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THE ART OF SELF-CONTROL
A new study published by UR researchers explores the human ability to resist impulses.

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SMOKING DRAGS
Smoking on campus causes problems for others.

PAGE 5 OPINIONS
NJR SHOW IS LEGENDARY
NJR’s show ‘American Legends’ was a huge hit.

PAGE 9 ASE
XC TROUNCES COMPETITION
Merrill’s cross-country finished first in the NYSCTC Championships, while the women took fourth.

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THURSDAY’S WEATHER
Sunny
High 77, Low 57

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Meliora Challenge fundraising on target to meet goal

BY ABIGAIL FAGAN
COPY EDITOR

This year’s Meliora Weekend marked the one-year anniversary of UR President Joel Seligman’s public unveiling of The Meliora Challenge — the most comprehensive campus campaign ever conducted by the University.

The campaign, which began when Seligman assumed his current position in July 2005, aims to raise an ambitious $1.2 billion by June 30, 2016, which will ultimately be split between five categories: faculty, students, programs, the annual fund and facilities. Between its kickoff this past Meliora weekend, $86 million has been raised.

The campaign goals are also characterized by the principles of UR’s new mission statement — learn, discover, heal and create — which was also introduced at Meliora Weekend in 2011. Senior Associate Vice President for Advancement Jonathon M. Schwartzman is tasked with taking the campaign or-ganizers recognized an opportunity in this tim-

Last year the kickoff provided a great way to arrange the themes of the campaign,” he said.

Campaign goals for the “learning” aspect of the mission statement include growing UR’s endowment and scholarships, expanding the Warner School of Education by creating the new Raymond F. LeChase Hall, increasing digital library resources and renovating UR’s athletic facilities.

In terms of “discovery,” campaign funds will be used to endow 80 new professorships, establish a Center for Energy Research and Education, support research in the emerging field of “big data” and improve the Centers of Excellence at the William E. Simon Graduate School of Business Administration.

The University will strive to continue “healing” by donat-
ing money toward expanding The James W. P. Finneron Cancer Center, research efforts in cardiology and neuro-

The contract, which covers patient care technicians, nursing unit secretaries, surgical assistants, environmental service staff, food service staff, transportation staff and materials processing staff, was most recently extended from Oct. 20 to Oct. 27. The University is extending the two-week to week as negotiations continue.

UR presented a new proposal at the end of last week that dropped the original suggestion that would have mandated union employees to sign up for University health plans, saying that UR would continue and increase its contribution to the National Benefits Fund, which currently covers the union employees. UR also proposed that union employees contribute toward the cost of their premiums, as their non-union colleagues do. Teri D’Agostino, University spokeswoman on the negoti-
gation, said it was still too early to determine the impact of the new proposal. "As the cost of health care continues to rise, it is simply no longer realistic for any employer to fully fund," she said.

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THE RAVE LIFE: STUDENTS PAINT THE NIGHT AT SUGLOW

Students threw paint and danced at SueGlow 2012, a Dayglo-esque rave sponsored by the Students of San B. Anthony Hall Council and DJed by WRUR on Saturday, Oct. 20 in the Sue B. Bowl.

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The rave life: Students paint the night at SueGlow

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Men's cross-country finished first in the NYSCTC Championships, while the women took fourth.

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Dining proposes three potential options for 2013-14 meal plans

BY LEAH BULETTI
NEWS EDITOR

Directors of Dining Services Cam Schauf presented three different proposals for meal plans for the 2013-14 academic year at the Students’ Association Senate meeting on Monday, Oct. 22. The proposals ranged from a slight variation of the current plans to a hybridization of the club and Unlimited plans to an entirely Declining system.

Before presenting the three options, Schauf stressed that the presentation was merely the first step in what will be a series of public forums — all of the options will undergo revisions before a concrete decision is made.

“I’m not here to sell any-thing tonight,” he said. “There’s not one option up here that is my choice.”

Schauf explained that Dining Services spent years adjusting the club plans after exten-sive feedback that students disliked them and said that.

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Eastman deans hold Town Hall meeting to combat student concerns

BY MARTHA CHUDY
STAFF WRITER

On Monday, Oct. 22, deans at the Eastman School of Music held a Town Hall meeting in the Directors’ Dining Hall to address student concerns. Dean of the Eastman School Douglas Lowry, Executive Associate Dean Jamal Rossi and Dean of Student Life Linda Muse, in addition to various members of the administration attended.

Student representatives from a number of groups, including many from the Students’ Asso-ciation government, as well as some concerned students, also attended.

The problem of theft during gigs. As the issue has been recognized an opportunity in this tim-

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Dr. Joel Seligman’s public unveil-

ing of The Meliora Challenge.

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UR and the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) remain unable to reach an agreement on contract negotiations that affect 1,800 workers employed on the River Campus and the UR Medical Center (URMC) after more than two months of contract discussions, the most recent with a federal moderator, and a slew of protests decriing proposed cuts to health care. In addition to wages and child care, health care remains among the most contentious issues prevent-
ing an agreement, union members say.

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mental service staff, food service staff, transportation staff and materials processing staff, was most recently extended from Oct. 20 to Oct. 27. The University is extending the two-week to week as negotiations continue.

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PITCHING PUMKINS: THE PINNACLE OF ENGINEERING PROWESS

UR and Rochester Institute of Technology students were among those to participate in the American Society of Mechanical Engineers’ annual Pumpkin Launch in Genesee Valley Park on Friday, Oct. 19. Students aimed pumpkins at targets from 50 to 300 feet away.

Evolutionary Biology Seminar: Richard Meisel
3 - 4 P.M., ROOM 316, HUTCHISON HALL
Come listen to Richard Meisel, a postdoctoral fellow at Cornell University, speak at his seminar entitled “Faster X Evolution of Gene Expression in Drosophila.”

Office of Research Alliances Seminar: Jesse Goodman
12 P.M., HELEN WOOD HALL AUDITORIUM, SCHOOL OF NURSING
FDA Deputy Commissioner and Chief Science Officer Jesse Goodman will give a talk entitled “Advancing Regulatory Science to Protect and Promote Health.” The event, which includes a complimentary lunch, is free and open to the public.

Fall Drag Show
8 - 10 P.M., MAP ROOM, WILSON COMMINS
Attend the Pride Network’s annual Fall Drag Show for a night of laughs and musical performances. Doors will open at 7 p.m. Tickets are $7 for UR students, $8 for faculty and $9 for the general public.

Halloween Spooktacular IV: ‘Welcome to my Nightmare’
8 - 10 P.M., STRONG AUDITORIUM
The UR Brass Choir will perform in its fourth annual Halloween concert, featuring rock, metal and pop music rearranged for the choir as well as state-of-the-art special effects. The event is free and open to the public.

Scare Fair
1:30 - 4 P.M., RUSH RHEE LIBRARY
If you’re in need of a good scare, you’re in for a treat. Rush Rhees Library’s annual Scare Fair will offer cider and snacks, tours of the stacks and bell tower, a costume contest and a ghost walk. Tours of the tower are limited to the first 450 people.

SECURITY UPDATE

Serial thief, male intruder strikes Towers

BY LEAH BULETTI
NEWS EDITOR

1. An undergraduate student reported that she was asleep in her room in Wilder Tower on Friday, Oct. 19, at 1:30 a.m., when she was awoken by a male individual, according to UR Security Investigator Roger Keirsbilck. The student called out twice to the individual, who then exited the room. She recognized his face and followed him out of the room.

The individual ran into another undergraduate student in the lobby and claimed that he was looking for another student before leaving the area. The two undergraduates said they believed that the man was intoxicated.

2. Around the same time, another student returned to her room in the same suite and said that after briefly stepping out of the room, she found a drawer open and items from her wallet strewn about. She reported that $80 in cash was missing. Her roommate also reported that cash and other items were missing from her own drawer. No witnesses observed the theft and no police report was filed.

Student victim of larceny

2. On Friday, Oct. 19, at 1:24 p.m., an undergraduate student was transported near 1400 South Plymouth Ave, by a lone male individual who asked for the time, according to Keirsbilck. When the student took out her cell phone, the suspect grabbed it from her and ran to a waiting car, which then drove away. The student was not injured.

Bike thief at it again

3. Security officers observed a suspicious man walking around the bike racks near Hopeman Hall on Wednesday, Oct. 17, at 12:48 p.m. The man told officers that he was looking for a job, but could not provide identification. The officers recognized him as an individual who had previously been arrested and banned from the property for bicycle theft and trespassing, Keirsbilck said. Security, who found a pair of bolt cutters with the man, took the individual into custody for trespassing and reported him to the Rochester Police.

Motorcycle tampered with

4. An undergraduate student reported on Tuesday, Oct. 16, at 4 p.m., that someone had tampered with his motorcycle in Todd Union Lot sometime between Sunday, Oct. 14 and Tuesday, Oct. 16. The student said that it seemed that someone had tried to use a screwdriver to start the motorcycle, damaging the ignition, and that the vehicle had been moved, Keirsbilck said.

Loiterer is wanting for Wi-Fi

5. Security officers observed a man sitting in a car in Riverview Lot on Tuesday, Oct. 16, at 7:54 p.m., Officers approached the vehicle and noticed that the individual had a laptop on his lap and another on the passenger seat, both of which were running. The individual, who was found to have no affiliation with UR, stated that he was merely using his cell phone. Officers, who believe he was trying to use Wi-Fi in the area, asked the individual to leave the premises and he complied, Keirsbilck said.

Buletti is a member of the class of 2013.

Information provided by UR Security.

FIVE-DAY FORECAST

COURTESY OF WEATHER.COM

FRIDAY
Mostly Sunny
Chance of precipitation: 10%
High 73, Low 52

SATURDAY
Mostly Cloudy
Chance of precipitation: 20%
High 71, Low 42

SUNDAY
Few Showers
Chance of precipitation: 30%
High 44, Low 42

MONDAY
Few Showers
Chance of precipitation: 30%
High 48, Low 38

TUESDAY
Cloudy
Chance of precipitation: 20%
High 49, Low 39

Five-Day Forecast

SUNNY

THURSDAY
CLASSICS AND RELIGION LECTURE: EDWARD J. BLUM
5 - 6 P.M., ROOM 442, RUSH RHEE LIBRARY
Edward J. Blum, associate professor of History at San Diego State University, will give a talk entitled “Laughing at the Lord: what Jesus Jokes Reveal about Contemporary American Culture.” The event is free and open to the public.

E-CYCLE DAY
6:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M., PARK LOT
Save the planet and recycle your used electronics. For every pound of donations, Sunnking, a Brockport-based electronics recycling company, will donate $1 to Foodlink, a nonprofit seeking to eliminate world hunger. For a list of acceptable donations, visit www.sunnking.com/acceptable-materials.

OFFICE OF RESEARCH ALLIANCES SEMINAR: JESSE GOODMAN
12 P.M., HELEN WOOD HALL AUDITORIUM, SCHOOL OF NURSING
FDA Deputy Commissioner and Chief Science Officer Jesse Goodman will give a talk entitled “Advancing Regulatory Science to Protect and Promote Health.” The event, which includes a complimentary lunch, is free and open to the public.

MEDIEVAL AND EARLY MODERN STUDIES OPEN HOUSE
3:45 - 4:45 P.M., ROBBINS LIBRARY, RUSH RHEE LIBRARY
Join the Department of Medieval and Early Modern Studies for an informal meet-and-greet. The event aims to promote courses offered by the department in the spring.

FALL DRAG SHOW
8 - 10 P.M., MAP ROOM, WILSON COMMINS
Attend the Pride Network’s annual Fall Drag Show for a night of laughs and musical performances. Doors will open at 7 p.m. Tickets are $7 for UR students, $8 for faculty and $9 for the general public.

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Buletti is a member of the class of 2013.

Information provided by UR Security.
Civil Rights Movement activists share stories, insight

BY JENNY HANSLER
ON-LINE EDITOR

Ordinary people can make an extraordinary difference in the world. This was the message of three women who spoke to a large crowd of students, workers and community members on Thursday, Oct. 18. Judy Richardson, Betty Garman and Dorothy "Dot" Zellner came to the Interfaith Chapel to tell stories from their book, "Hands on the Freedom Plow," and to share lessons learned from lives devoted to activism. Richardson, Garman and Zellner were all members of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) during the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s. Inspired by the famous Greenwich Village-in-1960, SNCC was instrumental in freedom rides and voter registration drives that helped to end segregation in the American South.

The three women were college-aged when they moved from the Northeast to Alabama to join the organization. It was not bravery or uniqueness that brought these women to the front lines of the fight for equality, but a sense of responsibility to fight for justice. "I consider myself the average, everyday, ordinary cowards," Zellner said.

Each of the women had been exposed to intolerance and discrimination. Zellner had seen the liberation of the concentration camps; Richardson, the mistreatment of workers; Garman, the racial prejudices of her family. These experiences, in combination with the injustice occurring on the national level, prompted the women to action. "I had to ask myself what kind of country I wanted," Garman said.

Once in Alabama, the women helped with clerical tasks such as typing and operating phones for SNCC. It wasn't easy. "However bad you think it was, it was worse," Zellner said.

The women faced local hatred, safety threats and racial prejudices of their families. "It was worse," Zellner said. "However bad you think it was, it was worse," Zellner said.

Zellner said. "SNCC changed who I was, changed who I became...it gave me new eyes," Richardson said.

Richardson, Garman and Zellner remained with SNCC throughout the civil rights movement and continued with social activism in the years that followed. They returned to their days of SNCC when they co-wrote their book. Working with three other SNCC women in what became a 15-year project, Richardson, Garman and Zellner created a master narrative of the experiences of 52 women involved in SNCC.

"We hope young people will see themselves in these stories and see that real change, real and honest change, is what's wrong today," Richardson said.

The women urged the audience to learn from history that movements can begin with a single action — students need not, and should not, wait to get involved with a cause about which they are passionate. "It is time for each one of us to think about how our voice is going to be heard," Garman said.

Hansler is a member of the class of 2015.

Professor awarded honorary degree for Self-Determination Theory

BY LEAH BULETTI
NEWS EDITOR

The University of Thessaly in Greece has awarded Psychology and Education Professor Richard Ryan an honorary doctorate degree for his work on a theory of human motivation called Self-Determination Theory (SDT).

The award was officially presented to Ryan by a ceremony in Volos, Greece on Oct. 16 and was sponsored by four different University of Thessaly departments — physical education, primary education, preschool education and special education. The award recognized all of which have been influenced by Ryan’s work, according to SNCC. Ryan met with students at the Warner School of Education where he teaches and consults. "It is both humbling and energizing at the same time to see the reach of this work," Ryan said. "It is particularly gratifying to see SDT being used as a basis of social change around the world."

"It is both humbling and energizing at the same time to see the reach of this work," Ryan said. "It is particularly gratifying to see SDT being used as a basis of social change around the world."

"Education and psychology intersect because in both domains a key element is autonomy support," Ryan said. "Both psychotherapy and education are activities in which people's growth and integrity can be facilitated, honored. In one sense they share some motivational dynamics in common. But their immediate aims differ, as do the techniques applied."

Ryan joined UR’s psychology department in 1981 after completing his doctorate in clinical psychology at the University. He has authored more than 250 articles, chapters and books as well as given addresses at more than 70 universities worldwide.

Buletti is a member of the class of 2013.

IT faculty, SA discuss state of UR technology at annual summit

BY CASEY GOULD
NEWS EDITOR

Eric Fredericksen, Associate Vice Provost of Academic and Research Technology, hosted the third annual Information Technology (IT) Summit on Wednesday, Oct. 24. The summit — attended primarily by IT faculty and Student’s Association members — covered updates on Blackboard, Wi-Fi coverage, information security and student workshops and services.

Assistant Director of Information Security Jason Pickup expressed a concern about the "T" subject of peer-to-peer file sharing.

According to Pickup, UR sent approximately 400 notices to students suspected of torrenting in 2011 — a significant drop from years past. Though the University is legally required to report piracy under the Digital Millennium Copyright Act, its approach remains "not to police the network but respond to complaints, if and when they come," he said.

Freshman Luke Metzler sat at the forum that many of his friends quit torrenting, "cold turkey" when they arrived at UR, calling it a "no-brainer." He predicted that torrenting will dwindle over time as students become more informed about the risks involved.

At this point, SA President and Key Scholar Bradley Halpern argued that most students are unaware of more advanced functions.

Ending the event on the topic of services, Patel said that he would like to see the IT Center on laptop chargers in residence halls without requiring students to rent a laptop as well. Halpern agreed and explained that though this service would not affect most students, it would be "a big help" for those who needed it.

It Center Manager Berthenia Colegrave said she would consider the feasibility of such a change.

"It is time for each one of us to think about how our voice is going to be heard," Garman said.
UR researchers posit new theory on influential 'marshmallow test'

Interfaith Chapel launches new Zen Buddhist meditation group

Dean Levy to assume new role at University in November

Labor union contract extended for one week as health care remains divisive

ARBITRATE FROM PAGE 1

Buletti is a member of the class of 2013.

Assistant Dean of Students Morgan Levy will step down from her current role to take a position assessing University efforts concerning affirmative action.
Seligman optimistic that Meloria Challenge can meet monetary goal

CAMPAGN FROM PAGE 1
greater collaboration between faculty and corporate leaders and increased the community participation with other US departments.

Although this large-scale campaign only debuted to the public last fall, its overall timeline has been much longer term. The initiative behind the campaign was originally driven by the Board of Trustees, who felt that the University needed to expand its focus on external fundraising. So, when the Board recruited Seligman and worked together to identify potential projects.

Seligman shared the trustees’ goal to expand external relations. “My first message to our community was my commitment to the campaign for Rochester,” Seligman said. “I am committed to galvanizing resources and providing support for our students as well as strengthening our curriculum and patient care, as well as supporting our faculty and visiting scholars.”

After much research and investigation, the campaign’s private, or nucleus, phase began, during which campaign proponents reached out to a group of 100 leaders and donors.

“Schauf explained that the rumpled state of the ensemble is unprofessional. He argued that the rumpled state of the ensemble is unprofessional. He also noted that Dining and Commuter Declining would cost $1,925 per semester and students would get $1,400 to $1,600 per year if commuters were exempt.

Based on the kind of conversations that I’ve had, I can’t see that a fee of this size would be something that would sell,” Schauf said. “We’ve had so many conversations with students and in certain packages — such as a coffee and a bagel, for example.

Schauf stated that Dining has not looked at this directly and expressed the fact that this might be difficult because Dining would have to determine a way to account for these items.

Following Schauf’s presentation, the senators gave their opinions on the option. A majority were in favor of option two, citing what they saw as increased flexibility for students.

For campaign ideas.

The class of 2013.

Today, October 25, 2012 / NEWS

All Declining system among proposed options for 2013-14 meal plans

DECLINING FROM PAGE 1

While Dining had been asked about all Declining plans in the past but never formally proposed one, this is the first time that an all Declining system with the kind of Declining that currently exists, there would not be enough money to cover such costs as maintenance and general upkeep, Schauf said.

The majority of other universities comparable to UR have a system similar to the club system, he said, noting that Duke University had an all Declining plan in the past but abandoned the plan as too restrictive.

“We hear from students that too much of the overhead burden is carried by the Unlimited Plans,” Schauf explained. He also noted that students often complain that the Unlimited plans are too restrictive. Uppeclassemen living in underclassmen housing, such as D’Lion, also frequently complain that they feel like they are being treated like freshmen.

The first option, based on this feedback presented on Monday and the committee’s visit to the University in St. Louis, would

be largely similar to the current system, but have more flexibility, especially for upperclassmen living in the Residential Quad.

Group one of the current meal plan, which includes the Res Quad, the Susan B. Anthony Residence Halls, Fairchild, Douglass and Lane House, WU and O’Brien Hall, would be split into two groups, the first covering the Res Quad, Elliott, Tiernan and Lovejoy Halls and Sue B. and the second including Burton and Crosby Halls, Fairchild, University in St. Louis and the Eastman Dining Hall.

Dining would cost $775 and Commuter Declining would cost $535. The final Declining option, the all-Declining plan, would cost $2,261 per semester and students would get $678 to spend.

Additional Declining, added throughout the semester would be added dollar for dollar, Schauf said. “This plan increases the flexibility for the people in the new group too and spreads the overhead on all the plans to a higher degree than the current plan in place for the first option. It gives the stability to keep all operations open.”

The second option would have the groupings the same as in option one, but introduces two additional plans called the 150 Meal Plan and the 125 Meal Plan. These would not be analogous to club plans because meals would still have to be eaten in Douglass Dining Center, Danforth Dining Center, and Whitman Dining Center. The 150 Meal Plan, however, would cost $2,468 per semester and students would get $850 Declining. The 125 Meal Plan would cost $2,261 and also come with $850 in Declining.

It takes what Unlimited did and makes it more defined,” Schauf said of option two.

Following this explanation, a student in the audience entertained the idea of including items like coffee and fruit in an Unlimited plan to make it more attractive to students, to see if perhaps these specific items would be purchased with an Unlimited swipe in certain packages — such as a coffee and a bagel, for example.

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For campaign ideas.

Another concern addressed was why Dining wanted to offer a Eu- phinica or Alexander Technique class. The dean explained that the classes run when there are faculty available, but there is no one on faculty at present with the necessary expertise. Similarly, to address concerns from the Eastman might look into the future, but noted that they are not hiring anyone for the 2013-14 academic year.

Senior Nick Coen proposed that concertos be diversified to include instruments with less popular repertoire. Rossi assured him that the programming of concertos is a highly discussed topic and said that, in the future, Eastman might consider changing the conditions to make concertos more competitive against instrument families rather than against each other, but a single instrument a concerto every few years.

Master student Michael Con- bad brought up the possibility of making more studio recordings of Eastman ensembles available to prospective students. Rossi replied that the Eastman website might be a good source for东 performing for broadcasting performances.

Dougherty also brought up the issue of rehearsal schedules. He informed the dean that the first rehearsal following a concert is typically a sectional, and that there is no time to rehearse in between concerts to learn the new repertoire before the first rehearsal. He proposed fewer rehearsals and strategically placed sections.

Eastman students cite concerns with theft, classes, rehearsal schedules

FORUM FROM PAGE 1

Although the Senate did not present that a solu- tion must be found and implement- mented soon.

Senior Lucas Goodman ex- pressed concerns with student dress, with certain students in the audience expressing that some of their T-shirts and pants are required to wear rules. He argued that the rumpled state of the ensemble is unprofessional. He also noted that Dining and Commuter Declining would cost $1,925 per semester and students would get $1,400 to $1,600 per year if commuters were exempt.

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Schauf stated that Dining has not looked at this directly and expressed the fact that this might be difficult because Dining would have to determine a way to account for these items.

Following Schauf’s presentation, the senators gave their opinions on the option. A majority were in favor of option two, citing what they saw as increased flexibility for students.

For campaign ideas.

Another concern addressed was why Dining wanted to offer a Eu- phinica or Alexander Technique class. The dean explained that the classes run when there are faculty available, but there is no one on faculty at present with the necessary expertise. Similarly, to address concerns from the Eastman might look into the future, but noted that they are not hiring anyone for the 2013-14 academic year.

Senior Nick Coen proposed that concertos be diversified to include instruments with less popular repertoire. Rossi assured him that the programming of concertos is a highly discussed topic and said that, in the future, Eastman might consider changing the conditions to make concertos more competitive against instrument families rather than against each other, but a single instrument a concerto every few years.

Master student Michael Con- bad brought up the possibility of making more studio recordings of Eastman ensembles available to prospective students. Rossi replied that the Eastman website might be a good source for东 performing for broadcasting performances.

Dougherty also brought up the issue of rehearsal schedules. He informed the dean that the first rehearsal following a concert is typically a sectional, and that there is no time to rehearse in between concerts to learn the new repertoire before the first rehearsal. He proposed fewer rehearsals and strategically placed sections.

Clayton is a member of the class of 2013.
EDITORIAL BOARD

Declining: the palatable option

The changes made to meal plans at the start of the 2011-12 academic year, specifically the implementation of Unlimited plans instead of club plans, have been a popular topic of discussion comprised of mixed student opinion since they were implemented.

In an attempt to cater to the student body's dining preferences, new options have been brought to the table. While deficits plans for the 2013-14 academic year have not yet been decided, three potential options were presented at the Students’ Association Senate meeting on Monday, Oct. 22. Two of the options present in the new Unlimited plans, both of which consist of meal credits, are particularly unpopular with many students because of their lack of flexibility. The most radically different, and most improved, of the options would involve a potential change to all Declining system.

Many students have already accustomed to dining at Douglas Dining Center and Riga Dining Hall — the only locations where it is possible to use the Unlimited Plan — for a number of reasons. For example, the hours that these two dining halls are open are limited and often less convenient than the hours of other campus dining locations. To make matters worse, Douglas is not open on weekends, leaving Danforth as the only campus dining location available to students on Unlimited plans who want to preserve their small amounts of Declining.

On the proposed Declining system, upperclassmen living on the Residential Quad would have greater dining options because they would not be forced to eat at only two dining centers on campus that take Unlimited plans. More importantly, all students would be able to choose a Declining meal plan that more accurately reflects their eating habits, instead of paying a flat fee for an indeterminate amount of meals as they must on the Unlimited plan.

In order to offset the costs of overhead faced by UR Dining, the majority of which includes paying for labor and food, all students would be required to pay a base fee in addition to the cost of the proposed plan, regardless of class year or where they live on campus. Declining plans would therefore stop the complaints from upperclassmen who live on the Res Quad and feel they are unfairly forced to shoulder the costs of overhead because of where they chose to live.

The overhead fee, which might initially seem unwarranted and high, would in reality be a small price to pay for the added flexibility of an All Declining Plan and would also create a greater sense of fairness among students because they would all be paying the same extra fee.

Amend Senior Degree Audits

As the fall semester reaches its halfway point, graduation has become an impending reality for seniors. Three years ago, UR launched an online system for completing the Senior Degree Audit, which assesses a student’s progress toward completing all requirements of a UR degree, a commendable step in improving the previously tedious paper process. The current system, however, frequently fails to assess students’ completion of specific majors — a problem that lies not with the Office of the Registrar, but with the departments themselves. To remedy this issue and maintain the crucial and helpful role of the Senior Degree Audit, the evaluation of the completion of a major should be separated from the rest of the audit.

As the system works currently, the audit, which is available to students beginning in the spring of their junior year, informs students whether they have accurately completed a variety of graduation requirements, including the writing requirement, clusters, a minimum GPA and a minimum number of credit hours. All of these can be assessed using the online audit process because the requirements are clearly codified — only a few possible options fulfill each category.

The audit system does not function as well for assessing whether students have fulfilled a major’s requirements, for assessing whether students have completed certain degree curricula and the more-chance-driven qualities of certain majors. For example, the degree audit is frequently incapable of assessing the completion of the English major because English majors can choose from many different courses to fulfill requirements, in addition to which the course numbers for these requirements change from year to year. The Senior Degree Audit, therefore, is inadequate for assessing the completion of the major and results in unnecessary panic on the part of students who erroneously believe they have not finished their major after submitting the audit.

Prior to spring course registration on Nov. 5, each senior will receive an email clearly stating what requirements they still need to fulfill, including the major requirements. Each email should be sent out by the respective department, and the Office of the Registrar works closely with departments each year to find ways to improve the online system’s ability to assess degree completion, according to Registrar and Assistant Dean Nancy Speck. The degree audit function does it serve? Why choose one fielding questions, not scrambling to compose an answer. It means that you must on the Unlimited plan.

The audit function does it serve? Why choose one word over another? Why choose one fielding questions, not scrambling to compose an answer. It means that you must pay for the added flexibility of an all Declining plan and would also create a greater sense of fairness among students because they would all be paying the same extra fee.

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 editors).
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2012 / OPINIONS / campustimes.org / I L L

Romney’s proposed reliance on fossil fuels fails to consider future

BY BENJAMIN STILSON

The clock is ticking. According to HSBC, there are only around 50 years of oil left for world consumption. British Petroleum (BP) gave coal a life expectancy of about 120 years, and the third major fossil fuel, natural gas, fits in somewhere around 60 years. Even more discouraging is that the International Energy Agency claims that if major industrial changes are not met by 2017, carbon dioxide emission projections could be locked in to surpass the dreaded 450 ppm atmospheric concentration point of no return.” If this were to occur, positive feedback loops would make it immensely difficult to reverse climate change.

With such deadlines, you would expect some urgency in the energy plans of the 2012 presidential nominees. Although President Barack Obama has said that America’s energy policies may not be perfect, they are headed in the right direction by diversifying our energy supply away from fossil fuels.

Conversely, former Governor Mitt Romney fails to recognize the severe consequences of continued anthropogenic climate change, as seen by his proposed policies. In fact, his energy plan reinforces America’s dependence on fossil fuels.

One stark distinction between candidates is that Romney wants to tax renewable energy sources as if they were on the same playing field as fossil fuels. His plan aims to invest in energy technologies as a field, without choosing certain energy technologies as “winners,” as he claims Obama has done with solar and wind power. This would undoubtably be a major setback for renewable energy technologies as it is their ability to compete for government investments, but he has implied.

able energies may often cost more money per kilowatt-hour now, once you factor in the externality costs associated with greenhouse gas pollution, investing in green technology is economically beneficial.

Not only does the Romney-Ryan plan call for major reforms in subsidies, but it would also roll back decades of hard work put into environmental regulations. Romney has said that he would “overhaul” the Clean Air and Clean Water acts. I cannot even begin to stress how important these acts are for America’s health and environment. In the year 2010 alone, the Environmental Protection Agency estimated that 160,000 premature deaths were prevented because of regulations from the Clean Air Act.

It is Romney’s energy plan to eliminate all federal regulations for carbon-free energy sources. The election in November is providing voters with clear choices on a number of issues, and energy is no exception.

Romney is chosen to double down on fossil fuels despite their limited reserves and environmental destructiveness with his proposed policies. Additionally, Obama doesn’t want such policies as RCP’s. It’s not surprising that you’d be penalized for carbon-free energy sources. The election in November is providing voters with clear choices on a number of issues, and energy is no exception.

Stilson is a member of the class of 2014.

Affirmative Action still necessary in American higher education

BY SAMUEL BREITBART

Last week, an article in The Daily Northwestern titled “RWP Are ‘Ding-dong’ Democrats” by a student named Sydney Zink, showed up on my Facebook newsfeed. In it, she paredly denounced the necessity of the fundamental nature behind Affirmative Action in university admissions while at the same time championing the voice of the Civil Rights Movement. Let me be clear: Affirmative Action isn’t implemented in a perfect way. However, I believe the goal of Affirmative Action, as it was intended, is to help the disadvantaged and to provide opportunities in the form of a degree to which minority students would otherwise not have access.

Affirmative Action is not RWP’s ancestors who have failed our black citizens. The same grandparents of Institutionalized Racism. It is not RWP’s ancestors who have suffered from institutionalized racism from the conception of slavery to the crack-epidemic of the 1980s and 1990s. It was, however, the American government that failed our black citizens. The same government whose consistency in preaching liberty and freedom is met by its consistency in failing its most needy citizens.

Zink infers that racism is a problem of the past. Basic statistics prove otherwise. On average, black offenders’ prison sentences are 10 percent longer than those received by white offenders of the same crime. Seventy-two percent of black children live in single-parent homes. One in three black men will spend time in prison in their lifetime.

Black men are three times more likely to be searched at a traffic stop and four times more likely to be stopped and frisked. Black women are three times more likely to be arrested than white women. These statistics are a miniscule insight into the inherent disadvantages our society has placed on African-Americans. It would have helped Zink to use statistics to make her point. She determined opportunity, because the last time I checked, “disapproving streets” aren’t a statistical category. I think she might find it interesting to expect the average racial makeup of college students to mimic the racial makeup of America as a whole. In 2010, whites made up 77.5 percent of bachelor’s degrees conferred in the U.S. compared to only 9 percent for blacks. Furthermore, given in 2010 are split 77.9 percent to 6.6 percent for whites and blacks, respectively.

In 2010, African-Americans made up 12.3 percent of the population, a low estimate considering how difficult it is to collect censuses in poor neighborhood. African-Americans are still underrepresented in the realm of higher education. Hopefully these statistics illuminate the fact that it’s not race, but rather class that creates a reality where people live in a gray world, rather that it’s ignorant not to.

Zink and those of her persuasion are a minority. They are not my merit that defines you. Your merit is a product of those who came before you and opened doors that you yourself could never have opened alone. Zink doesn’t believe RWP should be penalized for minorities’ ancestors who had the same access to opportunity as RWP. It is a privilege and duty to help fellow citizens who, as a result of chance, have been born with less. It is not a misfortune.

Breitbart is a member of the class of 2013.

No butts about it: Smokers should clean up their act on campus

BY MIRLIN MOOREFIELD

I am a smoker. I have been a smoker since I was 13 years old. Now I am 44. I am not saying smoking is good for me. In fact, I know it is not—I have struggled with quitting for years. Once, I quit for two years. Later, I quit when my grandson was born. It hasn’t been easy—it is a terrible addiction that I have yet to conquer.

Still, that’s not what I am writing about. I walk around UR’s campus and see cigarette butts all over the place and, disgracefully so, in front of Rush Rhees Library. They are on the steps and all around the Eastman Quad. As I walk around campus, I notice that there are a few ash trays which are not smoke directly in front of the buildings. That is a good thing. Even as a smoker, I don’t want to walk through someone else’s smoke when entering a building — sometimes when exiting the front of Rush Rhees. I am overcome with the stink and halo of cigarette smoke. There should be respect for these venerable buildings and for others.

While it’s obvious that far fewer people smoke regularly than did when I was young, it seems that some of those who do have no regard for the beauty of our campus when it comes to smoking. Quite frankly, standing in front of one of the beautiful campus buildings and smoking is undignified by the least. There are also places near the corners or sides buildings, such as Money Hall, for example, where people smoke. I admit it; I am guilty of it myself. I always crush my cigarette out and when I deposit it in the trash, can be searched at a traffic stop and four times more likely to be stopped and frisked. Black women are three times more likely to be arrested than white women. These statistics are easy to have to cross the river in order to smoke. Let’s hope our campus goes about it the right way and make sure our smoke doesn’t bother other people who are going in and out of buildings on campus.

Breitbart is a member of the class of 2013.

Voting online at campustimes.org

NEXT WEEK’S QUESTION

Who are you going to vote for on Election Day?

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NEXT WEEK’S QUESTION

Who are you going to vote for on Election Day?

The voice of the student body

ALEX KURLAND / STAFF ILLUSTRATOR

Alex Kurland has been the ILLUSTRATOR for The Daily Northwestern since his arrival on campus. Kurland is better known as a political cartoonist than as a student of journalism. Kurland has been/is a writer for The Daily Northwestern since his arrival on campus. He is a member of the class of 2014.

ALEX KURLAND / STAFF ILLUSTRATOR

A web poll

What did you think of Barbara Walters’ Melinda Gates weekend keynote address?

I didn’t go.

I was impressed. It didn’t really hold my interest.

I liked it. She did a good job of getting her audience.

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There is a modest, white-paneled house that sits in a leaf-strewn West Irondequoit suburb. Steep stone steps lead up to the front door and a post mount mailbox rests amid the grass on the front lawn. A man answers the door with a curious child close on his heels.

"Are you here for Anna?" he asks.

Welcome to the home of sophomore Anna Price—a wife, a mother of three young children and yes, an undergraduate student at UR.

Price, who is 35 years old, graduated from Brighton High School when she was 18 and enrolled at Emerson College in Boston on an acting scholarship. A top-notch student in high school, she excelled her first semester, but after the death of a close family friend and an abusive relationship, her performance plummeted in her second semester and she lost her scholarship.

"I was really a mess and my self-esteem was very, very low because of all these things," she said. "I just felt like I had failed so horribly."

Price got her second chance when she enrolled at Monroe Community College (MCC) and earned her associates degree, graduating with flying colors. She transferred to UR in August.

"I didn't want my kids to ask me why I'd never finished college and not really have a good reason for them," she said. "I just felt like I had failed so horribly."

Price got her second chance when she enrolled at Monroe Community College (MCC) and earned her associates degree, graduating with flying colors. She transferred to UR in August.

"I didn't want my kids to ask me why I'd never finished college and not really have a good reason for them," she said. "I just felt like I had failed so horribly."

Price is just one of many non-traditional students at UR. There is no official definition of a non-traditional student, according to Tanya Strachan, assistant director in transfer recruitment and enrollment programs in the Office of Admissions, who works with many non-traditional students, since the term is defined differently by different institutions. She summed up the loaded phrase as students who have taken an atypical path in completing their higher education. Strachan believes that these students bring fresh perspectives to the University.
Twitter were concerning the issues discussed and the phrases used. The volume of posts indicates an outspoken Internet community on politics, but quantity doesn’t necessarily mean quality.

It is difficult to negotiate between spreading a belief and angering a fellow user. Avoiding Denzel’s loudest and weakest association requires brevity and concision. Quite often, a Facebook user will get stuck or uninterested if status after an status is unanswerable and incoherent rant. While tweets are limited to 140 characters, fed up users can simply unfollow what they do not need to read. Junior Peter Huen, who watched all three debates, expressed a distaste that’s a common reaction to these types of posts.

“If what a Facebook friend is saying is ridiculous… you get sick of it,” he said. “This is the same as in real life.”

He continued by explaining that “social media is fine as a forum that puts issues out in the open that should already have been heard.”

Social media seems to have a firm place in society, particularly with the rise of political gaffes that go viral on the internet and interne post-debate fact checking. While the juxtaposition of a mindless Facebook status, such as “Hillary Boo Boo is as bad but so good I CAN’T STOP!” next to a discerning one, like “Romney and Obama agree on every foreign policy issue other than how much they love Israel,” may take away from the message, it nonetheless brings awareness to what is happening and the consequences of our vote. These messages, along with links to relevant articles and even witty jokes, essentially demand from users a basic knowledge of politics. At least America knows Mitt Romney loves Big Bird and has binders full of women.

Senior Amit Jhaveri is without Facebook — aryphal by college standards. Still, he does check CNN for the top twit posts. “A lot of attention and participation in social media is because of the number of posts on the gaffes of the candidates,” he explained. “It helps make us more aware while helping make the debates a celebrated event.”

Maintaining interest in the political discussion appears a battle in and of itself. Live tweeting and Facebook uproar makes politics accessible, demanding the public’s attention. After all, the last debate had to compete with Monday Night Football and game seven of the National League Championship Series. The post-debate discussion may be better suited for a town hall or a classroom, but neither are always available nor easy to access. The voting booth is the final forum for politics, but social media has an instant nature and allure that fills in the gaps.

Junior Ingrid Koch summed the issue up best, “Social media is our primary form of communication and we cannot get politics out of it,” she said.

Brady is a member of the class of 2013.
BY ANTOINETTE ESCE
FEATURES EDITOR

When UR students graduate, most expect to do any number of things like travel, get a job or enroll in graduate school. At the very least, they expect to leave campus.

For some students, their college home becomes a permanent home when they decide to start a career at UR. Some might start work here right after graduation and some find their way back after some time away.

As of January 2010, UR and Strong Memorial Hospital had nearly 20,000 employees, making them the largest employer in the Rochester area. The Office of Alumni Relations estimates that approximately 3,500 of those employees are, in some capacity, alumni of the University.

These alumni hold a number of different positions, from deans to doctors to security officers. Having previously been students here, these alumni employees hold a great deal of valuable information; they know how the school works, what the students are like and what it means to be a part of UR. This perspective gives them insight into the student condition and a lot of the time makes them better at their jobs.

Associate Director of Health Promotion Linda Dudman ’76 graduated with a degree in psychology and then taught third grade in Elmira, N.Y. for a few years. In 1973, she returned to Rochester and worked in the Department of Community and Preventative Medicine at the UR Medical Center and then eventually ended up at University Health Services. She began working in her current position in 1989.

“This has been a great place to work,” Dudman said. “I really like working with students.”

Dudman has had ample opportunities to interact with students in the Health Promotion Office, including, but not limited to, her work advising the University of Rochester Student Health Advisory Committee (URSHAC).

“I’m continually impressed by how engaged the students are,” she remarked. “It’s the same constant energy and enthusiasm I’ve been seeing for years.”

Director of Wilson Commons Laura Ballou ’97 was one such engaged student during her time at UR. In addition to sitting on URSHAC as a student representative alongside faculty advisor Dudman, Ballou was a founding board member of the Community Service Network (CSN) and an active participant in the Tiernan Project.

After graduating in 1997 with a degree in psychology with honors, Ballou moved to Michigan and earned a Master’s degree in social work. Ballou’s experience at the University had a large impact on her original decision to pursue social work. Eventually she moved back to Rochester and, while she did apply for social work positions, she also had her “eye on UR.”

“My last job in Ann Arbor was [as] director of their local Big Brothers Big Sisters agency,” she explained. “A lot of my volunteers were college students and I found that I really enjoyed the interactions.”

Ballou ended up back at UR in 2002. In addition to her role as director of Wilson Commons, Ballou also advises all of the Class Councils.

“I love that I do not do the same thing every day — it keeps me on my toes,” she said. “The students at UR are amazing.”

Ballou demonstrates a particular pride for both UR students and the University itself.

“I believe in this institution and had a positive experience as an undergraduate or I would have not returned to work here,” she said. “It gives me some extra drive to make sure we are doing the best possible work in our office to make sure students have a strong sense of community. I feel that sense when I was a student and want to make sure I can pass that along.”

Dudman has a similar opinion.

“I loved this school when I visited, when I went here and now,” Dudman explained. “I’m very proud to be a part of UR.”

Dudman especially enjoys watching the campus change and grow while it maintains its traditions and creates new ones. She specifically mentioned the gender separated housing of UR’s past and the continuation of the D’Lion Organization. The alumni who work at UR bring a lot to their jobs and balance the diversity and new ideas that come from employees who are not UR graduates.

“I have a good feel for what it means to be a student,” Dudman said.

All in all, alumni employees enjoy working at their collegiate stomping grounds and don’t have much to complain about.

“The only con is more of a personal one,” Ballou said. “[My husband] John and I are both alums that work here, so it can be a lot of UR talk all of the time.”

Esce is a member of the class of 2015.

Alumni employees proud to remain part of UR, maintain good feel for student life

20,000 TOTAL EMPLOYEES

3,500 ALUMNI EMPLOYEES

JULIA SKLAR / PRESENTATION EDITOR

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW THIS WEEK

THIS DAY IN HISTORY: OCT. 25

1764: Future president John Adams marries Abigail Smith.
1854: In an event that would be famously documented by Alfred, Lord Tennyson in a poem of the same name, British military commander Lord James Cardigan leads a charge of the Light Brigade cavalry against well-defended Russian artillery during the Crimean War.
1881: Future president John Adams marries Abigail Smith.
1944: The Japanese deploy the first kamikaze suicide bombers against American warships during World War Two.

OVERHEARD AT UR

“A spear. You know, like a stab you in the stomach kind of spear.” —Overheard in Starbucks

zhaghzaght: (noun of Persian origin) The chattering of teeth from cold or rage.
Yuputka: (noun of Native American origin) The phantom sensation of something crawling on your skin.
Non-traditional students form club, try to find place on campus

Despite the difficulties that may arise for non-traditional students, it appears that many have a positive outlook.

“I think most non-traditional students have a non-traditional view on the world,” she explained.

Students appear to see their education as, well, a business, but transfer student enrollment has increased over the past three years.

Researchers say that non-traditional students are as important as our traditional students. But they are not as welcome as our traditional students.

At the start of the 2010-11 academic year, there were 101 incoming transfer students. At the beginning of the 2012 academic year, 130 this past August. Strachan attributes this rise to an increase in applications as a whole.

Still, non-traditional students feel they lack avenues and events geared toward transfer students. They still wish that there had been more events geared toward transfers.

Despite the difficulties that may arise for non-traditional students, it appears that many have a positive outlook.

“I feel very blessed to be here,” he said. “This is a job to me, it’s not a hobby, and I’ve gone at it with a vengeance.”

Despite the difficulties that may arise for non-traditional students, it appears that many have a positive outlook about being at UR.

“I really want to say before I say it for fear of sounding like an old fuddy-duddy. I love it,” she said. “I love it and I consider it to be an enormous privilege. I feel like my level of responsibility and organizational skills are head and shoulders above when they were when I was 18 years old.”

Kelly has a similarly serious attitude toward his education, a mindset that is common among many non-traditional students, especially those that are older than the typical undergraduate.

“From day one I always treated this like a job,” he said. “This is a job to me — it isn’t a hobby, and I’ve gone at it with a vengeance.”

Despite the difficulties that may arise for non-traditional students, it appears that many have a positive outlook about being at UR.

“I feel very blessed to be here,” he said. “This is a wonderful university.”

Nobody, though, puts it better than Moorefield.

“I think it’s pretty damn badass I’m here,” he said.

Goldin is a member of the class of 2013.

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Finalist for the 2012 National College Media Awards. Julia Sklar / National College Media Awards
Joke of da Week  
by Jason Silverstein

Why did the pencil have an inferiority complex?

Jeez, why?

It was always No. 2?

Art at its Worst  
by Melissa Goldin

Happy Halloween  
by J.D. Page

Happy Halloween

Cuppa Diem  
by Kara Ng

Must Be Getting Old  
by Jacq Carpentier

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‘Paranormal Activity 4’ fails to find originality and fright

BY ERIKA HOWARD
A&E EDITOR

With Halloween rapidly approaching, it seems inevitable that Hollywood would release another low-cost, high-reward “found footage” film — so “Paranormal Activity 4” was no great surprise. While no one was expecting it to be cinematic genius, it would have been nice if it was at least a little scary. Unfortunately, the “Paranormal Activity” series has fallen victim to the curse of the too-long continued horror franchise: It has run out of ideas.

The film begins with a brief flashback to the second installment, which ended with the ever-creepy Katie Featherstone, played by the actress of the same name, abducting her nephew, Hunter (now Robbie in the fourth installment) (Brady Allen), before returning to the (almost) present day. Here we meet Alex (Kathryn Newton) and her boyfriend Ben (Matt Shively), who start noticing that there’s something a little off about their next door neighbor, Robbie.

Surprisingly enough, the relationship between Alex and Ben is one of the best things about the film — they manage to be flirty and funny, plus have excellent chemistry. They were even absurdly likeable, which is a rarity for teens in a horror movie (though Alex does carry around a handheld camera long past the point at which any sane person would have put it down — a pet peeve for many fans of the “found footage” genre). However, a teen peeve for many fans of the “found footage” franchise: It has become anachronistic, which was a genuinely clever concept, but even that was only truly startling the first time. Honestly, this movie is not even frightening enough to scare the characters — for most of the film they seem merely mildly concerned than anything else. They may as well have had a fake in the roof for all the alarm they show.

Even worse than the lack of heart-pounding moments is the complete disaster that is the storyline. There are no twists or turns — from the moment Robbie arrives on his neighbor’s doorstep, everything proceeds exactly as you’d imagine. Originality isn’t the strong suit of these home video type films, but this goes from unoriginal to plain old derivative.

Each installment of the “Paranormal Activity” series has had something to offer until now. The first was a surprise since no one knew what to expect (thanks to the brilliant marketing scheme that showed absolutely no part of the film in the trailer). The second rode the high of that first and mastered the art of building tension. The third tried to show the origin of the curse haunting Katie and her family, but the fourth holds absolutely nothing of interest.

Allen radiates that certain spooky-factor, but the era of eerie children in the horror genre is dead (at least temporarily), and one disturbing child is not enough to keep this film afloat. Word is that a fifth installment of “Paranormal Activity” is in the works. With the way the fourth turned out, let’s all hope that’s not true.

Howard is a member of the class of 2013.

NJR conjures captivating slice of Americana with covers of classics

BY LISA CARIS
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

In an attempt to live up to the great American Legends, No Jackets Required (NJR) put themselves up against the daunting task of performing the classics everyone can sing along to on Fridays, Oct. 19, putting themselves in the precarious position of being directly compared to music’s greatest idols. But not to worry, the group would have made them proud.

Upon entering the May Room the audience saw red and blue lights illuminating the walls as the show seemed the most enthusiastic and audience members were likely left in a state of awe at the talent presented, but also pumped up by the energy filling the room.

All this behind them, and approaching the two-hour mark, NJR powered on — now addressing the rock genre. Covering everything from the well-known “Born in the USA” by Bruce Springsteen and John Mellencamp’s “Jack and Diane” to less familiar standards, they managed to captivate the audience with loud guitar solos and pumped up lyrics. The show’s grand finale was an upbeat version of the ever-popular “Sweet Home Alabama” by Lynard Skynard, which culminated with the entire cast dancing on stage and the audience singing along.

Every piece was accompanied by a full band — including multiple talented guitar players, a drummer, two piano accompanists and an entire row of various instrumentalists, including trumpet players, violinists and saxophonists just to name a few. By using background vocalists as well, the pieces were really carried out to the full extent that they should have been.

The show was an absolute success, largely based on the performer’s abilities to really make the songs their own instead.

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Freshman Dan Chees delights the crowd with new interpretations of old classics at NJR’s “American Legends” on Oct. 19.

Alec’s (Kathryn Newton) life is invaded by evil in the new film “Paranormal Activity 4.”

The film begins with a brief flash- back to the second install- ment, which ended with the ever-creepy Katie Featherstone, played by the actress of the same name, abducting her nephew, Hunter (now Robbie in the fourth installment) (Brady Allen), before returning to the (almost) present day. Here we meet Alex (Kathryn Newton) and her boyfriend Ben (Matt Shively), who start noticing that there’s something a little off about their next door neighbor, Robbie.

Surprisingly enough, the relation- ship between Alex and Ben is one of the best things about the film — they manage to be flirty and funny, plus have excel- lent chemistry. They were even absurdly likeable, which is a rarity for teens in a horror movie (though Alex does carry around a handheld camera long past the point at which any sane person would have put it down — a pet peeve for many fans of the “found footage” genre). However, a teen peeve for many fans of the “found footage” genre: It has become anachronistic, which was a genuinely clever concept, but even that was only truly startling the first time. Honestly, this movie is not even frightening enough to scare the characters — for most of the film they seem merely mildly concerned than anything else. They may as well have had a fake in the roof for all the alarm they show.

Even worse than the lack of heart-pounding moments is the complete disaster that is the storyline. There are no twists or turns — from the moment Robbie arrives on his neighbor’s doorstep, everything proceeds exactly as you’d imagine. Originality isn’t the strong suit of these home video type films, but this goes from unoriginal to plain old derivative.

Each installment of the “Paranormal Activity” series has had something to offer until now. The first was a surprise since no one knew what to expect (thanks to the brilliant marketing scheme that showed absolutely no part of the film in the trailer). The second rode the high of that first and mastered the art of building tension. The third tried to show the origin of the curse haunting Katie and her family, but the fourth holds absolutely nothing of interest.

Allen radiates that certain spooky-factor, but the era of eerie children in the horror genre is dead (at least temporarily), and one disturbing child is not enough to keep this film afloat. Word is that a fifth installment of “Paranormal Activity” is in the works. With the way the fourth turned out, let’s all hope that’s not true.

Howard is a member of the class of 2013.

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‘B---- in Apartment 23’ moves from occasionally funny to stand-out comedy

BY ERIKA HOWARD
A&E EDITOR

As a show, “Don’t Trust the B---- in Apartment 23” is practically an infant — since it started in the spring instead of the fall, its first season was only composed of seven episodes. That’s hardly enough time for a show to get settled into its own skin and discover its direction, which is perhaps why fans eagerly awaited the premiere of season two on Oct. 23. And if this episode, entitled “A Reunion…” is any indication, there are great things to come from ABC’s resident “B----.”

The show itself focuses on June, played by Dreama Walker, a wide-eyed girl from the Midwest who moves to New York City for her dream job. On her very first day however, the company shuts down, her company apartment is taken away and she finds out her fiancé is a cheater.

The one upside is that she moves in with Chloe, played by Krysten Ritter, a party girl, manipulative con woman and the legendary bitch of the show’s title. The girls, along with Chloe’s best friend, James Van Der Beek (playing a fictionalized version of himself), of “Dawson’s Creek” fame, and James’ assistant Luther, played by Ray Ford, get into implausible comical situations, living the craziest life possible in New York City.

In the season two premiere, however, the show places its focus on James. Though his wealth and iconic role as Dawson Leery are often a punch line on the show (and the theme song has been played too many times to count), no storyline has really focused entirely on him. In one way, it was an excellent strategic move — Chloe as a character, though delightful in her manipulation and irresponsibility, can be overwhelming as a character, and sometimes read as cruel for first time viewers. James, on the other hand, is simply silly and oddly charming, despite his ridiculous vanity.

The episode begins when James receives an invitation to do a “Dawson’s Creek” reunion, which he apparently receives every year and always refuses, as a realization of his power. As he says in the episode, “It wasn’t Pacey, Jen and Joey’s creek!” However, after June, a huge “Creek” fan, convinces him to attend the reunion, he finds out that all the letters he has been coming from Chloe, as both a manipulation to benefit from his good mood and a way to make him feel better, and that the cast of “Dawson’s Creek” all hate James. He then becomes desperate to make the reunion in any way possible, going so far as to ambush Frankie Muniz in a grocery store and plead with him to make a “Malcolm in the Middle”/“Dawson’s Creek” reunion.

Van Der Beek plays his role flawlessly in this episode. The perfect mix of cocky star and desperate has-been wanting to reclaim an ounce of fame, he manages to maintain his normal character while making the transition from “used to be Dawson Leery” to “actual human being.” In fact, being able to see past his bravado on “Reunion…” makes him appear as the most well-rounded he’s been thus far in the series — while he normally just plays Chloe’s famous sidekick, good for a laugh or two, here he is shown as an actual person, and in all the better for it.

Van Der Beek wasn’t the only one who shined in this episode. June having a panic attack about her new life in New York, Van Der Beek wasn’t the only one who shined in this episode. June having a panic attack about her new life in New York, and James is shown as an actual person, and in all the better for it.

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NJR puts on a legendary show, revamps classics

Juniors Mary Jaeggers leads NJR in its “American Legends” show on Oct. 19.

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1. Focusing on replicating the existing pieces. This kind of individual interpretation was possible thanks to the large cast, who were able to focus specifically on certain sets. This led, without exception, to an infectious amount of energy onstage. The show, for which planning began in July, was based on an NJR member’s proposal. From there, Shepneck auditioned interested participants in August to carry out her vision as the show’s director.

A show should be deemed a success if it can keep its audience on its feet for a good two-and-a-half hours without ever lagging. NJR managed this difficult feat with constant energy — when entertainers look like they’re having fun, they audience will too. Starting with a folk segment was perfect for setting the tone for the concert before transitioning into the power ballads of the blues.

Ending with pieces more familiar to the audience was effective in assuring that the crowd would hum the melodies all the way back to their dorms. It was easy to be skeptical of claims that NJR was going to cover songs made famous by legends for multiple generations, but the group surpassed all expectations and made this show one to remember.

Carris is a member of the class of 2016.
ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Kristina Diaz — Women’s Soccer

My dad, because he was my coach when I was little. He basically taught me everything I know and still supports me at all my games.

What's your favorite thing about UR?
I like the culture. I like the academic aspect of it because it drives me and is competitive.

What is your favorite thing to do off campus?
I like visiting the local parks. There are a lot of rural parks that I like to go see and walk around.

What advice would you give to freshmen?
Utilize everything that you can. Reach out to everything that you're interested in, such as clubs or extracurricular activities. Get involved in different organizations, because your college experience goes beyond the classroom.

What do you plan to do after graduation?
I'm looking for a job in New York City, or in a different city on the east coast.

**Field hockey’s final match in Liberty League play leaves team in three way tie for fourth**

UR senior defender Kristina Diaz's first collegiate goal helped the 'Jackets draw against highly-ranked Vassar College 1-1 in double OT on Saturday, Oct. 20.

Bernstein leads men to team state title, Norton named individual champion in historic win

with RPI and Skidmore College. All three teams sport 4-2 records in league play, and will complete a tiebreaker at the end of the regular season to determine seeds for the Liberty League Championships.

UR plays The College at Brockport to conclude the regular season on Saturday, Oct. 22 at Fauver Stadium.

Bernstein is a member of the class of 2014.
Cross country takes home two titles in NYSCTC races

BY HARLI COZEN
SENIOR STAFF

Both the men's and women's cross country teams had an impressive showing at the New York State Collegiate Track Conference (NYSCTC) Championship in Fairport, N.Y. on Saturday, Oct. 20, with the men taking home the team state title since 2008. Junior John Bernstein placed fourth overall as the individual female state champion title. The women's cross country team also held their own in the state championship race, finishing in a respectable fourth place position out of twelve competing teams.

However, the real Cinderella story was that of Lauren Norton, who finished first in the case of a tie) seniors Roncaioli placing 20th and Kimoto, who placed 16th with a time of 26:30.27 and 26:18.48. Hamilton finished strong at 26:17.97 and Pachek clocked in with a time of 26:18.08.

After Bernstein was the early leader with a time of 14:43 into the top 16, which truly clinched the team title for the Jackers. Not far behind Bernstein were junior Adam Pachek and senior Dan Hamilton, who finished seventh and eighth, respectively. Pachek clocked in with a time of 26:17.97 and Hamilton finished strong at 26:18.48. Soon after came sophomore Mark Roffls, who placed 13th with a time of 26:26.41, junior Yuji Wakimoto, who placed 16th with a time of 26:30.27 and placers (runners whose score does not count toward the team total except in the case of a tie) seniors Joseph Moutingo and Justin Roncaioli placing 20th and 22nd, respectively. With these strong performances, UR was able to edge out their closest opponent, St. Lawrence University, by 42 points, earning the Jackers the 2012 New York State Cross Country Championship title.

In a strong display of both individual and team effort, UR's runners finishing in the top 16, which truly clinched the team title for the Jackers. Not far behind Bernstein were junior Adam Pachek and senior Dan Hamilton, who finished seventh and eighth, respectively. Pachek clocked in with a time of 26:17.97 and Hamilton finished strong at 26:18.48. Soon after came sophomore Mark Roffls, who placed 13th with a time of 26:26.41, junior Yuji Waki- monto, who placed 16th with a time of 26:30.27 and placers (runners whose score does not count toward the team total except in the case of a tie) seniors Joseph Moutingo and Justin Roncaioli placing 20th and 22nd, respectively. With these strong performances, UR was able to edge out their closest opponent, St. Lawrence University, by 42 points, earning the Jackers the 2012 New York State Cross Country Championship title.

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Field hockey’s winning streak comes to an end against RPI

BY JOHN BERNSTEIN
SENIOR STAFF

After trouncing the competition by a combined score of 22-5 in their last five games, the women's field hockey team couldn’t seem to find their stride against a stiff Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. The Yellowjackets are three University Athletic Association (UAA) conference matches, all of which will take place at home in Faueurs Stad- um. They will play Washington University in St. Louis on Friday, Oct. 26, followed by a match on Sunday, Oct. 28 against the University of Chi- cago. The Jackers will wrap up their season on Saturday, Nov. 3 against Case Western Reserve University.

Chapman is a member of the class of 2016.

The 'Jackets took on Kean University on Sunday, Oct. 20, looking to continue their six-game winning streak. Over these past six games, UR went 3-0-3 and faced three top-ten ranked opponents. Goals from sophomore forwards Nick Pastore and Alex Swanger allowed the 'Jackets to extend their streak to seven games in Saturday’s 2-0 win.

The number of runners competing in the NYSCTC Championships. Norton won the individual state title with a time of 22:18.08.