

# Campus Times

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Snow Showers  
High 26, Low 21

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## Seligman speaks on diversity, safety

BY JARED SMITH  
NEWS EDITOR

University President Joel Seligman hosted a Town Hall in the Gowen Room of Wilson Commons on Monday, Feb. 18.

Before an audience of 30 undergraduate students and a smattering of graduate students, Seligman began the meeting with a brief overview, discussing College Town as well as campus diversity.

Seligman first touched on the work being done on the College Town project, describing what may be included in the finished product. With 1,600 new parking spaces to be provided, the development will cover 15 acres at the corner of Mt. Hope and Elmwood Avenues.

The development will include housing units in addition to the housing planned near Brook's Landing.

Despite the increased

housing units, Seligman emphasized that the student body population would not be growing significantly as a result.

College Town is due for summer construction, with the ground breaking in May.

One student asked Seligman about the decline of the on-campus social scene and the safety risks involved as more students go off-campus to find parties. The student claimed that in a discussion with an officer from the Rochester Police Department, they had said that they were nervous with the increased numbers of UR students entering the 19th Ward.

Seligman made it clear that safety is a fundamental concern of the University. Our campus exists in a bubble and the administration works hard to provide an

SEE FORUM ON PAGE 4

## Increased monetary goals drive United Way



COURTESY OF ROCHESTER.EDU

Participants of the United Way volunteer program involved in a community revitalization project at a local YMCA.

BY LEAH BULETTI  
SENIOR STAFF

UR President Joel Seligman will now serve as the 2013 Chair of the United Way of Greater Rochester, a community fundraising campaign that targets Rochester's critical issues after chairing the University's branch of the campaign, which was created in Thursday, Feb. 14, since 2005.

The University's fundraising goal has increased by 10 percent from last year to \$1.5 million, evidence

of increasing participation seen in recent years, Seligman said.

"When I'm Chair, I'm hopeful that we'll do particularly well," he explained, noting that his new position will not change how the University conducts its annual campaign.

President of United Way of Greater Rochester Peter Carpino said the organization seeks a "high-profile community leader" to chair the campaign.

"[Seligman] has truly  
SEE GIVE ON PAGE 3



DRUE SOKOL / SENIOR STAFF

## ILLSTYLE AND PEACE PRODUCTIONS TAKES CENTER STAGE

On Saturday, Feb. 16, the Philadelphia based hip-hop troupe "Illstyle and Peace Productions" showcased the group's diverse fusion of dance disciplines as part of the third annual *inspireDANCE* festival.

## Five SA senators resign within one year, cite personal reasons

BY ANGELA REMUS  
NEWS EDITOR

In the last year, five senators resigned from the Students' Association (SA) Senate, a position that is traditionally a year-long term. The resigned senators include senior Sonja Page, sophomore Humma Sheikh, junior David Wang, junior Greg Corrado, and senior Eric DeMeo.

Page, who resigned this November, served as a Class of 2013 Senator and the Projects & Services Committee Co-Chair. After work as an SA aide her first two years at UR, she assumed the role of Co-Chair as a junior and held it through the fall of 2012.

According to Page, her position as Co-Chair took approximately 20 hours weekly to fulfill, an obligation that became too much by her senior year.

"I wasn't contributing as much as I could," Page said. "It wasn't fair to my constituents or to me that I couldn't give it my all."

At the Feb. 11 Senate meeting, members voted to leave Page's seat vacant for the remainder of the year. Although Page's seat is not filled by a specific senator representing the

class of 2013, there are two other 2013 senators and five at-large senators who represent the student body as a whole.

Sheikh was a Class of 2015 senator and Projects & Services Co-Chair with Page when she resigned last November.

"I resigned purely for personal reasons," Sheikh said. "My resignation is not in any way a reflection of the SA."

Her position in the Senate was filled by sophomore Tom Perrotta, the next Class of 2015 candidate in line, and the vacated Chair position was filled by an application process.

Although senators have an obligation to the students they have been elected to represent, they also have personal commitments as students themselves. The Senate resignations are not unjustified.

"They definitely have a responsibility to themselves as students," sophomore Emily Roemer said. "But they obviously signed up for the position, so they have some responsibility."

Students largely empathized with senators' personal decisions to resign from Senate.

"There are always extenuating circumstances," junior Patrick Harrington said. "But I guess it's ideal that they stay in office. That's what they signed up for."

Wang was a Class of 2014 senator, a position in which he served for a year and a half, and member of the Students' Association Appropriations Committee (SAAC).

With his relatively long tenure as a senator, Wang surprised most when he resigned at the first meeting of the spring 2013 semester. Junior Benjamin Bade, the runner-up, filled his place.

As a Senator on SAAC, Wang voted on supplemental funding propositions and worked on yearly budgeting.

Wang resigned from Senate to become a SAAC accountant. He still gets a vote at supplemental funding hearings, but works more closely with student groups on a regular basis.

"I really wanted to get more involved with different organizations and really work with them," Wang said. "My interests differed from being a senator."

Wang's decision, unlike others', was decided not for academic reasons, but

SEE QUIT ON PAGE 4



AARON SCHAFFER / PHOTO EDITOR

In the past year, five senators have resigned from the SA Senate. Four of the positions were filled, but the most recent Senate seat was left vacant, leaving 17 Senators to sit at the Monday meetings.

# FIVE-DAY FORECAST

COURTESY OF WEATHER.COM

## FRIDAY



Snow Showers  
Chance of precipitation: 30%  
High 38, Low 35

## SATURDAY



Showers  
Chance of precipitation: 30%  
High 43, Low 31

## SUNDAY



Partly Cloudy  
Chance of precipitation: 20%  
High 36, Low 28

## MONDAY



Partly Cloudy  
Chance of precipitation: 20%  
High 40, Low 33

## TUESDAY



Snow  
Chance of precipitation: 70%  
High 37, Low 32



DRUE SOKOL / SENIOR STAFF

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY SUE B: UR COMMEMORATES WOMEN'S RIGHTS ACTIVIST

The UR community celebrated Susan B. Anthony's birthday on Friday, Feb. 15 with a talk at her gravesite in Mount Hope Cemetery, followed by a reception in Rush Rhees Library. The events were sponsored by the Susan B. Anthony Institute for Gender and Women's Studies.

## THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS

### THURSDAY FEBRUARY 21

#### EXHIBIT TALK: BEING HERE

4 - 5 P.M., GOWEN ROOM, WILSON COMMONS  
Artist Janice Jakielski will present on her artwork inspired by both the Victorian era and modern technology. Her work will be displayed at the Hartnett Gallery until March 31.

#### SUSAN B. ANTHONY AND THE POLITE WORLD

5 - 6 P.M., GOWEN ROOM, WILSON COMMONS  
Journalist, author, and etiquette authority Judith Martin is the second lecturer in the Susan B. Anthony Humanities Project. A catered reception will follow her presentation.

### FRIDAY FEBRUARY 22

#### DANTE AND THE ARTS

10 A.M. - 5 P.M., ROBBINS LIBRARY, RUSH RHEES LIBRARY  
This event will include presentations by lecturers from Italy, Peru, NYU, and UR and focus on Dante and his influence in the history of art.

#### SUSTAINABILITY SEMINAR: IH+

2 - 3 P.M., ROOM 2-110D, DEWEY HALL  
The sustainability app designed by UR Assistant Professor of Studio Art Cary Peppermint and partner Leila Nadir. The app promotes ecological awareness in urban settings.

#### MUSIC DEPARTMENT ENSEMBLE PERFORMANCE

8 P.M. - 12 A.M., STRONG AUDITORIUM  
This concert will include ensemble performances by the River Campus Wind Symphony and Jazz Ensemble departments. Admission is free.

### SATURDAY FEBRUARY 23

#### SOUND EXCHANGE ORCHESTRA CONCERT

6:30 - 7:45 P.M., MAY ROOM, WILSON COMMONS  
This concert is a multimedia feature designed by four professors from the Rochester Institute of Technology. Tickets are \$7 and can be purchased online at [brownpapertickets.com](http://brownpapertickets.com).

#### THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES

8 - 9:45 P.M., HUBBELL AUDITORIUM  
The presentation is part of the One Billion Rising movement for women's rights, exploring the health and emotional aspects of the female life. Funds raised are donated towards the global V-Day campaign to stop violence against women and girls.

#### HOPE IN HEALTH 2013: YOUTH IN ACTION

6:30 P.M., GRAND BALLROOM, MELIORA RESTAURANT  
GlobeMed's second annual benefit dinner will support Kallpa Iquitos, an organization in Peru. The Midnight Ramblers and an Eastman flute quartet will perform. Tickets can be purchased using declining for \$15 at the Common Market.

### MONDAY FEBRUARY 25

#### IMAGING SCIENCES LECTURE

12:30 - 1:30 P.M., ROOM G-9425, URM  
The lecture, presented by president and chief executive officer of Siemens Healthcare North America, will cover the challenges of several new payment methods and the use of Biograph mMR and PET-MRI.

#### FILM SCREENING: FOLLOW ME DOWN

5 - 7 P.M., ROOM 203, MELIORA HALL  
The film follows the experiences of imprisoned musicians in Louisiana. The screening is sponsored by the Department of Religion and Classics, the Department of Anthropology, and the Frederick Douglass Institute.

Please email calendar submissions or announcements to [news@campustimes.org](mailto:news@campustimes.org).

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](mailto:editor@campustimes.org).

## SECURITY UPDATE

# Pranksters shatter their way into pool

BY ANGELA REMUS  
NEWS EDITOR

## Man requests room in SBA

1. On Feb. 18, at 1:36 p.m., officers responded to a reported burglary inside Spurrier Gym, UR Security Investigator Roger Keirsbilck said.

Officers discovered that people had entered the building through the mechanical room on the basement level sometime over the weekend.

Once inside the mechanical room, the intruders smashed a window, gaining access to the pool area. The intruders apparently went into the pool area, where graffiti and empty beer bottles were found. A door handle near the rear of the building was also damaged.

Rochester Police responded and found nothing missing at the time.

## Unauthorized visitor at Sibley Music Library

2. On Feb. 15, at 6:29 p.m., an unauthorized man was reported at the Eastman's Sibley music Library, Keirsbilck said.

Officers found the man in one of the private rooms within the library, with the lights off, listening to his ipod.

The man admitted that he was not affiliated with UR and that he came to the library to use the internet.

The man was escorted from the building and banned from returning.

3. On Feb. 14, at 10:00 p.m., a student working the service desk in Susan B. Anthony when she was approached by a man who told her he was a new student at UR.

The student asked the man what room was his, to which he replied that he needed a room with a bed.

The man could not give clear answers about his room or any classes he was taking and repeatedly asked for a room with a bed.

After several minutes conversing with the student, the man left and walked towards the University Health Services building.

Officers could not find the man, according to Keirsbilck.

## Man tries to warm up in ECB

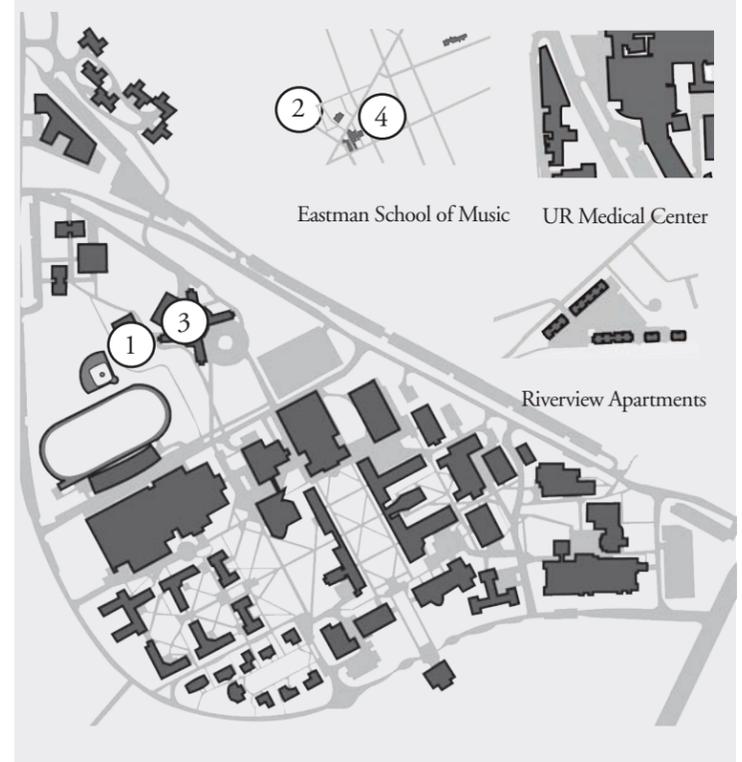
4. On Feb. 14, at 12:54 a.m., a security officer at the Eastman Commons Building front door saw a man follow a student into the building.

The man did not appear to be of college age and did not have an ID.

When questioned, the man said he was not affiliated with UR and admitted to entering the building to get warm.

According to Keirsbilck, the male was cooperative and left the property.

*Remus is a member of the class of 2016. Information provided by UR Security.*



# United Way prepared to launch in tough economy

GIVE FROM PAGE 1

shown great support for our community and our United Way throughout the years so we knew he would be a great chair for our campaign," Carpino said.

UR has participated in the United Way of Greater Rochester since George Eastman founded the fund, then called the War Chest, in 1918. UR has been one of the largest fundraisers for United Way for many years, Carpino said.

The overall monetary goal of the campaign will not be announced until March 7, but

Carpino said that under Seligman's leadership, the campaign is "setting out to increase participation, especially participation at the leadership level."

"[Seligman] and the campaign cabinet have developed a very strategic fundraising plan for this year, and we have high hopes for the success of this year's campaign," Carpino said.

The University will officially launch its campaign on Feb. 28. Fundraising will end the first week of May.

Director of the University's United Way campaign Andrea DeMeo also said that this year's goal is increased participation.

"Every gift makes a difference, no matter the size," she said.

In a video about the 2013 campaign, Seligman explained

**"This is our community and we want to support it. We are not a community in decline."**

- University President Joel Seligman

that the transition of Rochester's local economy to a "more diverse base with fewer large businesses inspires many of us to become more like George Eastman ourselves by making a greater commitment than in the past."

UR optical engineering professor Duncan Moore noted in an op-ed in The New York Times last February that Kodak's demise did not lead to the economic devastation seen in cities such as Detroit because high-skilled workers, including those laid off from Kodak, created

"a valuable labor pool for start-up companies, particularly in optics and photonics."

Unlike other cities in the Rust Belt, Rochester's entrepreneurial class, nurtured by the presence of higher education institutions like UR and RIT, has been instrumental in providing jobs and economic vitality post-Kodak and other large employers, Moore wrote.

"This is a tougher year than some because Kodak entered bankruptcy organization and there's been some downsizing among major employers," Seligman said. "This is our community and we want to support it. We are not a community in decline."

*Buletti is a member of the class of 2013.*

## UR health care incentivizes wellness program

BY ANGELA REMUS  
NEWS EDITOR

Full and part-time faculty, staff, Service Employees International Union (SEIU) members, and family members covered by UR health care plans are eligible for a health and wellness program, YOURhealthofferings, developed as a joint effort between UR Medical Center's Healthy Living Center and the School of Nursing's Center for Employee Wellness.

The program offers lifestyle programs for weight loss, cholesterol and blood pressure management, stress reduction, and smoking cessation. The program also includes services for chronic conditions like asthma, diabetes, and low back pain, among others.

As an incentive to take the first step in making use of the program, a \$125 bonus is being offered to those who complete a personal health assessment, which includes a biometric screening, by March 31. Other monetary incentives are available upon completion of different wellness programs.

Both one-on-one and group support are available. The programs include a physician, nurse practitioner, dietitians, social workers, exercise physiologist,

clinical psychologist, and a tobacco counselor.

"The University is dedicated to helping employees live healthier, feel better, and make the best possible health choices," Director of the School of Nursing Center for Employee Wellness Lisa Norsen said in a statement. "We're proud to support the University's commitment to its workforce and offer a trusted, experienced resource to employees who want to achieve their optimum level of health. It's a privilege to partner with employees and help them more clearly understand, improve, and take charge of their health so that they can feel their best in both their professional and personal lives."

None of the employees or SEIU members contacted with regards to this story were familiar with the program.

SEIU spokesman and regional vice-president Bruce Popper was also unfamiliar with the program but noted that members of 1199 SEIU have access to a Benefit Fund with wellness programs and other health materials. That program is operated by the Southwest Rochester YMCA and UR's Center for Community Health.

*Remus is a member of the class of 2016.*



COURTESY OF FAIRMOUNT PROPERTIES

## COLLEGE TOWN DEVELOPMENT CONTINUES

Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance Ronald J. Paprocki visited the SA Senate on Monday, Feb. 18 to discuss progress with College Town, which will include a 140 room Hilton Garden Inn and a "Flour City Provisions" grocery store.

## UR physics professor explores energy harvesting, recycles power for electronics

BY WILL O'BRIEN  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Associate Professor of Physics Andrew Jordan and his team have started development on a device that recycles the heat produced by electronics, which can then be used to power that same device.

The project was designed in response to the increasing need for alternative energy.

The work, which took place in Geneva, Switzerland was published on Feb. 13 in Physics Review B.

"Our electronics industry generates a huge amount of waste," Jordan explained. "Finding practical ways to recycle some of it would be a major development in this area."

Jordan's team consists of Rafael Sanchez from the Material Science Institute of Madrid and Bjorn Sothmann and Markus Buttiker from the University of Geneva.

The team developed the major ideas for the current model of their energy harvester in just one week.

"[It was an] extraordinarily productive time," Jordan said.

According to Jordan, it is an improvement over their previ-

ous concept because it is capable of producing more energy. He believes it is an efficient design that could be created with nano-electrical physics. The engine works in a manner similar to a light bulb.

The heat is released from the electronic device that the energy harvester is attached to. It is then directed through a series of nanotunnels that send the heat to quantum dots. The dots heat up and store the energy so that it can be redirected to charge the original electronic device.

"A fixed temperature difference comes from the source of energy, perhaps the heat generated from the computer chip," Jordan said. "That causes electrons to preferentially move in one direction, depending on the properties of the quantum dots."

Energy harvesting is one of the newest areas of study in physics and nanotechnology and Jordan is new to the field himself. The current energy harvesting model Jordan's team is working on is known as the "Swiss Cheese Sandwich," which is a type of "nano steam locomotive," Jordan said, but with an important difference.

"There are no moving parts—

the engine is entirely electrical, exploiting physical properties of the resonant tunneling quantum dots," he said. "Electrical power is generated in a circuit that connects one side of the engine to the other, which is all at the same temperature."

The ability to stack multiple Swiss Cheese Sandwiches to create a network of energy harvesters makes them very versatile, allowing them to fit in everything from a small MP3 player to a motherboard.

While the designs are only in the theoretical stages at this point, this type of technology could be used on almost anything requiring a microchip.

"The paper by Jordan and co-workers finds a seemingly counter-intuitive result; that an electron which is pumped uphill in energy by simply jumping from a cold to a hot material can serve as a potentially significant power source," Chemistry professor Todd Krauss said. "The simplicity of the proposed device enabled by semiconductor quantum dot nanotechnology holds great promise."

The team recently applied for a patent through UR's Office of Technology Transfer.

*O'Brien is a member of the class of 2014.*

## PHILLY WEDNESDAYS

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# Tuition increases discussed at town hall



AARON SCHAFER / PHOTO EDITOR

President Seligman fielded questions on a wide range of issues from students at a Town Hall meeting on Monday, Feb. 18.

## FORUM FROM PAGE 1

adequate on campus social scene, he said. He added that he believed the fraternities on campus would return in strength over time.

Seligman continued by discussing the current Fisher v. University of Texas court case. The case involves a white Texan woman who was denied admission to the University of Texas.

She decided to file suit, claiming that the University had denied her admission on the basis of race with the belief that the policies of affirmative action lead to an unfair admissions process.

While the outcome could affect the college admission process, Seligman also described the intangible effects.

"While it affects universities and colleges, it's also about what kind of country we are," he said. "I worry about changing our nature, if it's the wrong decision."

Whatever the outcome, Seligman assured the audience that UR would continue upholding its commitment to diversity.

Later in the meeting a student from the Douglas Leadership House asked about any policies in place for faculty diversity. Seligman discussed the difficulties inherent with tenured professors and the effort to diversify. He continued to say that while quotas aren't allowed, "hiring practices have been coordinated to encourage diversification of the faculty."

A student, worried about the recent turnover of the previous Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra

conductor Arild Remmeriet, inquired about Seligman's dedication to the organization.

After briefly delineating the history of the RPO, Seligman stated that UR wouldn't make a financial guarantee to the orchestra. While he will do as much as he can to

**While it affects universities and colleges, it's also about what kind of country we are. I worry about changing our nature, if it's the wrong decision.**

- UR President Joel Seligman

encourage its survival, UR employs over 22,000 employees and acts as the largest employer in the area, a commitment that "comes first."

A freshman student took the opportunity to ask Seligman about the increases in tuition, questioning whether costs would rise and what has caused the hikes in the past.

He responded first that tuition had to be adjusted initially due to inflation and that the university was committed to providing the highest quality of education. Part of providing that sort of quality comes from attracting and maintaining the best faculty possible. In some instances,

that involves negotiating with professors who are being courted by both UR and other institutions. In addition to maintaining an excellent staff, UR works to provide advanced labs, libraries, and other functional buildings, however these costs are increasing at a slower rate than previously.

In a moment of nostalgia, Seligman described his first year at college in California during the 1960's: his total expenses for the year came out to \$300. Four years later when entering law school, costs had risen to \$3,000 a year. He said that the educational environment has changed entirely, and their costs are consistent with the highest quality of education that can be provided.

The meeting continued with a range of topics, from a discussion about UR's relationship with the Rochester City School District to how Seligman would present the institution if he were a tour guide for prospective students.

In a final, poignant moment, Seligman was asked what he would like to see grow organically from the student body what could be worked towards. He responded by describing the changing student body. As the population of international students increases, Seligman encouraged students to focus on inclusiveness to become more welcoming as an organization. He's hopeful that in doing so, the students will learn about the depth of the cultures represented at UR.

*Smith is a member of the class of 2014.*

# Senators give personal reasons for resignation

## QUIT FROM PAGE 1

rather personal interest.

Corrado's resignation was the most typical, taking place on Dec. 10, 2012 after giving notice at the beginning of the fall 2012 semester about his plans to go abroad this spring.

DeMeo resigned on Oct. 25, 2012 and declined to comment.

The Senate was notified of his resignation on Oct. 15. According to the meeting minutes, Speaker of the Senate and junior Shilpa

Topudurti informed the Senate that "DeMeo has chosen to resign from his position after a great deal of reflection" and accepted his resignation.

The Senate seats left empty in the past have been filled with runner-ups, through an application process, or, in the case of Page, left vacant.

"I think choosing the runner-up is a good idea," Roemersaid. "They showed an interest before, and they were the second choice."

Harrington seconded Roemer's opinion, adding, "I don't see anything wrong with an application process as long as preference is given to the runner-ups."

None of the students interviewed were aware that senators representing their classes had resigned.

The SA did not notify students directly of the senators' resignations, but meeting minutes are posted on the SA's website.

*Remus is a member of the class of 2016.*

## CAMPUS BRIEFS

### NYS Department of Education awards grant to Warner School to educate Rochester teachers

The New York State Department of Education awarded the Warner School of Education a \$749,985 grant to support the Clinically Rich Urban School Leadership Program. The grant will afford Rochester City School District teachers the chance for professional development and field experiences.

Teachers who participate in the program will have the opportunity to explore administrative roles and take courses at Warner, preparing them for future leadership positions in the Rochester City School District.

The grant covers 35 percent of teachers' tuition costs. The Warner school covers an additional 20 percent.

The program is designed to help urban school districts across the country improve student performance. The program involves a 27-credit-hour Advanced Certificate that allows K-12 teachers to earn an administrative certification while still holding a full-time teaching position.

### HIV research at URMC funded by \$900,000 grant

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality awarded a three-year grant to Associate Professor of Biostatistics and Computational biology Dongwen Wang and Associate Professor of Medicine Amneris Luque to continue cutting-edge research on HIV as well as circulate care guidelines based on evolving evidence amongst care providers for HIV-positive patients.

Wang and Luque have worked for the past seven years at the New York State Department of Health-sponsored HIV Clinical Education Initiative.

A main goal of their project is to inform health care providers of new treatment options and research via easy, Internet-based communication options.

*Angela Remus is a member of the class of 2016.*

## IN ROCHESTER

### Rochester says city ill-equipped to host 2024 Olympics

The chief executive officer of the United States Olympic Committee sent the city of Rochester an unsolicited letter on Tuesday, Feb. 21 to gauge its interest in potentially hosting the 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

The city, however, lacks both the financial resources and the facilities to consider an application, according to an article in the Democrat and Chronicle. In the bid process for the Games alone, New York and Chicago have spent more than \$10 million. Hosting the games requires at least 45,000 hotel rooms and state-of-the-art facilities for media and athletes to comprise the Olympic Village.

The city of Rochester will host the annual State Winter Games for the Special Olympics this coming weekend. More than 650 athletes are expected to attend.

### UR alumna reported missing in Waterford area

Anna Kroup '10, 24, has been missing since shortly after midnight on Monday, Feb. 17. Kroup, who graduated with a degree in English and theater, was last seen at her residence in Waterford, a suburb of Albany.

Police, who are describing Kroup as 5' 4" and 115 pounds, are still working to locate Kroup and, as of Wednesday, have no leads.

Kroup graduated from Waterford-Halfmoon High School in 2006, according to her Facebook profile. Her "About Me" reads: "When I grow up I want to be young and impressive. I'm a rover and a collector of loves."

### Gas prices in Rochester remain high, likely to increase through April

Gas prices in Rochester are slated to continue increasing until April after hovering at higher-than-average prices compared to last year, according to the American Automobile Association.

Regular gas was \$3.95 a gallon in Rochester on Wednesday, Feb. 20. Nationwide, gas prices are up 45 cents since mid-January, and experts say they could rise 20-50 cents a gallon to hit all-time highs. Some attribute this to refineries shutting down for maintenance or damage as a result of Hurricane Sandy.

"We may well be heading for \$4 a gallon and maybe \$4.50," William E. Simon School of Business and Administration Professor of Marketing George Cook told the Democrat and Chronicle. "The numbers are scary, and the rate of ascension in terms of the price is scary. This thing has got to slow down, and I don't know that I see it slowing down."

Last year, prices in Rochester hit a high of \$4.09 a gallon on April 17.

*Leah Buletti is a member of the class of 2013.*

# OPINIONS

EDITORIAL CARTOON



ALEX KURLAND / STAFF ILLUSTRATOR

EDITORIAL OBSERVER

## Instagram dethroned



**AARON SCHAFFER**  
PHOTO EDITOR

how to properly use Instagram. With great power comes great responsibility.

Many of the presets on Instagram give images the appearances of looking “hip.” They add cheesy vignettes and fake-looking borders reminiscent of Polaroids, blur certain parts of images, give tints to the images, and more. What’s sad is that this actually appeals to the vast majority of people, numbering hundreds of millions. Instagram is the epitome of superficial, modern conformity. Why do you want to take pictures that look exactly like millions of pictures that other people around the world are taking? Be unique.

When you take pictures with Instagram, your perception of life becomes warped. You start to see the world in terms of photographable and nonphotographable. Your painted toenails suddenly become something more than painted toenails. This is especially problematic because you end up getting the least out of life. You are stuck trying to present your life as an artificial, picture-perfect world, hence the unnecessary and usually bizarre effects. Your toes become your gateway into the world of “art”. Is it just me, or does this sound incredibly stupid? Instagram is basically Autotune in the visual world, distorting your creations and making them seem fake.

Real hipsters use real Polaroid cameras. Wannabe-hipster, 16-year olds with no knowledge of old-school photography use Instagram.

I’m not trying to say that you need a “real camera” to take good pictures. But what I am trying to say is that you don’t need to add horrible looking effects to uncreative pictures to make them look creative. There’s a better solution: take creative pictures and don’t put a horrible filter over it.

Seriously, it reduces photography to garbage. Don’t use it.

*Schaffer is a member of the class of 2016.*

If you haven’t been living under a rock, chances are you’ve heard of something called Instagram. If you have been living under a rock, let me fill you in. Instagram is a smartphone app that lets you apply filters to your photos, and share them with your friends. These filters crop the pictures you take into a square à la Polaroid. They also change the hue. That’s all it does. It makes pictures look terrible, and hundreds of millions of people use it.

The biggest problem that I have with Instagram is that it is simple and unintuitive. All one has to do while “instagramming” is select presets and add hashtags that do absolutely nothing for the photo. This takes no skill whatsoever. There’s no manual mode, nor are there ways to stand out creatively. This lack of options just raises the self-esteem of “instagrammers” who think that the photos they take are art simply because they are on Instagram. It’s the “I do art” mentality that is destroying this planet from the inside out.

On top of that, many of the pictures that go through Instagram are so trivial that the content is void of meaning. Personally, I don’t enjoy seeing pictures of pets, feet, or food with a color palette somewhere between puke and shit.

The sad truth is that Instagram is a great way to share photographs, but the processing of images and results of that processing make it a joke in the world of photography. Instagram is fairly useful for journalists or other photographers who have to juggle a complex array of tools. But these 5% are in the vast minority of users who know

EDITORIAL BOARD

## Questioning the bottle ban

Roughly 16 universities across the United States and Canada have banned the sale of bottled water on their campuses, according to the “Ban the Bottle” campaign website. Team Green is hoping to add UR to that list.

The on-campus discussion has focused mainly on whether bottled or tap water is better, with Team Green conducting taste tests and some student surveys. Unfortunately, that is not the real issue at hand. The real debate is about whether or not banning all bottled water sales is the right decision for this campus.

It’s not.

Environmentally, it would seem that banning all bottled water would reduce waste, but there are unseen consequences. First, it takes much more energy to make reusable water bottles than it does to make recyclable plastic water bottles. A 1994 article in “Environmental Management” demonstrated that you would need to use a standard, reusable plastic cup over 200 times in order for its energy impact — including dish washing — to be less than that of foam cups. This same principle applies to reusable and plastic water bottles. Also, once those reusable water bottles have run their course, they usually end up in a landfill.

There has been no tangible evidence of sustainable success at other universities that have implemented the ban nor any theoretical research on a larger scale. Even if bottled water is a huge externality, an enormous social cost, a ban is not the way to minimize that. Since some students may value the convenience over the cost, a tax could be a possible solution. Banning it outright is not the economically or environmentally savvy choice unless you want students starting bottled-water black markets.

Banning the sale of bottled water will also drive up the sale of other bottled beverages including unhealthy sodas and sugary juice drinks. Director of Wilson Commons Laura Ballou said this would also pose a problem for campus events and student activities. If event planners cannot hand out bottled water, they would have to resort to less healthy options or use wasteful disposable cups because it can’t be guaranteed that every visitor will bring their own water bottle. Additionally, free bottled water is often donated from Coca-Cola, making the ban a large cost increase for student events. Similarly, a ban on bottled water sales would be a huge decrease in annual revenue for Dining Services in the amount of approximately \$274,557, based on the 2011-2012 fiscal year measures.

Even if UR was to proceed with the ill-advised ban, the school is not equipped to handle it. Half of the buildings on the Residential Quad do not have water fountains and the ones in Wilson Commons are few and far between. What’s worse, adding new water fountains or improving existing ones is an extreme cost that Facilities says is too great right now.

There also seems to be a definitive lack of student support for the ban; most attendees of the recent panel discussion on Thursday, Feb. 7 seemed opposed. Just because “everyone else is doing it,” which isn’t even the case, is not a reason to move forward. The *CT* holds UR and its students to a higher standard than that of the bandwagon mentality.

Director of Dining Services Cam Schauf says that this conversation should happen now so that we can make a decision and move on. We think it’s time to move on. Students should be focusing on more important things such as actually researching the potential environmental or economic effects of a policy like this. Jumping to conclusions — let alone bans — is an irresponsible example to set for a University community that prides itself on rigorous research and intellectual pursuits.

The above editorial is published with the consent of a majority of the editorial board: Antoinette Esce (Editor-in-Chief), Casey Gould (Managing Editor), Francis Hinson (Opinions Editor), Doug Brady (Features Editor), and Angela Remus (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](mailto:editor@campustimes.org).

## Campus Times

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“YOUR WORK IS TO DISCOVER YOUR WORK AND THEN, WITH ALL YOUR HEART, TO GIVE YOURSELF TO IT.” – BUDDHA

## The plague known as media bias

BY SARINA CHARUGUNDLA

Fortunately for serious minds, a bias recognized is a bias sterilized.” Such are the words of Benjamin Haydon, 19th-century painter. When watching, reading, or listening to the media, Haydon’s “serious mind” is vital. Bias is human: the communication of information from person to person often comes with subconscious personal additions that do not necessarily constitute fact.

Extracting information from the media is a challenge in and of itself; the naïve listener simply believes what is heard and the rash one ignores the full extent of information, but the wise one evaluates and weighs the matters discussed at hand, maintaining a firm awareness of the presence of bias.

Unfortunately, the wise listener is rare. The polarizing media commands a great and frightening influence on how Americans receive their information. The populous possesses such strong faith in the media’s ability to broadcast information that many believe all they see.

There exists some relief in the media’s broadness: several news television stations, newspaper and magazine publications, and radio stations cover many of the same topics from different angles. Es-

entially, they compete to captivate the viewer with an efficient and compelling layout of the news. The true problem arises, however, when the listener relies on only one source for news. When one exposes oneself to a single source for information,



ALEX KURLAND / STAFF ILLUSTRATOR

one runs the risk of indoctrination. As a result of the prevalence of bias in such cases, the listener unknowingly absorbs the matters of the world through a narrow scope.

Certain publications and shows demonstrate heavy bias when relaying the news. Fox News claims to maintain no bias in favor of conservatism; however, the Wall Street Journal, a renowned and prestigious newspaper publication, deemed

Fox news “a network sympathetic to the Bush cause and popular with Republicans.” Several news stations attack Fox for its clear bias against liberals and its supposed endorsement of certain conservative politicians. Just as there are arguably pro-republican news stations, there are also stations that demonstrate bias in favor of democrats. Critics bash MSNBC for its clear catering towards left-wing viewers and its overwhelming endorsement of Democrats. MSNBC anchor Chris Matthews says “he sees his job as a journalist as doing everything he can to make the Obama presidency a success.” Moreover, The Washington Post asserted that MSNBC “has tried to position itself as a left-wing alternative to Fox News Channel.”

The sheer volume of news sources coupled with the inevitable presence of media bias makes learning the news a meticulous trial. If we are to gain a clear understanding of present day affairs, the usage of news sources is encouraged but cautioned. We should never delve too deep into the opinions of others, lest we stray too far from fact. Once bias is “recognized” and “sterilized,” the means to develop one’s own opinion follows.

*Charugundla is a member of the class of 2016.*

## Looking back: Maybe Bush wasn’t so bad

BY MATTHEW SHINSEKI

The legacy of former President George W. Bush’s administration will forever be defined, and in many ways marred, by the war on terrorism in Iraq and Afghanistan. Unbeknownst to most of the American public however, Bush leaves behind another significant legacy. I’m by no means a huge fan of his entire presidency, but if Bush did get one thing right, it was his revolutionary new political philosophy.

When Bush ran for president, he campaigned under the banner of a different political ideology than any Republican candidate before him. Branding himself as a “compassionate conservative,” Bush espoused throughout his campaign that he would work to improve the general welfare of society through a conservative approach. Many of you must be confused as to how compassion in the political sense and conservatism can fit together. In reality, conservatism and compassion complement each other perfectly. Conservative values and ethics should encourage and enable citizens, private organizations, and religious groups to personally help the marginalized in society whenever possible. Throughout his presidency, Bush argued for policies in support of things such as welfare reform to promote individual responsibility, standards-based schools, various non-government domestic aid organizations, and assistance to developing countries. Bush believed all these policies could further

the social welfare of the country and world all while minimizing government bureaucracy.

So why is Bush’s compassionate conservatism relevant now? As was made clear in the November elections this past year, a large portion of the GOP, both at the local and national level, seems to have fallen out of touch with mainstream America. Social conservatives today grow increasingly fervent about issues like abortion and gay marriage. Equally over-idealistic fiscal conservatives remain stubborn and unwilling to agree to anything but spending cuts and tax breaks. The raucous din of the far-right that has quickly overtaken the GOP leaves relatively flummoxed. How can we keep the Republican Party relevant and win back voters without sacrificing our central ideals and voting base? Compassionate Conservatism. Instead of focusing solely on outlawing abortion, why not also work on supporting organizations and initiatives that aid single mothers and their children so the demand for abortions declines? Instead of only drastically cutting government programs, why not also work to empower private and religious organizations in their ability to provide service to the marginalized? Instead of just doling out tax breaks to stimulate the economy, why not also increase tax break incentives for charitable donations and service work? Instead of exclusively harping on border control and enforcement, why not also offer a fair way to integrate illegal immigrants into our economy with those who immigrate legally?

Now is not the time for extremism, but a time for a sensible, moderate, and compassionate take on conservatism. Coming from a Catholic high school, I’ve always seen the difference between a liberal, and a compassionate conservative as a redux of the parable of the Good Samaritan. When a liberal comes across a marginalized member of society, they wonder to themselves, “What is this country coming to? The government should do something about this” sometimes they help out personally, then they go to the polls and vote, resulting in many of the welfare programs today. When a compassionate conservative comes across a marginalized member of society, they ask themselves “What is this country coming to? I can’t believe no one else in the community has taken an interest in this guy!” They then take personal responsibility to feed them, clothe them, help them find shelter, then follows up and ensures there is a place for them as a productive member of society. What baffles me is the rhetoric both Republicans and Democrats throw around these days. It is not our welfare state nor even solely our free enterprise that makes America special — other countries have those things. What makes our country special is the American people. The ability for any man or woman to rise to success and achieve the American dream is limited only by hard work, ingenuity, and the compassion of their fellow Americans.

*Shinseki is a member of the class of 2015.*

## Windows 8 evaluation

BY BINLEY YANG

Windows 8 logically without emotions allows me to view this topic differently. People believe this drastic change is detrimental to the future of Microsoft and that Microsoft is grasping at straws to remain a prominent contender in the tech race. This assumption and attack at Microsoft’s ability is ridiculous, and releasing a completely redesigned product divulges Microsoft’s audacity and ability to innovate. Apple’s Mountain Lion is highly reminiscent of Apple’s previous operating systems with only a few changes to its OS. Yes, Microsoft has been shrouded by Apple’s OS and Google’s Android, but the new interface definitely propels Microsoft back to the top of the game. As young adults who are adept at assimilating to new environments and learning new technologies, we shouldn’t be condemning Microsoft for creating Windows 8. We should sit down and learn the macros and shortcuts in Windows 8, and maybe then we’ll realize the potential Windows 8 has to redefine the way we interact with computers and technology. Personally, I’d love to see more companies innovate. How many times has Apple been criticized for iOS 5 and iOS 6? With the past two OS updates, people from everyday users to tech geeks all feel disappointed. Apple has failed to make any significant changes that users want, and people are beginning to doubt the “cutting-edgeness” of the company that they once did. Although the changes Windows made didn’t appease a majority of its user base, Microsoft sends a clear message that tech companies should focus on innovation rather than pleasing the masses.



ALEX KURLAND / STAFF ILLUSTRATOR

Many users become frustrated when something completely new is thrown in their faces. They let their feelings of anger and frustration guide their actions, and openly bash on Windows 8. It’s human nature to be resistant to change, and that’s where the criticism and negativity begin. I admit to being stubborn to changes in my life, but analyzing

Windows 8 logically without emotions allows me to view this topic differently. People believe this drastic change is detrimental to the future of Microsoft and that Microsoft is grasping at straws to remain a prominent contender in the tech race. This assumption and attack at Microsoft’s ability is ridiculous, and releasing a completely redesigned product divulges Microsoft’s audacity and ability to innovate. Apple’s Mountain Lion is highly reminiscent of Apple’s previous operating systems with only a few changes to its OS.

Yes, Microsoft has been shrouded by Apple’s OS and Google’s Android, but the new interface definitely propels Microsoft back to the top of the game. As young adults who are adept at assimilating to new environments and learning new technologies, we shouldn’t be condemning Microsoft for creating Windows 8. We should sit down and learn the macros and shortcuts in Windows 8, and maybe then we’ll realize the potential Windows 8 has to redefine the way we interact with computers and technology.

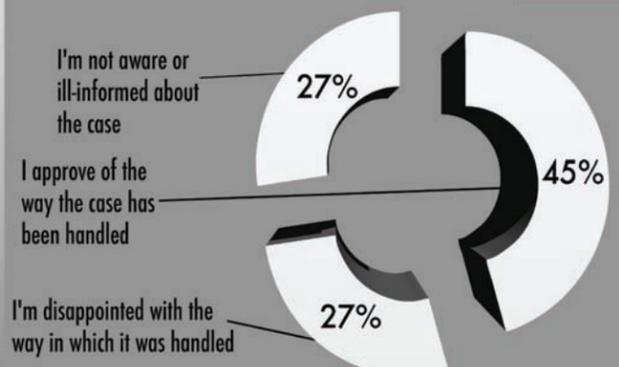
Personally, I’d love to see more companies innovate. How many times has Apple been criticized for iOS 5 and iOS 6? With the past two OS updates, people from everyday users to tech geeks all feel disappointed. Apple has failed to make any significant changes that users want, and people are beginning to doubt the “cutting-edgeness” of the company that they once did. Although the changes Windows made didn’t appease a majority of its user base, Microsoft sends a clear message that tech companies should focus on innovation rather than pleasing the masses.

*Yang is a member of the class of 2016.*

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WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT  
THE EX-LAPD COP MANHUNT?



NEXT WEEK'S QUESTION  
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE RUSSIAN  
METEOR BLAST?

# FEATURES



## OFF-CAMPUS JOBS: EARNING REAL WORLD EXPERIENCE

**T**he student has become the teacher. At least three days a week, that is.

Junior Nahoma Presberg takes five classes, works as the publicity manager for LOGOS, UR's art and literature journal, volunteers at School 33 once a week as a member of Partners in Reading, and frequents ASL Club's silent coffees. What you might not expect to discover, however, is that she's also a religious school teacher at Temple B'rith Kodesh, a reform synagogue on Elmwood Avenue.

It is not uncommon to find UR students working on campus in labs, dining facilities, department offices, and countless other positions, but the world doesn't end beyond University property. So what propels students to seek indefinite employment off-campus as opposed to an internship, which is typically held only for a certain period of time?

SEE **WORK** PAGE 10

Article by Melissa Goldin /  
Publisher

Design by Melody Kaohu /  
Presentation Editor



# 30 Hour Famine fosters student understanding of world hunger

BY MATT SHINSEKI  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

This Thursday, Feb. 21, UR students will be refraining from eating for over a day.

Called the “30 Hour Famine,” the event was started in 1971 by a group of teenagers in Alberta, Canada. By 1992, the first fundraising famines finally made their way to the United States.

Today, the 30 Hour Famine has grown exponentially into a worldwide fundraiser spanning 21 countries and coordinated by World Vision, a non-profit that describes itself as “a Christian humanitarian organization dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities worldwide to reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice.”

The main objective of the 30 Hour Famine is two-fold: to raise money and awareness about world hunger. According to World Vision’s website, a child dies from hunger-related causes every 13 seconds, and around the world at any time, 925 million people experience hunger daily. This year’s event,

hosted here at UR, bridges differences in belief among various faiths by helping those in need. The famine is co-sponsored by: the Protestant Chapel Community, Newman Catholic Community, Hillel, Athletes in Action, the Orthodox Christian Fellowship, The Hindu Students’ Association, and the Interfaith Chapel.

“Standing up for those who are hungry and those who struggle to meet life’s basic necessities is an important and necessary dimension of people of faith and those who seek the common good,” Newman Catholic Community Father Brian Cool explained. “Many religious traditions have fasting as an element of religious observance that connects [individuals] deeper to God and others, especially those in need,” he continued. “This event gives the Rochester community a sincere opportunity to understand hunger personally.”

In the spirit of Meliora, UR students will be going above and beyond a simple fast and fundraiser. In addition to recognizing the fast, students will

“[It’s] a great way to bring people of different faiths and even people who have absolutely no religious affiliation together to do something that benefits people who are less fortunate than themselves.”

- Senior Richard Hellinger



AARON SCHAFFER / PHOTO EDITOR

This banner, which hangs over the walkway to Havens Lounge, advertises the 30 Hour Famine which starts Thursday, Feb. 21. The event brings together religious and student groups to help the hungry both in Rochester and abroad.

partake in a variety of service events. On Thursday night and Friday afternoon, as a part of the event, participants will also be making blankets that will be given out to members of the Rochester community in need. Last year’s blankets made during the event went to the Church of the Blessed Sacrament for distribution.

When asked about what he thought made the event special, senior Richard Hellinger excitedly responded, “[it’s] a great way to bring people of different faiths and even people who have absolutely no religious affiliation together to do something that benefits people who are less fortunate than themselves.”

This year, the students hope

to raise at least \$1,500, which will grossly exceed the mere \$30 per month needed to nourish a child for an entire year.

Students hope that with this event, they will not only raise money, but also awareness about the issue of hunger in the world today.

“[It] helps to provide perspective,” Protestant Chapel Community President and junior Dan Gorman said. “[It’s] not only about food insecurity worldwide, but also about the relative ease of contributing to charity, if only we set aside the time to do so.”

Students, faculty, staff, friends, and family are all welcome and encouraged to donate to this year’s event by visiting the orga-

nization’s Facebook page.

In 2010 alone, the fundraiser raised \$10.5 million worldwide for children in countries including Swaziland, Malawi, and Haiti. Combining the funds raised during the last 20 years, that total comes to the tune of some \$142 million.

Although those involved in this year’s 30 Hour Famine hope for its success, many are aiming for even loftier goals.

“The hope is... that this action changes hearts, lives, and policies so that this event is unnecessary next year,” Father Cool said. “The human family has the ability to do so, and we should.”

*Shinseki is a member of the class of 2015.*

## THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW THIS WEEK

### THIS DAY IN HISTORY: FEB. 21

**1848:** Karl Marx’s “Communist Manifesto” is published.

**1948:** National Association of Stock Car Auto Racing, or NASCAR, is incorporated.

**1965:** Malcolm X, while giving a speech in New York City, is assassinated by members of the Nation of Islam.

**1972:** President Richard Nixon takes his famous trip to China, meeting with chairman Mao Zedong.

## OVERHEARD AT UR

“I’m usually hydrated enough that I don’t have to drink my own piss.”

— Overheard in outside Wilson Commons

## OTHER WORDLY

**Zechpreller:** (noun of German origin) A person who leaves a restaurant or bar without paying the bill.

**Hikikomori:** (noun of Japanese origin) A teenager or 20-something who has withdrawn from social life, often obsessed with TV and video games.

## UR OPINION

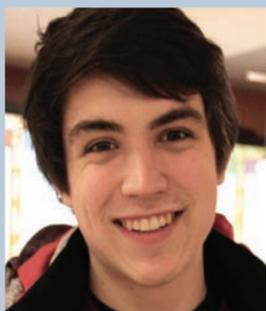
BY ALYSSA ARRE  
PHOTO EDITOR

“IF YOU COULD LIVE WITHIN ANY BOOK, WHICH WOULD IT BE?”



CHLOE HAYES '15

“Brave New World.”



GRANT DEVER '16

“Lord of the Rings.”



CHRISTINA CASTAGNA '15

“Artemis Fowl.”



BLAKE HARRIMAN '15

“The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy.”



ALISON KOMAR '16

“Harry Potter.”



MICHAEL STEINSCHNEIDER '13

“Ender’s Game.”

# The Frog Pond boasts croakin' good grub, hoppin' atmosphere

BY ALYSSA ARRE  
PHOTO EDITOR

When it comes to brunch, Rochester reigns supreme. Peppered throughout the city, local eateries such as Jay's Diner on West Henrietta, Jine's Diner on Park Ave, Highland Park Diner on Clinton, and the Mt. Hope Diner on, well, Mt. Hope, have gathered a robust patronage over the years.

Another one of these gems, The Frog Pond, is a cozy establishment nestled at the intersection of Park Avenue and Berkeley Street. Ranked best brunch by Urbanspoon in 2012, The Frog Pond has received annual accolades from City Newspaper, including best burger, best American food, best of Park Avenue, and best of Rochester.

In 2011, to further raise its standing among critics and locals alike, The Frog Pond underwent major renovations, or as owners Kevin Cresgo and Eleni Papademetriou describe, a "love lift." The so-called "lift" included new toad-skin seating booths, frog-green wallpaper, refurbished restrooms, and a memory wall celebrating The Frog Pond's 30-year history.

Upon entering The Frog Pond,

one thing became clear: this was no hole-in-the-wall diner. In fact, it barely even resembled a diner at all. Featuring an elegant, chic design with deep, verdant accents, not to mention a fast-talking, black-tied maitre d', the place was more akin to an upscale boutique or café. That being said, it did have its own quirks and oddities too, ranging from the mildly annoying (wall-mounted mirrors that blinded east-facing customers) to the truly terrifying (several dozen clown drawings). Even with its questionable choice of artwork and tacky table settings (a single, artificial rose and two bottles of Heinz), The Frog Pond exceeded expectations when it came to the service and food.

With a lunch menu absolutely jam-packed with entrees, appetizers, sides, and desserts (there's a separate menu for drinks), The Frog Pond served classic diner eats, reinterpreted with a slight twist. To start, I ordered the winter salad which includes feta, strawberries, onions, apples, oranges, and candied almonds on a bed of iceberg lettuce, all drizzled under a raspberry vinaigrette. As a vegetarian, I've had my fair share of salads at a plethora of restaurants, and Frog Pond's take was delicious. A



ALYSSA ARRE / PHOTO EDITOR

A highly-revered dish at The Frog Pond, located on the corner of Park Avenue and Berkeley Street, the "sauteed banana pancakes" are a perfect balance of hearty fruit and sweet caramel sauce for the hungry customer.

fresh note of bergamot, a hint of citrus, and the wonderful blend of feta and onion literally had me at the edge of my seat. In addition, I ordered the banana pancakes off of the brunch menu. Sporting a decadent caramel sauce, the pancakes achieved a masterful balance of hearty and sweet.

The portion size was large enough that I found no room afterwards for dessert, even as tempting as the crème brûlée looked. I'll definitely be returning for that at another time.

Despite a moderate waiting time for a table and the weird house-of-mirrors decor, The Frog Pond is

a great spot for weekend brunch or a weekday lunch date. With a quaint atmosphere and an array of fares from which to choose, The Frog Pond is a lily pad worth hoping to again.

Rating: 3.5/5 tadpoles

Arre is a member of the class of 2015.

# Seniors donate to class gift, create lasting post-graduation legacy

BY MICHAELA KEREM  
ONLINE EDITOR

After four years of lectures, shared adventures, and lifelong memories, the 2013 Senior Class Council now asks the class of 2013 to contribute to the Class Gift Campaign and take the first step into the community of UR alumni.

Dubbed "Keep the Light Burning" — named after the ceremony on their first night as freshmen at the annual candlelight ceremony on Eastman Quadrangle — the campaign is a fundraising opportunity that allows current seniors to "give back" to the University.

Similar to the 2012 Senior Class Council, the 2013 Senior Class Council did not set a specific monetary goal for the campaign. Rather, it hopes to reach a level of 50 percent participation — approximately 520 people — by graduation on May 19. After one month, the campaign currently has 13 percent participation.

"Last year's Senior Class Council set some amazing records, and I am very pleased that this year's council is keeping pace and even exceeding them," Director of Wilson Commons Laura Ballou said. She added that the campaign is "really something that students only hear about when they become seniors."

Misconceptions regarding the campaign also exist in some form. One fallacy among students is that tuition covers the entirety of UR-related expenses. In actuality, the costs for tuition constitute only 70 percent of educational funding, and the rest is funded by alumni gifts.

Additionally, while past classes have donated physical gifts, such as the clocks in Hirst Lounge by the class of 2007, seniors may donate however much they'd like to whomever they'd like.

"We really want the seniors to

give to the place they're passionate about," administrative co-chair for the 2013 Senior Class Council and senior Eric DeMeo, said. "Buying the school some new clocks or a bench may not mean much to each and every senior. With this campaign, students are allowed to direct their gift to the part of the school that is most important to them."

Seniors can choose to donate to over 250 specific funds, such as an athletic team, Rush Rhee's Library, or the Eastman School of Music, to name a few. According to Assistant Director of Recent Graduate Engagement Crisandra Harrison, the top three funds that currently

receive the highest number of donations are the Study Abroad office, the Rochester Annual Fund, and the Dean's Fund for the Dean of Students, which supports the Greek community. Overall, 66 different funds have already received gifts from the senior class.

Harrison, who works closely with the administrative chairs of the Council, stressed the role that donations may have in the way the University is ranked in the U.S. News Best Colleges Rankings, where the University currently ranks #33. In the rankings methodology, alumni giving accounts for 5 percent and is one of seven factors.

"It is the factor that can most

easily be impacted directly by our seniors and alumni," Harrison said. "The more people who give, the greater the chance of improving rankings drastically as the differentiation between ranked schools comes down to fractions of decimal points. The Senior Class Gift Campaign is being counted into this year's alumni giving rankings, so the more seniors who donate any amount, the greater impact there will be on national rankings."

Though the gift campaign is primarily the council's undertaking, Alumni Relations and Advancement also aids the council on the "advancement end," DeMeo noted. Dean of Students Matthew Burns

is also supporting the campaign by giving \$5 dollars for every one percent of participation in the effort.

In the spirit of motivating seniors, the Council has organized a series of events to promote donations. From Feb. 25 to March 1, the Council will table in Wilson Commons. On March 1, the council will hold a fiesta in Hirst Lounge from 4 to 6 p.m. that will feature free food, cash bar beverages, piñatas, and various prizes. Other upcoming events include a senior night on March 21 and a graduation fair on March 27.

Kerem is a member of the class of 2015.

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# Off-campus opportunities prepare students for future careers

**WORK FROM PAGE 7**

Presberg can be found teaching three days a week: Sundays she co-teaches first graders, Tuesdays she assists in a third-grade class, tutoring students who are either ahead or behind the prescribed curriculum, and Wednesdays she works with fifth graders, supporting them in a more independent study. Each class has between 12 and 22 children. But it doesn't stop there — she also advises a Jewish fourth through sixth-grade youth program, which does programs once a month.

And in case you were wondering, yes, she does get paid.

"I think it's a great experience," Presberg said. "It feels more like the real world."

After working at the temple as a substitute teacher since April 2012, she became a permanent member of the staff in September. However, Presberg is no stranger to the field. She worked as an assistant teacher at the Irondequoit Hebrew Studies Center for four years, two of which were paid, starting her freshman year of high school. She describes her current position as a continuation of this post, but with additional responsibilities.

But for Presberg, this is both a job and practical experience that relates directly back to her plans for the future. At the moment, she hopes to work in mental health counseling, a field she believes has much in common with education.

"If I didn't have this job, I wouldn't be working, probably," she said. "The purpose wasn't to get a job — the purpose was to work there."

There are two main reasons students might look for a job off campus, according to Career Center Director Burt Nadler — to earn money, clearly, but also to gain additional experience for a future career if a position off campus is more directly related to a student's interests than a job at UR.

"I'm very narrow-minded in a positive way," Nadler said, explaining that nearly any position is worth the extra time if it is career-related and makes a positive contribution to a student's educational experience.

Nadler noted that he wouldn't necessarily advise students one way or another to get an off campus job but recommends they seek one later in their academic career if possible so they can first acquire their "academic sea legs."

Eastman School of Music senior Carrie Davids doesn't seem to mind working the job for the job, however. For her, the Victoire Belgian Beer Bar & Bistro on East Avenue where she works as a hostess and server, is much more than just a dining establishment.

"I feel like it's kind of my family away from home," she said, explaining how she will often spend time with her coworkers after shifts and that they are all there to support each other, on and off the job.

Davids had an on-campus job working in Eastman's Concert Office her freshman and sophomore year but had trouble finding another job on campus when she looked for a position where she could earn more. She began working at Tavern 58 on University Av-

enue in September 2011 as a junior and moved to Victoire in October 2012. As a second-semester senior, Davids is only taking 12 credits and fills her classless Tuesdays and Thursdays with work.

Even though her work at Victoire may not directly relate to her plans for the future, Davids has discovered that her position can offer opportunities for networking, especially when she interacts with regular customers. On a basic level, Davids simply enjoy interacting with her customers. Plus, she noted, it's just nice to get out of the Eastman bubble once in a while.

Nadler was quick to acknowledge that one of students' most precious commodities is time, an important factor when deciding whether or not to seek off-campus employment. It is often logistically difficult to travel to an off-campus job, especially without a car, not to mention balancing a myriad of other responsibilities.

Sophomore Kedar Shashidhar experienced this strain firsthand.

Shashidhar worked at Blackdog

Recording Studios on East Avenue as an intern this past summer to gain practical experience in the field. Once the school year started, he stayed on to manage the company's website and help run the studio when his boss couldn't be there. He recently quit because the

**“The purpose wasn't to get a job — the purpose was to work there.”**

- Junior Nahoma Presberg

position was too much of a time constraint and because of what he describes as unrealistic expectations from his boss.

In exchange for his work, Shashidhar agreed to accept one-on-one lessons in how to run the studio in place of a paycheck, but his relationship with the company became increasingly strained as he put his "heart and soul" into a job,

that didn't give back.

"It was like a romance gone wrong," Shashidhar said.

Shashidhar would wake up at 7 a.m. every Tuesday and Thursday and get picked up by his boss at 7:30 a.m., who would give him a ride to the studio, only to get dropped off on campus again at 10 a.m. in time for his first class. He would have to go in by bus when running recording sessions at sporadic times throughout the day though. These sessions could go past 2 a.m., which would leave Shashidhar to stay downtown with friends at Eastman and take the bus back to campus the next morning.

Presberg shared in having a packed schedule.

"Yes, I do wish I had more time, that's the answer to that question," she said, "but I don't really feel like any of the things that I'm doing is stuff that I don't really want to do."

For Shashidhar, it was all about the practical benefits.

"I definitely wouldn't have taken [the job] if it wasn't related to my

career," he said.

The job wasn't without its upsides, though. Shashidhar met many relevant contacts in the industry, including big-name musicians such as Flo Rida and Gym Class Heroes, and got a practical education about how the music business works in a small town like Rochester.

"I really loved the real-world experience," he said.

Off-campus employment isn't for everyone — Presberg believes it really does depend on the person and what they're looking for.

"If you're looking for a job just to make some money, I wouldn't necessarily say it's best to go off campus," she said, citing the fact that there are simply more logistical issues to consider and that not everyone's schedule can accommodate such a position.

Sometimes though, it's just the right fit.

"I like being off campus," Presberg said. "It makes me feel like a real person."

*Goldin is a member of the class of 2013.*

## Who are you going to be?

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# R·I·T

MEDICINE of THE HIGHEST ORDER
 

# HUMOR

## Give me my grade, or give me death

BY DAVID WEINBERG  
STAFF WRITER

My professor passed back essays yesterday. Like most students, I blew past the illegible comments and went straight to the grade. At the bottom of the page, in blood red ink, read "B+/A-."

What the hell is that? Is it a B+ or an A-? A B+ says, "You clearly put in the effort, but its just not enough." An A- screams, "Wahoo, this is basically an A! Good job bro!"

How could my T.A do this to me? His job is solely to grade, but it's clear he can't even do that. I could sympathize if my T.A suffers from some kind of multiple personality disorder, where one is a total hardass about grades and the other agrees this class is a joke. But if this two-face split doesn't plague my T.A, then why can't he pick a grade? I would have preferred that he just give me the B+ to save me from this double-graded plight. Doesn't my T.A understand that all through life we are forced to make difficult decisions? And certainly there are more complicated matters than deciding the grade for an extraordinarily handsome undergrad?

So, in an effort to educate my T.A and others, I offer a brief history of hard decisions that America has had to make:

June 29, 2012: "Magic Mike" and "Ted" are released in theatres and America must decide which will reign supreme. A movie with little dialogue but a lot of hip gyrating or a cute, little teddy bear who smokes so much grass he puts Bob Marley to shame? Channing Tatum's breakout role as a serious actor or essentially an extended episode of "Family Guy"?

Brad Pitt left girl-next-door Jennifer Aniston for sex symbol Angelina Jolie, sending American families into turmoil. Who would they side with, the sexy psycho man stealer or sweet, sweet Rachel from "Friends"? To this day, there are families that have yet to leave darkness for fear of making the wrong choice.

"Sophie's Choice" or "Mamma Mia"? Two Meryl Streep blockbusters. Which is your favorite? Ah, who am I kidding, you can never go wrong with a Streep film.

Danforth or Douglass? While this decision only applies to UR students, it is one that affects us all deeply. The lines are shorter in Douglass, but the food is better in Danforth. You can take the tunnels to Douglass, but Danforth is already in Sue B. I won't even try to throw The Pit into the mix.

With all due respect T.A, can't you see that hard decisions have

kept Americans up at night for decades? Yet we are not just Americans — we are Rochesterians! We power through tough times and bitch-slap these hard decisions across the face. If you can't even make these simple decisions, what qualifies you to even T.A.? It's obviously not your intellect because you failed to choose a grade, and it certainly can't be your looks because as everyone in class knows, that giant mole on your nose is distracting to say the least.

I beg of you, put me out of my misery. I'm just a star horse with a broken leg. I'll never race again — you know it and I know it. So pick up the shotgun, uncap your red Bic, and finish me. Give me a C for all I care. I just can't bear the pain any longer. Am I an overexcited, hardworking "A" student, or am I the "B" I do as much work as I need to in order to pass? A moment ago I made a reference to a racehorse. Am I a horse now as well? You see what you've done to me?! This identity crisis is too much for me to handle, T.A. I have other classes, other co-curriculars activities that I need to focus on. But now I must spend my time figuring out a decision that was yours to begin with?

Nah. Screw it. I'm dropping the class.

*Weinberg is a member of the class of 2015.*

## Controversial children's television lineup announced

BY DOUG BRADY  
FEATURES EDITOR

Global media conglomerate Comcast has announced a new station to expand its operations to kids, taking placid programming to edgier places. This change comes as a way to accommodate the ever-shifting preferences of young viewers.

While the entire line-up is still in flux, undisclosed sources have leaked a few of the shows that will air beginning April 1.

The first is a real-life documentary continuing the Dora saga, entitled "Dora the Deported." After being blinded in a freak accident on set, Dora spends the following six months touring the United States as a motivational speaker. Her former best friend and longtime lover Diego takes over creative control of her former show, leaving Clifford the Big Red Seeing Eye Dog as Dora's only companion. The drama begins when Swiper the fox, who later finds himself in federal prison for pedophilia, tips off immigration authorities that Dora's work visa has not been renewed (for mysterious reasons). When confronted by police, Dora insists that someone is out to get her and pleads for amnesty. This appears to work until Clifford barks out against her; later, a plot twist reveals Clifford is a white supremacist.

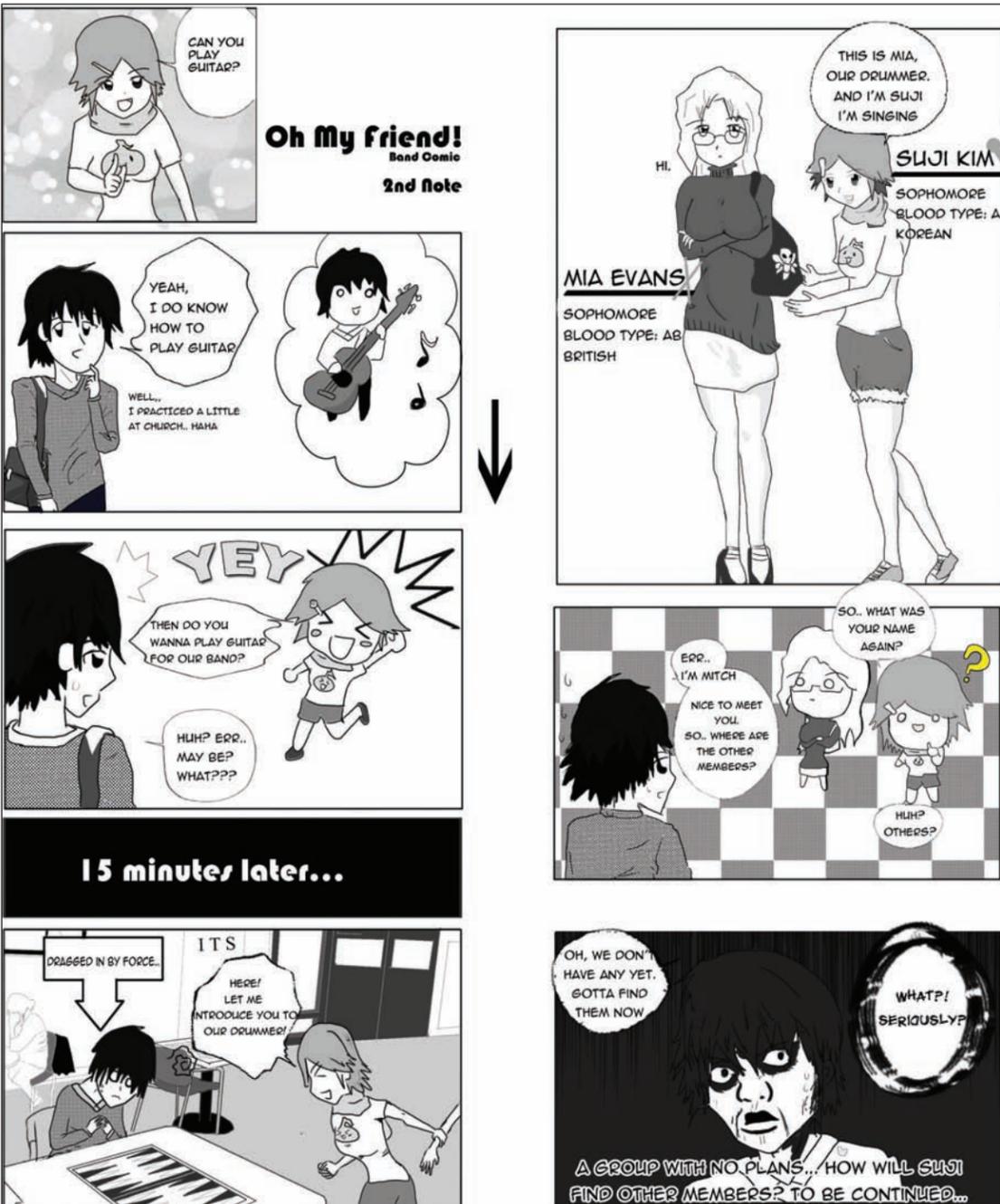
Second, is a revamping of the Curious George series, entitled "Bi-Curious George." Heteroflexible George, everybody's favorite monkey, who only wants the affection of his peers, has been fighting constantly with the Man in the Yellow Hat. Now grown

up and no longer cute enough for the Man in the Yellow Hat's attention, he seeks out love from anyone who will give it: women in periwinkle pants, men in taupe trousers, chimpanzees in salmon slacks. George discovers a newfound comfort in London's underground club scene. With a baby elephant taking his old room, George is forced to move into the cupboard under the stairs. Despite his home life, he comes out, and thus comes into himself. He remains resilient for he has found a new home and new friends in colorful clothing.

Lastly, Comcast is revamping Mr. Roger's Neighborhood, retitling it "Sir Roger's Gated Community." Roger Ebert, scheduled to be Fred Rogers' replacement, will speak on the benefits of securely living away from anyone outside of your income bracket and the advantages of having over-the-top armed security despite this neighborhood's extremely low crime rate relative to the rest of the city. Guest stars will frequent his estate to speak on the merits of inherited wealth, including Charlie Sheen, Paris Hilton, and Billy Madison. In addition, the show will have short skits of small children playing squash, holding etiquette tea-parties, and taking designer drugs to repress feelings of emptiness.

Whether these new programs are what the original Mr. Rogers truly wanted remains shrouded in speculation. He was unavailable for comment because he has been dead for 10 years.

*Brady is a member of the class of 2015.*



### Magical Hate Room

by Alex Kurland



# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## Rochester Plays premier in Todd, raises discussions



COURTESY OF ROCHESTER.EDU

The premier of "Rochester Plays" this past weekend in Todd Theatre was performed in two parts. The play continues this weekend.

**BY KELSEY BURRITT**  
STAFF WRITER

One would expect a play cycle about pedophilia to be a disturbing tale that takes place in the dead of winter. One would not expect a play cycle about pedophilia to open on a Valentine's Day or be sexy, funny, or touching.

The Rochester Plays were all of these things. They were provocative, tender, amusing. They were also chilling to the bone with the stage at Todd

Theatre covered with snow.

The snow was one of the constant features between "Attraction" and "Escape," the two shows of the cycle. Audience members should see both; simply seeing the first or the second does not do justice to the breadth of the story, the depth of the actors' work, or the ingenuity of the transformative set.

With his cast, crew, and set designers, director Nigel Maister rewrote, overhauled, and polished Rochester local Spencer Christiano's original script,

bringing it to life. If audience members are not attracted to the mouthwatering set, they should see the show for Maister's vigorous but sensitive work with the actors as well as the script, which is laden with fight scenes, vandalism, and masturbation.

In the first play, "Attraction" the set displays a row of house fronts on a snowy street. A sex offender has recently moved on to this particular street, sparking controversy in the community. The socially awkward Walter (senior Spencer Klubben)

hesitantly discusses the issue with his neighbor Matthew (junior Shaquill McCullers) while they shovel their driveways before disappearing inside their houses.

Single mothers and best friends Margaret and Wendy, played by freshmen Halle Burns and Sussanah Scheffler, become acquainted with Walter, who tells them about the latest addition to the neighborhood. Of course, as mothers of young children, they do not take well to the idea of a pedophile living around the corner.

"Escape" spins wildly and unpredictably out of control as these characters respond to the threat of the unnamed pedophile. Scheffler plays the most convincing and obnoxious hockey mom audiences ever had the pleasure of seeing on stage; her character Wendy wants the pedophile ostracized, while Margaret wonders if he is trying to reform himself and change his ways.

How are we to judge? What complicates the issue is how we judge the character of Matthew who robbed a convenience store and did time in prison. McCullers, in his theatrical debut, gives a layered and earnest performance. Margaret confides in him, but audiences understand why Wendy might be afraid of him. It is possible to judge Wendy too; she racially profiles Matthew faster than she bats an eye at him.

Audiences might also judge Margaret, who forgets her son at hockey games and leaves

him alone at night to scap for leftover pizza. Burns plays Margaret with fierce devotion and admirable sympathy, especially in the character's least meritable moments.

Klubben's pathetic, stammering Walter occupies the play's morally grey area. By the end, he emerges as a sort of antihero, only further complicating how comfortable we feel laying down judgment. There is no such moral hesitation when it comes to Walter's unsavory confidant Gavin, played by freshman Angel Morales, who fearlessly delivers a 10-minute monologue about stalking and abducting a young girl.

Audiences might laugh at Margaret serving take-out Chinese food for a special dinner, shrink away when Walter begins to masturbate, or scoff at Wendy jumping on the bleachers at a hockey game, screaming her friend's son to victory, but they also want to embrace these characters, even in their flaws, and are repulsed to imagine that they could ever be as broken, as lonely, as human as they are.

It's hard to pin the whole play down. It sprawls across its two parts, not in a way that confounds, but in a way that provokes thought and conversation. The question, in the end, may not be how we are to judge these characters, but rather how we are possibly to forgive them.

The Rochester Plays run through March 2.

*Burritt is a member of the class of 2013.*

## Big Gigantic dominates Water Street with big beats, opening act falls short

**BY RACHAEL SANGUINETTI**  
A&E EDITOR

Big Gigantic, one of today's biggest up-and-coming electronic groups, rocked Water Street Music Hall on Sunday, Feb. 17. Despite the freezing temperatures, people lined up and down Water Street dressed in short skirts and t-shirts, waiting for the doors to open.

The hall was mostly empty when the doors first opened but quickly filled as the night arrived. Most people were comfortable but dressy clothing; some went all out in their dress. Best outfit award goes to an awkward teenager in a full banana costume.

Kill Paris kicked off the evening with his mixes. He has been on tour with Big Gigantic for a while, but this was his final night with the group.

His music was fairly repetitive without a lot of melody but got people up and dancing with some solid beats.

After about 30 minutes, Manic Focus snuck onto the stage and took over. His mixes included a lot more recognizable songs that allowed people to sing along, but he often paused the beats

for melodic interludes. This left the crowd awkwardly standing on the dance floor, flooded with bright lights, without a beat to dance to. Some of the beats he overlaid didn't quite match up either, leaving audience members feeling awkward and unsure of how to move. After a long hour of this, Kill Paris joined him again to conclude the opening act.

Finally, Big Gigantic took the stage to roars and screams from the crowd. Producer and saxophone player Dominic Lalli took his place stage right behind the mixing board, his tenor sax strapped around his neck. Jeremy Salken, the drummer, sat stage left with his drum set. Without a word to the audience, they dove right into their first song.

Even though Water Street was packed, both Lalli and Salken know what it's like to play to very small crowds.

"I played a gig at the grand opening of a Target once," said Salken in an interview on Thursday, Feb. 14. "The group I played with was set up in the teenage women's department."

Salken and Lalli have been

a duo for six years; they were originally roommates in Boulder, Colo. Lalli had the original idea for the group and came up with the name.

"[Lalli] got his computer and started making beats," Salken explained. "He just kept doing his thing and finally said 'We should do this.'"

Lalli said his percussion skills were largely self-taught.

"I've always been into music," he said. "I did middle school jazz band and then just played with groups around Boulder: bluegrass, weddings, everything."

Their performance on Sunday was riveting to say the least. The combination of mixed beats, percussion, and saxophone was uniquely energizing.

Their music woke up the crowd, and everyone moved on the dance floor. Those in the balcony of the hall even started dancing on benches and hanging over the railings. One especially enthusiastic audience member jumped the blockade in front of the stage, although he was quickly escorted out by security.

Their light show was also extremely impressive; they



COURTESY OF HERCAMPUS.COM

Big Gigantic has played to huge audiences in the first 3 weeks of their nationwide tour, including a packed crowd at Water Street Music Hall on Sunday, Feb. 17.

had huge digital screens set up throughout the stage that flashed images of dollar signs and Pac Man in sync with the music. The screens, along with the impressive light show, made their performance even more thrilling.

Now on the third week of their

five-week tour, Lalli says he still loves the tour life. "It's gone from touring out of the back of my Subaru and it progressed from that," he said. "We've got a bus now; we get to sleep as we're traveling. It's pretty awesome."

*Sanguinetti is a member of the class of 2015.*

# Matt & Kim impress, open for Passion Pit's packed Rochester show



MELISSA SCHEINBERG / STAFF WRITER

Lead singer Michael Angelakos of Passion Pit performed to huge crowds at the Main Street Armory on Monday night, Feb. 18.

**BY MELISSA SCHEINBERG**  
STAFF WRITER

Passion Pit headlined at the Main Street Armory with support from real-life couple Matt & Kim and Swedish duo Icona Pop. Monday night marked what was probably the best show caught in Rochester in the last three years.

After waiting in line outside the venue for a whopping 45 minutes, the audience witnessed Icona Pop take the stage and win over plenty of new fans with their unique brand of electro pop bangers — most notably closing with the anthem-like “I Love It” that has recently skyrocketed onto the iTunes charts due to its infectious musical hook and girl-power air.

After the Icona Pop's all too-short set, Matt & Kim took the stage for 30-or-so-minutes packing enough energy to fill the entire evening. This was the best performance by the pop-rockers so far; they had more energy than ever (Kim spent more time atop her drum kit than sitting down) translating into a super tight set. Although

they relied heavily on their latest release “Lightening,” which most believe to be their weakest, they managed to sprinkle in hits like “Good Old Fashioned Nightmare,” “Cameras,” and, of course, “Daylight,” which made the crowd go bonkers.

In typical Matt & Kim fashion, they also threw in a few short instrumental covers in between songs such as “Better Off Alone” and “N\*\*\*\*\*s in Paris.” This elicited an even greater response from fans and non-fans alike. Every Matt & Kim set packed more energy than the previous. It was not surprising to see Kim walking on top of audience members' hands for a good few minutes, giving crowd-surfing a whole new meaning. Some think that if you've seen Matt & Kim once you've seen them a hundred times, but this killer set proved otherwise.

Matt & Kim's supporting slot proved tough to beat, but Passion Pit succeeded in doing so, as per their usual. I was a bit skeptical about how they'd measure up to previous shows, but as soon as they stepped onstage, it was clear that they would only get better and better.

Probably still running on the high from headlining the iconic Madison Square Garden the week before, Passion Pit proved that they crossed the fine line between club band and arena rockers with their elaborate stage production. Frontman Michael Angelakos was as animated as ever. He didn't stand still for entire headlining set as the rest of the band proved their skills as instrumentalists. The band had the entirety of the 6,500-seated Armory dancing all throughout their set. Relying heavily on their newest release from 2012 titled “Gossamer,” the band cranked out hit after hit while still playing fan favorites like “Moth's Wings,” “Little Secrets,” and, of course, “Sleepyhead.”

Passion Pit's latest Rochester concert proved why they have become such a touring machine — their high-energy sets appeal to the indie rockers, the “electronica” heads, and your average high school or college kid. It's only a matter of time before they become one of our generation's musical figureheads.

*Scheinberg is a member of the class of 2014.*

## Oscar snubs: movies that should have made the cut

**BY CASEY GOULD**  
MANAGING EDITOR

**BY JONAH JENG**  
A&E EDITOR

It's Oscar season, and this year's snubs may be the most egregious yet. The 85th Academy Awards, which will be held on Sunday, Feb. 24 at the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles, represent another nosedive in the event's downward spiral of late. While exemplary for the most part, this year's nominations are incomplete to say the least. Since the Academy seems neither capable nor willing to give credit where credit is due, here goes: a finger to the Oscars and a salute to this year's snubs.

Perhaps the most glaring omission from the best pictures category is P.T. Anderson's “The Master.” While it doesn't outdo “There Will Be Blood,” Anderson's latest tour de force is a shocking exposé of scientology's roots acted consummately by Oscar nominees Joaquin Phoenix, Philip Seymour Hoffman, and Amy Adams. While they're at it, the Academy screws over “Moonrise Kingdom,” hands down the year's most heartwarming title. Directed by Wes Anderson, the film follows two children who fall in love while summering on an idyllic New England island. Charming, witty, and ever so poignant, “Moonrise Kingdom” evokes nostalgia for the childhood you never had. And while it may

come as a surprise, “Skyfall” should have also taken its rightful place among the best picture nominations. Giving the kind of high-caliber performance audiences deserved after the disappointment that was “Quantum of Solace,” this is Daniel Craig as Bond at his authoritative best.

Speaking of “Skyfall,” why wasn't Sam Mendes nominated best director? Embracing his bent for dialogue-driven drama, Mendes crafted what wasn't just the highest-grossing 007 flick in the series — it was a damn good movie, period. What about Ben Affleck, who directed this year's frontrunner for best picture, “Argo?” Let's be real, Affleck already proved his chops as a confident, up-and-coming filmmaker with 2010's “The Town.” But was he nominated for either? Of course not. And Kathryn Bigelow — just because she became the first woman to win best director for “The Hurt Locker,” she's exceeded her lifetime quota of Oscar nominations? That's it for women? These Academy people are so incredibly out of touch, they wouldn't recognize a decent film if it slapped them in the face — which isn't a bad idea either.

More injustices occur in the best actor category, robbing Denis Lavant of a nomination for his volatile, protean performance in Leos Carax's metafilm, “Holy Motors.” Rather than featuring a continuous narrative, the movie dishes out a series of surreal

vignettes that require the actor to adapt his person to a lineup of rapidly changing roles. That Lavant perseveres alone is a testament to his versatility and grace as an actor. The Academy likewise ignored John Hawkes's spellbinding performance in “The Sessions” as Mark O'Brien, a polio-stricken poet who wants to lose his virginity. The sheer believability Hawkes brings is easily on par with his Oscar-nominated performance as a meth junkie in 2010's “Winter's Bone.” Even Jack Black, in a surprising departure from his usual swill, dazzled as the eponymous, soft-spoken undertaker in “Bernie.” Demonstrating a refreshing level of subtlety and finesse, Black is matched only by costar and powerhouse Matthew McConaughey who has also pumped out sterling performances this year in “The Lincoln Lawyer,” “Killer Joe,” and “Magic Mike.” Naturally, McConaughey received zero Oscar nominations this year.

The best supporting actor category is equally atrocious. Leonardo DiCaprio's villainous turn as a sadistic plantation owner in Quentin Tarantino's “Django Unchained” should have swiped a nomination without hesitation. His performance is that charismatic, that fearsome, and that unhinged. Michael Fassbender gives a completely different performance in Ridley Scott's “Prometheus” but with no less virtuosity. As an android,

Fassbender plays with fleeting expressions — a ghost of a smile, a flickering eyelid — to hint at the ulterior motives and disquieting mystery of the almost-human character. Then there's Javier Bardem, who effectively concocts a Bond villain for “Skyfall” that draws from Buffalo Bill, Hannibal Lecter, and Bardem's own Anton Chigurh. 'Nuff said.

A miscellany of less-hyped but no-less-snubbed nominees is also noticeably missing from the Oscar roster. Dan Romer and Benh Zeitlin's original score for “Beasts of the Southern Wild” is among the most outrageous eliminations, given how perfectly the music's rhapsodic textures bring to life the film's magical setting. The Academy proceeds to twist the knife by excluding “Django Unchained” from best score as well. Juxtaposing the gentle crooning of John Legend and the spaghetti-western stylings of Ennio Morricone, with additional contributions from Rick Ross and Elisa, the soundtrack not only reflects Tarantino's eclectic musical tastes but challenges what's possible on the silver screen. In yet another blunder, makeup artist Kazuhiro Tsuji was all but brushed off for his work on “Looper.” The way in which he transforms Joseph Gordon-Levitt's boyish looks to resemble Bruce Willis' chiseled mug is nothing less than a work of prosthetic artistry. And though “Amour” will win best foreign language film, “Oslo, August

31” should have at least gotten a nod for its exquisite exploration of character, dialogue, and the nuances of emotional tension.

Still, considering what was ultimately nominated, the 2013 Oscars aren't past redemption. The best picture category is particularly impressive, recognizing the achievements of both a foreign and indie film, genres that have traditionally been shunned outright. Nominees for best original score are all Oscar first-timers. This year even saw the shortest-running entry for best short film with “Fresh Guacamole” clocking in just under two minutes. Such nominations shed hope on the revolution of the Academy, which appears to be slowly opening up its criteria to the kind of fringe masterpieces that have been largely ignored for so many years.

But as usual, the selective hand of the Academy has snubbed several deserving nominees of their shot at the golden man. With media politics and subjective taste inevitable, having some films out of the running is to be expected. Nevertheless, some of these omissions are truly frustrating, suggesting a lapse in the Academy's artistic judgment or perhaps a lingering unwillingness to accept that which is simply too far from the norm.

*Gould is a member of the class of 2014.*

*Jeng is a member of the class of 2016.*



FRIDAY

Good Burger  
7:00pm

Space Jam  
9:00pm

MOVIE TIMES

UR CINEMA GROUP

HOYT AUDITORIUM

SATURDAY

The Sixth Sense  
7:00pm

Scream  
9:15pm



## Sage art competition draws laughs, creativity



COURTESY OF SAGE ART GALLERY

UR faculty and staff participated in a drawing competition at Sage Art Gallery as part of the Day of the Arts on Feb. 16

**BY PEDRO PINERA**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

This past Saturday, Feb. 16, the Sage Art Center once again became less an art venue and more of an open-minded space to have fun and celebrate creativity. As part of "The Day of the Arts" celebration that seeks to raise awareness for the thriving art community here at the University, faculty and students of the art and art history departments joined efforts (and attire) to present a silly little "drawing contest" in the east wing of Sage. The objective was to draw a series of poses one on top of the last without getting a new piece of paper. The competitors: University faculty from the art departments.

The room was casually lit as people entered and mingled around a table full of delicious refreshments. The food could not take attention away from "decorating" the room with the guests' presence. One such person was a tall man wearing a green, blue, and grey squared suit and a pair of nice white shoes that have been out of production for at least three decades. This man was later identified as Associate Professor of Art and Art History Allen Topolski. A woman in roller skates wearing a silver helmet with an attached video camera was also in attendance. Her main goal throughout the event was to make sure guests tried every single treat on the table. Later on, she gave away champagne flutes. There was another man known only as "Mechanic." He wore a jumpsuit and sported crazy long, curly hair. Another young woman, who wore multicolored stockings, fancy clothes, and several twisted braids, completed the rag-tag group.

The contest began when the hostess spoke into a microphone (which was never turned on)

and called for a "warm up." Both Mechanic and Topolski got their markers and pencils ready. Braid Girl stood on a table and struck a pose every few seconds. The competitors went right to work, drawing picture on top of picture. It was indescribable. People laughed as their expectations grew.

It was then time for the real showdown. All three contestants, Topolski, Mechanic, and Braid Girl, got ready in front of their respective canvases while the hostess selected a model for the artists. The starting "shot" was fired; contestants were given between 30 and 60 seconds to draw everything McLaren told them to draw. At times, contestants were told to draw the general figure of the pose. At others, they had to focus on the eyes or the legs of the model and switch colors depending on what they were told. Sometimes, contestants had to use both hands at the same time, sometimes only their left or right hand.

The technique and style of each contestant were unique to say the least. Braid Girl seemed to adopt a very stylish, professional method while Topolski's drawings were bolder and broken, favoring mood over form. Mechanic's drawings reminded audiences of children's cartoons with a psychedelic tinge.

The winner was crowned according to the sound of cheers from the audience. Braid Girl's work, although professional and aesthetically pleasant, apparently lacked some of the quirky mood that oozed from the other two. Two rounds of applause were required to decide the finalists — Topolski and Mechanic would contest for the gold.

Amid jokes and jests, both finalists prepared themselves while another audience member was selected as the model for the final

round. At this point, Mechanic decided to get rid of his mechanic suit and fight for the gold in boxers and a t-shirt. The desire for glory was so strong that as soon as the clock started, Topolski ran across the room towards Mechanic and managed to draw a bold line across his adversary's canvas before the long-haired man could react. They both struggled for a few moments as the canvas eventually fell to the floor. This did not stop both artists from fighting with their pens until the time was up.

Topolski emerged victorious after being acclaimed by the public. His work was subsequently auctioned to the highest bidder. This turned out to be a student who offered an empty eye dropper from his pocket. The event's winning masterpiece is currently hanging in his dorm.

Informal, fanciful, dynamic, collective, and liberal, the contest stayed true to some of the best traditions of the Sage Art Center by making visual art entertainment worth looking at and talking about.

*Pinera is a member of the class of 2016.*

## URCG brings back the '90s

**BY MICHAEL PASCUTOI**  
STAFF WRITER

From Feb. 18 to 24, UR Cinema Group is sponsoring a '90s film festival in Hoyt Auditorium. The film festival acts as a study break during the second week of midterms and a lead-up to the Academy Awards this Sunday; it has, thus far, succeeded in both regards.

For the event, two "classic" films from the 1990s are being shown each night. Beginning Monday, the themes for each day of the week until Saturday are: action, comedy, crime, Tom Hanks, kids movies, and horror.

The film selection for the festival is very respectable, though the lack of Oscar-winning films is rather odd being that the festival is occurring in the week leading up to this year's Academy Awards. The exception, 1994 best-picture winner "Forrest Gump," is being shown Thursday night and is arguably the best film shown this week. The Saturday films — "The Sixth Sense" and "Scream" — are two films every college student should see at least once in their lifetime; both will probably play to a packed Hoyt.

The event deviates from the usual activity of URCG, which mostly consists of weekly Friday and Saturday night film showings in Hoyt.

"We wanted to do more, bring more movies to students, and make [URCG] a household name on campus," said URCG Chairperson Cody Drissel. "We feel that a big event like the

'90s Film Fest is a good way to do that."

It has been some time since the last on-campus film festival; URCG is enthusiastic that this one will be a success due to the lack of film opportunities provided to students outside of the usual weekend presentations at Hoyt.

Unfortunately, the pressure of midterms affected the turnout for the Monday night showing of "The Matrix," which was lower than the attendance of past Saturday night films. With a broad range of 13 films set to show this week, URCG seems to be banking on the diversity of its selections to bring in students.

The one drawback of the festival is the choice of cult films, "Reservoir Dogs," "Big Lebowski," "Good Burger," and "Clueless." None were box-office successes, and some were critically panned. Some, including the latter two, don't seem to fit in with the other films being shown and could have been easily replaced by better known films that still fit the themes.

Though a film festival this short is sure to be deficient of potential showings, the lack of Oscar-winners, action, and Disney films from one of the golden ages of animation could all negatively affect attendance. Conceiving a '90s film festival without such classics as "Goodfellas," "The Shawshank Redemption," and "The Lion King" may be a bit difficult, but the film festival nevertheless has the potential to be a success for URCG.

*Pascutoi is a member of the class of 2015.*



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FROM THE PRESS BOX

## Dixon and Vick compete for starting spot on Eagles

**GAME** FROM PAGE 16

over the past two years, and he is going to turn 33 over the summer. Kelly won't invest too much of his time in Vick if he's smart.

As for Edwards and Foles, they are third-string quarterbacks at best. Taken 88th overall last year, Foles won one of the six games he started. As for Edwards, he never played a full season, and the only year that he started more than 10 games, the Bills came in fourth place in the AFC East. He also has a 26-30 career touchdown-interception ratio. If that's not enough, the Oakland Raiders cut him after the preseason... and they let JaMarcus Russell start 25 games before finally getting

rid of him. To put it bluntly, neither of these quarterbacks looks like a winner to me.

Coach Kelly has assembled a good team of mediocre quarterbacks, but can he craft one to be playoff quality? Foles and Edwards can serve as okay backups, winning a few games here and there, but I can't see either having an 11-5 season. However, with Vick and Dixon learning from each other and competing with each other in practice, both can become viable threats. Dixon is younger and less injury prone, though, so I would start developing him if I were Kelly.

*Ondo is a member of the class of 2015.*



COURTESY OF SPOKEO.COM

Former Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Dennis Dixon signed with the Philadelphia Eagles on Feb. 18 and is gunning for a starting spot.

## The Uglies' Winterfest win foreshadows successful spring

**SKILL** FROM PAGE 16

good at building programs. Additionally, president Nick Mastrosimone and captain Will Retz have done "an excellent job of leading the team to achieve a better standing," Toomey said.

With new leadership from the

coaching staff and players, UR men's rugby looks to become a dominant power in Division II. The team is looking ahead to its upcoming away game against Cornell University and its home game against RIT.

*Kilbridge is a member of the class of 2015.*

## THIS WEEK IN SPORTS

### FRIDAY, FEB. 22

- Women's Track and Field NYSCTC Indoor Championships - Day 1, 10 a.m.
- Men's Track and Field NYSCTC Indoor Championships - Day 1, 10 a.m.
- Men's Squash CSA Team Nationals, All Day

### SATURDAY, FEB. 23

- Women's Track and Field NYSCTC Indoor Championships - Day 2, 10 a.m.
- Men's Track and Field NYSCTC Indoor Championships - Day 2, 10 a.m.
- Women's Tennis v. Ithaca College, 10 a.m.\*
- Men's Tennis v. Ithaca College, 2 p.m.\*
- Women's Basketball v. Emory University, 2 p.m.
- Men's Basketball v. Emory University, 4 p.m.
- Men's Squash CSA Team Nationals, All Day

### SUNDAY, FEB. 24

- Men's Squash CSA Team Nationals, All Day

\*denotes home competition

## STAT OF THE WEEK

3

NUMBER OF SCHOOL RECORDS BROKEN BY FRESHMAN SWIMMER VICKY LUAN AT THE UAA CHAMPIONSHIPS ON FEB. 16.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

## Ally Zywicki — Women's Basketball

BY ELIZABETH KILBRIDGE  
SPORTS EDITOR



The women's basketball team defeated Carnegie Mellon University in a tough battle on Friday, Feb. 15, with the help of sophomore Ally Zywicki. Pitted against the Tartans, Zywicki scored a career-high 24 points and scored seven points in the last three minutes of the game to secure the Yellowjackets another win.

Only in her second season at UR, Ally Zywicki has made a tremendous impact on the team as a crucial player and leading scorer.

As a freshman, Zywicki's drive and passion for basketball showed when she played in all 25 games and earned honorable mention All-UAA at the end of the season. Zywicki's freshman successes only encouraged her to work harder sophomore year.

As the UR women's basketball team comes to the end of its regular season of play with only one game left, Zywicki has proved herself to be a key player for the 'Jackets. Not only did Zywicki score 24 points against Carnegie Mellon, she tallied up a total of 255 season points after UR's game against Case Western Reserve University on Sunday, Feb. 17.

Zywicki began playing basketball when she was only four years old with the support of her father who was both a mentor and a coach for her throughout her childhood.

"We used to play on a little hoop in my basement, and he coached my teams growing up" said Zywicki.

A naturally competitive player, Zywicki played soccer as well but

always loved basketball and decided to focus on her basketball career after injuring her knee in high school.

Zywicki knew she wanted to play basketball at UR, but she also came here for the biomedical engineering program.

Zywicki says that one of the hardest parts about playing basketball is the long season.

"Towards March, your body starts to wear down, and it's hard not to feel drained," she said.

Despite the lengthy season, she has big goals for the team and the rest of their season and hopes to win the UAA because "we haven't won in a decent amount of time."

For now, however, the Ladyjackets are looking ahead to

their next game against Emory University, with whom they are currently tied for first place in the UAA. As a team player whose favorite part of basketball is the camaraderie she has found on and off the court with her teammates, Zywicki hopes to make sure everyone gets involved and has the opportunity to take the best shots they can against Emory.

For any incoming freshman hoping to succeed as well as Zywicki has in these past two seasons, she offers some advice:

"Work as hard as you can, and enjoy your time here while you have it because it goes by faster than you think," she said.

*Kilbridge is a member of the class of 2015.*



AMANDA KLUG / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Freshman guard Ally Zywicki helped the Yellowjackets slide by Carnegie Mellon University 72-67 with an impressive 24 points and six rebounds.

## 'Jackets senior day ends on positive note



AMANDA KLUG / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Junior Danielle McNabb was a major threat against Carnegie Mellon University.

**REBOUND** FROM PAGE 16

field, hitting 30 shots on 60 attempts. Rarely does a team shooting at such a percentage fail to win, but with the 'Jackets perseverance and smart play, including limiting their opponents to only two foul shots, the task was too tall an order for the visitors.

The Yellowjackets will conclude their regular season on Saturday, Feb. 23 when they travel to Atlanta, Ga. to take on Emory University. Though both teams currently hold an 11-2 conference record, the Eagles' 21-3 overall record puts them slightly ahead of Rochester's 19-5 mark.

The schedule beyond the encounter is unknown for either team, but it is certain that the 'Jackets have their eyes set not only on a spot in the postseason, but for a major string of victories to cap off what has been a successful year thus far for Rochester.

*Shapiro is a member of the class of 2016.*

# SPORTS

## Women's basketball wraps up home schedule with win



AMANDA KLUG / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Senior Jackie Walker scored 20 points against the Spartans.

**BY BEN SHAPIRO**  
STAFF WRITER

Sunday, Feb. 17 marked Senior Day at the Palestra in Rochester, the final home game for three of the women's basketball players. Seniors Amy Woods, Jackie Walker, and Kristyn Wright all ended their UR careers with a win, contrib-

uting to the team's 72-68 win over Case Western Reserve University in a tightly contested UAA Conference matchup.

Although senior day at Rochester consists of off-court celebrations for the team's oldest players, the trio of women's basketball players also brought the festivities to the court,

reigning in 35 of the 'Jackets total points. Leading the way was Walker, who put up 20 points, second only to Case's Evy Iacono, who had a game high of 23. Woods scored 12 points of her own, as well as grabbing an impressive five offensive rebounds and dishing out three assists. Wright, starting in her fifth game of the season, also played a role in the victory, knocking down a three pointer during her 17 minutes. Despite the individual performances from UR's seniors, the victory was a true team effort, with contributions coming from a number of players.

Perhaps the most telling statistic was bench points. While Case's non-starters only scored 11 points, the 'Jackets bench players stepped up, scoring 28, displaying the depth of Rochester's squad. While the careers of the team's seniors may have been the focus of the day, the 'Jackets efforts off the bench were a clear reminder that the team will continue to be a force moving forward.

In addition to the all around contributions, Rochester's resiliency also played a role in the game's outcome. Case shot an impressive 50% from the

SEE **REBOUND** PAGE 15

FROM THE PRESS BOX

## Prospective quarterbacks raise uncertainty in NFC East

**BY ADAM ONDO**  
SENIOR STAFF

When asked by "NFL AM" which NFC East quarterback he feared the most, New York Giants cornerback Terrell Thomas, who is not at all lacking in talent, answered: "Dennis Dixon."

Dixon was signed by the Philadelphia Eagles on Feb. 18 and is expected to compete with Michael Vick for the starting job. But neither Dixon nor Vick are guaranteed to start. Oregon coach Chip Kelly also has second-year quarterback Nick Foles and a veteran quarterback, and I use that term loosely, in Trent Edwards.

Dennis Dixon isn't very well known and you'd probably be surprised if I told you that he earned a Super Bowl ring earlier this month. He never

played for the Ravens but was signed to their practice squad last year. Before that, he played for the Pittsburgh Steelers, which drafted him in the fifth round of the 2008 draft.

Dixon has only started three games in the NFL, but those three games do a good job exposing his strengths and weaknesses. He is a big yet fast quarterback, able to run a 4.49 40-yard dash despite his 209 lbs., 6'3" frame. So it should come as no surprise that he ran 59 yards and a touchdown on eight attempts in just three starts.

Between his speed, long strides, agility, and ability to find holds and make cuts like a running back, it is clear that Dixon could become a great dual-threat quarterback. He is also very good at throwing on

the run and has a big arm. However, in his three NFL starts, he threw for 399 yards, one touchdown, and two interceptions, indicating that his passing skills could use some improvement.

Dixon is also kind of rusty since he hasn't played in a single NFL game since 2010. His major advantage over Vick, though, is that Kelly was his offensive coordinator during his senior year at Oregon.

While on the topic of Vick, I think that having him there to compete with Dixon is a great idea. Maybe Dixon can learn a few tricks from Vick and feel some pressure to improve. Vick is a viable number-two option at this point, but I can't see him starting 16 games and doing well. His production has decreased drastically

SEE **GAME** PAGE 15

CLUB SPOTLIGHT

## Men's rugby proves itself Rochester's powerhouse

**BY ELIZABETH KILBRIDGE**  
SPORTS EDITOR

The UR men's rugby team, better known as "the Ugliers," made a ruckus on campus in its first year as a Division II club sport. In the fall of 2012, men's rugby not only won the state championship, but they were ranked twelfth in the nation and graduated from Division III to Division II.

As a fall sport, rugby practices five times a week as part of its training regimen in the beginning of the school year, working just as hard as your average varsity team.

"This is a big commitment" senior David Toomey said. "If you aren't dedicated, you could get hurt."

The players' enthusiasm for the sport and the team has proved itself worthwhile — the Ugliers have become a force to be reckoned with at major tournaments in New York.

The Ugliers kicked off its spring season on Saturday, Feb. 9 with the annual Winterfest Sevens tournament, a tournament hosted by the Buffalo Rugby Club in February as a casual event to bring rugby teams together for more laidback games.

As one of the biggest and certainly snowiest rugby tournaments around, it surprisingly brings teams from all over.

Along with the UR team, St. John Fisher, SUNY Fredonia, The Rochester men's Colonials, and two Canadian teams were in attendance.

Winterfest is different from the usual rugby match not only because of the laid back atmosphere and the presence of both collegiate and adult club teams, but the games themselves consist of seven-minute halves with only seven players versus the usual 40-minute halves with 15 players. Not to mention that there's a foot of snow on the ground. This year, UR men's rugby won the bowl title and secured its place as an up-and-coming threat in its division.

The move from Division III to Division II has been challenging for the players, not only because of the skill level of their new competitors, but because they are generally a smaller and more academic oriented squad than their rivals. Some of the Ugliers' opponents include St. John Fisher, SUNY Fredonia, and Niagara University. Despite the big adjustment, Toomey hopes to improve upon the team's success this spring with the help of some new leadership.

The team recently hired a new co-coach, Dan Williams, who has a background in the professional and Division I rugby levels and has proved he is

SEE **SKILL** PAGE 15



COURTESY OF UR RUGBY

UR rugby faces new and challenging competition against Division II teams.

## THIS WEEK'S RESULTS

### Men's Basketball (21-3)

Feb. 15: Carnegie Mellon University 81-77 (W)

Feb. 17: Case Western Reserve University 51-57 (L)

### Women's Basketball (19-5)

Feb. 15: Carnegie Mellon University 72-67 (W)

Feb. 17: Case Western Reserve University 72-68 (W)

### Men's Swimming and Diving (6-6)

Feb. 14: UAA Championships, Day 2 - 7 of 8

Feb. 15: UAA Championships, Day 3 - 7 of 8

Feb. 16: UAA Championships, Day 4 - 6 of 8

### Women's Swimming and Diving (9-3)

Feb. 14: UAA Championships, Day 2 - 4 of 8

Feb. 15: UAA Championships, Day 3 - 5 of 8

Feb. 16: UAA Championships, Day 4 - 5 of 8

### Men's Tennis (5-1)

Feb. 16: Oneonta State 8-1 (W)

### Men's Squash (9-5)

Feb. 15: University of Western Ontario 7-2 (W)