

Campus Times

SERVING THE UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER COMMUNITY SINCE 1873 / campustimes.org



Experts discuss future of finance in the U.S.

ELISE JOHNSON
NEWS EDITOR

Three panelists came together at UR to discuss the future of finance in the U.S. on Tuesday, April 8.

The program was organized by Politics and Markets and moderated by Associate Professor of Political Science and Business Administration David Primo. Members of the panel included senior fellow at the Mercatus Center at George Mason University Hester Peirce, senior fellow at the Manhattan Institute Nicole Gelinas, and Communications Director for The Other 98%, a grassroots organization that according to its website, fights against “undue corporate influence,” Alexis Goldstein.

Primo explained that he picked this topic because he knew it was something people could relate to.

“Finance affects every aspect of our lives, yet it is a topic that is very complicated. I wanted to help students see the link between Wall Street and their lives” Primo said.

Primo discussed his selection

of panelists.

“I selected panelists that were skilled at explaining complex ideas to an educated but non-expert audience, and who would offer competing perspectives.”

Peirce’s credentials include acting as senior counsel to Senator Richard Shelby’s staff on the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. She also served as an attorney for the Securities and Exchange Commission and as counsel on the Commission to Commissioner Paul S. Atkins.

During her presentation, she expressed the need for the government to deregulate and let banks make their own decisions. This ideology came as a conclusion to the research that has been conducted regarding the effect of the Dodd-Frank Act on small banks and the general difficulty of truly complying with thousands of pages of complicated compliance documents. This act is lawmakers’ attempt to rectify some of the perceived problems perceived to have led to the 2008 financial crisis.

SEE **FINANCE** PAGE 4



AMELIA ENGEL / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

LOURVE PRESENTS ITS SPRING SHOW, “BRAVADO”

Louvre performance ensemble performed its spring show, “Bravado,” this weekend in Spurrier Dance Studio. Louvre was officially recognized as a performing arts student organization in 2009.

Restrictive criteria for routine blood transfusions may decrease infection rates

BY QUINLAN MITCHELL
STAFF WRITER

Restrictive criteria for the use of routine blood transfusions in hospitals may help decrease infection rates in patients, according to a meta-analysis in *The Journal of the American Medical Association*.

The study was led by Mary Rogers, Ph.D., from the University of Michigan and co-authored by Director of the Transfusion Medicine Unit at UR Medical Center Neil Blumberg, M.D.

The article, published this April, offers suggestive evidence that transfusions can be harmful.

Titled “Health care-associated infection after red blood cell transfusion: a systematic review and meta-analysis,” the article reviewed 18 clinical trials that together involved approximately 7,593 patients.

Researchers found a 16.8% risk of serious infection associated with a liberal blood transfusion strategy. That contrasted with an 11.8% risk of serious infection associated with a restrictive transfusion strategy. Serious infections range anywhere from wound infection or pneumonia to the potentially fatal sepsis.

According to Blumberg infections are the most common complication of blood transfusions.

“It appears that when you get a blood transfusion from somebody else [...] it causes a form of immunomodulation,” Blumberg said. This immunomodulation leaves patients susceptible to serious infection.

Nearly five million Americans are in need of blood transfusions each year, according to the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute. A blood transfusion is a

medical procedure during which a patient is injected with blood through an IV in order to maintain the proper ratio of red blood cells

A blood transfusion is a medical procedure during which a patient is injected with blood through an IV in order to maintain the proper ratio of red blood cells in the body.

in the body.

Blood transfusions can be life-saving in certain conditions, such

as acute anemia or extreme blood loss. Blumberg, who has dedicated the past thirty years to studying hematology with a focus on blood transfusions, said he believes that the prevalent use of transfusions is unjustified.

Discussing the scientific evidence backing the use of transfusions, Blumberg noted the lack of “strong evidence that what [medical professionals are] doing is causing benefit rather than harm.”

Transfusions are given to an estimated three to four million patients per year, according to an article authored by Blumberg and a colleague in 2013. The prevalence of the procedure seems to be an instance of what Blumberg terms “indication creep.”

With respect to the field of medicine, this signifies the assumption that if a procedure worked well in certain

circumstances, it could be applied to other medical situations without risk.

Blumberg added that because transfusions can save lives and anemic patients have generally worse health outcomes, it was not an unreasonable conclusion for doctors to arrive at.

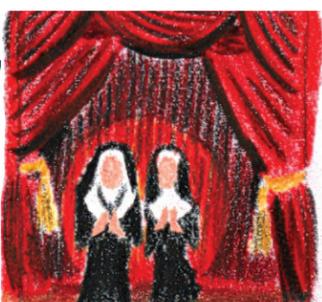
What Blumberg’s analysis means for the medical community is a closer look at a routine procedure that may not actually be helping physicians “do no harm,” as directed by the Hippocratic Oath.

“This is the first really definite proof that most people are going to accept that this is true about transfusions,” Blumberg said.

Blumberg added that “we’ve got to start getting people to think of the transfusion as the last resort, not as the first...”

Mitchell is a member of the class of 2014.

INSIDE THIS CT



DIALOGUE OF THE CARMELITES

Read of review of “Dialogue of the Carmelites” opera, held at Eastman School of Music this past weekend.

PAGE 12 A&E

TENURE ON THE RISE

Find out more about the policy surrounding tenure and the increasing number of tenured female professors.

PAGE 7 FEATURES

STUDENT OFFERS PROBLEMS, SOLUTIONS

A member of the senior class expresses his frustrations, critiques and personal experiences regarding UR.

PAGE 6 OPINIONS



AARON SCHAFFER / PHOTO EDITOR

GONE FISHING

The "Fish and Fishing" exhibit in the Art and Music Library explores the experience of learning to accomplish one's goals through the metaphor of fishing. The opening reception for the exhibit was Tuesday, April 8.

THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS

THURSDAY

APRIL 10

OUT IN REEL FILM SERIES: INTERSEXION

HOYT AUDITORIUM, 7:00 - 9:00 PM

The film explores intersex people from around the world and how they navigate life through childhood, adolescence, relationships and adulthood. Sponsored by the Susan B. Anthony Institute for Gender and Women's Studies.

RPO - MERRY MOUNT

MAY ROOM - WILSON COMMONS, 7:30 - 9:30 PM

Concert performance of long-time Eastman School of Music director Howard Hanson's only opera. RPO offers a preview of the show before its presentation in Carnegie Hall in May as part of the Spring for Music Festival.

FRIDAY

APRIL 11

ALTERNATIVE MUSIC FILM FESTIVAL

MEMORIAL ART GALLERY, 7:00 PM

This film tells the story behind the writing, recording and subsequent success of Duran Duran's 2008 album through newly filmed interviews, musical demonstrations, and new and archived performances. Admission is \$10.

INSIDE LLEWYN DAVIS

HOYT AUDITORIUM, 7:00 - 9:00 PM

The film follows one week in the life of a singer in New York's folk music scene in 1961. Tickets are \$2 for students; \$3 all others. Repeat showing at 9:15 and 11:30 p.m. This film is sponsored by the Cinema Group.

SATURDAY

APRIL 12

NATIONAL WATER DANCE

ALONG THE GENESEE RIVER, 4:00 PM

Dance depicts water and issues surrounding water use across our country, featuring the original work of students from the Program of Dance and Movement and the Studio Art Program. The event is free.

VOCAL POINT SPRING SHOW

MAY ROOM - WILSON COMMONS, 8:00 - 10:00 PM

Join the ensemble as they celebrate their senior Corey Robinson through a cappella music. The show will also feature performances from Project E.M.P.O.W.E.R. Tickets are \$6.

SUNDAY

APRIL 13

WIND SYMPHONY

STRONG AUDITORIUM, 3:00 - 5:00 PM

Directed by Bill Tiberio. Featuring performances of works by Alfred Reed, Robert Russell Bennett and Howard Hanson. The event is free.

AFRICAN DRUMMING CONCERT

STRONG AUDITORIUM, 7:00 - 9:00 PM

Led by Master Drummer Fana Bangoura, the West African Drumming Ensemble is dedicated to the dynamic percussive traditions of Guinea. The event is free.

Campus Times

SERVING THE UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER COMMUNITY SINCE 1873

WILSON COMMONS 102

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER, ROCHESTER, NY 14627

OFFICE: (585) 275-5942 / FAX: (585) 273-5303

CAMPUSTIMES.ORG / EDITOR@CAMPUSTIMES.ORG

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF RACHAEL SANGUINETTI

MANAGING EDITOR JONAH JENG

NEWS EDITORS

ELISE JOHNSON

JULIANNE MCADAMS

FEATURES EDITOR

JAMIE RUDD

DANIELLE DOUGLAS

OPINIONS EDITOR

JASON ALTABET

A&E EDITORS

JUSTIN FRAUMENI

JEFFREY HOWARD

HUMOR EDITOR

CHRIS HORGAN

SPORTS EDITOR

JOHN CHTCHEKINE

PHOTO EDITORS

PARSA LOTFI

AARON SCHAFFER

PRESENTATION EDITOR

AARON SCHAFFER

ILLUSTRATOR

ELIZABETH BESON

COPY EDITOR

SAAD USMANI

SAM PASSANISI

MORGAN KATH

BUSINESS MANAGER CAROL ROUHANA

PUBLISHER MATTHEW SHINSEKI

Full responsibility for material appearing in this publication rests with the Editor-in-Chief. Opinions expressed in columns, letters or comics are not necessarily the views of the editors or the University of Rochester. *Campus Times* is printed weekly on Thursdays throughout the academic year, except around and during university holidays. All articles are free. *Campus Times* is published on the World Wide Web at www.campustimes.org and is updated Thursdays following publication. *Campus Times* is SA funded. All materials herein are copyright © 2014 by *Campus Times*.

It is our policy to correct all erroneous information as quickly as possible. If you believe you have a correction, please email editor@campustimes.org.

WEEKEND FORECAST

COURTESY OF WEATHER.COM

FRIDAY



Partly Cloudy
Chance of rain: 10%
High 57, Low 39

SATURDAY



Mostly Sunny
Chance of rain: 10%
High 63, Low 22

SUNDAY



Few Showers
Chance of rain: 30%
High 68, Low 51

PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE

Mysterious odor in Chase

BY REI RAMOS
STAFF WRITER

1. On Friday, April 4, at 8:50pm, Public Safety Officers responded to the Chase Bank branch in Todd Union for a report of a sulfur-like odor in the air. The Rochester Fire Department, Facilities mechanics, and Fire Marshall all responded and found slightly elevated carbon monoxide levels initially attributed to a Freon gas leak in a cooling system. Further investigation found that a control panel battery was leaking some acid which caused the odor. The issue was promptly rectified.

Man banned for using computers

2. On Thursday, April 3, Public Safety Officers observed an adult male using the Eastman School of Music basement computers. When approached, the man fled the area and was later located on Gibbs St. He stated that he gained access by knocking on the window and someone opened the door for him. The man was banned from UR. Students should be aware of and report suspicious persons, and should never allow unknown persons into student access areas.

Man found in balcony

3. Thanks to the report

of an observant student, on Sunday, April 6, at about 10:30am, Public Safety Officers approached a man in the balcony area of Eastman Theater. The man was found suspiciously loitering around the area. Officers approached the man and determined that the male had no legitimate business being in the perimeter and was subsequently banned from UR property.

Clarinet found, iPod missing

4. There were two incidents of unattended property reported as stolen. The first was on Wednesday, April 2, between 5:00pm and 6:00pm when a student who had left her backpack under a bench in the Goergen Women's Locker Room discovered her iPhone was stolen. The phone's GPS was not active and it has not been recovered. Another incident occurred when a student finished practice and left her clarinet in a seventh floor room at the Eastman School Annex. She discovered it missing upon returning to the room one week later on Thursday, April 3. Thankfully, the clarinet was submitted to the Eastman Commons Lost and Found and returned to its owner.

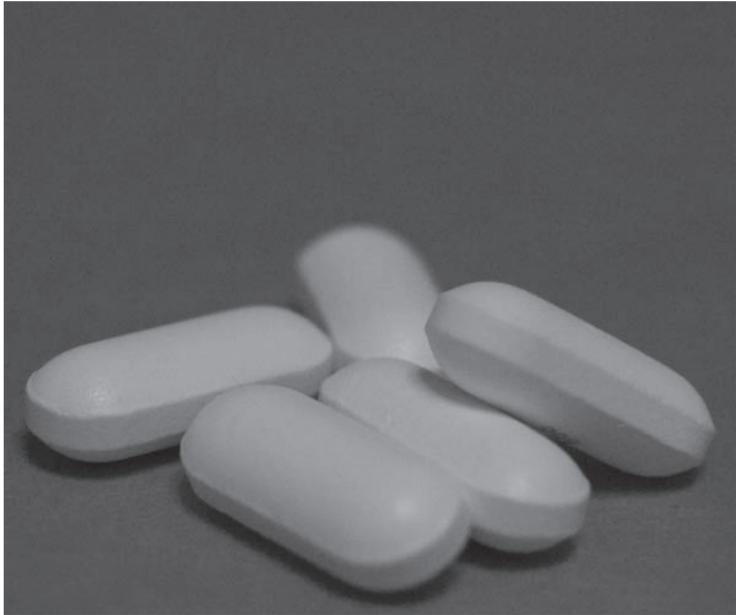
Ramos is a member of the class of 2015. Information provided by UR Public Safety.

Want to leave a legacy?

Join *Campus Times*.

Email editor@campustimes.org for more information.

URMC begins next phase in study on Parkinson's disease



AARON SCHAFFER / PHOTO EDITOR

Israpidine, a drug currently used to combat high blood pressure, may be a new mode of treatment for Parkinson's disease.

BY SAM PASSANISI
STAFF WRITER

The next phase of an ongoing study on Parkinson's disease will take place at UR Medical Center (URMC) later this year.

A press release from URMC on April 2 said that the study, which is being conducted in tandem with Northwestern University, could have

exciting new implications for the treatment of the disease.

First-phase testing of the drug was "completed decades ago," UR School of Medicine and Dentistry neurologist Kevin Biglan said in a press release from URMC.

Biglan is one of the principle researchers involved in the study, along with Northwestern University

Feinberg School of Medicine Professor of Neurology Tanya Simuni.

The upcoming study is the third phase in a drug trial for an existing medication called Israpidine, which is currently used by doctors to treat high blood pressure. Recent findings suggest that the drug may keep patients with Parkinson's disease healthier for longer by protecting their brain cells from deterioration.

This effect was observed when studies showed that people taking Israpidine for their high blood pressure tended to exhibit lower rates of Parkinson's disease. Researchers suspect that the medication can help mitigate one of the main causes of Parkinson's disease: the deterioration of dopamine-producing cells in the brain. Dopamine is an essential chemical in the nervous system, necessary for control of the body. A shortage of the chemical causes the tremors and loss of motor control associated with Parkinson's.

"Israpidine is FDA approved for the treatment of hypertension and has been for decades," Biglan said. "Phase 1 studies are toxicology and safety evaluations of new drugs in healthy volunteers."

Phase 2 ended in 2012 after researchers had determined the proper dosage and safety aspects of the drug for Parkinson's patients. Phase 3, the researchers said, will focus on determining the efficacy of the drug.

Three hundred and thirty six Parkinson's disease patients will be recruited for the trial and will be assigned to various research sites across

the country, including UR.

Since Israpidine is already FDA-approved and widely available, success in Phase 3 of the study might mean that the drug could soon be used in the treatment of Parkinson's.

Biglan noted the researchers' long-term goals.

"The hope is that if the drug shows efficacy [...] then this currently available drug would be considered in all patients with PD," he said.

Israpidine would not be a stand-alone cure for the disease, but it

could be used in conjunction with other medications to slow the onset of the worst symptoms. The drug has a neuroprotective effect on patients' brain cells, meaning that it keeps the dopamine-producing cells healthier and causes the disease to progress more slowly.

"If you could slow the progression sufficiently enough," Biglan said in the press release, "then with existing symptomatic treatments you could manage Parkinson's symptoms quite well over a much longer period of

Seligman addresses heroin allegations

BY RACHAEL SANGUINETTI
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

UR President Joel Seligman sent out an email announcement to all students last Friday, addressing the use of heroin on the UR campus. He later held a press conference on campus at on Friday afternoon at 3:30 for the local Rochester news stations, publicly begging students to get the help they need.

Seligman began his email by addressing rumors around campus regarding the death of Juliette Richard, a freshmen who died the previous weekend. It has been reported by many news sources that Juliette Richard died from a heroin overdose or other complications, though nothing has been confirmed by the medical examiner.

"I strongly believe it would be inappropriate to reach any conclusion about the cause of Juliette's death," Seligman said in his email.

In the press conference, Seligman spoke directly to the students who were watching.

"These are drugs that can kill," he said. "And if you're on them, please get help."

The use of heroin has been on the rise at universities across the country. A survey conducted in 2012 by the American College Health Association included 76,481 college students from across the country. Of this population, 1,300 admitted to trying heroin, which is approximately two percent. One in five students believe other students on their campus use heroin.

The City of Rochester is also suffering from an increase in cases of heroin overdose-related deaths. The number of such deaths has increased fivefold since 2011, according to a

recent report released by the Monroe Medical Examiner's Office. In 2013, heroin was responsible for the deaths of 65 people in the region compared to 29 in 2012. In 2011, only 11 deaths were attributed to heroin.

In his email to students, Seligman included a list of services that the University offers to students who are struggling with drug addiction. These services include the University Health Services, University Counseling Center, and the CARE network service.

He urged students who know of someone in need of help to report it immediately.

"I encourage all to speak up and save lives," he said.

Sanguinetti is a member of the class of 2015.

Office of Admissions

Continuing Student Scholarships

The Office of Admissions is proud to announce its annual scholarships for returning undergraduate students.

Continuing Student Scholarship for Undergraduates

James A. Chin, Jr. Memorial Award

Jeremy L. Glick Memorial Scholarship

Dante Scholarship Program

For deadlines, eligibility, and applications:
<http://bit.ly/1mKtRua>



UNIVERSITY of
ROCHESTER

STUDENT DISCOUNT TAKE

20% OFF YOUR ORDER DAILY AFTER 3 PM!

Show your student ID & get 20% discount

DINE-IN * CARRY-OUT * CATERING * DELIVERY

Restrictions may apply; not valid with other discounts, coupons, or promotions



www.pellegrinosdeli.com



Summer 2014 Courses

DAN 101 World Dance: Movement as Culture

4.0 Credits

Instructor: Diehl, K.

MWR 900-1130

Course Offered May 19-June 27

Cluster: Movement and Culture

Minor: Core Context Course



Study Abroad in Corfu, Greece

DAN 350 Living Dance~Living Music and Creative Expression through Choreography

6.0 Credits

Instructors: D. Fraenkel and M. Pfohl Smith

Course Offered June 28-July 12, 2014



DAN 230 Living Yoga, Living Anatomy

4.0 Credits

Instructors: Corea, D. and Pigno, N.

MTRF 900-1200

Course Offered June 30-July 28

Cluster: Mind-Body Somatics

Movement Studies Minor:

Core Context Course

Dance Minor: Somatic Awareness Course

For more information contact the University of Rochester Program of Dance and Movement 585-273-5150 or visit our website at www.rochester.edu/college/dance

Panelists explore Wall Street, regulation and future crises



COURTESY OF UR COMMUNICATION VIA FACEBOOK
Professor Primo listens as panelists discuss their views on finance policy in the U.S. Panelists included Hester Peirce, Nicole Gelinas and Alexis Goldstein.

FINANCE FROM PAGE 1

She explained that regulations, if there are any at all, must be simple because the complicated version that lawyers create require people with specialized knowledge to interpret, helping to contribute to the revolving door between Wall Street regulators and Wall Street itself, and also hurting small banks.

“The regulations can inadvertently shut down part of the banking sector as these bankers decide, ‘you know what, I didn’t go into business to become a compliance person — I went into business to make loans to people, and this is just not what I’m allowed to do anymore.’”

However, she did explain that capitalization of banks is needed, and stockholders need to be seen as more important. If banks are more beholden to stockholders they have more at stake, whereas other forms of bank stockholders, such as people with accounts, get back their money through other means like the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Gelinas is a Chartered Financial Analyst and a member of the New York Society of Securities Analysts. Prior to her work with the Manhattan Institute, she worked as a business journalist for Thomson Financial covering international syndicated-loan and private-debt markets.

Gelinas’ ideology is that some regulation is okay. She discussed the ban on high interest loans in New York. She believes that the government needs to foster more accountability in banks, allowing banks to see the negative consequences of their actions. This would result in greater discretion in investment. Banks’ fates would also be more linked to their stockholders.

“If the Reagan administration had decided, ‘let’s just let the banks fail,’ what would the results have been?” Gelinas said. “There could have been a broader market panic, perhaps downturn in economy before reelection, but the lesson to the market would have been beneficial. The lesson that would have gone out to global bondholder and global investors who had put money in bank would have been, ‘be careful what you invest in this

new and changing world.’”

She continued to explain that this set the precedent for “too-big-to-fail banks,” and they, along with their investors, have learned that if they melt down, the government will bail them out.

Goldstein worked on Wall Street for seven years in technology before deciding to pursue a different path. After joining Occupy Wall Street, she joined Occupy the SEC (Securities and Exchange Commission). Though she is no longer an active member, she was a critical part in a comment letter send to Congress regarding a specific part of Dodd-Frank called the Volcker Rule.

This rule restricts banks from making speculative investments that are not in the best interest of their customer.

From her work on Wall Street, Goldstein said she saw injustices against customers and fights for more government intervention and regulation for banks. This regulation would help people understand the risks and benefits of

investing/banking with a particular company.

“Wall Street is a cult of smartness, and if you get screwed, it’s your fault because you weren’t smart enough and you didn’t read the fine print that they buried deliberately in the footnotes,” Goldstein said. “Ripping your client’s face off is a two step process: step one is you give your client the worst deal you could possibly give them, but step two is you make them think that it’s a bargain and that you did not rip your clients face off if they know they’ve been screwed.”

Professor Primo thought the event went well.

“I thought the panelists did a great job of offering strong views and challenging one another while at the same time respecting differing opinions,” he said. “It’s a model for how policy discussions ought to be conducted.”

Primo said he expects another event to occur during Meliora Weekend next semester.

Johnson is a member of the class of 2016.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY

This summer, earn 10 credits while you gain valuable work experience as an intern.

Complete coursework that is relevant to your future career—and apply that knowledge directly in practice.

- Arts & Culture
- Business & Management
- Communication
- Graphic & Web Design
- International Studies
- Politics, Public Policy & Law
- Psychology Research & Practice
- Public Health & Social Policy



**BOSTON UNIVERSITY
SUMMER STUDY
INTERNSHIP PROGRAM**

MAY 19–AUGUST 15, 2014

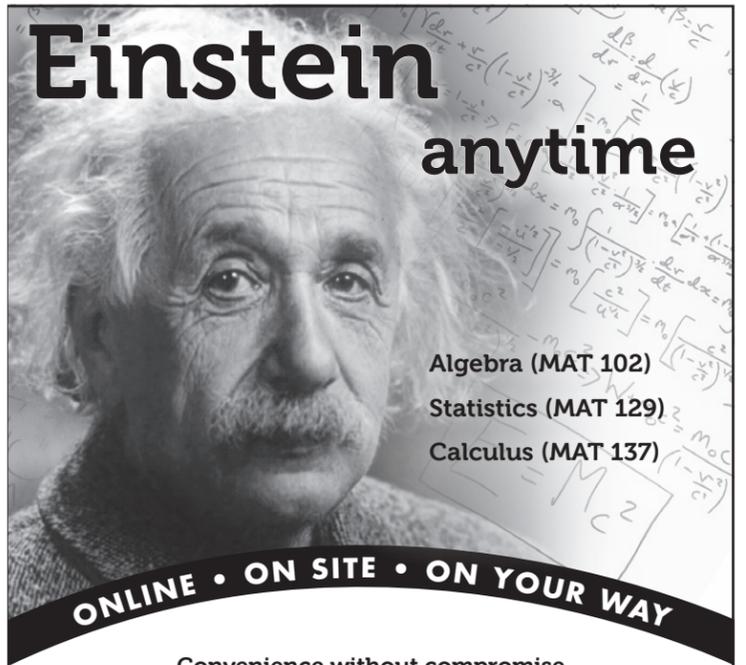
Learn More.

617-353-0556

bu.edu/summer/internship

Boston University Summer Term

Einstein anytime



Algebra (MAT 102)

Statistics (MAT 129)

Calculus (MAT 137)

ONLINE • ON SITE • ON YOUR WAY

Convenience without compromise.

Knock-off electives—accelerate to graduation
Affordable tuition
Transferable SUNY credits
45+ online summer courses

SUNY
GCC
Genesee Community College

Genesee Community College is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer

ONLINE & AT 7 CAMPUS LOCATIONS | WWW.GENESEE.EDU | 866-CALL-GCC



Paola's

**BURRITO PLACE
MEXICAN GRILL**

**BURRITOS, ENCHILADAS,
QUESADIAS & TACOS**

Starting April 1st find

Paola's Truck on Elmwood Ave

(In front of the School of Medicine & Dentistry bldg.)

Monday – Friday 11am to 2pm

Open 7 days a week 1011 Culver Rd. 585-270-5961

Mon. – Sat. 11am–9pm

Sunday 11am–4pm

½ price for 1 pound BURRITO

When you buy 1 pound Burrito at Regular Price

Coupon valid at both locations and through April 17, 2014

Bordeaux
unisex salon

If your hair isn't becoming to you, *you should be coming to us!*

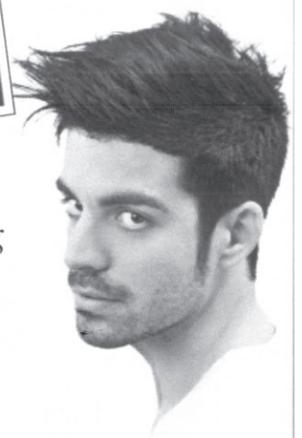
585.244.6360

1340 Mt. Hope Ave.

(Opposite future College Town)

RED DISCOUNT

Visit us at bordeauxsalon.com



OPINIONS

EDITORIAL CARTOON



LIZ BESON / ILLUSTRATOR

EDITORIAL OBSERVER

E-Cigs: Good & Bad



BY SAM PASSANISI
COPY EDITOR

Every year, we're saying goodbye to more and more familiar analog items. As electronics continue to become smaller and more efficient, everything is going digital. Hardly anyone uses the U.S. Postal Service anymore, at least not for personal communication; email is the way to go. Books are gradually being phased out by e-readers like Amazon's Kindle or Barnes & Noble's Nook. Cigarettes? Try e-cigarettes, the healthier, cleaner, and less smelly alternative.

There's not much to say against some of these advancements. The most common argument against e-readers, for example, is the vaguely nostalgic "I guess I just like holding an actual book." There's nothing wrong with that, but it also doesn't give any concrete reason not to use e-readers. Email and other forms of rapid messaging have largely taken over the realm of personal communication, and while these past few years have seen the associated decline of the USPS, it's hard to make any real argument that email is somehow bad.

E-cigarettes are another matter. They're safer... at least as far as we know. Although, just as with any new fad, it takes several decades for all the health risks and issues to fully materialize, e-cigarettes do seem to be safer than the real thing; It's difficult to be less healthy than cigarettes. They lack the tar, arsenic, and other carcinogens present in traditional cigarettes, most likely negating some of the risk of cancer from smoking. They also emit water vapor rather than smoke, thus causing less collateral damage. The faster-dissipating water vapor has no offensive odor and is less likely to

bother non-smoking passers-by. Despite these benefits, however, e-cigarettes are nowhere near as great as people seem to believe.

The problem of e-cigarettes is rooted in their deceptive image of safety. While certainly safer than cigarettes, e-cigs still contain nicotine, one of the most addictive drugs known to man. The promotion of e-cigarettes as a revolutionary way to quit smoking is laughable, since this method requires the same gradual phasing-out of nicotine that goes along with nicotine gum or patches. It's just as difficult to quit smoking using e-cigs as with any other method.

Another problem with e-cigarettes lies in their cost. Cheaper, single-use e-cigs cost eight to ten dollars, which is as much as or more than a pack of cigarettes. The pack of cigarettes would last longer. Higher-end, refillable "hookah pens" can cost sixty to seventy dollars, and while they last longer, it is still necessary to purchase pricey refills.

E-cigarettes can also be blamed for creating new problems among high schoolers. Kids who pat themselves on the back for inhaling only cancer-free water vapor are still falling prey to nicotine addiction and, perhaps worse, doing nothing to stop the overall culture of smoking. High schools have had to remind their students that e-cigs in school are just as illegal as tobacco. It's just that, due to their inconspicuous nature and lack of a distinctive scent, e-cigs are easier to conceal and smoke on campus.

E-cigs are a great option for smokers, sure. Switching from cigarettes to e-cigs can be nearly as healthy as quitting outright, and there's no reason to discourage that. Those who are starting with e-cigs, on the other hand? Just don't. It's an expensive and pointless hobby that at worst will draw you into the smoking culture and at best leave you with a serious nicotine addiction. The price, for what amounts to breathing flavored air, is far too high.

Passanisi is a member of the class of 2017.

EDITORIAL BOARD

Utilize the open curriculum

At this point, most students are already set their on their schedules for next semester. After meeting with advisors, agonizing over major requirements, coordinating with friends and adjusting (and readjusting) potential schedules with the CDCS app, students are finally settling on a routine and workload they can live with. All that's left to do is post the classes on Facebook and look forward to summer.

But how many can say that they are truly taking something next year that's outside their major? Something purely for interest, with no plans to make it count toward a minor or a cluster? Something they always thought was interesting but never thought they had the time to actually study for?

The University prides itself on having an open curriculum that allows students to "study what they love." But too many make the mistake of not taking full advantage of the opportunities. They isolate themselves to a few specific fields and only them, for the entirety of their college careers – that shouldn't be the case.

For most, this is the only time in one's life that can be devoted almost solely to learning; the only time someone will have the opportunity to study whatever they want; the only time they will have the luxury of spending a significant portion of the week on something completely enthralling, no matter its relevance.

Of course, many start college without a clue what they want

to major in, and others quickly realize that the intended field just isn't quite the thing to go with. In such cases, people are forced to branch out and sample the variety of options the University has to offer. This exploration is done with the goal of finding the thing that will become the new focus.

Students identify themselves and relate, in many ways, to peers based on their field(s) being without a label of any kind is terrifying. Those that must quest for a major, however, are typically fortunate enough to quickly escape the limbo-like state of uncertainty that is the unlabeled college existence.

These explorers are lucky enough to have a great advising staff and supportive community that can usually help them find the path they are looking for quite quickly. It may take a semester or two, but very few of these intrepid souls make it to the end of sophomore year without any prospects for an intended major.

As a senior doubling in Psych & Neuroscience with a cluster in Japanese, one might think back on freshman year with amusement – "remember when I thought I wanted to be a Religion major?" Or, as a junior majoring in History with minors in Women's Studies and Computer Science, one might look back fondly on first semester sophomore year when they took "Cosmic Origins of Life." With the happy nostalgia of looking back set aside, few look forward to taking "unnecessary" and "useless"

classes.

Students don't start out as pre-med freshmen with plans for minors in Public Health and ASL, excited to squeeze in "Intro to Geological Science," "Creating Architecture," and "Principles of Economics." Why would they. The classes aren't going to count towards anything; they aren't related to future careers. But the real question that should be asked is: why not?

If it can be made to fit, why not take something for pure enjoyment? Why wouldn't someone take a course that could potentially make them more knowledgeable and well rounded? What's the harm in learning something that might have no future purpose other than a good story for the kids about "the time I took a sociology class in college?"

These are the formative years. We are "discovering who we are," "making choices that will determine our futures", and "becoming the people we will be for the rest of our lives." What's so bad about taking the cheesiness of these phrases to heart by discovering that there can be passion for more than a few topics, choosing to have an eclectic education, and becoming exceedingly interesting people?

The time is now to go ahead and take on a new subject, or weird class. Nothing's stopping you from taking a chance and signing up for something different. So go out and make use of that open curriculum and explore!

Lead with dedication, integrity

Now that SA elections are done and nearly all the posters taken down, it is easy for candidates to take this opportunity to rest on their laurels. After all, they have just accomplished the goal they were seeking, whether it be election or reelection. Now that the supporters have been congratulated and the SA-vote website quietly filed away until next year, it can be all too easy to put a little less effort into the governing part of things. The intent doesn't even have to be malicious. Maybe the meetings begin dragging on longer and longer in the Senate, or the other members of Class Council just don't seem that enthused by your ideas. It's possible that one might simply begin getting bogged down by other activities, or schoolwork,

and it begins to affect the enthusiasm one brings to their office. However, it is imperative that one does not let themselves succumb to this temptation.

By electing a representative into any position, fellow students have entrusted this person to uphold their interests. By being a part of the Senate, Class Council or other positions, one isn't merely part of an activity or weekly meeting but a system that enables one student to represent hundreds of fellow students. Thus, when an elected student representative fails to put in the adequate time to continue to care about the people they serve, choosing instead to lay back and pop the position on their resume, or simply to fall behind in a non-malicious manner, they are

hurting more than themselves.

UR students came together this week and elected a batch of student leaders to lead them with integrity. This group is diverse, but they all have one thing in common: they have been entrusted by their fellows to set an agenda and follow through with it. These student leaders must act on this mandate and not only plan some events or set a few initiatives, but fulfill every one of their office's responsibilities. It may seem like a daunting task, and in some ways it is, but the purpose of elected office is to accomplish these things, to fulfill these goals, and if someone is unwilling to immerse themselves in the task and lead with integrity, it might be better if they didn't seek the same position next election.

The above two editorials are published with the consent of a majority of the editorial board: Rachael Sanguinetti (Editor-in-Chief), Jonah Jeng (Managing Editor), Jason Altabet (Opinions Editor), Jamie Rudd (Features Editor), and Julianne McAdams (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.

Make meliora a reality: what's wrong with UR

BY DANIEL GORMAN JR.

I love this university, but I feel a responsibility as a senior to identify some problems here, so that they might be corrected. Meliora must apply to all things, including the administration and campus life, not only academics. I've ranked these issues from easiest to hardest to correct.

First, you can't buy Q-tips on campus. It sounds silly, but this basic item of hygiene isn't sold in the Bookstore or Hillside. This is easy to fix so that students don't need Q-tips mailed to them overnight. While on the subject of mail, the Package Office's new package sorting system is a disaster, massively increasing the patron wait time and overwhelming the poor staff members. The Package Office should get a new system, or

Rettner is a glorified atrium...

go back to the old system, or hire extra student employees to help.

Moving textbook sales off the River Campus to College Town does not bode well for postal services either. While science students, who need few books, won't have to carry much back to campus from College Town, humanities and social science students, who need dozens of books, will be at a disadvantage. Who wants to carry twenty books from Mt. Hope to our campus? I fear that humanities and social science students will order more books online, further overloading the Package Office's inadequate sorting system. The

Package Office needs an overhaul, and the administration should rethink their choice to move textbooks to a distant location.

On campus, the much-hyped Rettner Hall is still not operational seven months after it opened. I know many engineering students who are frustrated that the shop lacks most of its tools. Meanwhile, humanities and audio engineering students are eager to use the recording studio. Students deserve an explanation about the delay, plus a realistic start date for the facilities. Otherwise, Rettner is a glorified atrium. By the way, building a recording studio on top of a shop seems misguided because the vibrations from the shop machines will likely interfere with the recordings being done upstairs.

There's another sonic topic worth discussing – the lack of musical theatre on campus. Sure, there are OBOC revues every semester, Todd Union's one musical every four years, and the musicals at Eastman. However, OBOC shows are often subpar, Todd musicals are avant-garde affairs that require very few cast members, and River Campus students aren't allowed to act in Eastman shows. As such, UR, which includes Eastman which is nationally renowned for its musical education, is one of the only major universities that doesn't produce proper musicals annually. This is embarrassing and odd, given our faculty and students' musical strength.

The administration should also ponder its new push to expand

the size of humanities classes. I'm all for more humanities students, but humanities classes cannot simply be blown up to fit a physics lecture hall. The humanities need seminar-style dialogue and close faculty-student interaction, so the classes must be small. If the River Campus ramps up humanities enrollment, there needs to be a concurrent effort to recruit more tenure-track humanities faculty (NOT adjuncts). Otherwise, humanities classes will become too large to be intellectually engaging environments for students.

Classrooms need to be fulfilling environments too, since there is

Additionally, with the rate and severity of crime increasing in surrounding neighborhoods, it is not good that students are going off campus in greater numbers. Drunken students traipsing home through rough neighborhoods are clear targets for robbery and assault. The administration therefore needs to rethink its policies on parties. Even if the crackdown on Greek life continues, the administration must persuade students to stay on campus, if for no other reason than to keep students safe.

Speaking of safety, the CARE Network is an excellent idea for promoting mental wellness, but it has a public relations problem.

Most students have a negative opinion of the system. That disturbing Facebook page, UR Secrets, has published many posts criticizing the CARE

Network. I can't speak to the truth of these complaints, but the administration must address the frequent posts and ensuing social media chatter. If the complaints have merit, then changes should be made. If the complaints lack merit, then the University must improve its CARE Network advertising to combat the misinformation being spread about a vital community resource.

Tuition continues to skyrocket, passing the \$60,000 mark for next year. I understand that the University needs annual revenue from tuition to pay for salaries, scholarships and other services, but the cost of tuition cannot keep

going up forever. Well, I suppose it can, but only rich students would be able to afford it. There is a national threat of higher education becoming the next economic bubble – tuitions soaring higher and higher, students not enrolling in adequate numbers because of the costs, and finally schools shutting down or reducing their size drastically because of the lost income. The continued problem of tuition is therefore a potential Achilles' heel. The administration must begin considering long-term tuition reduction or fixed tuition rates. By the way, there is another money topic worth mentioning – it is unfair that Eastman Ph.D. students do not receive stipends when all other University Ph.D. students receive stipends.

Finally, the relative racial separation of the student body is troubling. Outside of academics, jobs and certain clubs, black and white students do not interact socially in large numbers. The racial separation of our student body is the great elephant in the room – no one likes talking about it. Despite the administration's diversity conferences and multicultural programming, the split between black and white social scenes endures. It is very sad that this should happen 50 years after the civil rights movement. I don't know how to solve this problem, but the administration must consider how to bring together different ethnic and racial groups on campus.

There is much to admire about the UR, but there is work to be done to make Meliora a full reality.

Gorman is a member of the class of 2014.



no longer a weekend

LIZ BESON ILLUSTRATOR

social scene on campus. Despite the need to abolish hazing, the administration's crackdown on Greek life has eliminated most parties and other social events on campus. Combined with the loss of old Hillside Café (a social hub for drinkers and non-drinkers alike), the near-total lack of frat parties leaves little to do from Thursday night to Saturday night. The social scene is now off campus, removing the University's immediate liability but also its ability to monitor parties lest they get out of hand.

The misunderstood vegetarian lifestyle

BY IRENE BLANCO

Seven years ago, I woke up one morning and decided to become a vegetarian cold turkey. In my then-crazed obsession with the Beatles, I thought emulating Paul McCartney's ways was a good enough reason to convert. Little did I know that switching to vegetarianism would be a decision I would stick to long-term. Since I changed my dietary restrictions, I've fluctuated from being pescetarian, vegan, cruditarian and ovo-lacto vegetarian, which is what I currently am. My silly fangirling days are over (or at least, I would like to think so). Also, the reason why I commit to my diet is no longer in order

Society has a culture that tends to shun vegetarians by labeling them as elitists who consider themselves to be above everyone, or as animal lover softies.

to copy my favorite artist. Now, I decide to wake up every day and not eat meat because, by refusing to do so, I lower

the pressure meat production puts on the environment. According to Wikipedia.org, growing crops for farm animals requires nearly half of the U.S' water supply and 80% of its agricultural land. Additionally, eating meat harms health, wastes resources, causes deforestation and creates pollution.

For all of the aforementioned reasons, when I had an uncomfortable dining experience in the Danforth Dining Hall, I thought sharing it with my fellow students would be an eye opener. Creating awareness of people's oblivion to dietary restrictions is pivotal. A few weeks ago, I went to get dinner with friends and stopped by the pasta station to grab some of what the dining hall employees had labeled as "vegetarian pesto pasta." When I had finished my first serving, I went to help myself to another because, let's face it, Danforth servings are never enough to fill you up. As I noticed that there was not any pasta left on the countertop, I asked the cook if he was planning on making more pasta. His reply was, "Yeah, let me just go and grab the chicken broth to mix in to add flavor." I was taken aback by his response. Not only had I already eaten a plate of said pasta, I also had

explicitly checked the ingredient list on the station's label to ensure that I was eating vegetarian-friendly food. To top it off, nowhere on the ingredient list was chicken broth mentioned.

This experience made me realize that society has a culture that tends to shun vegetarians by labeling them as elitists who consider themselves above everyone else, or as animal lover softies. Instead of taking the time to understand the individual reasons behind why people convert, it's easier for individuals to judge and shame vegetarians for their minoritarian lifestyle choices. People should



LIZ BESON / ILLUSTRATOR

be educated about what being vegetarian entails. Some vegetarians like myself do not consume any animal product that kills the animal in its production process; this includes but is not limited to: red 40, gelatin and

marshmallows. Also, vegetarians most definitely do not cook their food in equipment that has previously been used to cook meat, nor do they use beef stock, chicken or fish broth to season their meals. Being vegetarian means avoiding all meat, not just red meat. Things like these and other small tips help to make people more conscious of other people's life decisions. Where I'm from, Puerto Rico, this is a common misconception. Living in countries where meats are the staple food for every meal is harsh on vegetarians. It makes it really difficult for us to find nutritious foods, and sometimes we get snarky remarks from people for not embracing the local food. Receiving judgment and being ostracized for making smart life decisions should not be a thing anywhere.

Why should omnivores care? Vegetarians help lower the production of mass-produced meats and probably lead to better quality meat production. Taking tips from vegetarian friends might be a quick fix for alarmingly high levels of cholesterol or a lesson on how to avoid foods that are high in starchy trans-fat. The bottom-line is vegetarians are cool. Please do not judge our lifestyle out of ignorance. We might seem

like a bunch of tree-hugging hippies to you, but chances are, people have a rational reason for deciding to convert. Converting was one of the best decisions I ever made. My digestive system works a lot faster, my breath is significantly improved, I smell better and, contrary to what many may think, I have managed to keep my iron count surprisingly high, which has enabled me to donate blood, a thing most vegetarians are unable to do. Warning: they say hindsight is 20/20. If you do decide to convert, do not quit on meat cold turkey. The decision to drastically turn vegetarian as an 11-year-old was not a smart one. I initially gained a lot of weight and did not have healthy, well-balanced meals. Make sure to investigate which grains you should substitute for meat in order to get sufficient levels of protein in your diet, and don't neglect those fruits and vegetables that provide you with essential nutrients for you to lead a healthy, productive life. Overall, I endorse a vegetarian lifestyle, and I hope to see that even if people don't share the same dietary restrictions they're respectful and accommodating to our needs.

Blanco is a member of the class of 2017.

FEATURES

National ‘Common Core’ standards, changing education on all levels

BY MORGAN KATH
COPY EDITOR

BY LU LIU
STAFF WRITER

The Common Core State Standards (CCSS), an educational initiative for kindergarten through 12th grade designed to mandate the content taught at each level, has been adopted by New York State. New York is one of 44 states along with the District of Columbia and four territories to have implemented CCSS.

Professor Jeffrey Choppin, director of the mathematics education program at the Warner School of Education, noted that higher-level content is being pushed down to lower grades, meaning students will learn concepts at a younger age.

The standards are aligned with the content taught but are “agnostic to curriculum,” he said.

“The goals of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS)... are to consistently address the same proficiencies regardless of state or age,” Warner School master’s student and eighth grade English teacher at Barker Road Middle School in Pittsford Clay Monson said. “The goal was to unify the quality or result of students across the nation.”

These sweeping changes in policy and the way content is taught to students means that teachers need to be informed on how to implement these changes in classroom environments.

According to Choppin, the Warner School has taken an advanced role in educating teachers on “developing active roles for students” and how to be more attentive to individual students. The school has been

teaching decisions,” Monson said. “They have provided me multiple opportunities to apply these frameworks to my teaching as well as offer up specific, research validated practices which benefit student learning.”

On national, state, and local levels, the implementation of CCSS has garnered much controversy.

In spite of the contention, Monson is a supporter of CCSS.

“The arching goals which cover school children of all ages, the gradual increase of expected proficiency toward those standards, and the consistency across states were a strong step forward,” he said.

He is not, however, in agreement with the way the program has been implemented in schools across the country.

One new teaching approach that has been developed is “modules,” an approach designed to make lessons be more focused. “When I have the freedom to teach to the standards without the modules, I think it enhances my teaching. But these modules are the second to worst thing to happen to U.S. students in my lifetime, only second to the high-stakes testing craze.”

Any new information necessary for educators has been implemented directly into existing classes, so as to raise discussion about policy changes, rather than in entirely new classes.

“There are parts of the Common Core which are good, but they may get washed out with high stakes testing,” Choppin said.

High stakes testing will determine if students are deemed ready to move on to the next grade level. Future test scores will

to get to the best school and afford training that will prepare them to perform well in test taking.”

Radegonde-Eison expressed concerns that the new curriculum will not adequately prepare students for college.

“The reality is that when you mandate any kind of standardized test, you have a segment of the population that always does well and a segment of the population that always does poorly,” master’s student in Elementary and Childhood Education at Warner Jolene Walter said.

Walter does not have any problem with the CCSS, but, like many other educators, is disappointed that the curriculum is basically a means to teach about the test.

She is frustrated by the new mentality that “we need to have all students meet this standard now and we will punish their schools if they don’t”, and is concerned about the amount of freedom that teachers will have in the future.

In fact, Morson believes that the CCSS may unintentionally degrade the levels of teaching.

“Although it varies, most districts expect teachers to follow plans designed by less qualified educators for an ‘average’ American community, and without wiggle room to be responsive to students’ needs in terms of the texts we read or the various approaches [we take],” Morson said.

Walter agreed, arguing that the “essentially scripted lesson plans” of the common core curriculum are written by those who do not understand the ability and potential of each individual school to meet Common Core Standards.

“Instead of teaching the greats from the literary canon, we need to devote half our time to speeches, research articles or other kinds of informational texts,” Monson said. “Rather than

having massive units where students are dedicated to writing multiple creative pieces to understand a literary era, we would need to craft experiences that had students analyzing information about this era.”

Kath is a member of the class of 2016.

Liu is a member of the class of 2016.

Female professors increasingly offered tenure

BY NAOMI EVERHART
STAFF WRITER

Tenure is one of the most important distinctions for professors at any college. It offers guaranteed job security and funding for research.

Originally introduced to the North American collegiate world with the intent of protecting professors with controversial research or opinions, it ensures professors the academic freedom to study and express whatever they choose.

The concept of tenure was officially introduced in 1915 and has since become a standard in North American academia.

allows professors to take real risks with their research that they would have been unable to take in a less-secure job position.

“Once you have tenure, you have job security that allows you to take more risks with your research,” Professor Bren said. “I know that after tenure, I really branched out into new fields and took some chances, some of which have paid off well.”

Because the University grants tenure to fewer women, more women, are in turn unable to pursue riskier research that could potentially yield invaluable results.

However, UR policy makes no distinctions between men and

Division	Total	With tenure		Pre-tenure	
		M	F	M	F
Engineering	86	63	7	13	3
Humanities	76	34	25	10	7
Natural Sciences	103	70	15	16	2
Social Sciences	86	46	12	15	13
TOTALS	351	213	59	54	25

COURTESY OF PROVOST PETER LENNIE

While the number of tenured female and male professors at UR is not equal, it seems to be more a product of societal norms than of the University itself.

At UR, tenure is granted to professors who have made significant accomplishments in scholarship, teaching and service to the University.

The scholarship component is based on assessment of research both by their primary department and by external experts in the field. Through this system, the school hopes to grant the benefits of tenure to faculty members who are dedicated to their research, their students, and to the university itself.

Feminists fighting for gender equality have accused the universities across the nation of discriminating against women both during the hiring process and when granting tenure. As women increasingly gain ground in the world of academia, many more women are able to achieve tenured positions at universities, though the number of tenured women is still struggling to catch up to that of their male counterparts.

This is a battle that continues in the majority of colleges and universities across the U.S.. For example, last month, Rochester Institute of Technology received a grant to increase the number of tenured female faculty in the science, technology, engineering and math fields.

Similarly, UR has a skewed ratio of male to female faculty, especially in the Natural Science departments. In the Chemistry department, there are over 15 tenured faculty members but only two female faculty members.

According to tenured chemistry professor Kara Bren, “The policy does not make any distinctions between men and women... but at U of R particularly the number of women in Chemistry faculty positions is very small.”

This is tragic, especially in a field like chemistry, where tenure

women.

“I know that the statistics in terms of gender for tenured faculty is not great...[but] I was tenured last year, and the process was very smooth for me,” anthropology professor Eleana Kim said. “My time here [at the University] has been unquestionably positive in every sense.” Professor Bren agreed, expressing a positive attitude toward the way the tenuring process is handled at UR.

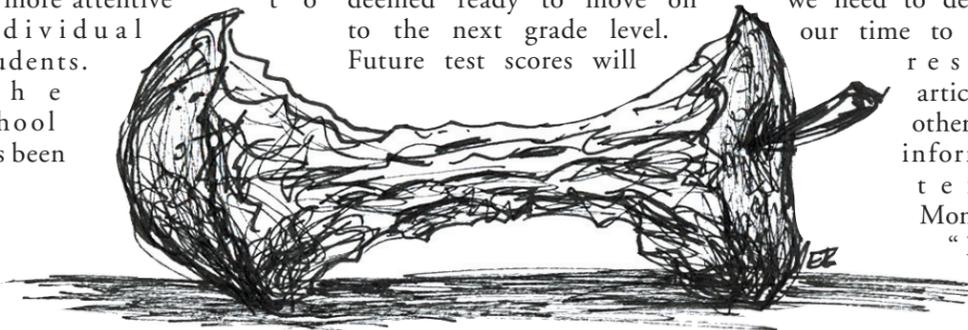
Provost Peter Lennie said in a private interview that the way tenure is handled here is fairly standard for a U.S. research university, and that the administration “work[s] hard to ensure that junior faculty are well-supported here, regardless of gender.”

Lennie believes that gender is not at all a factor in whether professors here are granted tenure and said that the imbalanced numbers were more a result of the sheer number of men and women pursuing academic careers in each discipline.

This is an issue throughout our society, not one specifically perpetuated by our school. As more young men and women in America are raised believing that they are equals, more women will feel that they can achieve greater heights – both in the academic world and elsewhere. The problem is slowly resolving itself.

For the first time, in 2009 and continuing through 2011, more women were awarded doctorates in the U.S. than men. The current generation of college students is the first in which more women will graduate than men. There is hope that this trend will translate into an increased number of tenured female faculty at universities, including our own, in the future.

Everhart is a member of the Class of 2016.



LIZ BESON / ILLUSTRATOR

encouraging a “hands-on” philosophy for over 20 years, and even with the new changes brought about by CCSS, it was not necessary for Warner to make changes to ensure that its teachers comply with the shift in teaching technique.

“From the start, Warner has focused on providing teachers with a solid understanding of educational theories in order to inform eventual

play a large role in the evaluation of a teacher’s accountability, dictating salary and job security and reducing the involvement of teachers in curriculum planning.

“I’m not sure it will benefit students in general,” Doctoral Ed.D in Human Development student at Warner Ghislaine Radegonde-Eison said. “I see that it will play in favor of those who have the means

Foreign Focus: Malawi immersion seminar

An exploration of study abroad experiences

BY RAAGA KANAKAM
STAFF WRITER

Although not a common tourist destination, Malawi – a small, landlocked country located in southeast Africa – is one of the most important nations to the



COURTESY OF EMILY WIDRA

Students on the program hike between two neighboring villages.

field of anthropology. As the fourth poorest nation in the world, the local economy is reliant on agriculture, and community is a very important aspect of their social culture.

Junior Emily Widra visited Malawi in the summer of 2012, after her freshman year. She participated in the three-week-long Malawi Immersion Seminar (ANT 277), which is offered every summer by UR's Department of Anthropology.

The Malawi Immersion website describes the program as "a unique focus on experiential learning and training in the methods of field research." Participating students travel around the country, visiting a variety of Malawian cities including the capital city of Lilongwe and rural village of Gowa.

"We had the opportunity to immerse ourselves in the culture of the country and meet a variety of people who taught us a lot about Malawi," Widra noted.

The program does not have a traditional study abroad curriculum. Rather, it is an

immersive course that involves conducting ethnographic fieldwork (field study from an anthropological or sociological perspective) as the means for each student to do research on their topic of choice. After the program ends, each student submits an

immersive course that involves conducting ethnographic fieldwork (field study from an anthropological or sociological perspective) as the means for each student to do research on their topic of choice. After the program ends, each student submits an

ethnographic essay on their topic, discussing what they discovered during their time in Gowa. "I chose to research the declining prevalence of pottery and potters in the local area," Widra said. "I spent a lot of time interviewing and just spending time with the local potter [who] lived in a neighboring village... I had the opportunity to visit another community, meet people there, and learn even more from them."

Ethnographic methods including language, interviewing and mapping skills are taught and put to use as part of the program.

Chichewa language classes are a prevalent focus of the curriculum, but not in the conventional classroom setting. During Widra's trip, classes were held outside the hostel where they stayed in Lilongwe and students studied sitting on the ground in a local garden in Gowa.

"As a poor language-learner in school, I surprised myself with my ability to pick up Chichewa when I was fully

immersed in a culture that spoke the language and when I learned [from] a local, native speaker," Widra recounted. "The general patience everyone I spoke to had with my slightly pathetic attempts at speaking a foreign language really encouraged me and helped me become more comfortable with making mistakes and working on conversational phrases."

In addition to language learning, students on the program spend a lot of time mapping Gowa and learning about the local economy, education system and religion "just by walking around Gowa and talking to people". Widra spent much of her free time with her host family, "helping them with household activities like shucking the maize harvest, cooking, and selling breakfast pastries".

Widra's class also hiked along the escarpment on top of the Great Rift Valley where Gowa is located. "We started our hike in the afternoon and we got to see a beautiful sunset over the valley and walk



COURTESY OF EMILY WIDRA

Irrigation systems in Gowa built by NGOs serve as a source of water for the community, garden system outside Gowa.

through a variety of other rural villages," she recalls.

Additionally, students also went on several two-night jeep tours in the safari at Liwonde



COURTESY OF EMILY WIDRA

Widra sits with a local potter and some of the potter's family and neighbors.

National Park and were able to see many animals including elephants, hippos and gazelles. Though it is offered through the anthropology department, the Malawi program isn't just geared towards Anthropology majors. "I would highly recommend that anyone pursuing any degree [at UR] take a look at

joined by peers studying in a variety of different fields including International Relations, Business/Economics and pre-med Genetics. "My experience was incredible," she said. "Certainly there were things that I had to get used to – doing laundry in buckets, hyenas howling in the distance at night, different food, a difficult language –

the program and consider it for next summer," Widra said.

For her trip, Widra – herself triple majoring in Anthropology, English and Psychology – was

but they weren't anything that any of the students on the trip couldn't handle."

Kanakam is a member of the class of 2017.

UR OPINION

BY DANI DOUGLAS & AARON SCHAFFER
FEATURES EDITOR & PHOTO EDITOR

"IF YOU COULD LIVE IN ANY UNIVERSITY BUILDING, WHICH WOULD IT BE?"



DILLON BOWMAN '15

"My dingle in O'Brien."



SARA ZEIMER '16

"Morey."



ANDREW TARBOX '17

"The Reference Desk in Rush Rhees."



KATHERINE WEGMAN '15

"The President's House..."



ISABELLE CHU '15

"... with Katherine and Seligman."

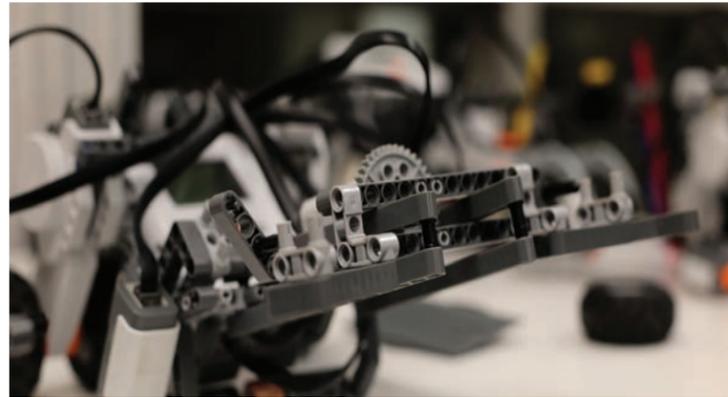


PETER KREMER '14

"The top floor of Hylan."

CLUB SPOTLIGHT

UR Robotics: Developing applicable technology



COURTESY OF BENNETT NIDENBERG

(Left to right): Hapttech glove allows users to feel virtual reality; red bits manufactured in UR Robotics' 3D printer; Legos are used to test the mechanical soundness of prototypes.

BY ALYSSA ARRE
SENIOR STAFF

Long after most people have left for the weekend, a handful of students sit bent over keyboards and textbooks in a lab tucked away on the sixth floor of the Computer Science building. One student by the door types away at a MATLAB document while two others tinker with wires on the opposite side of the room.

A fourth student skims a couple pages of a textbook, "Underwater Robotics." These students and a few hardworking advisers make up a large part of the UR Robotics Club.

UR Robotics was founded in the fall of 2012 as a group of nine students interested in discussing papers on the topic of robotics. After a few weeks, the students grew restless. "We started thinking 'why are we sitting here reading when we could be doing this stuff?'" explained sophomore Morgan Sinko. Sinko is the president-elect for the upcoming academic year and has been with Robotics since its inception. He was also part of the team's first project, Swarm UV.

With this, Sinko picks up the

object that he's been working on from a nearby table. At first glance, it appears he is holding a regular black glove. "This is Hapttech," Sinko says, flipping the glove over.

The glove's palm is lined with a number of wires. When completed, the responders on the gloves will respond to space within a virtual environment, allowing users to move around and interact with the virtual objects on a screen in a realistic way.

In its current stages, the glove administers vibrations to the user, mimicking the feeling of walking into something. According to Sinko, his team's intentions are to eventually create a full body suit that responds in this manner. "We still have a ways to go," Sinko said, removing the glove.

Both Hapttech and Swarm UV entered and were accepted into the Cornell Cup presented by Intel, an embedded technology design competition open to all college students. The Cup, receives hundreds of entries every year and is narrowed down to a mere 20-30 selected finalists.

Each group thereafter is awarded

funding and equipment to help further develop their entries, and the opportunity to win cash prizes and corporate sponsorship. Swarm UV was accepted last year along with another project called URead Braille. URead Braille has been reentered in this year's competition along with Hapttech.

While Hapttech's current prototype uses an Xbox Kinect to transmit data from the virtual environment to the glove's responders, this technology would need to be substituted should Sinko and his team want to manufacture and sell the product. However, the use of the Microsoft technology is legal for the purpose of entry into the Cornell Cup. Both the cost and resources needed for developing equivalent technology are not within budget at present.

In fact, expenses are a major problem that UR Robotics deals with—the projects students tackle are not cheap. Some students pay out-of-pocket for parts and materials, while others work to get funding from different academic departments.

"The Computer Science department has been incredibly

generous," Sinko said, "as well as the ECE and MechE departments." The Computer Science department also donated a room after a graduate lab moved out of the space.

The room the group now occupies nearly doubles the size of the small cramped office they had last year, the first of many small steps Sinko hopes will help improve the club's presence on campus. Although Robotics is still in its preliminary status for SA recognition, they were allowed to table at the Activities Fair this year. Membership has increased tenfold—100 students appear on the roster, around 30 of whom are active.

The future leaders of UR Robotics see big things in the group's future. Sinko dreams of having some sort of Lego Mindstorm intramural competition. Both Sinko and Vice President-elect and sophomore Lucian Copeland hope to add more hands-on workshops to the group's current offering.

"We'd ideally like to introduce new topics to complement the public Lego Mindstorm events we've been having, including

Arduino and Raspberry Pi programming, soldering, and logic design," Copeland said.

The most recent workshop was on 3D printing. Robotics encouraged students to bring their own designs, which they would help fix up for printing. "This is still very new to us—we're still working the bugs out of it," Sinko said of his own experience with 3D printing.

As proof, he gestured to a back table in the lab where a bucket of printer rejects sat. Among the discards were a lopsided die and a couple of uneven gears all made of hard red plastic.

Workshops are open to all students, and are typically scheduled for Friday evenings in Rettner Hall.

"We want to clear the stigma that the U of R is just a theory school," Sinko said. "There are people here who want to do hands-on things."

Students interested in the UR Robotics Club are welcome to attend weekly meetings, which are held in Room 628 of the Computer Science Building every Friday at 2:30pm.

Arre is a member of the class of 2015.

UR Athletic Equipment Manager, man or legend?

BY GRACE VAN DER VEN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Parents aren't always right, but then sometimes they are. It can take us by surprise and often takes us a little while to realize it. So when my parents met Dan "Provo" Provenzano for the first time and told me "there is a story there" I didn't really know what they meant. But they were right, as they sometimes are. Provo definitely has quite the story.

Provo was born in 1973, to mother Mary Jo Cerretto Provenzano in a local Rochester hospital. He studied at John Carroll University in Cleveland, Ohio and became the athletic equipment manager at UR in 2006. Since then, Provo has become an integral part of Rochester athletics.

Provo has a way of reaching out to even the shyest of freshmen, making them feel welcome in the athletic community. Among strict coaches, a sometimes frigid training staff and, of course, the daunting seniors who rule the team (at least inside the locker room), Provo is a beacon of warmth and, let's face it, maternal care.

Not because he does our laundry

(ok, maybe a little) but because when you step onto Fauver stadium and officially become a "Yellowjacket," Provo assumes the role of the omnipresent positive force in your collegiate athletic life. No longer are you hugging mom after a stellar performance or getting a "toughen up and you'll get 'em next time" punch in the shoulder from Dad. Now it's Provo, greeting you after every half of every game with a fist bump from out the window of his office with a sly smile, and word of encouragement.

Don't be fooled—Provo is more than just a cheerleader and laundromat operator. He is a star entertainer amid hundreds of wannabes. His stage: the counter over which he hands out equipment. His audience: the athletes and anyone else brave enough to enter the dingy dungeon that is the Fauver locker area. You can almost always hear Provo singing and jamming out on his air guitar to songs ranging from "Get Low" by Lil John to "Cotton Eye Joe."

Provo has gained celebrity status on campus for his entertaining antics and for the genuine

compassion that he demonstrates for each and every athlete lucky enough to know him. It was an honor to have him join me for a lunch break at Douglass Dining Center, and it was no surprise that



COURTESY OF TYLAR GUERRIERI

Dan Provanzano has been Athletic Equipment Manager at UR since 2006.

our table quickly filled up with other student athletes eager to be graced by such star power.

But Provo doesn't do this job for the fame. "I love the kids and the parents..." he says, "every now and then you get treats like homemade chili... but the kids make it more than a job."

Every year for four years, I have been to an athletic banquet celebrating the end of another

season. Women's soccer coach Thomas "Sike" Dardaganis always does his bit on thanking the staff—the trainers without whom the team would never have survived past the first few days of preseason,

the room as bewildered parents contemplate whom this could possibly be. But all is made right when Sike asks for a big round of applause for...drum roll...Provo! The tension is relieved and parents nod their assent and applaud fervently. I mean, he washes our stinky, sweaty laundry every single day. If that's not love then I don't know what is.

Provo's magnetic personality and positive attitude make him a captivating entertainer. Parents of UR athletes can be assured that their children are in good hands with this star.

"He is a funny guy and is always so positive," student athlete and junior Ashely Hunt said of Provo. Senior Kathryn Rowe agreed. "Provo knows us all so well and makes a point of connecting with each and every athlete, plus he's hilarious," she said.

Parents and students alike should know that this guy does more than just keep your jerseys smelling good. Provo is a celebrity on campus at UR, a star, and perhaps even a diamond in the upstate New York snow.

Van Der Ven is a Take Five student.

You can feel the tension in

the athletic director for whatever it is that he does, and then there is Provo.

Sike starts out by saying to the crowd—mostly parents, many of whom are fairly unhappy with the outcome of the season, Sike's coaching style, or their daughters' playing time—"this guy loves your children probably more than you do." Cue eye roll.

UR Tech: All my vices are devices

BY LUCIAN COPELAND
STAFF WRITER

Can hyperactive, online communication decrease your focus and impact your study productivity?

It's a normal weekday afternoon when your head snaps up from your laptop and you realize you've been surfing online for almost two hours straight. You didn't spend it on anything in particular – you've been surfing from site to site, compulsively looking for new emails, Facebook messages or replies on Twitter between watching cat gifs on FunnyJunk and reading stories on Reddit.

It's not time you intended to waste, and you have a lot of work to get done, so you slam the computer shut and try to regain focus. But somehow you can't get anything done – your attention flickers from thought to thought, and you find yourself compulsively checking your phone or going to the bathroom, unable to stay put on any one task.

What you may be suffering from is called Attention Deficit Trait, a term coined in 2005 by Harvard graduate Ned Hallowell to describe the scattered, distracted symptoms experienced by people who have spread their focus between multiple tasks for an extended period of time.

Unlike the genetically influenced Attention Deficit Disorder, or ADD, ADT is not a permanent condition but a collection of habits and patterns that persist after a stretch of multitasking. This period of distraction isn't clearly defined – for an overloaded mobile phone user, it could be very short, whereas an overworked executive might experience it more or less perpetually.

But however long it lasts, the effects can be seriously detrimental. Besides simple distraction and restlessness, those suffering from ADT may experience irritability, impulsive decision-making and impeded critical thinking when compared to how they perform when calm and focused.

With its constant requests for communication and divided attention, mobile devices and the Internet are the perfect conduits for ADT. While both working and relaxing, we are constantly barraged by new tasks and ideas to consider, processing byte after byte of unrelated but superficially important information that divides and subdivides our finite attention spans.

Worse, many games and websites deliberately encourage this behavior by giving small, perpetual rewards for rapid thinking. Every funny gif and photo you look at releases dopamine into your brain, as does every digital spider you kill and every pixel flower you plant. Apps are designed to be played for two minutes and then swapped out for another,

so you're never faced with a repetitive experience.

These rewards build up and encourage habitual scattered thinking – when erratic thinking is so frequently rewarded, focusing for longer periods becomes taxing and unfamiliar, even when it provides greater overall returns for the effort.

Humans don't have infinitely extendable working memories, and eventually something has to give. An appointment is forgotten, an email is missed and an otherwise intelligent and productive person suddenly finds themselves flakey and unreliable.

New ideas don't come easily, and when they do, they're rushed and shallow, bereft of the depth that greater concentration would allow. Over time, the damage starts to add up, we work more hours for even less results, keeping the cycle going.

It's a familiar scenario for many managers but for college

students too. Facebook may not be as "important" as a string of business emails, but

Luckily, it's not as hard as one might expect – usually, all it takes is making sure you spend

book for an hour or two can reset your system and allow for more focused effort when you return. Prioritizing can also help – if there are many tasks to accomplish, try grouping them by similarity so you aren't jumping radically from one topic to another.

If all else fails, the most pronounced prevention tactic for ADT is good old-fashioned human interaction – a solid four to six hours of regular, relaxed interpersonal contact is recommended per day. Having a conversation streamlines your focus and helps with anxiety, upping positivity and reducing impulsivity.

So if you're feeling jittery and disoriented after a Reddit binge, unable to get any work done, try putting down the phone or laptop and talk to your study partner for a while. You might find that those five minutes of simple chatting will save you hours in the long run.

Copeland is a member of the class of 2015.



ALEX KERLAND / ILLUSTRATOR

it's just as demanding of your attention and can cause the same disorientation and lost efficiency after you finish.

So how can you prevent ADT?

at least part of your day away from the technological devices and multitude of tasks needed for modern productivity.

Taking a walk or reading a

**EARN YOUR
MASTER'S
IN 1 YEAR**

**NO
STANDARDIZED
TEST SCORES
REQUIRED.**

LEARN MORE. APPLY TODAY.
www.merrimack.edu/graduate
Now accepting for:
Summer and Fall 2014

TAKE YOUR EDUCATION A STEP FURTHER AND DEVELOP ADVANCED SKILLS CRITICAL FOR PROFESSIONAL SUCCESS.

- Accelerated one-year or part-time formats
- Co-op, internship, and networking opportunities
- Scholarships and financial aid
- Competitive tuition
- No standardized test scores required
- No application fee
- Assistantship and Fellowship programs
- Just 25 miles north of Boston

GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN:

- Management
- Engineering
- Education - Licensure Programs
- Higher Education
- Community Engagement
- Education General Studies

Merrimack
COLLEGE

NORTH ANDOVER, MA

www.merrimack.edu/graduate
978-837-5073

HUMOR

And they are off to the races, to watch of course

CHRIS HORGAN
HUMOR EDITOR

On Sunday, I went out to breakfast with my friend Mike. As we walked by the track, I began to think, "What a coincidence, so many people are outside running today." It turned out more than 20 track teams were at Fauver Stadium to test their running abilities.

We decided to head over to the stands and watch our friends run in a few races. One friend ran in the steeplechase and her performance was superb. However, I am still a little disappointed that I didn't see any Irishmen riding horses on top of church steeples. You have to be careful while watching these races because you don't want to be distracted for the five seconds that the runners pass by you. Our other friend competed in a long distance race and ended up passing everyone at the end. As a result, her Secretariat-esque performance left mine and Mike's excitement going through the hoof.

But, there are a few events that I think could make track competitions even more exciting.

The first event that track should adopt ought to be the 100 parking-meter dash. In this race, the athletes would have to run through the city of Rochester with a bag of quarters. The quickest contestant to refill 100 parking meters claims first prize. There would be no second place because second place is the first loser. Not only do the runners stay in shape, but any citizen who lost track of the time is now absolved from their forgetfulness.

The next event is a little tricky. The 1500 M&M hurdles forces the athlete to race around a track covered in M&M's. If the runner can finish the race without crushing more than 1500 M&M's, then it will make it easier for people to clean up the track.

The new and improved pole vaulting rules require participants to take a 20 foot pole, usually made from fiber glass or carbon fiber, and fit it into a three by three foot vault.

The next race allows anyone who is not in the race to get a break from running. It's a seven mile race that actually gives negative points to the first place finisher. If no one

finishes the race in three hours, then every runner has to actually attend a math recitation.

In every relay race, runners must high five the next runner before he or she can take off. Then, the team must sit down in single file when the race is completed. If a team wins the race but is not the first team to all be sitting down, then they are not victors.

There should be other ways in which a team can score points. For example, a team should be awarded one point for every name that the commentator butchers.

Lastly, the only long-distance race I would add would be the smile.

"Hey Joe, what's your smile time?"

"Right now, the muscles in my mouth aren't in shape, but on a happy day I'd say around two to three minutes."

I believe that these new additions to track and field would increase the total number of fans and athletes. And who knows, maybe someday colleges across the nation will race to include these radical changes into their invitations.

Horgan is a member of the class of 2017.

Ever Wetter

BY CHRIS HORGAN
HUMOR EDITOR

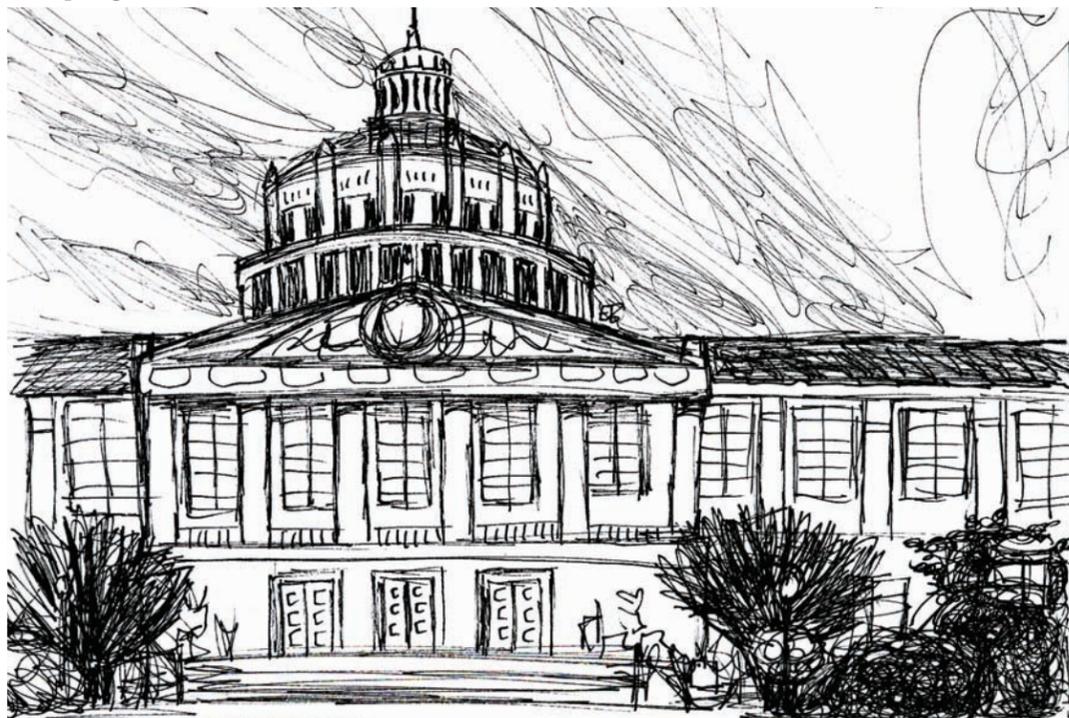
Get out your rain jackets fellow Yellow Jackets because spring is here. You know spring is here when you start wishing that your glasses came with built-in windshield wipers. However, I love spring. The smell of wet

that we do or don't have. I will say this--we're in better shape than the economy during the Great Depression.

We decided to take a run on the path outside of campus. I can't believe how big of a puddle there is near Rochester. It's almost as if it's a river. I mean, the puddle is so big they had to build a bridge

anywhere on campus.

We also followed some tours for prospective students. On a rainy day, the number of tours somehow seems to double. What if for every touring group, the University took one currently enrolled student, forced them to go on the tour, and then required them to ask questions



LIZ BESON / ILLUSTRATOR

concrete clears up a cloudy mind. The rain showers make me feel as if I'm in a love scene in a Nicholas Sparks movie.

I jumped into a puddle, not realizing how deep it was. I would like to take the chance to extend this into a metaphor. Wait, never mind, that is way too cliché. After lunch, my friend and I went outside to run in the rain. We made sure to wear thin white t-shirts to show off the physiques

over it.

We ran over to Southside and then decided that we should take a plane back to campus. Students are currently hoping that April showers bring them at least a room in Towers. Once we got back to the academic quad, a man asked us if we could direct him toward the library. We assumed he was talking about Rush Rhees, so we directed him towards the huge building you can see from

that the meridian could hit out of the park?

After spending several months in Rochester, I am contemplating getting a degree in degrees. With temperatures constantly changing and storms plotting their damage on students, one can only enjoy the peaceful rain that we are experiencing right now.

Horgan is a member of the class of 2017.

Made up reasons as to why people quit their jobs

BY CHRIS HORGAN
HUMOR WRITER

1. A doctor quit being a pediatrician after ten years of never having enough patience.

2. A computer scientist quit her job after realizing she wasn't a guy.

3. A physicist quit her job after discovering that the universe was expanding while her love for outer space wasn't.

4. After fixing a man's aorta, the surgeon resigned from his position after he discovered that his heart wasn't in the right place.

5. A carpenter stopped his

project; he just couldn't nail his work.

6. The painter quit her job after realizing that she couldn't even draw a crowd.

7. The mailman decided his days were over once he decided that he just couldn't deliver.

8. The plumber quit his job after he realized it was too crappy.

9. The dentist quit her job after learning that everyone drinks pop and consumes sugar.

10. The musical athlete quit his job after realizing that he couldn't beat a drum, not even in basketball.

Horgan is a member of the class of 2017.

Still poking fun at the news

CHRIS HORGAN
HUMOR EDITOR

1. Bags of mountain air were offered to citizens in the smog-filled city of Zhengzhou, China.

Tourists beware, the air is to die for.

2. A new Viagra-esque pill is using President Obama's image to sell the sex pill.

However, multiple complaints claim that after taking the pill for the second time, no "change" occurred.

3. A group of writers were fired for overexaggerating a story after finding one rare example and reporting it as if it was the norm.

Good news is, Fox News is hiring.

4. A leopard caused panic in an Indian hospital after it roamed inside the hospital for 12 hours.

Come on guys, he only wanted to have his spots looked at.

5. A woman reported to police that her marijuana had been stolen, and now she is being charged with cultivating it.

What a dope.

6. A man in Orlando had to be rescued from his home after unintentionally lighting his house on fire in order to burn the bugs in his home.

"Looks like agent 277 has done his job," said an undercover fruit fly.

7. In an attempt to overcome his fear of spiders, a man tattooed a black widow spider on his face.

Unfortunately, there isn't any lotion to treat bad arachne.

8. A man called for help after being trapped in an office with a swarm of bees for more than four hours.

"Oh no! Not the bees! Not the bees!"

9. A Girl Scout made huge sales after selling cookies

outside of a marijuana clinic.

Looks like the cookies weren't the only thing baked.

10. A man accidentally ate a fishing line at a food buffet.

That's one way to get your customers hooked.

11. A pastor in South Africa encouraged the congregation to eat grass to become closer to God.

"You can take our tongues, but you can't take our grass," said a holy cow.

12. A man in Argentina successfully married a tree.

There's no guarantee that this woodwork, but I'm rooting for



LIZ BESON / ILLUSTRATOR

him.

13. An Indonesian spa now has a new technique in which they place pythons on the customer's body.

Sadly, the price of the spa may cost you an arm and a leg.

14. A website is offering condoms for dogs.

This is a great idea, just in case you don't want the pillow on the chair in your living room to become pregnant.

15. A stork was held on suspicion of spying in Egypt.

Outsiders now must ponder who exactly the bird-brained one is.

16. Scientists have successfully made rabbits capable of glowing in the dark.

The team of scientists included an undisclosed group of hawks.

17. Lastly, happy birthday to my mother.

Horgan is a member of the class of 2017.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

‘Dialogues of the Carmelites’ captivates

BY RACHAEL SANGUINETTI
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

“Dialogues of the Carmelites” by Francis Poulenc performed last week at Eastman, and it was an absolutely fantastic show. It was clear from the rumors in the hallways of the school leading up to the premier that the show was going to be sensational. A few days before the show opened, all of the members of the cast had the performer smile on their faces, the smile that says “I am exhausted but I have fallen in love with the show and you will too.”

The set was primarily a pair of simplistic gray staircases on the left and right sides of the stage, both ending in a high platform at least 20 feet off the stage. The background was an optical illusion of sorts, with stairs twisting and turning in a continuous, mesmerizing pattern. Under the platform was a simple set of large, barn-like doors, and a gate dropped down when needed. That was it; no fancy trims or elaborate drapes. But for a show like this, anything elegant would have been very out of place and unnecessary.

The chorus was all dressed as peasants, their faces smudged with dirt. When it was first written, the show did not include an ensemble and, honestly, they didn’t sing very often. Only twice in the show did we hear their power, and on one of those occasions, they were all offstage. Instead, the chorus spread themselves in a line along the stairs and the edge of the platform, making their presence felt in the first scene and again at the end. Though I’m sure standing for so long was not the most exciting role to play, their presence added so much to the scene. It reminded the audience that the beginnings of the French Revolution were going on behind all of the onstage action. People were living in rags on the verge of starvation and the elite, who began the show, didn’t seem to have a care in the



COURTESY OF MICHAEL RADIGAN

“Dialogue of the Carmelites,” an opera by Francis Poulenc, performed at Eastman School of Music from April 3-6.

world about them. But they were there, lurking in the shadows.

The show tells the story of Blanche, a young woman and

For a show like this, anything elegant would have been very out of place.

daughter of Marquis de la Force. Force was played by the always-charming graduate student Anthony Baron, who beautifully captured the fatherly presence as well as the air of the prestigious nobleman. Blanche begins the show in a state of constant fear, terrified by the world around her. She decides she wants to become a nun and leaves her family for the Carmelite convent. For the Y cast that performed on Friday night, Blanche was played by graduate

student Megan Moore. Moore did a wonderful job of capturing the innocence of the character caught in her flighty state of mind.

Once Blanche arrives at the convent, she is hesitantly greeted by the wonderful graduate student Madame De Croissy, the prioress of the convent. Megan McFadden captured De Croissy in a loving, grandmotherly way, reminding the audience of the Reverend Mother from “The Sound of Music.” Her painful death toward the end of the scene was the point which tears started raining down in the audience. Hang in there folks, it’s only the end of Act 1.

Acts 2 and 3 followed with the equally painful scenes and heartfelt singing. Poulenc did not write a real aria in this opera, so the action and dialogue didn’t stop for the entire two and a half hours. The nuns proceed to pledge their lives

to the convent and are eventually sentenced to death by the Revolutionary Tribunal.

The third act was extremely suspenseful; almost everyone in the audience knew exactly what was coming at the end and there was no stopping it. In the last scene, the nuns are dressed in flowy white robes, singing “Salve

The third act was extremely suspenseful; almost everyone in the audience knew exactly what was coming at the end and there was no stopping it.

Regina.” Cue the tears to begin as they all march towards their

death. The giant shape of a cross is now illuminated behind the entire scene. One by one, the nuns march toward their death behind the cross, out of view of the audience. Each nun that disappears is followed by a fake but effective slashing sound, forming the rest of the scene in the mind of each audience member. The image that will stay with the audience is of the line of nuns, singing a haunting “Salve Regina” as confidently as they can before walking to their deaths.

This show was beautiful in both its set and costumes, and in the energy of its performers. This was a high quality show even by Eastman standards. The fall opera will have to be huge to even compare, but I’m sure the Eastman Opera Company will not disappoint.

Sanguinetti is a member of the class of 2015.

Stadium-sized ambition, small town soul

BY JEFF HOWARD
A&E EDITOR

On Tuesday, April 8 the X Ambassadors, a Brooklyn-based alt-pop quartet, played Rochester’s Bugjar. I interviewed the band’s frontman, Sam Harris, a few weeks ago. We discussed the band’s diverse set of influences. To reiterate, the X-Ambassadors bring together anthemic stomp-clap beats fit for large stadiums, a modern keenness for atmosphere and watery textures, hard-hitting rock sensibilities, and the type of gravelly disenchantment with the daily grind that’s integral to crossover country music. Considering how tactfully the band fuses styles together on their studio work, the idea of the X Ambassadors

headlining a punk venue like the Bugjar wasn’t all that out of line. The Bugjar showcased the X Ambassadors in a more intimate setting than they would perform with tour mates Imagine Dragons, offering fans a chance to feel the band’s larger-than-life presence up close.

Throughout their set the X Ambassadors straddled the line between accessibility and experimentation. While songwriting and musicianship are of a solid caliber with the band, the X Ambassadors’ captivating edge lies in the band’s command of texture. Onstage, the band’s setup was simple, but the X Ambassadors utilized its instruments to do justice to the immaculate production style of its studio work. Keyboardist Casey Harris rocked a double-decker “Nord”

keyboard setup, while guitarist and keyboardist Noah Feldshuh devoted equal attention to his synthesizers and toy piano as he did to his guitar. Drummer Adam Levin provided a tight rhythmic backbone, accentuated by frontman Sam

The X Ambassadors’ captivating edge lies in the band’s command of texture.

Harris’ side duties on percussion (and saxophone!). Between the four musicians, the band’s pop songwriting sparked with the kind of distorted synthesizers and slide-guitar decay that nu-jazz acts like Marco Benevento and Jacob Fred Jazz Odyssey adore. Impressive.

The X Ambassador’s set covered the band’s still-young discography, which consists of 2013’s “Love Songs Drug Songs” LP and 2014’s “The Reason EP.” It’s hard to identify what constitutes an X Ambassador “staple” – not so much because of the band’s still-rising popularity, but because every X Ambassadors song possesses the kind of pop smarts to be the band’s hit. That being said, the X Ambassadors executed all of their songs – from the open-road ballad “Free and Lonely” to the throbbing and falsetto-driven “Stranger” – with enough conviction to be the end-of-set, get-your-smartphones-out-and-pretend-they’re-lighters crowd pumper in an arena gig. As the frontman, Sam Harris engaged the audience,

performing every song earnestly.

Highlights from the X Ambassadors’ set included the band’s cover of the Beastie Boys’ “Sabotage” along with its performance of “Giants,” an original that channeled the cinematic, sky-is-the-limit style catharsis that Imagine Dragons masters so well. Influences aside, the X Ambassadors’ performance showcased the band’s originality and inventive approach to modern pop songwriting. Even in a setting like the Bugjar which is most conducive to punk rage with minimal clashing frequencies, the X Ambassadors made a compelling case for their game-changing pop style. I can only imagine how the band sounds in stadiums.

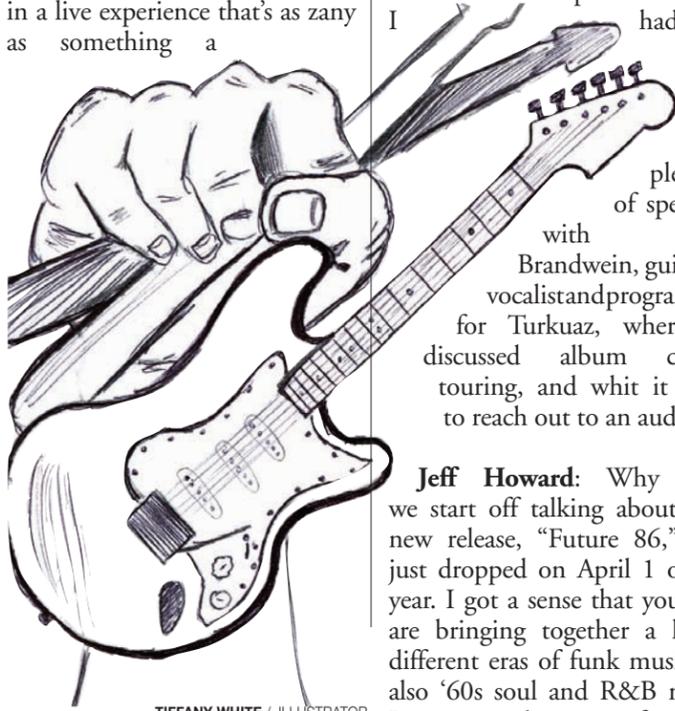
Howard is a member of the class of 2017.

Turkuaz: dancing the distractions away

BY JEFF HOWARD
A&E EDITOR

They say today's music looks to the past to move forward, but does it really? In a sense, sure – Daft Punk and Robin Thicke scored the biggest hits of the summer by embracing 1970s pop textures. But perhaps we're not moving forward at all. Just take a listen to Pharrell's new LP: the bass lines squirm almost as adeptly as those off of Stevie Wonder's "Innervisions," the Fender Rhodes lays down chord progressions straight out of Jamiriquai's book of majestic pop harmony, and the production is clinical enough to suggest Pharrell was genetically engineered by a team of marketing executives as an embodiment of the cool you feel when you wear salmon-colored slacks. Awful, awful stuff. "Gap" commercial fodder. Alas, we move in circles. "Get Lucky," the genuinely wonderful treasure that it was, represented a blip – a blip of retro-future freakiness from the pop machine which, thanks to the convergence of social media and music streaming platforms, is already being synthesized into the mainstream transcript as next year's poison. Such is life and decay. So why don't we take our eyes off the data and dance? This is the kind of attitude that

Turkuaz, a nine-piece, Brooklyn-based dance outfit, holds. The band combines elements of '60s Mowtown and '70s freak-funk in a live experience that's as zany as something a



TIFFANY WHITE / ILLUSTRATOR

conservative and settled-down Wayne Coyne might devise. While a visit to the band's website could provide the curious outsider with all the information on influences he could need, for Turkuaz, influences are slightly beside the point. Sure, they're important – as the adage goes, "We're standing on the shoulders of giants." However, a Turkuaz experience

is really about communication – communication between a bunch of musicians whose freewheeling love for notes and sounds is so urgent it could change the world, communication between a band and an audience that shares a common susceptibility to the tug of a bass drum, communication as a vehicle for transcending life's stupid distractions.

I had the pleasure of speaking with Dave Brandwein, guitarist, vocalist and programmer for Turkuaz, where we discussed album covers, touring, and what it means to reach out to an audience.

Jeff Howard: Why don't we start off talking about your new release, "Future 86," – it just dropped on April 1 of this year. I got a sense that you guys are bringing together a lot of different eras of funk music but also '60s soul and R&B music. It was a wide range of sounds, but it also felt really fresh. From your point of view, what does "Future 86" mean for Turkuaz?

Dave Brandwein: This album, for us, was made during the process of us really becoming a live, touring band. When we started the record, about a year and a half ago, we were maybe playing something like 40 or 50 shows a year, mostly around the

Northeast. We really hit the road during this period of time so it was kind of done in between tours – now we're up to 180 shows a year. So, I think it's symbolic of us becoming a real touring, live band. You can hear that on the record. It's a little bit more of a live, rock kind of sound than stuff we've done before. Also, with our lineup being finalized, we had some changing casts of characters before the band was touring a whole bunch. I think this is just us really coming into ourselves for the first time.

JH: I can tell that the live experience is a really integral part of the band. I was watching your videos, and while on one level the music was really tight and vibrant, I also noticed that with your colorful jumpsuits and stage presence, you guys create a really celebratory and all-encompassing experience. What kind of atmosphere do you guys try to achieve at a live show?

DB: Well, we really feel like, wherever we go, whatever the atmosphere, whether it's a festival or a club or a ballroom, we really do try to make it a party atmosphere where people can have fun and let loose a little bit no matter what's going on in their everyday lives. We see a lot of people who come and they'll even see us multiple times in a week or in a tour. I think it really does somehow give them an opportunity to forget whatever else is going on in their lives and just have a good time – a lot of dancing. Some people like to drink and party and I think

other people just genuinely go for the music. I think what you said before is very accurate – it's definitely "celebratory" what we're always going for.

JH: I read your tagline on Twitter: "Turn your speakers up loud, and get as freaky as you want to be. To dance is a protection, funk is your connection, so don't forget that shit." I think that says a lot right there.

DB: It speaks a lot to the stage presence of all the band members. I think everybody, especially the horn players and the girls, help the crowd feel excited and get involved – they're dancing, they're smiling, they're having a good time. That certainly gives the crowd license to do the same. We've been in plenty of situations where we start off and the room is a little cold feeling and people are just a little bit timid. Generally, by the end of a set of our music we loosen people up quite a bit.

JH: I noticed you guys are playing dates with Alan Evans, the drummer of Soulive. You also have dates with Spiritual Rez, Jimkata and, if I'm not mistaken, your drummer was previously a member of the band Dopapod. It seems like you guys have connections with the jam band community – is that fair to say?

DB: Definitely. A long time ago, we didn't consider ourselves anything close to a jam band. We weren't playing as much live, we didn't stretch our songs and we didn't "jam" quite as much as we do now. But I think it's a little bit of a natural progression that

SEE JAM PAGE 14

SUMMER

• SESSIONS •

2014

MAKE YOUR SUMMER COUNT

Registration for summer courses opens April 7th!

- Improve a grade
- Lighten your semester course load
- Finish a Cluster
- Get Ahead
- Learn Something New

Choose from over 70 courses and four different sessions.

Enjoy discounted summer course rates and a wide variety of social activities both on and off-campus.

4 Week Session I:

May 19 - June 16

6 Week Session I:

May 19 - June 27

4 Week Session II:

June 30 - July 28

6 Week Session II:

June 30 - August 8

WWW.ROCHESTER.EDU/SUMMER

A universal language, a personal story



LIZ BESON / ILLUSTRATOR

BY BENNETT NIDENBERG
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

As per usual, the YellowJackets blew audience members away when they performed on Friday, April 4 in Strong Auditorium.

After they graced the stage with their trademark yellow suit jackets and ties, they roused the audience with a fresh take on Bastille's "Pompeii." This was followed up with their classic Beach Boys medley that showed off the Jackets' dance ability in addition to their wonderful voices.

Much of the focus of the spring show was on the graduating seniors. Between each song younger members of the Jackets read entries from seniors that gave the audience a good laugh.

The concert continued with Mumford and Sons' "Hopeless Wanderer," a Stevie Wonder

Much of the focus of the spring show was on the graduating seniors. Between each song younger members of the jackets read entries from seniors that gave the audience a good laugh.

medley, and Jason Mraz's "I Won't Give Up."

The Jackets gave the audience a chance to see their full set from the International Championship of Collegiate A Cappella (ICCA) by performing their medley of "Say Something" and "Such Great Heights," featuring the dancers of Ballet Performance Group. The dancers glided across the stage, complementing the powerful vocal performance.

The second part of the concert was dedicated to the graduating seniors – each song emulated an

individual senior's personality and passions. The tribute began with Sammy Adams' "All Night Longer" with a slight twist – a special intro that properly introduced senior Abhishek Sharma.

Unlike the other featured soloists, exchange student Dan Hodd, junior, will not be graduating next year. Hodd is returning to England to finish school, and fittingly performed

Chris Urquiaga brought a cover of the '90s classic "I believe I Can Fly" to the stage that left the crowd reminiscing of the decade of "Space Jam" and all-star Michael Jordan.

a calming rendition of Cole Porter's "Every Time We Say Goodbye."

Following Hodd's throwback was Galen Dole's performance of "I Can Go The Distance" from Disney's "Hercules." Aden Brooks covered The Beatles' "Across the Universe."

In one of the show's most memorable moments, Chris Urquiaga brought a cover of the '90s classic "I Believe I Can Fly" to the stage, leaving the crowd reminiscing about the decade of "Space Jam" and all-star, Michael Jordan.

The concert finished up with Matt Carlin singing "Runaway Baby," bringing the intensity of the show to its final peak.

The show was a success. With each song, audience members were either on the edge of their seats or bouncing up and down to the rocking styles of the YellowJackets.

*Nidenberg is a member of
the class of 2017.*

Talking with Turkuaz

JAM FROM PAGE 13

we still don't consider ourselves a jam band, but we realized after a while that that is a scene where there's such appreciation of music and such fans of music. That's sort of where the live music scene is thriving, in some ways, these days. A lot of us don't really listen to jam bands, we don't consider ourselves one, but I think that we're definitely in that family – we're really good friends with the guys in Dopapod. Alan Evans too – they jam and improvise, but Alan's new project is really a rock band, which is really awesome, for those who haven't seen it.

JH: I'm looking at your "Future 86" album cover – I actually have the physical copy right here. The cover itself has the desolate, ghost-town kind of thing going on, which seemed like an interesting choice for a party band. What was your inspiration for the album cover?

DB: Again, because this album was really conceived of and created while we were touring so much. On the one hand, it was frustrating because we were trying to get long blocks in the studio, but on the other hand, it was great because we were continuing to let the songs evolve and get better through playing them live as we worked on them. Really, again, the live show was the prominent thing at this period of time and, as you can probably guess, most of our time is spent on the road, traveling. We think we traveled something like 80,000 miles in the van in 2013, while we were

making that record. So the open road and the mirror kind of ended up being symbolic of the act of touring, driving around, and the cyclical nature of time, which some people have interpreted "Future 86" has to do with. Actually, "Future 86" is the name of a stretch of road on Route 17 in New York State. You drive all along this road and there're all these signs that say "Future 86," which we always found so weird (laughs). It just ended up being a good name for the album. There are road signs that say "Future 86," but we didn't wind up using them for the cover – we actually wound up using a

A lot of us don't really listen to jam bands, we don't consider ourselves one, but I think that we're definitely in that family – we're really good friends with the guys in Dopapod.

Route 66 photo. That photo was actually taken in Southern California somewhere. So that was the origin of the name originally, and we customized the cover to be a little more visually appealing.

JH: It makes sense. You guys are a party band, but the cover offers a glimpse of what goes on behind the scenes, so to speak. Now, you guys are playing Rochester's Montage Music Hall on April 17. Are you looking forward to this?

DB: We are really looking forward to it. We have not played in Rochester for such a long time now because our last show at Water Street got cancelled and we've been trying to reschedule for a while. We were out West for the whole beginning of the year so it was really hard to find the time to do it. We were just way overdue – Rochester's always been one of our favorite places to play. We were playing there pretty early on, even before we toured nationally; that was one of the places we'd specifically go, one of the four or five places we'd always make sure to go to a few times a year. It's been a really important place to us for a while and we really can't wait to get back, it's been way too long.

JH: I can't wait to see you guys there, it's going to be an awesome show. That covers everything on my end. Before we finish is there anything you want to add?

DB: Just to let people know the album's out now, it's on iTunes, you can also get it on our website along with other releases that are only on our website. Always check back for tour dates, we're always adding more dates. Definitely come out to the show, it's going to be a good time.

Turkuaz will be performing at Rochester's "Montage Music Hall" on April 17th. The band's new album, "Future 86," is out now on iTunes. For more information on Turkuaz, visit turkuazband.com.

*Howard is a member of
the class of 2017.*

BUSINESS AT RENSSELAER



WHAT'S NEXT?

Have you considered The Lally School of Management at RPI for a graduate business degree? We offer five specialized master's programs at our Troy, NY campus:

- M.S. in Business Analytics
- M.S. in Financial Engineering & Risk Analytics
- M.S. in Management
- M.S. in Supply Chain Management
- M.S. in Technology Commercialization & Entrepreneurship

\$75 Fee Waived for Fall 2014 Applicants

Tuition Scholarships & Limited GMAT Fee Waivers Available



Rensselaer | LALLY SCHOOL
OF MANAGEMENT

lallyschool.rpi.edu | lallyms@rpi.edu | (518) 276-6565

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Megan Fujiyoshi - Women's Lacrosse

BY JOHN CHTCHEKINE
SPORTS EDITOR



COURTESY OF UR ATHLETICS

What is your major?
I'm a Brain and Cognitive Sciences and Psychology double major.

Why did you come to UR?
I was exposed to the University of Rochester through my parents who are both alumni of the U of R. However I decided to come here because of the welcoming atmosphere, academic rigor, and the opportunity to participate in collegiate athletics.

Do you have any pre-game rituals or superstitions?
I don't wear the same underwear or anything, but I do send one of my teammates a different

inspirational quote before every game.

Who has been your biggest mentor in your lacrosse career?
My biggest lacrosse mentor was probably my high school coach. She introduced me to lacrosse in 4th grade and was my varsity coach throughout high school. She was demanding and liked to challenge me, but she showed me how to push myself and taught me to have a genuine passion for the game.

What else do you participate in on campus?
I'm also on the field hockey team and a member of Sigma Delta Tau.

With last year's strong senior class gone, how have you and your teammates adjusted in order to continue to play at a high level?

This year has been all about adjusting and learning to play on a different level. To do that we've really had to take on a different mindset- instead of just coasting and playing not to lose, we've started to play to win.

With spring being a relatively short season, do you and your teammates practice or condition through the summer, fall and winter to prepare?

During the summer we're

given a strength and conditioning packet with a specific workout for each day. When we get back in the fall we have fall ball practices and a couple games. Throughout the winter weeks leading up to season, we alternate strength and conditioning days.

What are your goals for the rest of the season?

This season I'd love to see our team continue to make it to Liberty Leagues. But outside of our record, I would really like to see our team continue to play at such a high level.

Chtchekine is a member of the class of 2016.

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Friday, April 11
• Women's Lacrosse vs. Skidmore - 4:00 PM

Saturday, April 12
• Baseball vs. Bard College 1:00 PM - Annandale-on-Hudson, NY
• Baseball vs. Bard College 3:30 PM - Annandale-on-Hudson, NY
• Women's Lacrosse vs. Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute 2:00 PM - Home

Game
• Softball vs. Clarkson University 1:00 PM - Home Game
• Softball vs. Clarkson University 3:00 PM - Home Game

Sunday, April 13
• Baseball vs. Bard College

12:00 PM - Annandale-on-Hudson, NY
• Baseball vs. Bard College 2:30 PM - Annandale-on-Hudson, NY
• Softball vs. Skidmore College 1:00 PM - Home Game
• Softball vs. Skidmore College 3:00 PM - Home

Game
Tuesday, April 15
• Baseball vs. Ithaca College 4:00 PM - Ithaca, NY
• Softball vs. Nazareth College 3:00 PM - Home Game

LAST WEEK'S SCORES

Scoreboard

• Softball at SUNY Cortland - W 2-0

• Softball at SUNY Cortland - W 3-1
• Baseball vs. Keuka College - W 5-2

• Men's Golf at The Hershey Cup - 8th of 15

• Baseball at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute - L

1-10
• Baseball at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute - W 14-2

• Men's Track and Field at UR Invitational 2nd of 22

The Road to Lisbon

BY JOHN CHTCHEKINE
STAFF WRITER

This year's Champions League has been nothing but entertaining throughout. Countless of high caliber teams have displayed their quality yet have been eliminated in heartbreaking, last-second losses. The latest segment in this year's tournament has been the quarterfinals, which put up mouthwatering ties between Manchester United and Bayern Munich, Chelsea and Paris St. Germain, Borussia Dortmund and Real Madrid, as well as Barcelona and Atletico Madrid.

The run-away favorite thus far in the competition has been Bayern Munich. Their star studded roster, which includes last year's European Footballer of the Year, Fran Ribery, hasn't failed to impress soccer viewers across Europe and the world with its fluid football helmed by newly appointed coach Pep Guardiola. They have crushed their competition domestically in the Bundesliga by winning the title with a record breaking seven matches left to play. They faced off Manchester United in quarterfinals, a team that has been suffering through a horrendous domestic season. The first leg of the tie ended in an underwhelming 1-1 tie, but the second tie was anything but dreary. Manchester United looked ready to progress to the semifinals when they scored via a Patrice Evra beauty, but Bayern Munich came back with a vengeance and etched themselves into the semifinals by scoring three unanswered goals through Arjen Robben, Thomas Muller and Mario Mandzukic.

The matchup between Chelsea and Paris St. Germain was another nail-biter. After the first leg of the tie ended in a 3-1 victory, Paris St. Germain looked favorites to progress to the semifinals. However, an early goal for Chelsea in the second leg scored by Andre Schurrle restored

hope for Chelsea fans hope and left them on the edge of their seats for the remaining of the game. All seemed lost until the 87th minute as Demba Ba, a virtual reserve for the Chelsea side who has been starved of minutes for the majority of the season, latched onto Cesar Azpilicueta's parried shot and bundled into the empty Paris St. Germain net, putting Chelsea into the semifinals on away goals.

The next matchup was Borussia Dortmund and Real Madrid. The first tie was a heavy rout with the final score a 3-0 win in Madrid's favor. Real Madrid took the second leg visibly more lax, and their approach almost came back to haunt them with Dortmund scoring two goals and needing only one more to force the tie into extra time. However, Ancelotti and co. managed to creep through to the semifinals by denying Dortmund the vital third goal.

The last tie was a matchup between two Liga BBVA title contenders, Atletico Madrid and Barcelona. Atletico Madrid entered the tie, and the Champions League in general, as a dark horse. However, its revamped roster and experienced coach Diego Simeone were too much for Barcelona to handle. With the first leg at the Camp Nou ending in a 1-1 tie, the pressure was on Atletico to score. They didn't crumble under pressure and went ahead through Koke with only five minutes being played. They continued to attack for the rest of the game and denied Barcelona any goals, thus entering the semifinals alongside Chelsea, Real Madrid, and Bayern Munich. With the semifinal draw taking place on Friday, soccer enthusiasts around the world will tune in to see what the matchups will look like and will start to make their predictions on which two teams will face off in the final in Lisbon come May 24.

Chtchekine is a member of the class of 2016.

The Program of Dance and Movement presents

NATIONAL WATER DANCES

April 12th, 2014
4:00pm
Free Admission

On the banks of the Genesee,
between the footbridge and the chapel
In the case of severe weather, event will be moved to
Spurrier Dance Studio.

AND ARCHITECTURES: A CONCERT OF STUDENT CHOREOGRAPHY AND PERFORMANCE

April 12th, 2014
7:00pm
Spurrier Dance Studio

Tickets available at the
Common Market:
\$3 Students
\$5 General Public

For more information, contact the University of Rochester Program of Dance and Movement at (585) 273-5150 or visit www.rochester.edu/college/dance/events.

SPORTS

Jackets Track and Field just miss out on #1 spot

BY JOSH HABER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

This past Sunday, the first true spring day in Rochester was host to a track and field meet which included twenty-three competing schools along with several other groups including selected alumni teams.

The Yellowjackets held the overall lead until the late afternoon when they slipped into second behind the College of Brockport which glided to a 32 point victory. Over twenty-six teams ended with at least one point, and the Yellowjackets claimed second place with ninety team points. Although it obtained a great team finish, Rochester did so through consistency over stardom, as the team only had one individual champion in senior Justin Roncaioli who claimed first place in the 3,000 meter steeplechase with a time of 9:39:02. This was one of the three qualifying times Rochester posted for the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC). The other two were the 400 meter relay team composed of sophomore Wasiq Yousaf, senior

Eugene O' Hanion, sophomore Jeff Hrebenach, and junior Max Sims, along with sophomore Jeremy Hassett in the 800 meters.

Other notable results: Jeff Hrebenach grabbed third in the 100 meters, freshman Wilfred Wallis finished sixth in the 400 meters and Dan Nolte got second in the 10,000 meters.

Rochester succeeded with the relays, not only with their 400-meter relay team having a ECAC qualifying time, but their 1,600-meter relay team came in third overall, and their 3,200 meter relay team grabbed second overall.

In the field events, Andrew Sampino finished fourth in the triple jump, accompanied by Max Kinder's third-place finish in the hammer throw.

Overall, it was a successful day for the Yellowjackets track and field team. Hopefully their luck from the newly found spring days in Rochester will continue.

Haber is a member of the class of 2016.



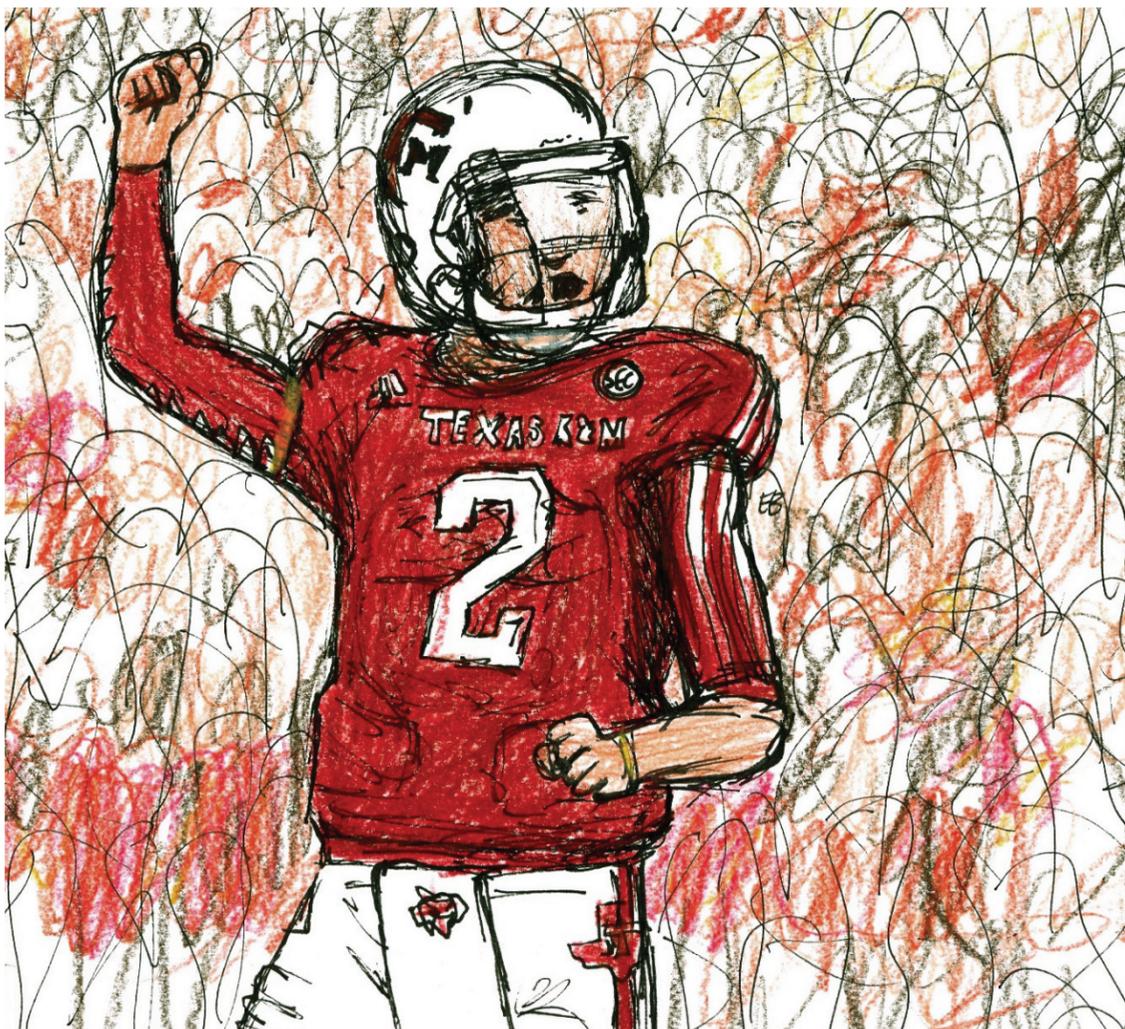
Senior Justin Roncaioli dominates in the 3000 meter steeplechase, securing first place with a time of 9:39:02. COURTESY OF UR ATHLETICS-

2014 Draft: Most Athletic Prospects

BY ADAM ONDO
SENIOR STAFF

There are scores of great athletes entering the NFL draft, but some stand out from the rest. For quarterbacks, Texas A&M's Johnny Manziel is that person. Another great athlete whose job it is to protect quarterbacks like Manziel is Auburn offensive tackle Greg Robinson. On defense, South Carolina defensive end Jadeveon Clowney is a beast of an athlete. But which one is the best?

Manziel is an athlete that also understands the idea of showmanship. He can be an arrogant cowboy on the field, running around and playing the game the way he wants to. Some see him as undisciplined, as he doesn't put in as much practice time as others, but some may argue that that is because he already has amazing talent. At 5'11" and 207 lbs. it is a miracle that he hasn't been injured while scrambling, as he rarely slides or goes out of bounds. This has allowed him to pick up 2169 rushing yards and 30 rushing touchdowns in just two years. He is fast, with a 4.68 40 time, and agile on the ground. His 6.75 3-cone time was the second best among quarterbacks. His height also hasn't affected his completion percentage, which hangs around 68.9% as he just avoids stepping up into the pocket. The fact that he can maintain that completion rate while making dozens of throws while on the run is even more



LIZ BESON / ILLUSTRATOR

NFL Draft Prospect Johnny Football is considered by many to be the most athletic of draft prospects.

impressive. He is elusive in the pocket as well. He is pretty much a more accurate Vince Young.

Robinson is freakishly athletic for a 332 lbs., 6'5" man. His 4.92 second 40-yard dash was the second best among offensive tackles at the combine. His 32 reps on the bench were the third best. He also has good

lateral agility, allowing him to slide well and fend off blitzing players. He can go toe-to-toe with pass rushers using his arms and agility, though his footwork could use some improvement. He is strong enough to block most linemen, driving them backwards; it is hard to disengage once he has a hold of you. This is likely due to

his 10-inch hands and bulging biceps. His 35 inch wingspan is also impressive. In high school, Robinson won his state's shot put championship... twice. He also once filled in for an injured runner on the 4 x 100 relay his team took third place. His 113-inch broad jump also attests to his athletic ability. He can allegedly do backflips,

as well.

Clowney is amazing. Before I dive into his extensive list of accomplishments, I want to note that he played through bone spurs in his foot and a pulled groin for a large portion of his career. He is aggressive and gets in his blocker's face. He explodes off the line and uses his hips, hands, arms and feet to get penetration. He really can't be blocked. This is underscored by his 47 tackles for loss and 24 sacks in his three-year college career. His 4.53 40-yard dash time is the best among defensive ends and quite amazing for someone that weighs over 260 lbs. and is 6'5". His 37.5 inch vertical was the second best among defensive ends, as was his 124-inch broad jump. He is a playmaker that likes attention, using his hard hits to stir up the fans and also force numerous fumbles. He is a lot like Julius Peppers, as he can line up at defensive end, defensive tackle and outside linebacker.

Of these three athletes, the one that really stands out to me is the one that is the least well known – Greg Robinson. He is 332 lbs., yet he runs a 40-yard dash in under five seconds. He is very strong as well. He has a good work ethic and is an amazing run blocker. Though not as flashy as Clowney or Manziel, he is the best athlete. Also, if he really can do standing backflips, that would just be mind-blowing

Ondo is a member of the class of 2014.