it wouldn’t be that big of a deal, he said, stressing the fact that the Frat Quad is and always has been in constant flux.

Skupp also said that he thinks it’s impossible to know how the atmosphere will change or if the atmosphere will change at all. He said that the changes made by the administration.

The keynote address ended with a question and answer session between Walters and UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, which centered on Walters’ view of the state of network news, which Walters said she thinks has changed “enormously.”

She explained how the content of the news itself has changed based on the preferences of viewers — hardly anyone seems to want the hard news anymore, preferring to be lighter, more cheerful and fun.

Walters was positive about the progress in network news’ receptiveness toward women, as she had a large hand in advancing since her career took off in the 1960s.

If I’m proud of anything, that’s the legacy I’ve left,” Walters said.

Baldini and Goldin are members of the class of 2013.
Thanksgiving Break gobbled up

Thanksgiving Break is often the first time students return home after moving into their dorms in August. Although this break is currently beginning two days before Thanksgiving, it would be more beneficial to the University community if the break started after the last class period the Tuesday before the holiday.

When Thanksgiving break begins at noon on Wednesday, it is often difficult for students who live more than an hour from campus to travel home in a suitable period of time. They are forced to leave campus shortly after Rochester in a tighter span of time if they want to attend all of their Wednesday morning classes and arrive home in time for the holiday. If the break began on Tuesday, students could have up to a whole extra day to spend at home. Additionally, the Wednesday before Thanksgiving is notoriously expensive day to travel home. Most students have offers much lower nationally, and somewhat incongruously, the Eastman School of Music already gets the full Wednesday off.

Due to the College of Arts and Sciences’ current academic schedule, many students choose to leave before Thanksgiving Break officially begins, even if that means missing some classes. As a result, many professors choose to cancel class Wednesday anyway because they deduce there will most likely be low attendance. If UR were to begin Thanksgiving break on Tuesday instead, students would no longer have to choose between arriving home at a reasonable hour and attending class, and professors would not have to contend with a large number of absent students.

Additionally, a majority of classes meet Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays or Tuesdays and Thursdays, so most classes would still be able to have at least one session the week of Thanksgiving if break started on Wednesday. As it currently stands, with break starting after noon on Wednesday, some courses have one extra session, which is unfair to those that must spend the rest of the week traveling.

Thanksgiving is a time-honored tradition for many families. It is a time not only to see family, but also to see friends who attend other schools, as nearly every college or university gives its students time off for Thanksgiving, whereas other breaks do not always match up. The trip home could be made much more manageable by simply starting the break a half day earlier.

Evaluating database drawbacks

For most students, choosing courses each semester at UR is a decision that involves significant thought. While websites such as ratemyprofessor.com are popular for helping students decide on a course based on the ratings and critiques of a professor, that information is often limited or, for some professors, completely nonexistent.

Although UR has a system in place to fill this void — a database of past course evaluations located on Blackboard — the database needs improvement to better serve and inform students. UR solicits valuable and pertinent information from students each semester via course evaluations and compiles the numerical results of these evaluations into the database. This trove of information, however, could be Improved by the addition of comments already solicited on course evaluations. An important aspect of the course evaluations is that comments are anonymous; in order to preserve this fundamental concept, there could be an option for students to select whether they want their comments anonymously published in the database or not. Last spring, UR switched the vendor they used for the database because of a need to convert input from course evaluations into “something more than raw data” with a “more user friendly interface,” according to University Registrar and Assistant Dean Nancy Speck, who said that UR intends to maintain at least four years of data on the site. The change to a new vendor should be lauded, but the switch does not improve the fact that the database still only contains data; comments add a more humanized component and can therefore be more helpful to students who are trying to decide on a course.

Currently, the primary issue with the course evaluation database, however, is the fact that many UR students do not even know that it exists. The University Registrar sends out a series of communications to alert students about the need to complete course evaluations, but does not mention the existence of this database in this correspondence. It is mentioned in some emails alerting students about dates of course registration each term, but is not mentioned. Especially for freshmen and other new students, communication and a greater effort to publicize the database is vital.

The database could also be better advertised by placing a link to it in a more highly trafficked area like the Blackboard homepage, rather than under the “Student Access” tab where it is currently located. Information about arguably the most important aspect of the UR experience — academic classes — is too valuable to be better advertised. The decision to switch to a new vendor and the administration’s seeming desire to generate more traffic to the database, as evidenced by the change in vendor, makes it even more essential to better communicate and publicize it.

The above two editorials are published with the consent of a majority of the editorial board: Melissa Goldin (Editor-in-Chief), Kevin Scantlen (Opinions Editor), Julia Sklar (Presentation Editor), Drue Sokol (Photo Editor) and Leah Buletti (News Editor). The Editor-in-Chief and the Editorial Board make themselves available to the UR community’s ideas and concerns. Email editor@campustimes.org.
Biden articulated that the most important job of a sitting president is keeping the United States safe and secure. Obama has done just that by ending the Iraq war in a responsible manner and refocusing the fight on al-Qaeda, which executed the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

Biden has unmentioned in public campaigns his plan for education and manufacturing — the promise that he would keep his word by investing in education in the long run.

Although the President agreed with an undecided voter during one of the debates that times are tough and that the middle class has been hurting in the past decade, he presented a straightforward plan to restore the middle class. This will be accomplished by investing in education and manufacturing while using the savings from ending the wars to reduce the deficit in a balanced manner.

The reason why supporters and undecided voters alike were impressed by Obama’s spectacular performance in the second debate was not his challenging yet respectful demeanor, nor the fact checking by the moderator. It was the promise that he would keep his commitment to higher education and keep America secure.

Obama has proven time and again that he is working his hardest to fight for the middle class and keep the great nation on the path to recovery. He deserves a second term and is counting on our support.

Obama came across as tepid and without a realistic plan for the economy, what often goes unmentioned in these national debates are the ways this has impacted research institutions that rely on federal funding. The Recovery Act and the Obama administration’s commitment to the federal support of research has brought to date $41.8 million to US. This money was invested in science and technology that keeps the country competitive in a global market and builds an economy that strengthens the nation in the long run.

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Obama/Biden Worthy of Four More Years

BY ALEC RAJEEV

President Barack Obama and former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney finished their second debate on Tuesday, Oct. 16. While President Obama came across as tepid and uninterested in the first debate, he was enthusiastic and confident in the second, following a strong debate performance by Vice President Joe Biden.

Biden provided much needed passion against the Republican vice presidential nominee Paul Ryan. He pointed out a hypocrisy of the Romney-Ryan ticket by explaining Ryan’s two opinions of the stimulus. Ryan criticized the stimulus package as unnecessary government spending, yet requested and received money for his home district from the White House. Biden also confronted the assertion that the President’s policies would be bad for small businesses because 97 percent would see no changes to their taxes.

Biden articulated that the most important job of a sitting president is keeping the United States safe and secure. Obama has done just that by ending the Iraq war in a responsible manner and refocusing the fight on al-Qaeda, which executed the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

Throughout both presidential debates, I was highly impressed by many of Romney’s points. He laid out a straightforward, five-point plan in order to stimulate economic recovery. He focused on encouraging small-business owners to create more jobs. He disagrees with Obama’s plan to raise taxes on the top 3 percent of small businesses from 35 to 40 percent for the following reason: that top 3 percent employs 25 percent of American workers and employs the vast majority of those who work for small businesses. Romney has noted that raising taxes on that top 3 percent will discourage them from starting and will cost 700,000 jobs.

Particularly impressive was the fact that Romney finally decided to take a strong conservative stand, saying things that many other politicians deem taboo. Regarding education, Romney announced that he would cut $41.8 billion from education and that Romney-Ryan certainly can provide the plans and leadership necessary to put the United States back on track. These first three debates, however, have proven to me that Obama-Romney certainly cannot provide the plans and leadership necessary to put the United States back on track.

Throughout both presidential debates, I was highly impressed by many of Romney’s points. He laid out a straightforward, five-point plan in order to stimulate economic recovery. He focused on encouraging small-business owners to create more jobs. He disagrees with Obama’s plan to raise taxes on the top 3 percent of small businesses from 35 to 40 percent for the following reason: that top 3 percent employs 25 percent of American workers and employs the vast majority of those who work for small businesses. Romney has noted that raising taxes on that top 3 percent will discourage them from starting and will cost 700,000 jobs.

I happen to disagree with many of Obama-Biden’s points. I am not in the habit of hating him or being blindly critical. But I was unimpressed by him for one primary reason: that Obama-Romney’s rhetoric is more of the same — the same promises, the same lofty goals and the same positive and encouraging attitude. Will they do anything to back anything up, the same recycled rhetoric that I have heard in almost every Obama-Biden speech since he began campaigning in 2008. He has yet to convince me that his leadership will result in a better America.

Is Romney undoubtedly the perfect answer for America? Quite possibly not. But considering the circumstances, I do believe that Obama’s leadership will put America back on track. Romney/Ryan 2012: a vote for freedom.

BY JACLYN REINHART

George Will is a member of the class of 2013.

Members of Congress should put country’s budget before themselves

BY GREGORY FOX

Whenever we see something we disapprove of that US is doing around the world, it replaces our paper menus in Wilson Commons with digital ones, or frees food stamp recipients from their weekly shopping obligations. Quad buildings have needed desperate renovations for years and are only just receiving them. Our campus still is not completely wired. Some days, it feels like our college has free reign over how it spends our tuition, investing it in anything and everything. Our leaders have it all their way.

If the stimulus push for the economy is given to the right federal agencies to do as they see fit! Spend first, ask questions later — that is the mindset of our elected officials. Obama/Biden’s plan to raise taxes on the top 3 percent of small businesses from 35 to 40 percent for the following reason: that top 3 percent employs 25 percent of American workers and employs the vast majority of those who work for small businesses. Romney has noted that raising taxes on that top 3 percent will discourage them from starting and will cost 700,000 jobs.

Without an updated budget, Congress is giving money away to federal agencies to do as they see fit! Spend first, ask questions later — that is the mindset of our elected officials. Obama/Biden’s plan to raise taxes on the top 3 percent of small businesses from 35 to 40 percent for the following reason: that top 3 percent employs 25 percent of American workers and employs the vast majority of those who work for small businesses. Romney has noted that raising taxes on that top 3 percent will discourage them from starting and will cost 700,000 jobs.

By my estimation, Obama/Biden’s plan to raise taxes on the top 3 percent of small businesses from 35 to 40 percent is going to cost us 700,000 jobs. Such an outcome is unwarranted.

If our lawmakers can be incentivized to work together and pass a budget on time, then hopefully they will realize the progress they can achieve by reaching across the aisle and solving problems together, regardless of party affiliation.

With a looming fiscal cliff in every day in Congress. Our legislature has passed its federal budget and all spending bills necessary to fund the government only four times in the past 60 years. To make matters worse, in the past 14 years, annual spending bills have been submitted about four months late.

With no budget, Congress relies on temporary spending measures, or free spending, or free spending, or free spending. The congressmen and senators who work for small businesses. Romney has noted that raising taxes on that top 3 percent will discourage them from starting and will cost 700,000 jobs.

Many of the Romney-Ryan ticket by explaining Ryan’s two opinions of the stimulus. Ryan criticized the stimulus package as unnecessary government spending, yet requested and received money for his home district from the White House. Biden also confronted the assertion that the President’s policies would be bad for small businesses because 97 percent would see no changes to their taxes.

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Is Romney undoubtedly the perfect answer for America? Quite possibly not. But considering the circumstances, I do believe that Obama’s leadership will put America back on track. Romney/Ryan 2012: a vote for freedom.

George Will is a member of the class of 2013.
This past weekend, UR celebrated its 11th annual Meliora Weekend by welcoming thousands of alumni, family and friends to campus and holding hundreds of special events, including speeches, panels, performances and more. Below is a representation of some of the events in which guests and students had the opportunity to partake.
Students stitch school spirit into Meliora Weekend

by Antoinette Esce / Features Editor

Design by Julia Sklar / Presentation Editor

Every campus visitor could tell that something funny was going on with the trees by Dandelion Square this past weekend. After all, they were wearing sweaters.

At UR, we’re more than familiar with graffiti, boasting our own rocks and tunnels perpetually covered in paint, but this was something different.

A recent phenomenon, “yarn bombing” has become a new way to publicly express oneself. It involves organized and colorful displays of crocheted or knitted fabric and lacks the negative connotations associated with graffiti as it is easily removed when necessary.

Avid knitter and sophomore Bonnie Nortz saw this as the perfect way to show her school spirit during Meliora Weekend.
Student injured after acting on the fact that he ‘only lives once’

BY ZARAH QUINN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

An undergraduate student was attacked outside Strong Memorial Hospital on the morning of Sunday, Oct. 14 after paragliding from the Rush Rhee Library fire escape with nothing but a bed sheet.

The student sustained only a minor concussion. When asked what prompted him to risk his life in a seemingly ungratifying act, the student responded, “hashtag YOLO.” YOLO is an acronym for “you only live once,” a phrase which promotes decisions based on the fact that humans only live one life. While some students are using the abbreviated phrase to pursue acts which endanger their physical well-being, others use YOLO to live a more passionate lifestyle by pursuing desires they’ve always had but never acted on.

“Now that I know I only live once, I don’t have to worry about smuggling Hillside candy in my backpack anymore,” junior Karl Hill said. “Before, it wasn’t socially acceptable to sprint to class or go so far as to not care what others might think of them. YOLO lets me know that that’s okay.”

Junior Bernard Flax felt a similar taste of freedom from self-conscionness. “Before, it wasn’t socially acceptable to sprint to class or even around campus,” he said. “But, thanks to YOLO, I don’t have to worry about judgment from my peers as I run with wild abandon across the quad.”

Like Flax, the YOLO effect doesn’t seem to be slowing down anytime soon. In the case of the paraglatching student, living your life knowing you only have one may or may not result in a concussion. But if one thing is for certain, YOLO is becoming a lifestyle.

Quinn is a member of the class of 2013.

New majors, new building, new niche form on River Campus

BY CHRISTINE HERMAN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

This fall, UR introduced two new majors — audio and music engineering (AME) and digital media studies.

AME unites music and engineering, two subject areas that are immensely popular amongst UR students. Digital media studies also bridges the gap between the sciences and the humanities, allowing students to discover production technology while studying the cultural impact and evolution of media throughout history.

Both majors are indicative of the University’s plans to expand more deeply into its traditional areas of strength while embracing the new opportunities created by 21st century technology.

Additionally, a new building dedicated to digital media studies is being erected on campus. The new Ronald Retner Hall for Media Arts and Innovation is scheduled to open at the start of the 2013-14 academic year.

Freshman Cole Oppedisano feels that the new AME major, and subsequent resources, were a big pull to the school for him because of how unique it is. Even though he decided on his major the summer before his freshman year, it was still a factor in his decision to come to UR.

“I try to focus everything I do around music since that’s the best definition of myself that I can get,” Oppedisano said. “Why not go into a profession that has that focus?”

The AME major focuses a lot on electrical engineering and is just as rigorous as the other engineering majors, with the opportunity to take only four elective classes outside of the program — three of which must be a cluster.

Many AME students have career goals that lie in the music industry, but because the major is still heavily focused on engineering, it gives undergraduates a little more choice down the road.

“In case [my four-year degree] doesn’t work out, I’ll take a fifth year and get my electrical engineering master’s,” Oppedisano said. “Regardless of the flexibility, most AME majors start off intending to work in the music industry, just as Oppedisano does.

“I want to work my way into the music production scene in [the city of] Rochester and build my own indie label,” he said.

Unlike the heavily science and engineering focused AME major, the new digital media studies major grants a Bachelor of Arts degree and focuses on digital media projects and related social science concepts.

This reduced technicality lets more students take advantage of the courses and resources.

SA president, senior and future Take Five Scholar Roshai Patel planned his Take Five program around the creation of the new digital media studies major.

“This is my first semester taking [those courses],” Patel said. “I can honestly say I’m enjoying them.”

While upperclassmen can still take advantage of the courses and eventually the new facilities, both majors are technically only available to members of the Class of 2015 and beyond.

“Although it is unfortunate for me that I will only have the opportunity to utilize the new building for one year, I am still very excited to have this opportunity,” Patel said.

Even though the new building will provide many more resources for students, the majors already involve a high level of creativity and novel learning exercises.

“I am currently building a guitar from scratch, which I don’t think you do in other courses,” Oppedisano said. “So that’s pretty cool. It’s going to be a blast when I finish it.”

Herman is a member of the class of 2016.

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW THIS WEEK

This Day in History: Oct. 18

1469: Ferdinand of Aragon marries Isabella of Castille, uniting Spain and elevating the nation to a world power.

1767: British surveyors Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon set the border dispute between the colonies of Pennsylvania and Maryland. This line would later become famous as the border between free and slave states during the Civil War.

1867: The United States takes possession of Alaska, 31 years later, on the same day, the United States takes possession of Puerto Rico as well.

1931: Inventor Thomas Edison dies at the age of 84.

1968: John Lennon and Yoko Ono are arrested for drug possession at their home in London, England.

Overheard at UR

“Why does everyone in Rochester sound like Philip Seymour Hoffman?”

—Overheard in Wilson Commons

Other Wordly

Backpelfingesicht: (noun of German origin) A face badly in need of a fist.

Spriefl: (noun of Gaelic origin) The itchiness that overcomes the upper lip just before taking a sip of whiskey.
Candidates debate, UR students share views on major issues

BY NAMITA SARRAF
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

With Election Day less than three weeks away, the democratic and republican parties have been waging up the podiums at the televised debates that have come to characterize modern elections. Taking advantage of the final opportunities to win over voters, based largely on the massive publicity surrounding the event, the candidates have come prepared with statistics, plans, dramatic closing statements and a generous amount of mudslinging.

Although the debates, and many of the discussed issues, seem far removed from our campus, many political student groups have been actively participating in the political process.

A wide array of issues were discussed at the first presidential and vice-presidential debates as well as at the second presidential debate on Oct. 16.

To help students cast informed votes on Nov. 6, here is a rundown of the competing views on the major issues from UR candidates and students.

Job Creation

While President Barack Obama touted the success of his administration at creating five million private sector jobs in the last 30 months, he also pointed out that further improvement in the job market would require investing in education, training and new sources of energy, amending the tax code to help small businesses and companies that are investing in the United States and reducing the deficit in a balanced way.

Romney stressed that his own plan was firm on the position that they would not privatize Social Security or Medicare. As opposed to government, Obama said, private companies are after profits.

"Social Security is structurally sound but just needs some tweaking," said Biden. "It is my personal goal to fix Social Security and Medicare, as opposed to Romney's state of Massachusetts to model the success of such a plan. He also used the Cleveland Clinic as an example of how to provide great care at a lower rate than average.

Romney turned this example against Obama, saying that the Cleveland Clinic is a case in point for keeping health care privatized, as the private market is what fosters creativity and innovation in lowering costs. He wants to repeal Obamacare mainly because it is expensive and thinks it will cause small businesses to hire less workers. Romney plans to focus on state-level programs, as he did in Massachusetts, and then bring down costs. He deigned to give other specific details but explained that he feels there are different ways to reach the same end and he is open to input from both democrats and republicans in Congress.

Senor Liz Palacios does not support Obamacare.

"I don't think that Obamacare is the right solution to such a complex issue," she said.

The debates addressed many more issues, including the role of government and foreign policy. Each candidate brought a unique personality to the stage, reflected in the tones of each debate.

Obama closed the first debate by reaffirming his faith in the American people, promising the he "wants to be your [votes] every single day on behalf of the American people, the middle class" and promising to continue that fight in a second term. Biden echoed this sentiment in his first closing statement, lowering his voice as he explained his purpose as "leveling the playing field for the middle class."

Ryan stressed the distinction between an economy under Romney or Obama and asked Americans to consider what kind of country they want to be a part of. Romney ended by pointing out the paths America could take under different leadership and claimed he would "keep America strong and get America's middle class working again."

Both sides threw out plenty of statistics and studies to support their statements and plans. But, as Romney pointed out, for every one study supporting a hypothesis there are six studies disproving it.

"I thought the debates were a hilarious circus," he said.

Ways the candidates debate is between the ways each candidate views government and its role. It is up to the citizens of the United States — and the students of UR — to carefully review the ideals and policies of both candidates and make an educated choice on Election Day.

"Sarmi is a member of the class of 2015."

UR OPINION

BY JUNNE PARK
PHOTO EDITOR

“The weather.”

"Wearing scarves.”

“Thanksgiving.”

What the students say:

“Vice President Biden brought his signature energy and expertise in ample measure... Though he may have appeared cocky at times, this is better seen as a signal of his impressive grasp on the issues, notably foreign policy and job creation. With respect to the former topic, Biden excellently demonstrated the strength and conviction of the Obama Administration in dealing with tough challenges abroad, especially in Afghanistan and Iran.”

- President of College Democrats Andrew Cuthill '13

"Numerous independent polls and observers declared Mitt Romney the winner of the first presidential debate and his immediate surge in almost every national and swing state poll was evidence of the persuasive effect his strong performance had. [Romney] was so successful against Obama because he was direct and specific when talking about his plan to create 12 million new jobs for Americans.”

- President of College Republicans Jason Russell '13

Health Care

Obama defended the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) by stating that it is "part of making sure middle class families are secure in this country." He continued by explaining how it keeps patients with their doctors and insurance plans, but provides protection from insurance companies. It also allows children to stay on their parent’s insurance until age 26, mandates rebates if insurance companies are not spending enough on care and sets up group plans in which rates are typically 18 percent lower than for individual plans. Ironically, he pointed to Romney’s state of Massachusetts to model the success of such a plan. He also used the Cleveland Clinic as an example of how to provide great care at a lower rate than average.

Romney turned this example against Obama, saying that the Cleveland Clinic is a case in point for keeping health care privatized, as the private market is what fosters creativity and innovation in lowering costs. He wants to repeal Obamacare mainly because it is expensive and thinks it will cause small businesses to hire less workers. Romney plans to focus on state-level programs, as he did in Massachusetts, and then bring down costs. He deigned to give other specific details but explained that he feels there are different ways to reach the same end and he is open to input from both democrats and republicans in Congress.

"I don't think that Obamacare is the right solution to such a complex issue," she said.
Yarn bombing display knits brand new club onto campus

The first instances of yarn bombing date back to 2004, but the movement is mostly attributed to blogger Magda Sayeg and her website, “Knitta Please.” The art-form has reached international levels, evolving into a way to “warm” otherwise cold public places.

Last semester, Nortz proposed her idea to UR Facilities. They directed her to the Office of Alumni Relations, as her plan involved Meliora Weekend.

“When the term ‘yarn bombing’ is used, the first thing that comes to mind might be messy strands of yarn thrown all over lawns and trees,” Nortz said. “This is not an accurate description of a yarn bombing. Once [the Office of] Alumni Relations read my proposal, they liked it. It wasn’t as messy as they thought.”

The project was anything but a mess. Nortz started measuring the trees last semester and started her knitting in June, even though the proposal wasn’t officially approved until August.

“I knew it would happen eventually,” Nortz said. “It was just a matter of when.”

A variety of patterns and techniques were used for the sweaters. Nortz’s favorite is a yellow one with an intricate pattern resembling leaves and vines. It contains over 30,000 stitches.

The display also included knitted yellowjackets that hung from the trees which were stolen after a few days.

Overall, students seem to have enjoyed the handmade decorations.

“The three different groups of people came up to me saying how much they liked the yarn bombing.” Nortz said. “It made me happy, because it let me know that I accomplished my goal in this, which was really to show some school spirit and to make people smile.”

Nortz knitted most of the pieces herself, but there were six or seven others who helped with the project as well — both with knitting and setting up the yarn bombing.

“We spent a while out in the cold,” sophomore Monica Roberts said. “But by the end we felt very proud of our achievement of having turned the area spanned by those six trees into what I would consider a piece of art.”

The knitting was the most time consuming part of the project, taking months to complete. The display itself took minutes to set up and will take seconds to take down.

The display has some longevity; because the yarn used is made of heavy acrylic, is doesn’t get ruined in the rain. Still, when the time comes to take it down, Nortz plans to recycle the yarn orturn the tree-sweaters into blankets.

“We’ll find a way to use it,” Nortz said. “It won’t go to waste.”

The yarn bombing was also the spark for a new club that Nortz is trying to start on campus: Society of Crocheting and Knitting Students, or SOCKS.

While the club’s focus will be teaching, Nortz also hopes to work with Golisano Childrens’ Hospital.

“When you’re learning to knit, you end up with a bunch of useless fabric squares in a drawer somewhere,” Nortz explained.

The club will turn these into quilts to donate to the hospital.

“This way, we can teach and promote interest while still helping the community,” Nortz said.

The Meliora Weekend display was a success overall and conveyed Nortz’s message well.

“Yarn is fun,” she said. “It’s not just something for old ladies.”

Photo by Miriam Frost

The Society of Crocheting and Knitting Students (SOCKS) and displayed during Meliora Weekend.

Miriam Frost / Staff Photographer

UR’s first yarn bombing was put together by the Society of Crocheting and Knitting Students (SOCKS) and displayed during Meliora Weekend.

Miriam Frost / Staff Photographer

SOCKS FROM PAGE 8

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A Propos by Drue Sokol

What do you call a mediocre social theorist?

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SWCOLONY.COM
Meliora Weekend tends to be known for homo-comedians — understandable, as the organizers have to try and please such a wide range of people, but disappointing nonetheless. However, on Friday, Oct. 12, in the cafeteria, comedian Craig Ferguson broke this tradition with a brief but genuinely funny performance.

The show kicked off with Josh Robbins, an American voice actor/comedian, as a warm-up act. Thompson, who voices and operates the gay robot skeleton sidekick Geoff Peterson on CBS’s “The Late Late Show,” which Ferguson hosts, was met with some apprehension by the audience — after all, though Ferguson fans would understand why he was chosen, he’s never really appeared as himself on the show and has no recognizable standing in comedy. However, Thompson overcame his no-name status and the overwhelming tradition of terrible warm-up acts to give the crowd a rousing performance complete with voice impressions of everyone from Ferguson himself to Regis Philbin.

He did a particularly good Morgan Freeman impression, and seemed to genuinely enjoy doing it, at one point even saying, “I could be taking a crap and if Morgan Freeman was narrating it, it would be a thing of beauty.” His actual narration of someone taking a crap, in the voice of Morgan Freeman, may not have been beautiful, but it was laugh out loud funny.

Thompson explained that there are a few questions that often emerge as a voice actor, and one of the most common (which, he noted, almost always comes from men) was if he uses the voices in bed, to which he responds, “Hey man, hey . . . You bet your ass I do.”

Another entertaining character he’s used in the bedroom range from an overly chatty Robert Downey Jr. to Liam Neeson, both men) was if he uses the voices in defecation and only very, very few.”

Thompson, who’s used in the bedroom range from an overly chatty Robert Downey Jr. to Liam Neeson, both men) was if he uses the voices in defecation and only very, very few. Even Morgan Freeman was narrating his character just right, being out of character. He did a particularly good Morgan Freeman impression, and seemed to genuinely enjoy doing it, at one point even saying, “I could be taking a crap and if Morgan Freeman was narrating it, it would be a thing of beauty.”

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His selection of celebrity voices he’s used in the bedroom range from an overly chatty Robert Downey Jr. to Liam Neeson, both of which he demonstrated for the audience before finally concluding the joke with the quickest way to get a woman out of bed: Arnold Schwarzenegger, coupled with his iconic grime from “Total Recall.” Thompson’s set, though short, was exceptionally funny and left the crowd well-prepared for the night’s headliner.

Ferguson was all charm from the very beginning, wearing a UR shirt and virtually refusing to say “Meliora” correctly, occasionally just referring to the weekend as “the bee festival.” He went on to say that wearing the shirt was difficult for him, because, as he exclaimed, “I’m a Gryffin- dor! Anything and everything was fodder for his jokes — quips about his family and his struggles with drugs and alcohol all made an appearance. While such sensitive subjects might have been difficult for another comedian to make light of, Ferguson did it with grace by being completely upfront about it. He even started the show with an announcement that he was thrilled to be at UR and insisted that he was being completely honest when he said that there’s a 19-month-old baby boy in his house, so you can imagine why he’s fucking happy to be here!”

Ferguson was also more than happy to poke fun at the restrictions of comedy itself, stating there are only two groups a comedian can safely make fun of all he likes: Nazis and Canadians. Nazis because, well, most won’t be leaping to their defense anytime soon, and Canadians because they’re apparently clever enough to realize that it’s a joke, and “quite frankly, they’re just happy to be included.” However, he spent far too much time on the latter. He joked about how Canadians are generally friendly, lovely people, until they confront him about hockey.

“I don’t know why they bother giving the Canadian army tanks and guns and shit,” Ferguson quipped. “Just give them hockey sticks and tell them ‘here you go guys, the Taliban has the puck!’

Ferguson managed to take material that, for some comedians, might have felt a bit too personal, and turned it into something funny, but when mixed with Ferguson’s brash Scottish charm, was absolutely hilarious. It’s this kind of performance that illustrates how important personal comedy is for a comedian. After all, a performer can have the best material in the world, but without the personality to back it up, it would be useless. Ferguson’s personality fits right into the show and adds to the show itself, so absurd that it reads as comical. Unfortunately, in general this is not the case, and the longer the show goes on the less funny those “shirt jokes” become.

The issues with this play all rest on the play itself. The makeup and costumes, stark white faces and red and black costumes and strange headpieces, are a delight. They are daring and actually kind of sexy and quite frankly are a large part of creating the surrealistic tone of the show. The set is stunning, with a large, black, blocky machine to a mountain. The actors are all completely committed, and quite brilliant too, but are unable to compensate for bad writing. Hopefully in the future Todd Theater will have more shows that will better present the many talented students involved in the production.

Howard is a member of the class of 2013.

Ferguson charmed the crowd instantly by appealing to UR’s sense of pride by wearing a Yellowjacket sweatshirt at his show.

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Howard is a member of the class of 2013.
Debussy brought back to life with talented performers and digital media

BY RACHEL SANGUINETTI

On Saturday, Oct. 13, Eastman School of Music brought the unique music of Claude Debussy, a French Impressionist composer, to life in a spectacular, two-and-a-half-hour concert featuring some of Eastman’s world-class ensembles. This concert in Kodak Hall was led the orchestra in a short exposition by rachael Sanguinetti.

The concert opened with “The Joy of Watercolor Painting,” a comic and poignant commentary on aging. Written by freshman Steven Winkelman and sophomore Nathan Damon, the play features a widow, Ingrid, (played by freshman Melanie Spall) suffering from the delusions of old age. As the play progresses, the host of a television art show (fresman Charlie Edwards) becomes increasingly real to her, perhaps even more so than the people she once used to know. The piece closes on a bittersweet note as Ingrid is led offstage by her caretaker to take her next round of medications.

“Rush Hour,” a monologue written by sophomore Katherine Varga, is set in a car gridlocked in traffic on the highway. The agitated driver (played by senior Peter Carlisle) uses modern anger management techniques to curb his rising frustration, but to no avail. His sheer powerlessness, victimization and anguish came across with remarkable intensity, offering a thought-provoking reflection on how we deal — or fail to deal — with things utterly outside of our control. The show ended with “The Master,” a creative and witty scene which traces a parable’s funny, vengeful plot to get his high

This concert in Kodak Hall was led the orchestra in a short exposition by rachael Sanguinetti.

CT RECOMMENDS...

MATISYAHU

BY MICHAELA KEREM

Lose the bristly beard. Keep the transcendent tunes. Though his days of Hasidic hair are over, Jewish musician Matisyahu continues to garner fame and sway listeners with his contagious and unmatched musical style. In fact, Esquire Magazine recently dubbed him the “most intriguing reggae artist.”

However, to declare Matisyahu as solely representing the genre of reggae is inapt and ill-suited. Across all his albums, no style truly dominates. Indeed, Matisyahu has an innate knack at blending layers of rock, hip-hop, electronica and pop — and adding a dose of incredible beat boxing to the mix.

In the same respect, to say that Matisyahu solely focuses on the principles of Judaism in his music is nonsensical. While his songs are influenced and inspired by his time studying rabbinical values and religious or not. This is where the true beauty of his music lies.

His latest album, “Spark Seeker,” may seem slightly more fast-paced than his usual, nonchalant flow. Nonetheless, Matisyahu stays true to himself. As he wrote prior to shaving, he advised that fans “get ready for an amazing year filled with music of rebirth. And for those concerned with my naked face, don’t worry … You haven’t seen the last of my facial hair.” We better hope not to see the last of his music any time soon, either. If you’re intrigued, Campus Activities Board is bringing him to campus at the beginning of November.
Show boasts diversity of UR’s dance groups

BY SOPHIE ESQUER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Melhora Weekend, as always, was full of dozens of events for alumni, students and their families. Diversity of Dance, one such option, was a strong and thoroughly entertaining performance that was certainly a highlight of the Weekend.

On Saturday, Oct. 13, the May Room in Wilson Commons was filled to the brim with an excited audience; only standing room remained. Junior Marissa Abbott, a member of Baller Performance Group (BPG), introduced the show. She stated that this was the second annual Diversity of Dance performance. The show aims to bring together many of the dance groups on campus to show alumni, parents and friends just how diverse and talented the students at the University are.

The performance began with Indulgence Dance Team. Members of Indulgence danced to a medley of songs including “As Long As You Love Me” by Justin Bieber and “Pyramids” by Black Ocean. All of the dancers were obviously dedicated to their performance and seemed to have a great time on stage. “Pyramids” switched the hip-hop choreography to a classic R&B feel. The performance was still enjoyable to members of the other groups, their backgrounds and experiences as dancers varied greatly. Although Radiance members were exceptionally talented and were main dancers during this song, they were strikingly talented and got the audience clapping along to the music. Radiance had the loudest applause after their performance and was a highlight of Diversity of Dance.

Radiance Dance Theatre was an interesting addition to the show, as they perform a broad range of styles. Although Radiance members do not have dance backgrounds or experiences as members of the other groups, their performance was still enjoyable to watch. It was obvious that Radiance loved performing and their enthusiasm was catching.

UR Raas started off with a lively number. Raas’s choreography was kept perfectly in time and all of the dancers had wide smiles on their faces. The performance, making the number ever fun to watch. One of the dancers dropped her dandiyas, but still performed like nothing was wrong, even keeping her hands moving like she was twirling the dandiyas. Her dedication was obvious and kept the performance going. The only thing that could have made the performance better would have been if they had put on another number.

Louvre Performance Ensemble was, as always, stunning to watch. Louvre boasts a very talented group of young women — their skill and technique blew the crowd away. They performed two dances, to “The Chain” by Ingrid Michaelson and “End of Time” by Beyoncé. Both were incredible contemporary dance performances. UR Celtic also wowed the crowd with a performance as equally lively and talented as Louvre. They were strikingly talented and got the audience clapping along to the music. Celtic had the loudest applause after their performance and was a highlight of Diversity of Dance.

D’Motions Dance Group danced to a medley of “I’m Really Hot” by Missy Elliott; “Run the World” by Beyoncé; and “Scars on Her Name” by Nicki Minaj. Stronger movements and a few more smiles would have added to their performance — with such enthusiasm from the preceding groups, D’Motions felt a little flat. Nonetheless, they had a fun performance.

BPG concluded the show. Boasting 117 members, BPG is the largest performance group on campus and they performed a set of three songs. The first two were strong numbers with gorgeous costumes. The dancers were emotionally connected to their performances and had the audience engaged. The final song of the show was a tap dance to Janelle Monae’s “Tightrope.” Abbott performed in this fun number and then proceeded to thank everyone for coming to the show and supporting the many dance groups on campus.

Overall, Diversity of Dance was thoroughly enjoyable, a great way to break up the busy weekend and was a wonderful addition to Melhora Weekend.

Esquer is a member of the class of 2013.

Annual A Cappella Jam hits high note with enthusiasm and musical finesse

BY JONAH JENG
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Saturday, Oct. 13, 7:30 p.m. at the Palestra. Instead of basketball hoops and UR jerseys, a stage was set up to overlook an expanse of white folding chairs. People lining up were dismayed to find most of the seats already taken; the bleachers were not much better.

Popular does not even begin to describe A Cappella Jam, a two-hour, four-act concert featuring VP’s lauded vocal crews in full performance spirit. This event celebrates the talent of UR’s enrollees and is thus exhilaratingly appropriate for the University’s annual Melhora Weekend. Though occasionally choppy in its delivery, “ever better” has never sounded so good.

The show opened with yellow blazers and a chorus of powerful male voices belonging to the YellowJackets, UR’s oldest all-male cappella group and a team that deserves to be associated with the University mascot. Characterized by a blend of groove and class, the YellowJackets began each musical number with a bit of half-staged casualness, ensuring the audience that although they look dapper, they are fun at heart.

And they are. After starting off with a stylistic slice ‘n’ dice of One Direction’s “What Makes You Beautiful,” the YellowJackets progressed to a soaring medley of classic Disney songs, where an astonishing solo during “Hercules’” “Somewhere I Belong” stole the show. Fun’s “Some Nights” made an appearance as well, with swelling harmonies and debt-boxing. A slight dip into safe, “mainstream” Bieber territory rebounded with the alumni song “Up the Ladder to the Roof” by the Supremes. Ending the YellowJackets’ presentation with a soulful flourish.

Next up was Vocal Point, UR’s only all-female a cappella ensemble. It could be that the YellowJackets set the bar too high, but VP’s performance came across overwhelming. The lead vocalist for one of their multiple numbers had a voice that pinches in the upper registers, sapping her solos of their potential resonance; the opening heart-themed love song medley is a case in point. The next song, “Midnight Train to Georgia” by Gladys Knight & The Pips, showed VP’s technical precision, but demonstrated little structural creativity, while John’s “Leave (Get Out)” received a braver, pitchy rendition. VP’s low point came with a soporific singing of Beyoncé’s “Until the End of Time,” which featured virtually no redeeming elements apart from the mild merits of the original song. Fortunately, VP’s strongest piece, a faithful performance of the Andrews Sisters’ “Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy of Company B,” concluded the group’s performance itinerary. Where previous songs conveyed the VP women’s voices as tinny and constricted, this song accentuated the group’s lifting vocals and impressive harmonies.

Following a 10-minute intermission, co-ed After Hours took the stage, sharply dressed in black and red. One of the group’s most striking features is the equilibrium between its male and female voices, most evident in an astonishing performance of Gary Jules’s “Mad World,” easily one of the night’s best and most beautiful. A lone female soprano soothingly rendered the melody into motion, and then the voices began stacking one upon the next, surging and ebbing as a tidal collective. Each note seemed to melt into the music’s substance, and the effect seemed to evoke raw, liquid emotion. The group reprised this effect in their rendition of Mariah Carey’s “So It Goes,” which also appeared to draw its breath from the elements, forming a lovely ballad to unalloyed lyricism.

With that said, After Hours

See VOCALS PAGE 18
an excerpt of “Le Martyre de saint
Sebastien,” was a very abridged
version of the work — the entire
piece is four hours long. The part
of the piece selected for the concert
was Saint Sebastian’s death (end of
act 4) and rise to heaven (act 5).
The selection started very softly
and utilized the lower instruments
of the orchestra.

The performance concluded
with loud, heavenly praises to
Saint Sebastian, showcasing the
incredible power of both ensem-
bles. The entire concert seemed
to be enjoyed by the entire audience
and deserved the standing ovation
it received.

There are many more concerts
to come before the conclusion of
the Debussy festival at the end
of the month. This concert has
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The final piece of the concert,
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Football falls short in duel against RPI, final score 21-31

BY ADAM ONDO
SENIOR STAFF

Football’s Melissa Weekend match-up this past Saturday, Oct. 13 ended in a 31-21 loss to Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI). With 3,125 people watching, UR dropped to 3-3 overall and RPI improved to 5-1 on the season.

After UR chose to defer after winning the coin toss, the Yellowjackets defense forced a three-and-out against RPI’s offense, which was halted back to the field. With 3,125 people watching, UR match-up this past Saturday, Oct. 13 was a victory for the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, improving to 5-1 on the season.

With 3,125 people watching, UR’s defensive prowess was evident from the start, shutting down the Rensselaer offense early. The Yellowjackets defense forced a three-and-out against RPI’s offense, which was halted back to the field. With 3,125 people watching, UR’s defensive prowess was evident from the start, shutting down the Rensselaer offense early.

What do you love about UR? The type of students that choose to come to this university. They tend to be quirky and special people. Everyone is sweet.

What are your favorite things to do off campus? My favorite coffee place is Java. I love to walk around Park Avenue. I like walking around the canal and biking on the trails.

What is your favorite part of rowing? Being with the team and developing close bonds with everyone.

Women’s tennis looks forward to spring

Women’s tennis looks forward to spring
Field hockey strings together four straight wins

Men’s soccer enters double overtime again, earns 3-2 victory

Women’s tennis closes fall season with solid performance

Washington University
in St. Louis (2-0) and a 6-2 thrashing of Bethany College. Moreover, led by reigning University Athletic Association (UAA) player of the week and defender Ben Bryant, Carnegie Mellon entered the game unblemished in UAA play and at home all season.

According to Coach Matt Nielsen, “Surely found the right balance of aggressive- ness with consistency in her singles wins.”

In doubles, Tieng and sophomore Cara Genbauffe had a dramatic 9-8(7) victory, taking a Bates duo. Tieng and her partner junior Janice Zhao also claimed a win for UR, running away with their match 8-4.

Overall, I thought that the Bowdoin Invitational was a great way to conclude our fall season,” Zhao, who had the most total wins for UR, said.

She also commented on outperforming the competition stating that “the fact that the other three schools at the invite were nationally ranked teams shows that we can compete with the best.”

Day two of the competition brought three more singles wins for UR, eluding Carnegie goalkeeper Christopher Madden, and Thesing slid toward goal to knock the ball into an empty net. The goal put the finishing touch on a game that had seen both sides dominate play for one half of regulation.

UR dominated the first 45 minutes, as they outshot the Yellowjackets played to double overtime, after the game, remaining in control of the ball and keeping it on Morrisville’s side for a majority of the time. UR gave Morrisville goalies El len DePasquale a near-impossible task, hammering her with 40 shots. “You really couldn’t ask for a better start to (Me liora)” Weekend — having an 8-1 win and seeing goals from seven different girls,” Flaschner said. “Every single girl on the roster — 21 field players and three goalies — contributed. We know we are in control of our fate and we know that we have worked too hard to let up now.”

The Jacks hope to continue their winning streak this weekend in away matches against Liberty League opponents Vassar College on Friday, Oct. 19 and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute on Saturday, Oct. 20.

Cazem is a member of the class of 2015.

This week's results

Volleyball

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<thead>
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Score</th>
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<td>Carnegie Mellon</td>
<td>3-0 (W)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>25-20, 25-21, 21-15</td>
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<td>Emory University</td>
<td>1-3 (L)</td>
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Field Hockey

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<td>7-2 (W)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 12</td>
<td>New York University</td>
<td>3-2 (W)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 14</td>
<td>Emory University</td>
<td>1-1 (T)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Football

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 12</td>
<td>Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute</td>
<td>21-31 (L)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Women’s Tennis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 12</td>
<td>Over the course of the three-day Bowdoin College Invitational, junior Janice Zhao led UR with four wins. Seniors Hayley Brower and Frances Tieng both earned three wins, while sophomores Cara Genbauffe and Rachel Suresky both finished with two wins.</td>
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Women’s Rowing

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 13</td>
<td>In the Head of the Genesse Women’s Collegiate Eight event, UR boats A and B finished fifth and sixth out of 17 total boats, respectively.</td>
<td>0-0 (W)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This week’s results

Volleyball

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 13</td>
<td>Carnegie Mellon</td>
<td>0-3 (L)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>16-25, 20-25, 21-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 13</td>
<td>Emory University</td>
<td>1-3 (L)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10-25, 12-25, 25-21, 12-25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 14</td>
<td>University of Chicago</td>
<td>3-1 (L)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>26-25, 28-30, 24-26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 14</td>
<td>New York University</td>
<td>3-0 (W)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>25-21, 25-19, 25-19</td>
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Women’s Soccer

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<td>Carnegie Mellon</td>
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Field Hockey

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 10</td>
<td>Ithaca College</td>
<td>4-1 (W)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 12</td>
<td>Morrisville State</td>
<td>8-1 (W)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Men’s Soccer

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