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Comedy and Controversy at Winterfest

BY GRACIE PETERS
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Winter and executive producer of “The Office” B. J. Novak performed on Saturday as the headlining Winterfest Weekend comedian. The opening act set the bar fairly low, so Novak’s appearance onstage was a breath of fresh air.

Novak began his set with several Rochester-relevant jokes about the George Eastman Museum, the Museum of Play (or, as he called it, the “Toy Museum”), and Sal-vatore’s trademarked slogan, “We deliver everything… but babies!” He joked that the Museum of Play is corrupt for failing to induct such classic games as checkers and chess into its toy hall of fame until years after its inception. He shocked us all with the fact that the common blanket is actually considered a toy.

Novak is appealing because his aesthetic is that of a relatable, normal guy. But, it felt as times like Novak was blatantly advertising his app and his book. He referenced an argument that he had had with super-famous colleague Mindy Kaling to draw attention to his app, dubbed “The List App.” Yes, the quarrel between the two was funny, but it was fairly obvious that he wanted a comedic segue to publicize his product. Novak also read several of his short stories from his new... 

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WEATHER

B. J. Novak Delights with Wit

‘The Office’ Star Entertains

BY AUREK RANSOM
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Winterfest Weekend headline B. J. Novak delivers his standup routine to a full audience in Strong Auditorium on Saturday.

Few Heckle, Many Just Laugh

CAB to Sever Ties With Opener

BY AUREK RANSOM
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Headliners traditionally thank their openers in front of the audience. On Saturday, B. J. Novak did not. “Don’t even go there!” one student yelled, as comedian Dan Viola diagnosed mental illnesses among the “Winnie the Pooh” characters. Another shouted an expletive when Viola, concluding her act, said “I went out for a night of seven-dollar entertainment. I wasn’t there to listen to someone’s identity be attacked.” Other students did not find Viola’s act offensive. Junior Nick Potter is among those unhappy with the content of Viola’s act—in particular, the Caitlyn Jenner jab. “When you take someone whose identity comes from a place of social vulnerability, and then you attack it, that just rubs me the wrong way,” Potter said. “I went out for a night of seven-dollar entertainment. I wasn’t there to listen to someone’s identity be attacked.”

Seligma Responds to Race Report

Yik Yak Not Banned, DLH Essentially Permanent

BY JUSTIN TROMBLY
MANAGING EDITOR

Yik Yak and Douglass Leadership House (DLH) were addressed in drastically different ways by University President Joel Seligma on Wednesday, as he issued his official response to his Commission on Race and Diversity’s Interim Report released the same day. The report answered the list of demands issued to Seligma in November by a coalition of students from DLH, the Minority Student Advisory Board, the Spanish and Latino Students’ Association, and the Black Students’ Union, which also staged a peaceful protest on Nov. 20. The Commission was created three days later.

In his response, Seligma accepted several recommendations from the Commission, including a measure that all but guarantees Douglass Leadership House (DLH) permanent residence on the Fraternity Quad. He chose not to ban the anonymous app Yik Yak, on which users have posted racist remarks and threats, from University servers. To ban the app, he said at a Wednesday afternoon press conference, would be “to throw the baby out with the bathwater” and would not be in the best interest of the University community.

The Commission had voted 14–2, with one abstention, to recommend banning the app. On Wednesday evening, coalition members planned to protest the President’s decision not to ban the app at the sophomore class’ dinner with Seligma. A member of DLH told a Campus Times reporter before the dinner that the demonstration was canceled because administrators had found out. Seligma said at the press conference that he was aware of plans for protests. “It is a symbolic act that would not increase safety on campus,” Seligma said of banning Yik Yak, adding that other methods such as working with the Department of Public Safety, would yield more tangible results. He said he asked protest leaders “to take a breath, step back,” and ask themselves whether further demonstrations would be the best... 

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PHOTOGRAPHY

LEAH NASON / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

WINTERFEST WEEKEND
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BERNIE VERSUS HILLARY
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OSCAR SERIES:
"THE REVENANT"
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UR BASKETBALL
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PAGE 16 SPORTS
Correction:
The Public Safety Update (News, 1/28/2016) stated that two UR students were robbed. These were actually cases of theft, because the students’ property was not taken from their person.

New campaign planned

The Commission’s report asserted that DLU will likely meet whatever expectations are established and thus remain on the Frat Fair. When asked at Wednesday’s press conference if he agreed, Seligman said, “I’m sure they will.”

Dever commended Seligman for his action on ALCs, saying, “If you do not understand the value of DLU on our campus, you certainly need to attend their programs and talk to their membership.”

Making DLU permanent feature on campus and banning Yik Yak featured prominently in both the coalition’s demands and its general calling point.

News of the Commission’s recommendations and those that were accepted by Seligman came early Wednesday morning in a special edition of The Weekly Buzz, which linked to the Interim Report and Seligman’s response.

A new campaign to combat campus racism, in the same vein as last year’s “It’s on Us” campaign.

PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE

DPS to Monitor Roosh V. Meetup

On Feb. 5, students were notified via e-mail of the “Roosh V. International Meet Up,” scheduled to occur on Feb. 6 at 8 p.m. outside the Eastman School of Music. Those participating in the meetup will express the ideas of “Roosh V.,” which include extreme writings and thoughts based on his philosophy of Neomasculinity. Department of Public Safety (DPS) emphasized that there is absolutely no connection between “Roosh V.” and the Eastman School of Music or the University at-large. DPS and the Rochester Police Department (RPD) will pay special attention to the Eastman area Thursday evening in case the event occurs, though they believe it will not.

Construction Thief Thwarted

On Jan. 29, a contractor working in the Frederick Douglass Building thwarted a theft of scrap copper from the construction area. The contractor walked into a mechanical room and encountered an unknown individual loading copper into a cardboard box. The unknown person dropped the box and fled the area.

On Feb. 1, a Department of Public Safety (DPS) officer detected the odor of a suspicious gas in the area of Room 111 in the Eastman School of Music annex. The Rochester Fire Department (RFD) responded, and the cause of the odor was found to be a leaking tank gas of a power washer stored inside the room. Material was placed on the floor to soak up the spilled gas, and Facilities was notified.

Car Stolen from Park Lot

On Feb. 2, between 6 a.m. and 8:45 a.m., a student reported that his 2005 Pontiac G6 had been stolen from Park Lot. The lot was inspected, and there was no sign of the vehicle. The car owner was the man stating that had been secured when he parked it.
OPENING COMMISSION FROM PAGE 2

against sexual assault is, in the works, too: “We’re better than THAT.”

With the campaign, UR may take the lead in flagging college racism nationally, Seligman said at the press conference. “If I had one dream, he said, “racism would have no place on any college campus.”

Norman Burnett, Assistant Dean and Director of the Office of Minority Student Affairs, and Beth Olivares, Dean for Diversity Initiatives and Director of the David T. Kearns Center, are spearheading the initiative, which also has the support of other people who have expressed interest in helping out, including Dever. A working group has formed to further the initiative.

The group’s goals include added emphasis on race in future freshmen orientation programming, via which includes “a common reading that will provide some grounding for incoming freshmen” — and the establishment of a multimedia presence on campus to combat racism and hate speech, according to the Interim Report.

“The group believes, based on student input and our own understanding of the magnitude of this issue, that it’s absolutely necessary,” Seligman wrote in a press release. “We model behavior and should be accessible, and affect every member of our community,” the Report reads.

The campaign will use videos and online resources, and feature a promotional video contest, open for entries until Feb. 8, for a $200 prize and the opportunity to have one’s video shown in various school events.

Addressing student demands for increased cultural programming and activities, Seligman accepted the Commission’s recommendation to create a Diversity Programming Fund. The fund, which will be applied to “groups of all races, religions, sexual orientation, or nationality,” Seligman wrote, “will be established with a $30,000 initial budget coordinated by the Paul J. Burgett Intercultural Center.”

The Fund is “designed to support programs and activities that enhance an understanding of diversity and appreciation of diversity and inclusion and to support culturally-based programming,” the Commission’s report says.

Plans to expand staff support in the Burgett Center are also underway, Seligman wrote, as are plans to expand the African American Studies, the addition of new fellows, and the implementation of a new study abroad program aligned with this major and completion of an additional tenure track tenured position.

Seligman also announced the coalition’s call for the University to emphasize its Bias-Related Incidents reporting program “as they have the CARE Program.”

“The Office of the Dean of Students has taken the lead in the implementation of a university-based Incidents reporting program, as part of our CARE Report system and has created a Bias-Related Incident Executive Team to coordinate reports and/or communications with the University community when necessary,” he wrote in his response.

Seligman said the Commission will likely continue its work until Spring 2017, and May and added that it will release a final report later in the year. A survey about race and diversity on campus, gathered over the past several years. In the coming year, we anticipate requesting an additional full-time staff member to run a new staff position, according to the Report. “As the renovations move forward, we are developing a staffing plan for the new center,” Seligman wrote.

“Thursdays are a time of the Class of 2017.”

“I do believe that President Trombly is fully committed to combating racism on our campus and that there will be more changes to promote an inclusive and empathetic environment, where every student feels welcome and safe,” Dever concluded.

“Thursdays are a time of the Class of 2017.”

According to the Interim Report, “These are substantial steps forward”
Berned Out

By Justin Trombly
Managing Editor

I’ve been a little bummed out about everyone’s favorite self-identified socialist, Senator Bernie Sanders, lately. Not because he lost the Iowa Democratic Caucus Monday night, but because of his supporters.

Let me backtrack: I like Sanders. I’ve liked him for years. I remember seeing him on my local news station, which covers the area of New York I live in, and most of Vermont. Burlington, where Sanders served as mayor, is less than an hour from my house. His platform aligns with my views and his efforts to buck the status quo appeal to my frustrations with American politics. I’ll be voting for him in New York’s Democratic primary in April.

But Sanders isn’t perfect, and he isn’t immune to criticism—something many Sanders supporters, at least those who populate social media, either don’t understand or refuse to accept.

Whenever I see an article published by a major media outlet about Sanders that doesn’t defend him—and I see them daily—the comments section on the piece is awash with what an article in The Atlantic termed, “The Berniebro.”

“By the way, the Berniebro”—a term I first read in an NPR article, published in April—“doesn’t understand or refuse to think critically about don’t come from any educated types, but the social soundbites for actual substance,” Meyer’s article focused specifically on white, male, educated types, but the social media comments I’m talking about don’t come from any kind of supporter in particular. Their message is nearly always the same: This is just a hit piece by the mainstream, establishment, corporate-owned media. A Sanders fan will inevitably say the author of the article has been bought out and is now just a shill for Hillary Clinton, Sanders’ rival for the Democratic nomination.

Take an NPR article, published Tuesday, that fact-checked the widely-spread claim that a series of coin tosses decided the Iowa caucus. One of the top comments on NPR’s Facebook post of the article by the debunked the misinformation myth that Clinton won the caucus because of the coin tosses—reads: “NPR should change name to CPlR, Clinton Public Radio.” She could drive a bullet into a skull and y’all would spit it. Bernie Sanders has the will of the people behind him.”

Anyone who read that article with clear eyes would realize that it’s anything but shilling for Clinton; it only tries to set the record straight on a complex and important question.

Similarly, we find high up in the comments on economist Paul Krugman’s critical January column on Sanders in The New York Times: “Whether you like Bernie or not, everyone by now knows that Krugman is an establishment POS’ sull for the Clintons and always will be, he surprised me still has a job to be honest with you.”

Krugman’s column concerns itself with questioning the lack of detail in Sanders’ proposed policies—deserved questioning, in my opinion, considering the Senator’s ethos as a no-ballshit anti-politician. With proposals as ambitious as establishing a single-payer healthcare system in America, developed and thorough plans are critical, and should be expected of a candidate like Sanders. Branding scrutiny like Krugman’s as establishmentarian—Clinton-shilling showcases glaring cognitive dissonance, in which people demand the picking apart of one candidate’s past and positions but rage against doing the same of another’s. Sanders’ supporters should expect increased scrutiny toward their man—that’s what serious candidates for the presidency get.

Even Ta-Nehisi Coates, acclaimed writer and the current acting editor of The Atlantic, whose intellectual choice, was unable to escape the onslaught of blind Bernie loyalty. When he wrote an article for The Atlantic about Sanders’ opposition to Black reparations, one of the first comments I saw on it said, “I had been bought out by Clinton. Cimon.”

What makes all the media-shilling-for-Sanders comments so absurd is that it’s in the media’s interest to depict Clinton v. Sanders as a tight contest. Journalists love a horserace; readers want excitement. And while, to some degree, we have an obligation to keep ask hard questions, now the media narrative still does and should favor Sanders. He’s an underdog. He’s the insurgent.

I beg you to read this article.

A New York Magazine on Tuesday explored this media critique, saying in its headline that “Bernie Sanders Won Iowa Because the Media Says He Did”—something clear to anyone paying attention to which proposals are being ignored. The narrative most outlets chose to run with. “In the pundit class’s defense, it is a damn good story,” Eric Levitz writes in the article. “A septuagenarian socialist, who trailed by 40 points in Iowa at the race’s start, takes on his party’s? handpicked candidate with absolutely zero Establishment support and builds a million dollar campaign that propels him to a virtual tie? Who doesn’t want to see the next episode of this story?”

This would make an easy political scientists to believe it is much easier for people to write him off as a reality star who played with fire. Many Americans and non-Americans gave a collective sigh of relief on Tuesday night, but Trump’s campaign successes cannot be ignored, and often childlike statements and arguments are easy to write off as unformed and unthought of a man whose presidential bid wasn’t founded in anything serious, but a great fear. Nothing Else drives public opinion quite like it. President George W. Bush gained the highest presidential approval rating ever recorded with his declaration of a war on terrorism. President Obama’s approval ratings jumped 9% after the killing of Osama Bin Laden. This idea that fear can rule policies or at least public opinion has also been coined as the ‘rally round the flag effect.’ In times of crisis or threats to national security, people demand strong and immediate answers. Donald Trump offers this and more to his followers. The simplicity of his plans: building a giant wall, bomb ing “the hell” out of ISIS, and cutting our enemies off from the Internet are all oversimplified one-liners that have been eaten up by much of the nation.

However, this does not mean his supporters are being naive or insane. Bertrand Russell, a British philosopher, wrote, “neither a man nor a crowd nor a nation can be trusted to act humanely or to think sanely under the influence of a great fear.”

America is now responding to a great fear and finding solace in a man who promises quick and simple results and works to distance himself from any form of recognizable political rhetoric or strategy. His impressive climb in the polls and second place finish in the Iowa Caucus could still seem surprising, but it’s important to recognize just how powerful fear can be as a motivator for polling. A common pollsters face in obtaining information from respondents is inconsistency in attitudes and even ideological positions. For a long time this inconsistency in Americans’ answers (and even political knowledge) led political scientists to believe Americans were ignorant.

This would make an easy explanation for Trump’s strong support: ignorance. It does not, however, take into account both my views in polling, heists drive almost everything. Heuristics are the immediate, gut-rationality’s response where a person brings the most salient information they can recall to answer any question. This means that the most informed respondent would inevitably make decisions based on their most immediate information, just as an uninformed respondent would. This means that Trump’s exploitation of fear should be seen as a legitimate strategy and a real concern as those exploited are responding to the same heuristic primers that we can all be made susceptible to.

Meyer is a member of the Class of 2018.
Feeling the Bern or Climbing the Hill?
After Iowa, the Debate Rages On

For Bernie

BY JARE SWEELY

With the Presidential election officially beginning this week in Iowa, the process of selecting the Democratic nominee has kicked off. Since declaring his candidacy in May, Senator Bernie Sanders has increasingly chipped away at former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton’s lead, pulling ahead in the first two states, and now finds himself neck and neck with Clinton nationally. Conclusively, there is reason for Democrats to support a Clinton nomination, and flaws in supporting a Sanders one.

It’s obvious that Clinton is the most experienced and prepared candidate for the presidency in decades. She has spent twelve years in the Executive Branch and eight in the Senate, promoting contemporarily progressive goals and effectively guiding the country forward. Her tenure at the State Department was so effective that during the 2012 Election, Mitt Romney adopted the same or very similar foreign policy stances to Barack Obama himself. She has pushed legislation granting healthcare to millions of children (while negotiating with Congress to pass Republican Congress), advocated for women’s rights on the global and domestic stages since before we were born, and promoted liberal, achievable goals during her entire 25 years involved in government.

Bernie Sanders, too, has spent 25 years in Congress, and yet he has passed almost no meaningful legislation. In fact, it’s no secret around the Hill that he is actually too devoted to his own virtues to “wheel and deal” and actually pass laws. Many view this as a positive trait, that he has stuck to his guns for decades, but in effect it’s as dogmatic as the Tea Party’s insistence on ideological purity.

As laudable and morally just we believe his ideas are, they won’t be made policy in this country for the foreseeable future. Firstly, the unfortunate fact of the matter is that the United States is a conservative country. Now, combine this with the fact that U.S. Congressional districts have become totally gerrymandered by Republican state legislatures over the last ten years, and it becomes clear that the “political revolution” Bernie is calling for to pass his agenda simply won’t come to fruition. Additionally, his supporters’ call for ideological homogeny in the Democratic Party will cripple our “big tent” strength necessarily developed since the 1960s.

Ultimately, Hillary Clinton will be an effective advocate for slow and appropriate change, instead of a messianic advocate for the ideal who crashes into the right-wing wall that is the House of Representatives.

Surely is a member of the class of 2017.

For Hillary

BY CAROLINE CALLAHAN-FLOESER

As an important aside, with the recent announcement of Washington University at St. Louis of the re-opening of their program, UR is currently the only major university in the country without a Sociology department! The presence of a Sociology department in my opinion, would go far toward promoting a more open and inclusive campus climate for the variety of racial and gender identities within the student body.

Sincerely, Nelson Pichardo Almanzar, PhD Central Washington University picharndo@cwu.edu

SHOULD THE ADMINISTRATION BAN YIK YAK? WHY?

JOHN COLE, ’19
“Yes, because of intolerances”

ERIC PINSKER-SMITH, ’18
“No, censorship’s bad”

SUNNY NGUYEN, ’17
“No, it won’t change the people behind it”

JACKIE YENCIK, ’19
“No, freedom of speech”

JOCELYN BLACKSHEAR, ’19
“No, because of the threats”

GABRIELA RODRIGUES, ’18
“It’s more about the people than the app”

AN OPEN LETTER

A Call for Sociology

An Open Letter to the University of Rochester Community Regarding the Current Campus Racial Climate:

My name is Nelson Pichardo Almanzar, class of 1980. I am currently employed as a tenured professor in the Department of Sociology at Central Washington University where I also direct the Ethnic Studies program. I recently read in the alumni magazine an article regarding the less than desirable racial climate at UR. And if I may, I would like to chime in on the discussion.

To begin, I credit my education at UR for opening up and creating the opportunity for my success. As a Dominican student from NYC, I found the whole “college thing” fairly intimidating at first. I saw to campus with the intent of majoring in history but after taking a course in which the professor assigned a book describing German sentiment patterns in western Pennsylvania as a function of soil analysis, I decided that I needed to find a better major for me. Looking over the catalog of next semester’s course offerings I noticed that a section of introduction to Sociology was listed and enrolled. I found Dr. Barbara Sobieszczuk’s class deeply engaging and promptly decided to major in sociology.

There, I found what I had been searching for: a major that responded to my personal experiences and identity. A major that examined in an open and critical fashion the issues of race, class, and gender and their roles in society. Sociology provided a home and a mission that turned me around as a student. Before my decision to switch majors, my GPA was fairly pathetic. But afterwards, my academic performance elevated considerably and with the support of the faculty was admitted into the Sociology doctorate program at the University of Michigan.

You may be asking what is the relevance of this all? My point is that in order to make the campus climate more open and inclusive that UR should re-open its department of sociology. The presence of an academic discipline that takes the examination of race, class, and gender as part of its core mission can only serve as a welcome haven to students of color. Such a presence would broaden the opportunities for all students to develop critical thinking skills directed at the social issues and problems that currently animate society, but also (through the activities of a sociology faculty) bring an academically diverse voice to campus in terms a diverse curriculum, public events and presentations, mentoring students of color, and supporting student organizations of color.

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Sincerely,

Nelson Pichardo Almanzar, PhD Central Washington University picharndo@cwu.edu

OPINION

“YES, BECAUSE OF TOLERANCES”

BY JESSE BERNSTEIN & LEAH NASON

Recently, I had the opportunity to be a student. Before my decision to major in sociology, I needed to find a better major for me. Looking over the catalog of next semester’s course offerings I noticed that a section of introduction to Sociology was listed and enrolled. I found Dr. Barbara Sobieszczuk’s class deeply engaging and promptly decided to major in sociology.

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“It’s more about the people than the app”
Meridian Malfunctions

BY CATLIN DAVIE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Meridians are the image of the University. As UR’s campus tour guides for prospective students, they are the ideal college students: intelligent, amiable, and knowledgeable about their university. Yet, no matter how wonderful being a tour guide may be, the job makes for some quite interesting stories. A Meridian can easily be spotted on campus by their distinctive backward walking, done purposefully so their audience can hear them. As one might imagine, walking backwards all day causes a number of trips and tumbles. Meridian Yuting Yang shared her story of giving a tour to multiple baseball recruits around Strong Auditorium, when she walked backwards into the base of a staircase. Suddenly, she was on the floor, surrounded by her tall, worried daughter duo who discussed what to do about going out, giving their children advice on how to act excitedly. Although the happiness in the families is unwavering, the symptoms of SAD clear as well. Areas like Rochester, known in India, was invented by Dr. Sujoy K Guha when attending UR means having more than just a winter slump; they experience Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD). Since SAD can affect your appetite, weight, energy level, sleep patterns, depression, concentration, creativity, and mood, it’s clear why this would be worrisome to college students.

The symptoms of SAD resemble those of clinical depression, except for their temporary nature; once the sun comes out for spring and the snow clears out, the symptoms of SAD clear as well. Areas like Rochester are more at risk because the winters are overcast and gloomy. Even when the sun is out during winter, our skin is covered with warm layers, blocking the sun rays from reaching our skin. This leads to lower levels of serotonin, a chemical in the brain that has been linked to maintaining proper mood balance. I met up with Barry at 9 a.m., and after getting some breakfast, we were on our way to University Health Services to check out one of UCC’s tools for beating Winter Blues: Light Therapy with SunBox. Arriving at the office that morning, Barry and I had grand ideas in mind. Our imaginations were running wild, filled with sunny saunas, sun beds, or some dream-like image of the two of us waking up through heavenly, suntan clouds.

“This is it?” Barry said, dropping her backpack into a chair. “I think there’s something missing.” The two of us found ourselves standing in front of a lamp. Not a wall sized lamp, or a running bed, but a foot-and-a-half tall, lopped-off, white lamp. I plugged it in. The lamp emitted a bright glow. The two of us sat in front of the thing, staring as if we’d been exposed to some extraterrestrial creature.

Sitting in front of a lamp felt a little silly, but studies prove that two weeks of short morning treatments in front of a ‘Sunbox’ lamp can do wonders for your mood. Patients begin to feel a “satisfactory antidepressant response to treatment” within 30 minutes of treatment, and the University Counseling Center says “you can bring a book, homework, or just sit and relax while using the box at our office,” or even watch TV, like Barry and I did.

Light Therapy can be also be used to help deal with circadian rhythm sleep disorders, in which a person’s circadian clock is out of sync with their day-night cycle; Delayed sleep phase disorder, an inability to fall asleep until very late at night, with the resulting need to sleep late in the morning or into the afternoon; and non-24-hour sleep-wake disorder (also known as “Free-Running Disorder”), a condition in which a person’s circadian clock is significantly longer than 24 hours. Any of these should be discussed by your doctor, and should you decide to use Light Therapy regularly, a clinician should follow your progress.

So, whether you want to try out Light Therapy or wait out winter, let’s hope Annie’s famous words regulary, a clinician should follow your progress.

SEE CONTRACEPTION PAGE 7

Redefining the Cock Block

BY SIMI GREWAL
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The lack of choice in men’s reproductive health care is a disservice to as well as a burden on women. According to Planned Parenthood, men have five choices for birth control: contraceptive gel, contraceptive cream, condom, and the intrauterine device. Women have at least twice as many options. Hormonal shots, pills, and contraceptive devices are commonly used by females, despite their deleterious consequences. Although male alternatives, such as the male pill, are in the works, they don’t seem to have much support due to testosterone and libido decrease. It appears that male pills just aren’t going to cut it. And most men literally don’t want to cut it. There is an alternate to the vasectomy that is currently under review in the US—this method is called Vasalgel. Vasalgel, as Vasilgel it known in India, was invented by Dr. Sujoy K Guha when he was asked to help quell the rise of the class of 2019.

SEE CONTRACEPTION PAGE 7
Male Contraception Wages War on Sperm

FROM PAGE 6

In the 1970s, RISUG, Reversible Inhibition of Sperm Under Guidance, has gone through rigorous animal trials, and is in Phase III clinical studies in India, with ample success so far. It is a non-toxic, non-hormonal gel polymer that chemically incapacitates sperm. It has a 99.6 percent success rate, with only one of 250 participants getting pregnant, which appears to be due to insertion error (or a promiscuous partner).

Dr. Guha envisions RISUG to withstand 10-15 years in a body—five more years than the longest lasting FDA approved Intra Uterine Device for women. It’s also reversible; Vasalgel studies in baboons have shown successful return to pre-RISUG sperm count in two months. However, the insertion is not for the weak. The testes are anesthetized, an incision is made, and forceps are used to retrieve the vas deferens. Instead of cutting the tube that leads sperm from the testes to the urethra, like in a vasectomy, the gel polymer is inserted lengthwise into the ducts. The polymer molds to the inside of the vas deferens. This procedure is repeated on the other teste. Indian men who have had the procedure complained of transient swelling during the operation. To reverse it, a doctor uses a simple solvent to flush it out.

When asked about Vasalgel, USR students had mixed feelings. Senior Greg Matos commented, “it’s fucking hype.” Other male students were nervous about the idea of having procedures done on their sensitive body parts. Overall, they agreed that additional male contraceptives should be made available. According to the Vasalgel site, Parsemus Foundation, Vasalgel is planning on spending the next six months creating batches for upcoming clinical studies. Despite animal proof that reversibility is possible, Vasalgel will currently be tested as a vasectomy alternative until there is additional research on reversibility in humans. Grewal is a member of the class of 2017.

Big Data at the Big Game

BY PARSA LOTFI
SENIOR STAFF

This Sunday is the 50th NFL championship, what has essentially become a national holiday here in the States. Usually, sports and tech writing don’t go hand in hand, but this year is special. Not only does this game mark half a century of championship games, but this year’s game will be held in the heart of Silicon Valley, i.e. tech central. Even though we are seeing a lot of technological advancement in the sports industry, we’re actually going to be going over the stadium.

Levi Stadium was built a few years ago for the San Francisco 49ers, moving them from just outside central San Francisco to the middle of Santa Clara, near the southern tip of Silicon Valley, where there is a decent collection of tech companies. Ever heard of Apple, Yahoo!, Juniper, or Google? Basically, the new stadium was built with technology in mind. As arguably the most tech-heavy stadium under the umbrella of the NFL, Levi Stadium boasts about 400 miles of fiber and copper wiring. Happen to be at the game but don’t want to use all of your precious data for the month in one day? Levi’s got you covered, with 1,200 Wi-Fi access points surrounding the stadium.

Lloyd Carney, CEO of Brocade Communications Systems, has said that he is very excited about the challenge that’s coming this weekend. There will be an incredible amount of data moving about. CBS, in particular, plans to use 5K ultra-high-definition cameras to shoot the game, and there will also be 360 degree recordings—you know, for those watching with some sort of crazy desire to feel like they are in the middle of the field. What would happen if all the cameras went blank? There are so many things that could go wrong. If you remember the 47th game, there was a huge blackout, and that has become what most people remember. If something happened and the data networks failed, millions of people across the country would be at a loss as to which team is in the lead.

For those wishing to attend our Interview Day on February 26, 2016, applications must be near completion by February 12.

Contact: Phyllis Fatical, Phyllis.Patical@urmc.rochester.edu
Family Therapy Training Program—Department Psychiatry
360 Crittenden Boulevard, Rochester, NY 14642-4466

University of Rochester’s Family Therapy Training Program
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Our program prepares graduates for careers as licensed MFTs in traditional practice settings. In addition, our trainees leave with competencies in medical family therapy and experience in integrated health care settings.

 urn a member of the class of 2017.
UR students were seen unaffected by the winter blues, as they enjoyed a weekend full of fun and exciting events at this year’s Winterfest celebration. The annual festivity featured a variety of events ranging from the highly anticipated Winter Wonderland, to multiple performances and shows, and a delicious poutine bar at Douglass Dining Center.

This year, the Winter Wonderland was held in several locations both inside and outside of Wilson Commons. S’mores, winter carnival activities, build-a-buddy, crystal imaging, indoor curling, cookie decorating, and music by WRUR, an ice carving demonstration, and huskies were among the activities offered.

Winterfest 2016 was sponsored by Class Councils, Campus Activities Board, Wilson Commons Student Activities, Pepsi, and the Panhellenic Association.

Left-center photo on page nine taken by Leah Nason, Photo Editor. All other photos courtesy of Aaron Raymond.
Every year, students enjoy petting huskies, roasting s’mores, and receiving free UR-emblazoned gifts as part of Winterfest Weekend. Check out our photo spread and see if the Campus Times got any shots of you or your friends!
UR TECH

Technology at the Superbowl

TECHNOLOGY FROM PAGE 7

The NFL has some basic mandates. Mandates on bandwidth that needs to be provided at the stadiums hosting its teams, but Levi manages to claim 10 times that requirement. This incredible system went through the wringer once before in March, when the stadium hosted WrestleMania 31. Wrestling is huge, but is nowhere near as big as the big game. But that did not stop 76,000 fans using various forms of communication and social media to tap the wireless network of the stadium to the tune of 4.3 terabytes. If you don’t know much about data, imagine about 250 completely blank 16 GB iPhones. It’s expected that Sunday’s event will not only top that, but top the current NFL record of 6.4 terabytes of data from last year’s championship game.

What runs all of this? In the basement of the stadium sits a massive data control center, with rows and rows of routers and switches to handle all of the data. 49ers IT Director Jim Bartholomew says the system can handle 500 terabytes of data in about a five hour span. Also, it apparently sounds like a parking lot full of Harleys.

Now, the million-dollar question: Will it all work? Past evidence from their short time operating suggests they’re covered. But the true test will come game time on Sunday. Hopefully being at the heart of Silicon Valley has yielded positive results.

Lotfi is a member of the class of 2017.

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The Province

Technology at the Superbowl

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BY SAM PASSANISI ‘17

DIFFICULTY MEDIUM

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32 33 34
35 36
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Across:

2. Adopted surname of “The Force Awakens” villain
4. DNA-altered food
6. An insult; or, a quick punch
9. “What the hell?” if you’re texting
12. Bear, to a Spanish speaker
13. Northern California vacation lake
15. A call home is sure to be long distance for him
16. Interjection of surprise
17. Nominaly French cafe (formerly at Med Center)
18. Italian automobile maker

20. Chess no vice’s corner piece
23. Don’t shoot your eye out with this
25. Scrambled for Caesar’s breakfast?
26. Compete, with a rival
27. Long-haul trucker’s radio
29. A really good party might be called this (colloquially)
32. Biblical princess name
33. Teacher by example
35. Once around the course
36. Tolkien’s tree-man
37. B&W nature photographer

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Down:

1. T-800’s farewell, baby
2. Sun god of Egypt
3. “Straight Outta Compton” stars
5. Saruman’s HQ
6. University Prez
7. America’s First Dog (for 12 more months)
8. Place of education
10. Formerly Siamese
11. Make small talk, if you feel like rhyming
13. Mark for identification
14. Avert anaphylaxis with this kind of pen
16. Stomach muscle (but just one)
19. Herald angel’s line
20. Natural harbor
21. Raw animal fat
22. Company logo might bear this mark
24. Flat-topped hill, esp. in Southwest U.S.
25. Largest local asteroid
26. Bromine, to a chemist
27. Hansen’s disease sufferer
30. Indiana, when addressing a letter
31. Creatively inclined
33. Ice cream beverage
34. Your mark, get set …
40 Down!
38. Aus. neighbor

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BY SAM PASSANISI ‘17

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Ice Cream for 2016!

BY SCOTT MISTLER FERGUSON
HUMOR EDITOR

With so many strong candidates in this presidential race, it can often seem difficult to discern who among them is the most likely to win.

One way to do this is to observe the way the candidates handle themselves. Do they appear to be confident and secure? Do they possess a sense of humor? Do they seem to have a strong grasp of the issues?

In this regard, I believe Bernie Sanders is the strongest candidate. He is confident, he is secure, and he has a great sense of humor. He is the only candidate who really understands the issues, and he is the only candidate who can give us hope for a better future.

I think it is time for us to support Bernie Sanders. He is the only candidate who really understands the issues, and he is the only candidate who can give us hope for a better future.
Scandinavian Shenanigans

BY ERIC FRANKLIN
HUMOR STAFF

When I first came to Sweden, I wasn’t sure what to expect other than meatballs, cold weather, and every Swede’s almost embarrassing mastery of English. Even in the short amount of time I’ve been here, a number of unexpected things have happened. So unexpected, in fact, that I felt the urge—nay, the responsibility—to educate all seven of my loyal readers back home about what Sweden is really like. So here are some actually true* things that have happened to me over my first two weeks in Sweden:

I watched numerous people successfully ride bicycles in zero-degree weather both uphill and downhill on streets that were coated entirely with ice.

I visited a pink castle.

There you have it— a completely unexpected, in fact, that I felt the urge to write about the unexpected, in fact, that I felt the urge to write about the unexpected, in fact, that I felt the urge to write about the unexpected.

I hope some stereotypes are shattered and light shed on ordinary, representative sample of these two-meter-tall blond beauties.

* Eric Franklin reserves the right to change the definition of “true” in order to maintain the integrity of his journalism.

Franklin is a member of the class of 2017.

A Real, Surviving, Bachelor, American Idol

BY SEAN CORBAN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

What’s the first thing that comes to your mind when you hear the words “reality TV”? Some may love it. Some may hate it. Some may love to hate it. What better way to remind yourself of how boring your life is than by watching someone else’s life play out on-screen?

Reality competitions, in particular, have provided some great watercooler talk over the past 16 or so years. Undoubtedly, these shows have sparked some hilarious moments.

With the spring TV season fully back into swing, consider some lessons of famous reality shows.

Survivor (season 16) *

During Tribal Council, when contestants are gripped by fear before voting one of their tribe mates out, Erik, a nerdy superfan of the show, had the unexpected insight which kept him safe from being voted out. It was Erik against four women, who had long conspired against him. In a stunning twist, Erik gave away the necklace to Natalie, whose manipulation worked like a charm. Erik did this in an attempt to curry favor with the tribe, but was instead voted out and dubbed the dumbest player in the history of the game.

The lesson here: Life truly is a battle of the sexes. Seems like women have secret powers that guys like me just haven’t figured out... yet.

The Bachelorette (season 19) *

Who could forget the last year when Nick was humiliated on national television? His immaturity and lack of self-control led him to say something to one of his girls that he, and you were either empathizing with him or chastising him. This was his second run on the show after he reached the final two during the previous season. How do you get to keep leaving your day job to go on reality TV, Nick?

The lesson here: If at first you don’t succeed, do the exact same thing again the next chance you get. That’ll show ‘em.

American Idol (season three): William Hung.

Remember this guy? He was so bad at his audition that he left the one and only Simon Cowell speechless. He put his spin on Ricky Martin’s hit song “Bennie Benni” and was probably the funniest Idol audition ever.

The lesson here: It is better to be horrible at one thing than to be pretty good at anything. They call it reality TV for a reason, folks. It’s 100-percent real.

Corinna is a member of the class of 2018.

Hummor Section

Tries Newspaper-Colored Ink

BY JESSE BERNSTEIN
OPINIONS EDITOR

In my line of work, you get to know certain types of people. These aren’t people you’ll meet at a Mommy & Me sing-along, or the matinee showing of Kung Fu Panda 3. These are the ones at the playground standing shifty-eyed under the loopy slide—quick with a joke, but quicker with a shoe if you so much as ask them anything funny, let alone try to cross them. They know how to do and where to find things that your average four-year-old doesn’t. Need a lightly-used whistle ball bat? A limited edition of The Wiggles Live! signed by the whole cast? Or how about just, like, how to tie your shoes? These people are experts.

I have my guys. Bradley Becker’s always my first contact, a shady character who, if anyone has been the Gerber baby, Bradley goes by Picket, for two reasons: He’s worked on both sides of the fence on the black market, and he’s got a serious nose-picking problem. Hey, we’ve all got our demons, y’know?

On this day, I found Picket looking ornery. It’s never good to deal with guys who have ornery in their eyes, who knows what’ll make ‘em snap? Picket sees me from afar and crosses his arms, tapping his foot and shaking his head.

“You got a lotta nerve showin’ your face around here, Charlie. Picket remarked with a bit of drool hanging from the corner of his mouth. “Whaddaya want?”

“I’m just here to talk,” I say. “Can’t a guy just talk?”

“It’s never ‘just talk’ with you. You always want somethin’.”

Well, suppose so. Picket looked me over. I knew I was pushing him on account of what happened the last time we’d gotten mixed up, but I knew he would know something about Scarlet’s missing tricycle.

“Yeah.” He said, “Supposin’ you did, I don’t suppose it has something to do with that missing tricycle.”

I don’t flinch. “Suppose so.”

“I will. If I did suppose that you were supposin’ to ask me about that tricycle, I’d tell you that you’re indiscreetly peltin’ Cheeringo at the wrong case, my friend. Capiche?”

Time to get serious. “Be straight with me, Picket. What’s a guy have to do to get a little info about a child’s plaything?”

Smugly, he rubs his fingers together. Always looking for something, this guy. I pull out my piece-de-resistance.

“You think you’re funny?”

Contact humor@campustimes.org

Horgan is a member of the class of 2017.

Try writing for us!

Bernstein is a member of the class of 2018.
Oscar Series: ‘The Revenant’ is Like Nothing You’ve Ever Seen

BY JESSE BERNSTEIN

Oscar Series: ‘The Revenant’ is Like Nothing You’ve Ever Seen

There is something a little masochistic about "The Revenant," Alejandro González Iñárritu’s latest foray into the limits of human tolerance for pain, physical or otherwise. Aside from the stomach-churning bear attack sequence that has been so widely discussed, each scene seems as if it’s seeking to outdo the previous one. There’s rape, brutal murder, steamy animal carcasses (being used for, shall we say, Skywalker-esque purposes), and a frightfully violent ending that, no matter how preordained it appears, is still excruciating to watch. Iñárritu is daring us to look away.

"The Revenant” looks like nothing we’ve ever seen. The details are canonical now, but we’ll rehash them anyway. The film was shot using only natural light while the cast and crew battled subzero temperatures and hazardous terrain to capture the story of Hugh Glass, wronged frontiersman. Emmanuel Lubezki, he of the two straight Oscars for Cinematography, seems to be the only camera crew member. But for the camera seems to struggle right along with Glass, trudging through the snow and half-drowning in rivers with him. The beauty of the landscape shots and the ingenuity of Iñárritu’s direction speaks to something he’s mentioned quite a bit as of late—the need to convince people that it’s worth the money to go to a theater when they can watch anything they want from their own couches. "The Revenant” succeeds in that respect, very strongly positioning itself as a film that demands to be seen on a big screen.

Iñárritu’s direction speaks to the two straight Oscars for DiCaprio, golden oldie, and hazardous terrain to light while the cast and crew struggle. The Oscars for Cinematography DiCaprio spends most of the film grimacing and recouling from the pain inflicted on him by man and nature, normally something that would translate well to the small screen. But the power of seeing his strained face, the bowing pain in his eyes, needs to be seen in the way it was intended. DiCaprio gives a fine performance, though whether it’s an Oscar winner remains to be seen.

"The Revenant” looks like nothing we’ve ever seen.

The supporting cast tends to work well in their roles, but it all seems like they shouldn’t—they all seem like minor actors making it work. Tom Hardy plays a villainous fellow fur trapper, and his accent is hard to place, to say the least. It alternates between a Texan drawl and a Canadian lilt, settling in a region that doesn’t exist. Though his brutality and manically selfish worldview do come across as—and remain—unsettling, the voice doesn’t make that task any easier. Domhnall Gleeson, fresh off his role as General Hux in "The Force Awakens," is authoritative in a different way here. Whereas General Hux is an unquestionable power surrounded by deferential subordinates, a colleague of sorts, powerful and a superior he could answer to, he’s a hardened frontiersman. Then there’s Glass’ half-white, half-Pawnee son, Hawk. Played by Forrest Goodluck, a young actor of Navajo descent, he does a fine job before he exits early in the film. At the time of Glass’ G O L D e n

Oscar Series: Saoirse Ronan Discovers Home in ‘Brooklyn’

BY ALEXANDRA JEREJAN

“Brooklyn” is the rare sort of film that leaves you in disbelief once the end credits start rolling. This feeling is not due to a dramatic cliffhanger or a shocking plot twist, but results instead from the film’s ability to envelop you in its world and characters. Despite its 112-minute length, “Brooklyn” never feels long, but results instead from the film’s ability to continue indefinitely.

The period drama follows the experiences of a young Irish immigrant as she settles in Brooklyn in the 1950s. Emilia Lacey leaves her home country to build a future for herself, but when a family tragedy compels her to return, she must choose between her new home and her old one. Played masterfully by Saoirse Ronan, Eilis’ struggles to reconcile familial obligations, cultural expectations, and her personal inclinations. This struggle is the driving force of the film. Ultimately, “Brooklyn” is a coming-of-age story that depicts how the choices we make set us apart from those who have come before.

"Brooklyn” is a coming-of-age story that depicts how the choices we make set us apart from those who have come before.

Eilis’ transition to life in Brooklyn is eased when she meets the charming Italian Tony Fiorello, played by Emory Cohen. His warmth presents Eilis to better envision her future in America. But Eilis’ romantic pursuits and marital prospects are only one aspect of her complex struggle to reconcile two starkly different locations and lifestyles. Her growing affections for Tony both endear her to her new home and exacerbate her conflicted interests. Her situation is complicated further when she is compelled to return to Ireland, where she meets the eligible Jim Farrell, played by Domhnall Gleeson. Eilis is certainly motivated by her romantic prospects, but her choices are always more dependent upon her desire to find the best life for herself. Ronan carries the emotional weight of the film flawlessly. Notably, many of the film’s most poignant, well-acted scenes are those in which no dialogue occurs. Ronan is skilled at conveying emotion through expressions alone.

Ronan is skilled at conveying emotion through expressions alone.

In Brooklyn, she’s a spiritual cousin to "Gladiator" with less dialogue and better cinematography. "The Revenant” is dependent on the tiniest silences, “Brooklyn” should be seen on a big screen. It’s all the more impressive to watch him play God. He doesn’t make that task any easier. Domhnall Gleeson, fresh off his role as General Hux in "The Force Awakens,” is authoritative in a different way here. Whereas General Hux is an unquestionable power surrounded by deferential subordinates, a colleague of sorts, powerful and a superior he could answer to, he’s a hardened frontiersman. Then there’s Glass’ half-white, half-Pawnee son, Hawk. Played by Forrest Goodluck, a young actor of Navajo descent, he does a fine job before he exits early in the film. At the time of Glass’ G O L D e n

Oscar Series: Saoirse Ronan Discovers Home in ‘Brooklyn’

Best Director. Considering his ability to elicit such strong, emotionally-resonant performances from his cast, it is an odd snub. The success of the film is still up in the air, considering its comparatively low 10-million-dollar budget. Based on Colm Tóibín’s novel of the same name, “Brooklyn” has also been nominated for Best Adapted Screenplay and Best Original Score. Although it’s not the most extravagant film going for the top award, it is unmatched in its subtlety. Able to elicit strong emotional responses with short-sentences narratives, and, sometimes, mere shared silences, “Brooklyn” should not be underestimated. Jerejian is a member of the class of 2019.
Novak Connects with Relatable Act

BY ELIZABETH SCHUERMANN CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Last Saturday evening, I had the immense privilege of attending a concert at the Eastman School of Music titled "Underground Railroad: A Spiritual Journey." The musician featured was none other than the famed Kathleen Battle, one of the most important classical sopranos performing today. She was accompanied primarily by Joel Martin, a jazz and classical pianist well known for his fusion of the two genres, which he showcased to this concert's audience. Ms. Battle and Mr. Martin were also accompanied by Rosanna Moore on harp, as well as the singers of the Rochester Festival Chorus, conducted by Jason Holmes.

In addition to the great musicians gracing the stage, 260 students from the Rochester Central School District (RCSD) and their families were in attendance at the concert. Their attendance was made possible through generous donations from the Rochester Education Foundation, the Community Foundation, the Wilson Foundation, and Avangrid. Most of the students in RCSD are African-American, so the concert was a wonderful opportunity for them to hear and appreciate arts focusing on their heritage and history. The concert also fell on the second-to-last day of January, a perfect concert also fell on the second-and appreciate arts focusing on Black History Month. Both

PHOTO COURTESY OF JIMMY WILLIAMS

BY JEFF HOWARD COLUMNIST

Ratboy Genius Lives Up To Its Name

The motion of Ratboy Genius and all of his contraptions creates a sensation reminiscent of those dark dreams where you might not be able to move your limbs properly. The power of Ratboy Genius’ songwriting expertise, makes for a viewing experience that is sublime even after repeated viewings. Many Ratboy Genius videos have deeper and more complex storylines than the one in “Potato Knishes.” One of my favorite tales is called “RBG Presents: The Wonders of Palace Life from Jakata Tales.” As the video’s title suggests, it is an adaptation of another story. Although not a Ratboy Genius original, the way in which the story is executed is memorable and tear-jerking. In it, one monkey introduces to his community of other monkeys the lifestyle of men, after which the monkeys learn a chilling lesson about the capabilities of man and themselves. The music in the video has the classical-style harmony and MIDI instrumentation of other Ratboy Genius music, and produces warm, cozy, Internet feelings. The monkeys are animated in a cute and retrieved way, like the figures on the unencumbered cover to Kanye West’s “My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy.” I would have never heard this touching story were it not for Ratboy Genius, which says a lot about how well he adapts classic tales into the modern world. A friend of mine once lamented to me that creative genius just gets funneled into advertising these days. He is both right and wrong. Ratboy Genius would be an example of how well this creative spirit still exists in pure form these days—you just have to look a little harder to find it. Howard is a member of the class of 2017.
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2016 / SPORTS

With Hoops, Discipline and Structure Come Easy

BY JACKIE POWELL
SPORTS EDITOR

URBB defeated UChicago 84–76 last Sunday, helping the Yellowjackets achieve their first Midwest sweep in nearly 25 years. Junior guard Mack Montague scored a career–high 30 points, along with shooting 9 for 17. This was the third time this season that Montague scored over 20 points.

What is the earliest memory of your basketball career? My earliest basketball memory was when my dad took me down to North Carolina to play at Duke University’s summer basketball camp, when I was about five years old. I got to meet Coach K, and watch/be coached by some of the best college basketball players in the country.

Who in the NBA have you looked up to the most, and why? I look up to Steph Curry the most, really just because of his story. He was told he couldn’t play Division I basketball because of his size, lack of speed, etc., and now he is the most dangerous guard in the NBA—and reigning MVP.

URBB just completed a road sweep at Washington and Chicago for the first time in 24 years. How did that feel, and what is to come for this 2015–2016 squad? It felt amazing to be able to get the road sweep this past weekend, especially against two highly–recognized programs. In terms of [our team], this weekend was huge, simply because I think it gave us a little confidence in ourselves. The last couple seasons, we have always been the underdog in the league. We still are. But now I think our team is realizing just how good we can be.

How does playing basketball help you with everything else prevalent in your life? I think basketball […] provides structure to my school year. It allows me to organize my time outside of class a lot easier than when I’m not in the season, simply because I have so much going on all the time. With this, it has also taught me how to deal with making sacrifices.

How did it feel to score a career–high 30 points against U. Chicago, and—I must ask—what was your pre-game ritual before that game? It felt really good to have a career sweep weekend, especially against the number 1 team in the country. But all credit goes to my teammates, especially Mike Mangan and Sam Bort-Smith, because they were able to keep up with me in great positions to score all game. Honestly, on the road, there’s not a lot of time for normal pre-game rituals. I really just woke up, had breakfast and a film session with the team, and hoped for the best.

Would you rather participate in a re-enactment of “Romeo and Juliet” with Amy Schumer, or write a sequel to “Frozen” with Chris Rock? Sequel to “Frozen” with Chris Rock—not even close!

Powell is a member of the Class of 2018.

Rugby Finishes Fifth in Nation

BY RASHAD MOORE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

In the family known as the Sledgehammers, there are 28 young women and two coaches, who together constitute the 2015–2016 UR Women’s Rugby team.

This year before regionals, the Sledgehammers went a perfect 7–0 before losing to Colgate.

Despite this, the women’s rugby team is out of the national tournament, they are not done playing. This spring, we were going to sweep at Washington and Chicago for the first time in 24 years. This ability to adjust to each other’s skills developed a unique structure to my school year. It allows me to keep putting me in great positions to perform, Drago said, “but with the addition of amazing new coaches, players, and the intensity of current players, we made it further than we have in years.”

With regard to their success, each player had a versatile skill set, allowing the coaches to vary formations, styles, and tempos in order to keep the opposition off–balance. Drago said that the team had a “wide array of strengths” that made them “well–composed” and “unyielding.”

This ability to adjust to each other’s skills developed a unique team bond. “I believe that the women’s rugby team has a chemistry unlike any other team,” Drago said. “We truly are a family, in every aspect. It’s essentially a part of rugby culture. For many, our best friends are our teammates.”

The team also loves their fans, whom they rarely get to see. “Usually, our games are away, so it’s hard to get a solid turnout,” Drago said. But when the Sledgehammers had home games, the fans endured “cruddy weather” and turned out to root for the team.

Even though the women’s rugby team is out of the national tournament, they are not done playing. They will participate in tournaments this spring, including the “Ruck Rochester” event in April and the “Tough Mudder” in May.

Moore is a member of the class of 2018.
URWB Drops Two, URBB Sweeps

BY AUDREY GOLDFARB CONTRIBUTING WRITER

This weekend yielded mixed results for Rochester baseball teams, with the women's team suffering losses against Washington University and the University of Chicago, while the men came home with a clean sweep over these teams.

UR Women's Basketball (URWB) hit an unexpected rut in the middle of their season, losing two consecutive games and ending a ten-game winning streak. The loss against WashU on Friday resulted in a three-way tie between the Yellowjackets, WashU, and NYU for first place in the UAA heading into “The Show.” The Minnies T wins and their front office into “The Show.” The Minnesota T wins, 21-year-old Byron Buxton headlines a potentially star-studded group of Major League baseball teams is to groom, developing professionals who contribute to the Rochester pub- lic, Minor League clubs and their Major League counter- parts are in the business of developing professionals who will graduate to the biggest stage.

For these reasons, the aim of making any predictions on wins and losses for Rochester's 2016 campaign is nothing more than a crapshoot. Still, there are plenty of reasons to visit the ballpark this spring. Frontier Field may be a home court advantage for a team dynamic and atmosphere that contributes to the team’s success. "Returning players have all played key roles for us and the tal- ented group of newcomers have impressed the club," said Patterson. "Everyone is playing key roles, from seniors to freshmen." Both the women’s and men’s teams play on Friday and Sunday in the Palestra against WashU and UChicago, respectively.

Goldfish is a member of the class of 2019.

By bellina DRAGO CONTRIBUTING WRITER

This weekend, the UR Men’s Club Hockey team played two intensive games, allowing them to sit first place in the Western Division of the Upstate New York Club Hockey League (UNYCHL). On Friday, UR won against their local rival, St. John Fisher, with an impressive score of 10–7. The following night, UR suf- fered a devastating loss against Le Moyne. With just over a minute left in the game, the Le Moyne scored the winning goal, off a significant penalty play, ultimately costing Rochester the game.

"We're down against the most talented/skilled team in the league," URdefensive and squad President Isaiah Part- nerson said. "We just need to play our game and go out and ex- ecute. We can't beat ourselves. We're definitely hoping to re- gain that championship form from two seasons ago, and so far it's been promising." Patterson and his fellow teammates’ hopes seem to be attainable. The team currently stands 6–1 in league play, and 8–3 overall. The team won the UNYCHL playoffs in 2013–2014, but had a disappointing trend to the season last year after performing very well in the regular season, and then losing in the first round of the playoffs. According to the UNYCHL, no one is currently out of con- tention for a spot at the play- offs, meaning the optimism must remain. A lot of credit for the club’s many successes is due to their large support base. Patterson stated that turnover this season has been “phenomenal,” and that the team has been attract- ed to the Rochester area by the large support base. Patterson said, “and working with fraternities on campus to make our games rush events for prospective brothers.”

On Feb 5., UR faces Brock- port at 7 p.m. at Genesee Valley Park Sports Complex. They en- courage all fans, new and old, to come out for the team.

BY ANDREW LUCCHESI CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Talent scout eye candy Byron Buxton headlines a potentially star-studded group of Major League Baseball (MLB) pros- pers. That group will represent the Rochester Red Wings in 2016. The name Buxton alone should attract more interest than the rest of the team as a whole, not be- cause he’ll be a fixture of fireworks at Frontier Field, but because he may not be there for long at all.

The main function of minor league baseball teams is to groom, provide competitive experience for, and propel future MLB players into the “Show.” The Minnesota Twins and their front of- fice in Minnesota, whom the Rochester Red Wings exist to feed, are not concentrated with their affiliated teams’ wins and losses. While their record may be an indicator of how well the MLB hopes to gain experience and on readily they are to succeed at the next level, it’s not really an accu- rate one.

Evidence can be found in Hal and Hank Steinbrenner's New York Yankees. While their Triple-A affiliate, the Scranton/Scranton Wilkes-Barre RailRiders, topped their division last year with a re- cord of 81–63, the Yankees have struggled in recent years to pro- duce many homegrown prospects into success in the Major Leagues.

While those who work to boost attendance at Frontier Field often comment that a team-related advertisement to the Rochester pub- lic, Minor League clubs and their Major League counter- parts are in the business of developing professionals who will graduate to the biggest stage.

This function is not a mys- tery to any Minor-League involved. The player and the organization have the same goal. The Minnesota organization values only better the Twins, and the Red Wings players want nothing more than to get a call up. Paul Flicker, the general manager, telling them to pack their bags.

For these reasons, the aim of making any predictions on wins and losses for Rochester's 2016 campaign is nothing more than a crapshoot. Still, there are plenty of reasons to visit the ballpark this spring. Frontier Field may feature future MLB hallmarks, and that should be a reason enough. Names to look out for:

Byron Buxton, OF

MLB.com has ranked Buxton the No. 2 prospect of 2016. Since being drafted second overall in the MLB draft in 2012, Buxton has been a favorite to visit the ballpark this spring. Front- tier Field may feature future

José Berrios, RHP
Also drafted in 2012 by the Minnesota Twins, 21-year- old, right-handed pitcher Jose Berrios is on the MLB.com rankings at the No. 19 spot. Berrios earned serious consid- eration as a late-season call-up while the Twins were fighting for a playoff spot last September. The side of the argument that fa- vored further development in the Minors pre-call-up ultimately won. Jose Berrios remained a Red Wing and posted a 14–5 record with a 2.87 ERA in 27 ap- pearances with Twins affiliated last year. Don’t be surprised if Berrios makes the next step up to the Twins’ pitching staff soon. Pat- ton said, “We just need to play our game and go out and ex- ecute. We can’t beat ourselves. We’re definitely hoping to re- gain that championship form from two seasons ago, and so far it’s been promising.” Patterson and his fellow teammates’ hopes seem to be attainable. The team currently stands 6–1 in league play, and 8–3 overall. The team won the UNYCHL playoffs in 2013–2014, but had a disappointing trend to the season last year after performing very well in the regular season, and then losing in the first round of the playoffs. According to the UNYCHL, no one is currently out of con- tention for a spot at the play- offs, meaning the optimism must remain. A lot of credit for the club’s many successes is due to their large support base. Patterson stated that turnover this season has been “phenomenal,” and that the team has been attract- ed to the Rochester area by the large support base. Patterson said, “and working with fraternities on campus to make our games rush events for prospective brothers.”

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Drags is a member of the class of 2019.

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