# Campus Times

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



### Comedy and Controversy at Winterfest



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

AARON RAYMOND / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

#### B. J. Novak Delights with Wit 'The Office' Star Entertains

**BY GRACIE PETERS**CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Writer 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 Salvatore'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 at 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. SEE **HEADLINER** PAGE 14

### 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 audi-

ence. 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"

among the "Winnie the Pooh" characters. Another shouted an expletive when Viola, concluding a baseball joke about well-paid left- and right-handed batters, referred to Caitlyn Jenner as "the highest-paid switch-hitter."

Viola, booked by the Campus Activities Board (CAB) as the opening comedian for Winterfest Weekend headliner B. J. Novak, received mixed reviews after his Saturday evening act. While most audience members applauded upon its conclusion, a vocal faction of students booed and jeered at Viola.

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 that, it 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."

Other students did not find Viola's act offensive. Junior

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### Constantino's to Close

**BY AMANDA MARQUEZ** 

NEWS EDITOR

Constantino's Market in College Town will close on Feb. 13, less than a year after its "highly desired" opening, Fairmount Properties announced Monday.

While students were ultimately sorry to hear that Constantino's will close, their opinions on its practicality varied. When asked how he felt about the only grocery store in College Town closing, junior Mathew Quirong said, "Even though it was convenient for students, I wasn't surprised, because there are a lot of cheaper and better-known options."

"They had a grocery store?" George Mendez, a junior, asked.

Randy Ruttenberg of Fairmount Properties, the developers and owners of College Town, said in a Feb. 1 press release that Constantino's was included in development plans for College Town because it had already existed in Fairmount's portfolio, and that it fit with the company's merchandising plan, which called for a market. "Unfortunately," Ruttenberg said, "Constantino's was ultimately not supported at a level that allowed them to be profitable."

Referring to College Town's fairly recent opening, Ruttenberg added that there will always be "some attrition with any development." He



both to the community and tenants of College Town, to "continue to drive maximum traffic so that R

everyone can be successful."

In a Feb. 1 statement, University
President Joel Seligman thanked
Constantino's for expanding their
business into Rochester and wished
them future success.

New inhabitants for the space are as yet undetermined. Ruttenberg said that the former Constantino's

premises will be divided into several different spaces, allowing for more than one business to move in.

Ruttenberg's press release also noted that, within the next 60 days, Bar 145 and Texas de Brazil will open their doors at College Town, and that this fall, CVS will open a new 14,500-square-foot store at the corner of Mt. Hope and Crittenden.

Marquez is a member of the Class of 2017.

### Seligman 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 Seligman 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 Seligman 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, Seligman 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 Seligman. A member of DLH told a Campus Times reporter before the dinner that the demonstration was canceled because administrators had found out.

Seligman 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," Seligman 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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#### SELIGMAN SITS DOWN WITH SOPHOMORES

President Seligman opens the floor to questions at the annual Sophomore Dinner.

### THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS

#### THURSDAY | FEBRUARY 4

#### **SPEAKER PAMELA NEWKIRK**

HAWKINS-CARLSON ROOM, 5 P.M. - 6 P.M. The Frederick Douglass Institute is sponsoring journalist and author, Pamela Newkirk, who will be giving the talk "Why Ota Benga Matters: Race, Mythology and the Persistence of Prejudice."

#### **ART SOCIAL**

MEMORIAL ART GALLERY, 6:30 P.M. - 7:30 P.M. Join Creative Workshop teachers Sara Blake and Casey Cardillo for some fun art instruction, accompanied by live music. Food and drink will be available for purchase. The cost of the event is 13 dollars.

#### FRIDAY | FEBRUARY 5

#### SPIRIT WEEK: PEP RALLY

WILSON COMMONS HIRST LOUNGE 5 P.M. - 5:45 P.M. Join fellow 'Jackets in getting pumped for the men and women's basketball games. The pep rally will feature cheers, performances, and giveaways.

#### POP-UP SHOP: VALENTINE'S LOVE

MEMORIAL ART GALLERY STORE, 6 P.M. - 9 P.M. Take advantage of a great opportunity to browse and buy gifts for your valentine. Jewelry from fourteen different artists will be featured, and there is no admission fee to enter the Gallery Store.

#### **SATURDAY** | FEBRUARY 6

#### **50 YEARS OF EBONY FASHION FAIR**

MEMORIAL ART GALLERY, ALL DAY

See forty show-stopping haute couture and ready-towear ensembles at the Ebony Fashion Fair, where the concepts of pride, achievement, and empowerment for African-Americans were redefined.

#### **PROGRESSIVE ROCK IN THE 1970S**

STRONG AUDITORIUM, 8 P.M. - 10 P.M.

Enjoy a free concert performed by Going for the One, along with students and faculty of the Music Department. Music of Emerson, Lake & Palmer; Yes; and many others will be featured.

#### **SUNDAY** | FEBRUARY 7

#### **SUPER BOWL PARTY**

WILSON COMMONS HIRST LOUNGE 6 P.M. - 10 P.M. The Class Councils of 2018 and 2019 are finishing off Spirit Week with a Superbowl Party. Those who attend will enjoy free pizza, wings and other snacks.

#### **ROMER QUARTET WITH CINDY HO**

EASTMAN SCHOOL KILBOURN HALL, 8 P.M. - 9:45 P.M. Enjoy the music of the Hong Kong-born and raised musicians of Romer Quartet, one of the most active string quartet ensembles recognized locally and abroad.

#### **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.

If you are sponsoring an event that you wish to submit for the calendar, please email news@campustimes.org by Monday evening with a brief summary, including the date, time, location, sponsor, and cost of admission.

### Campus Times

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PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE

### DPS to Monitor Roosh V. Meetup

On Feb. 3, 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 Saturday evening in case the event occurs, though they believe it will not.

#### Construction Theft 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.

### Cymbal Missing from Spurrier Practice Room

On Jan. 30, a student reported a cymbal missing from his drum set in a practice room in Spurrier Hall. The drums were last seen undisturbed on Dec. 19, prior to winter break. No signs of forced entry were found.

#### Odor of Suspicious Gas Detected

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 the leaking gas tank 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 2:45 p.m., a staff member reported that his 2005 Pontiac G6 had been stolen from Park Lot. The lot was inspected, and there was no sign of the vehicle despite the man stating that had been was secured when he parked it.

Information provided by UR Public Safety.

### New campaign planned

COMMISSION FROM PAGE 1

course of action, considering the other portions of his response. Yik Yak would still be accessible to students through non-University Internet if it was banned.

Part of his reasoning for not banning the app was also that his job entails representing the entire UR community, not only the vocal minority calling for the ban. Several messages thanking Seligman for his decision were posted on the app throughout Wednesday.

Seligman said that Yik Yak is now cooperating with the Monroe County District Attorney in its investigation of several remarks made on the app, including the "burning' people of a specific race and committing sexual violence against one named individual."

Students' Association President Grant Dever, who serves on the Commission, voted 'yes' to ban the app.

"After hearing from students at our Town Hall meetings," he said in an email Wednesday night, "I felt that the right decision was to show support for the petitioning students by preventing access to Yik Yak via our internet connection. That being said, I am responsible solely to the student body and do not have to evaluate the situation in the same way as the President of our University."

As an alternative to banning Yik Yak, Seligman plans to: work with the University's General Counsel and the District Attorney; invite a representative of Yik Yak to campus; and charge undergraduates to downvote hateful or threatening

posts on the app.

The permanent residence of DLH will be addressed through a new system of evaluating eligibility for student groups to reside in the Academic Living Centers (ALC) on the Frat Quad. DLH occupies an ALC, as do Phi Epsilon and Drama House.

"Current occupants will have the right to continue in a designated house as long as they satisfy specified ongoing expectations, such as those of occupancy and alignment with College Communal Principles," Seligman wrote in his response.

The Commission's report asserted that DLH will likely meet whatever expectations are established and thus remain on the Frat Quad. 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 DLH on our campus, you sincerely need to attend their programs and talk to their membership."

Making DLH apermanent fixture on campus and banning Yik Yak were featured prominently in both the coalition's demands and its general talking points.

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

SEE COMMISSION PAGE 3

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### Opening Comedian Draws Heckles and Chuckles

**OPENER FROM PAGE 1** 

Johnny Jacobs considered some of Novak's material more offensive than the opener's, and said that the students who heckled Viola "needed to practice some self-re-

"It's all a joke and in good fun, after all," Jacobs said, "the intention being to make you laugh. Either learn to control your anger, or don't show up."

Most students, however, are somewhere in-between being offended and finding Viola's act funny. Sophomore Kirsten Holmberg said that most of Viola's content seemed "familiar," and referred to it as "hackneyed, and a little cringe-worthy." Jacobs, Potter, and others concurred, saying that they had heard many of the jokes

In response to the pushback against Saturday's performance, CAB Administrative Chair and senior Samantha Lish said that the Board has plans to "avoid any future relationship with Viola."

Viola's reviews on GigMasters a website that provides reviews of and contact information for performers, photographers, and other event staff—are distinctly positive. The website allows users to score a performer on a scale from zero to five in the categories "overall satisfaction," "professionalism," "accommodating," "overall talent," and "recommend." As of Feb. 2, averaged from 61 reviews, Viola holds a (rounded) 5.0—a perfect

The most negative review gave Viola scores between 3.5 and 4.0, and said that his topics were "wellreceived" and that nobody was uncomfortable. The review, in response to a gig at a university, also claimed that, while performing for college students is challenging, "Dan did well trying not to touch on hot topics that would cause heartburn for anyone."

Some of Viola's other jokes that seemed to cause heartburn for UR students included references to drug use and poverty in the nearby 19th Ward neighborhood,

a goose-stepping and Germanbarking Barney impression, and a lead-in to a joke about recycled latex where he quipped that "treehuggers" sometimes take their conservation efforts too far.

In an interview with the Campus Times, Viola was surprised that his act had offended. "My goal is never shock humor," Viola said. "It's not to rankle people. I don't feel that getting the audience fired up is really ever the direction I want to take it."

Referring to the Jenner gibe, Viola said that it was "more of a misdirection joke," and that it was not intended as social commentary—and nor were the rest of his jokes. Similarly, he said that his recycled latex joke—the first to be heckled prominently-was interrupted too early, and that if students had waited to hear the entire joke before they reacted, they likely wouldn't have been upset by it.

In a post on the event's Facebook page, junior Stephen Wegman asked if anyone else was offended by Viola's act. Wegman also requested a statement from CAB explaining how Viola was chosen for the gig, and why he wasn't interrupted after delivering "anti-Semitic, anti-trans, and anti-Ward/Plymouth-Exchange" jokes. The thread drew heated comments from all sides.

CAB released a statement on Feb. 1, both on the event page and on their own page. Penned by Lish, the statement expressed CAB's regret that Viola's act was "offensive to many audience

Wegman explained in an interview that he was neither satisfied with CAB's statement nor their response during the show, saying he was "disappointed." Wegman said that, were he in a position to do something about it, he would have interrupted the performance—regardless of the popular opinion of the audience.

Viola said he had not been in contact with CAB or the University following his act on Saturday. When told of CAB's plans to avoid any future relationship with him, Viola understood. "Hey, if the majority of [the] audience doesn't appreciate the style or content of my humor," he said, "then I probably would expect that they wouldn't invite me back."

"When it's fun for the audience,

joke that involved a transgender support group was also offensive, but that Novak, unlike Viola, deconstructed the joke to give it

While accounts vary among students who felt strongly either way about the act, there was per-



STEPHANIE HOU / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

Comedian Dan Viola points his finger toward the audience, mid-joke.

it's fun for the performer," Viola continued. "If the overlap in what we agree on is diminishing, then it's probably not the primary audience for me." He twice added that he was excited to be involved in a discussion of his comedy in this way, something that he had not previously experienced.

On his website, Viola advertises "Smart, Clean, Funny" comedy, and promises to "entertain without insulting," though Potter and Wegman thought that Viola failed to deliver. By comedy club standards, Viola said, his act is considered "squeaky-clean," containing no profanity or overtly sexual material. He acknowledged that there is a difference between clean material and inoffensive material—a distinction that some students were loath to make.

"What we're talking about here is culture," Wegman said, explaining why he thought some of Viola's jokes were inappropriate in any setting. "So no, I don't think that kind of culture is good." Wegman added that he thought Novak's ceptible laughter and applause throughout. Viola said that, after Saturday's performance, a few attendees whom he did not know reached out to him and told him they enjoyed the show—a gesture that he described as unusual, but likely in response to the fact that others were "very vocal in their displeasure."

Saturday was not Viola's first time performing at the University. He opened for "Saturday Night Live" cast members Vanessa Bayer and Jay Pharaoh at Yellowjacket Weekend in 2013, and, according to both Viola and Lish, the performance received no negative feedback. In fact, Viola recalled a great crowd (a review in the Sept. 12, 2013, issue of the Campus Times stated that Viola's act "only managed a few chuckles here and there"), and said that one of the jokes—the "Winnie the Pooh" routine—used in both the 2013 and Saturday performances attracted scorn only the second time around at UR, and never in the hundreds of other times he has

Potter admitted that, while he shares in the sentiment of some of the hecklers and supports students' right to vocalize their concerns, heckling is seldom, if ever, appropriate. But, he concluded, Viola invited at least some of the audience's response by asking a question. Wegman expressed regret that students hadn't spoken out more than they did-one reason, he said, that he posted on the event page, providing a mouthpiece for those who were upset.

Viola said he has seen shows in which the comedian went "too far," and that, in some cases, audiences should be free to express their opinions. At the same time, he believes that audiences should go to live shows with "the expectation that anything is fair game," and that they should be able to "roll with a lot of topics."

Everyone whom the Campus Times spoke to agreed that performing for college students is difficult. Some said that Viola simply didn't know his audience, and jokes that may have otherwise worked in different venues fell flat for UR students. Viola himself admitted that college students are neither his target demographic nor his usual audience, saying that his typical crowds are 25 and older—working people with children, often listening at corporate and private events.

In an email, Lish said that CAB tries to vet some of guests' performance material, but that they can "never know" what jokes will be delivered. Viola said that, to his knowledge, CAB had not vetted his material. But, echoing Lish, he said that he received the gig through CAB's booking agent. Viola had a prior relationship with the agent, and said that the agent would have had no problem recommending him as someone "relatively inoffensive and clean."

The comic thought the agent would be surprised by the negative reaction to the routine.

> Ransom is a member of the Class of 2017.

### 'hese are substantial steps forward'

**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 fighting college racism nationally, Seligman said at the press conference. "If I had one dream," he said, racism "would have no place on any 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 effort, Seligman wrote, and 70 other people have expressed interest in helping out, including Dever. A working group has formed to further the campaign.

The group's goals involve added emphasis on race in future freshmen orientations-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 of this work, that the campaign should be inescapable, 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 on Feb. 8, for a \$200 prize and the opportunity to have one's video shown in various school events.

Addressing student demands for increased funding for cultural centers and activities, Seligman accepted the Commission's recommendation to create a Diversity Programming Fund. The Fund will be available "to groups of all races, religions, sexual orientation, or nationality," Seligman wrote, and "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

and appreciation of diversity Frederick Douglass Institute to on student input and our own and inclusion and to support make it a department," as students understanding of the magnitude culturally-based programming," the had demanded, Seligman wrote Commission's report says.

Plans to expand staff support in the Burgett Center are also underway, Seligman wrote, as are plans to "provide additional enrichment fund support for the Office of Minority Affairs and the David T. Kearns Center."

The Burgett Center will be relocating this fall to a "renovated student life space located in the Frederick Douglass Building," according to the Report. "As the renovations move forward, we are developing a staffing plan for the next several years. In the coming year, we anticipate requesting an additional full time staff member to assist with a new LGBTQ Resource Area, Safe Zone Trainings, and other intersectionality and intercultural programming and training."

While the Commission concluded that "it is not feasible

that enhance an understanding to change the structure of the with the University community that "several steps are being taken to strengthen the Frederick Douglass Institute, including expansion of the existing curriculum on 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 tenure position."

Seligman also answered 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 implementing a Bias-Related Incidents reporting program as part of our CARE Report system and has created a Bias-Related Incident Executive Team to coordinate responses and/or communications

when necessary," he wrote in his

response. Seligman said the Commission will likely continue its work until May and added that it will release a final report later in the year. A survey about race and diversity on campus, intended to be issued to students, faculty, and staff, will be used to augment the Commission's final report. More information about the survey will be distributed in an email on Feb. 11, Seligman said.

"These are substantial steps forward," he said of the actions detailed in his response. "And it's just the beginning."

"I do believe that President Seligman is genuinely committed to combatting 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.

> Trombly is a member of the Class of 2018.

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### **Berned Out**



BY JUSTIN TROMBLY MANAGING EDITOR

I've been a little bummed out about everyone's favorite selfidentified 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

But Sanders isn't perfect, and he isn't immune to criticismsomething 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 does not deify him—and I see them daily—the comments section on the piece is awash with what an article in The Atlantic termed, the Berniebro.

"The Berniebro asks what you thought of the first Democratic debate, then interrupts to say that vou shouldn't confuse Clinton's soundbites for actual substance," the article by Robinson Meyer reads. "By the way, the Berniebro adds, he was really impressed with Bernie."

article focused Meyer's 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 some variation of: 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—which debunked the misreported myth that Clinton won the caucus because of the

coin tosses—reads: "NPR should change name to CPR 'Clinton Public Radio.' She could drive a bus into a daycare and y'all would spin it. Bernie Sanders has the will of the people behind him."

Anyone who read that article with clear eyes would see that it's anything but shilling for Clinton; it only tries to set the record straight on a complex and misrepresented situation.

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 shill for the Clintons and always will be. Surprised he still has a job to be honest with you."

Krugman's column concerns itself with questioning the lack of detail in some of Sanders' policies—deserved proposed questioning, in my opinion, considering the Senator's ethos as a no-bullshit 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 welcome increased scrutiny toward their man—that's what serious contenders for the presidency

Even Ta-Nehisi Coates, acclaimed writer and the zeitgeist's current public intellectual of choice, was unable to escape the onslaught of blind Bernie loyalists. When Coates wrote an article for The Atlantic about Sanders' opposition to Black reparations, one of the first comments I saw on it said Coates had been bought out by Clinton.

What makes all the mediashilling-for-Clinton 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 exciting race on our hands now, the media narrative still does and should favor Sanders. He's an underdog. He's the insurgent. He's giving Clinton a scare.

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 narrative most outlets chose to run with. "In the pundit class's **EDITORIAL OBSERVER** 

### Trump and 'Blue Collar Fears'



BY SCOTT MISTLER-**FERGUSON HUMOR EDITOR** 

Now that Trump has been beaten in the Iowa Caucus, 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. His blunt and often childlike statements and arguments are easy to write off as uninformed and unplanned bravado from a man whose presidential bid wasn't founded in anything serious, but I disagree. When

President Obama stated that Trump was "exploiting" anger and fear among "blue collar men," he was right. From the advent of his campaign, this anti-politician has been playing on one of the greatest weapons in a politician's arsenal: fear. Nothing else drives public opinion quite like it. President George W. Bush gained the

highest presidential approval rating ever recorded by the Gallup polls 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 politics 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, bombing "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 naïve 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

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 issue pollsters face in obtaining information from respondents is inconsistency in answers 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 the fact that in polling, heuristics almost everything. Heuristics are the immediate, 'gut-rationality' response where a person brings the most salient information they can recall to any answer they give to a polling question. This means that the most informed respondent inevitably would 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.

Mistler-Ferguson is a member of the Class of 2018.

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 Millennial movement that propels him to a virtual tie? Who doesn't want to see the next episode of this drama?" To suggest that the media is in Clinton's corner is an illogical excuse used by Sanders supporters too caught up in their "political revolution" to recognize the senator's flaws.

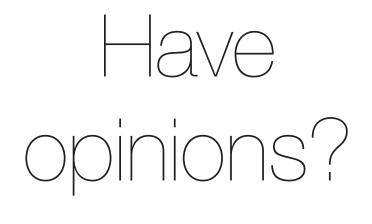
One moment during Donald Trump's rally in Burlington last month—which I attended in the same way spectators gather around a car crash—reminds me of these Sanders supporters. It wasn't when Trump called out, "Who's gonna pay for the wall," and his supporters boomed back, "Mexico!" It wasn't when, after presenting my ticket, a campaign staffer in a pinstriped suit asked me, "Do you support Donald Trump," fully intent on turning me away if I answered anything but the affirmative. And it was not when one of my friends was thrown out mid-rally and another almost saw the same fate, for doing nothing more than raising his hands in the shape of a heart.

It was when I turned around

in my seat to watch a woman assail someone she suspected of disloyalty toward "The Donald," pointing and screaming until security escorted the accused out. I can still sense the rabidity with which she hammered her say I'm a little #BernedOut. finger in the air and cried out, the paranoia I felt creeping

through the crowd. Forget Trump's rhetoric—the scariest thing there were his supporters. That's what I see in Sanders' social media hivemind of #FeelTheBern. I guess you could

> Trombly is a member of the Class of 2018.



Of course you do

Email opinions@ campustimes.org

### Feeling the Bern or Climbing the Hill?

After Iowa, the Debate Rages On

### For Bernie

#### **BY NICO TAVELLA**

As we draw closer to the 2016 Presidential election, political discourse is heating up throughout the nation. But something is different this time. The millennial generation is far more involved in the political process than previous generations were. Speculation suggests that social media, increased access to the internet, and smartphones are the culprits. I think there's more. Our generation has been inspired to use these platforms for justice, thanks to Democratic candidate Senator Bernie Sanders.

I want to emphasize that Bernie is not without his faults. One topic in particular is his stance on slavery reparations. He has stated publicly that he does not see reparations as "necessary," referencing instead other policies he hopes will benefit communities of color. To tell people of color to support Bernie because "he's their best chance" is to force them to pick the lesser of two evils. We can (and should) critique Bernie for his faults while still supporting him above any other candidate.

There is still time to get Bernie to the White House, for numerous reasons. First is his stance on campaign finance corruption. Every other major candidate is receiving millions of dollars from huge corporations.

Currently, the average donation amount for the Sanders campaign is 27 dollars. Sanders has raised over 70 million dollars so far, entirely by the American people.

When several of his campaign speeches in Seattle and Phoenix were taken over by impassioned Black Lives Matter activists, he stepped back and let them have the mic. Afterwards, he met with BLM leaders to discuss their Campaign Zero plan aimed at addressing police violence.

Being a queer person, Bernie's history with the queer community is equally of interest to me. While Clinton was actively supporting the Defense of Marriage Act not too long ago, Sanders was seeing to it that Vermont became the fifth state to legalize same-sex marriage. He actively criticized Reagan's approach to the HIV/ AIDS epidemic of the 1980s, something few politicians had the courage to do.

A few short months ago, the nation was convinced that he had no chance in hell against Hillary Clinton. After the Iowa Caucus, it's clear that he has a chance, which means we have the chance to redesign our government. With President Sanders, we can rest assured that we, the American people, will be the priority of government.

> Tavella is a member of the class of 2017.



CAROLINE CALLAHAN-FLOESER / FEATURES EDITOR

### For Hillary

#### **BY JAKE 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 be an effective advocate for slow with a conservative Republican and achievable change, instead Congress), advocated for women's rights on the global and domestic ideal who crashes into the rightstages 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

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 homogeneity in the Democratic Party will cripple our "big tent" strengths necessarily developed since the 1960s.

Ultimately, Hillary Clinton will of a messianic advocate for the wing wall that is the House of Representatives.

> Sweely is a member of the *class of 2017.*

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 educa-

tion at U of R 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 came to campus with the intent of majoring in history but after taking a course in which the professor assigned a book describing German settlement 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 I noticed that a section of Introduction to Sociology was listed the University of Michigan.

and enrolled. I found Dr. Barbara Sobieszek'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

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 voice to campus in terms a diverse curriculum, public events and

"SHOULD THE ADMINISTRATION BAN YIK YAK? WHY?

presentations, mentoring students of color, and supporting student organizations of color.

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 pichardn@cwu.edu

**BYJESSE BERNSTEIN & LEAH NASON** 

OPINIONS EDITOR & PHOTO EDITOR



JOHN COLE, '19

"Yes, because of intolerance'



ERIC PINSKER-SMITH, 18'

"No, censorship's bad"



SUNNY NGUYEN, '17

"Banning it won't change the people behind it'

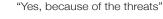




JACKIE YENCIK '19 "No. freedom of speech"



JOCELYN BLACKSHEAR '19





GABRIELA RODRIGUES, '18

"It's more about the people than the app'

PAGE 6 / campustimes.org THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2016

### Meridian Malfunctions



Senior Meridians Ashley Mackey and Brittany Heffernan relaxing after giving a tour.

#### **BY CAITLIN 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, amicable, 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 backwards 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 onlookers, who all wanted to make sure she was alright. Another Meridian, Palak Patel, remembered taking a spill on the steps of Wilson Commons.

Patel has given quite a few tours, including a noteworthy tour given to the grandson of Edmund Hajim, the namesake of the Hajim School of Engineering. However, not all of

ous. Meridians sometimes have to field uncomfortable questions from eager parents. Many ask about the party atmosphere on campus, but it can sometimes get out of control with questions about the tour giver.

Patel looked astonished as she recalled one overly concerned mother's unwavering questioning about drinking. "It got to the point where she was asking me if I had a fake ID!"

Yang also related some of the questions she has received in the past: "One time, a parent asked me what my SAT score was when we're in the admissions office, in front of everyone. I don't even tell my family about SAT scores!"

Although some unwanted inquiries can make the guides uncomfortable or even embarrassed, most parents are very energetic and excited about visiting the University. Meridian Aaron Mason was informed by one alumna that there were once tennis courts on the roof of the Goergen Athletic Center in order to conserve space. He has also seen many parents give their children advice on what to do about going out, Greek life, and partying, which is an interesting perspective to hear from a typically protective figure. Mason was especially amused by one motherher tours have been so glamor- daughter duo who discussed

going out to parties together.

No matter how fascinating these parents are, students also create unforgettable experiences. One senior Meridian, Julia Kent, was giving a tour when she spotted a student sitting in a tree on the quad, reading. Disregarding the odd sight, she continued down her path. As Kent was about to pass by, the obviously disgruntled student jumped out of the tree, landed in front of the students, and adamantly warned the high schoolers not to come to this school. The teens were a bit spooked, but Kent was later able to calm their uneasiness.

The Meridians appreciate these humorous incidents, and they often even create their own. Yang and Kent both shared how Meridians have an inside joke of wishing their fellow tour guides a happy birthday so families react excitedly. Although the happiness in the families is unwarranted, with it not actually being their birthday, Meridians typically play along. With this fun atmosphere between coworkers, as well as the ability to positively influence prospective students, Kent is passionate about her role in the admissions process. would not have gone anywhere else, and I'm really glad that I get to be the face of the University."

> Davie is a member of the class of 2019.

### Fake Sun, Real Benefits

#### BY CAROLINE CALLAHAN-**FLOESER**

FEATURES EDITOR

Junior Hassina Barry awoke at 8 a.m., while the sky was still dim. This was no surprise, since only 161 days of the year are sunny in Rochester, according to City-Data, a statistics website. Barry herself grew up far from the dark winters of Rochester-born and raised in Guinea, she attended high school in Singapore, and aside from American politics, the only thing that really caught Barry off-guard about the U.S. was the lack of sun during the winter months.

In hindsight, Barry now knows that attending UR means having 10 fewer sunny days per year than the average 171 in Spokane, Washington, where she spent two years before transferring to Rochester. Barry says that the lack of sun in the Rochester winter makes her feel down.

Many of us have felt the same way, stricken with a case of the Winter Blues. We might feel sad, tired, unmotivated, or maybe even cranky for what seems like no reason. According to the Association of American Family Physicians, every winter 25 million Americans experience more than just a winter slump; they experience Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD). Since SAD can affect your appetite, weight, energy level, sex drive, sleep patterns, sleep quality, 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 a 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 frolicking through heavenly, sunlit

"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 tanning bed, but a footand-a-half tall, lopsided, 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.

I tried to ease the mood by turning on "The Daily Show with Trevor Noah," and soon enough, we were listening to Trevor Noah's sweet voice, finishing up coursework, and most importantly, soaking up fake sunrays.

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 "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 one's sleep-wake cycle 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 diagnosed 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 are correct: The sun will come out tomorrow.

Callahan-Floeser is a member of the class of 2018.

### Redefining the Cock Block

**BY SIMI GREWAL** 

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The lack of choice in reproductive health care is a disservice to as well a burden on women.

According to Planned Parenthood, men have five choices for birth control: outercourse, vasectomy, abstinence, and

condoms. Women have at least twice as many options. Hormonal shots, pills, and uterine 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.

RISUG, as Vasalgel is known in India, was invented by Dr. Sujoy K Guha when he was asked to help quell SEE CONTRACEPTION PAGE 7



### Male Contraception Wages War on Sperm

**CONTRACEPTION FROM PAGE 6** 

In the 1970's. 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).

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 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, UR students had mixed

Dr. Guha envisions RISUG leads sperm from the testes feelings. Senior Greg Ma- salgel is planning on spending tos 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, Vathe 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.

#### University of Rochester's

Family Therapy Training Program

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The Family Therapy Training Program at the University of Rochester School of Medicine & Dentistry is currently accepting applications for Masters of Science in Marriage & Family **Therapy** for Fall 2016.

Application deadline is May 1, 2016

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

Contact: Phylliss Paeth: Phylliss Paeth@urmc.rochester.edu

Family Therapy Training Program—Department Psychiatry 300 Crittenden Boulevard, Rochester, NY 14642-8409

**UR TECH** 

### 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

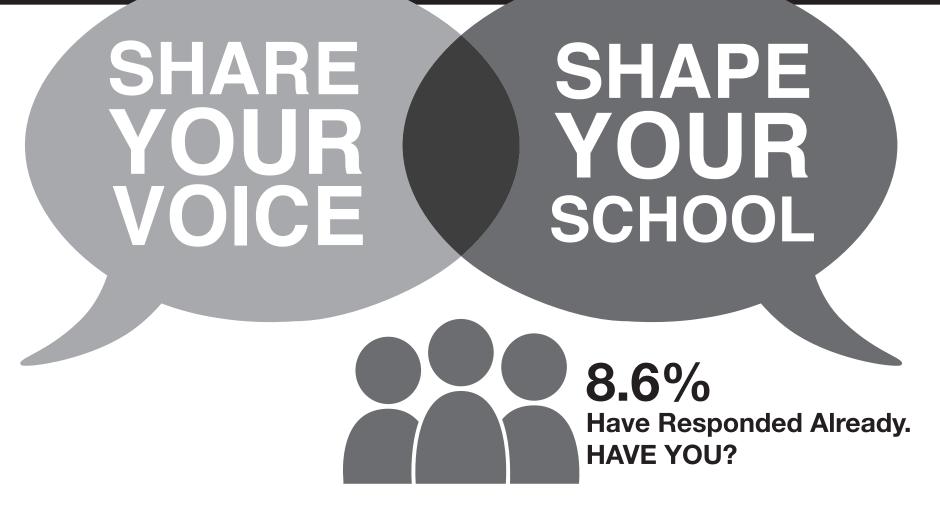
outside central San Francisco to the middle of Santa Clara, near the southern tip of Silicon Valley, where there is a decent collection of tech companies. Ever heard of Apple, Yahoo!, Juniper, or Google? Basically, the new stadium was built with technology in mind. As arguably the most tech-heavy stadium 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.

SEE **TECHNOLOGY** PAGE 10



### Take the Campus Climate Survey

Your responses help shape the University of Rochester. With your insight, we're able to assess our campus climate and implement the change necessary to create an environment in which all students can be successful.

Check your inbox.

Every student who completes the survey by February 15 will be entered in a raffle to win prizes like a Communal Principles T-shirt and a \$500 award! Questions? Contact jessica.guzman-rea@rochester.edu.



In partnership with the Higher Education Research Institute www.heri.ucla.edu

UNIVERSITY of

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.













# Winterfest Weekend

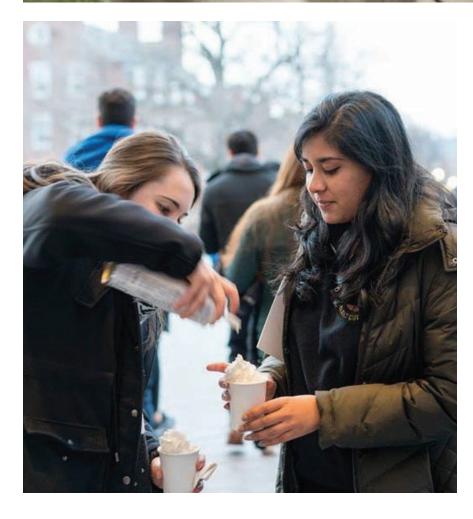


Every year, students enjoy petting huskies, roasting s'mores, and receiving free URemblazoned gifts as part of Winterfest Weekend. Check out our photo spread and see if the *Campus Times* got any shots of you or your friends!











FEATURES / THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2016 PAGE 10 / campustimes.org

**UR TECH** 

### Technology at the **Superbowl**

**TECHNOLOGY FROM PAGE 7** 

The NFL has some basic mandates. Mandates on bandwidth that needs 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 Wrestle-Mania 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

question: Will it all work? Past evidence from their true test will come game time on Sunday. Hopefully being has yielded positive results.

#### **PUZZLES**

### **Crossword Puzzle**

12

20

25

26

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

- 20. Chess novice'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 (colloqui-
- 32. Biblical princess name
- 33. Teacher by example
- 35. Once around the course
- 36. Tolkien's tree-man
- 37. B&W nature photogra-

#### BY **SAM PASSANISI** '17 DIFFICULTY **MEDIUM**

39. Ambulatory limb

41. Shrink from disuse; or, symbol of victory

#### Down:

- 1. T-800's farewell, baby
- 2. Sun god of Egypt
- 3. "Straight Outta Compton"
- 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
- 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.
- 27. Largest local asteroid
- 28. Bromine, to a chemist
- 29. 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
- 40. Recently AI-solved board

### a parking lot full of Harleys. Now, the million-dollar

short time operating suggests they're covered. But the at the heart of Silicon Valley

> Lotsi is a member of the class of 2017.

### Last Week's Puzzle Solutions

6	4	8	5	2	7	3	1	9
7	3	2	9	1	4	6	8	5
9	1	5	6	3	8	4	2	7
8	6	1	3	7	5	9	4	2
3	5	7	2	4	9	8	6	1
4	2	9	8	6	1	7	5	3
5	9	4	1	8	3	2	7	6
1	7	6	4	9	2	5	3	8
2	8	3	7	5	6	1	9	4



## Open House

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### Ice Cream for 2016!

BY SCOTT-MISTLER FERGUSON

**HUMOR EDITOR** 

With so many strong candidates this current presidential race, it can often seem difficult to discern who among them is worthy of the toughest job on the planet. Could sweet, simple Jeb really shoot down anyone in our airspace with the same tenacity (possibly psychopathy) that Chris Christie could? I wanted answers.

In today's complex world, nothing gives me greater pleasure than classifying and labeling everything. There's a warm feeling that comes from putting an entire group of ideas or people into a box. In order to achieve this level of classification and clarity with the current presidential candidates, I sat down with political analyst David Zoltick to hear his thoughts on each of those fine men and women.

"Here is what I'm going to say about the matter," he said with both hands clasped beneath his chin. He paused for a while, pensive, and finally exclaimed, "If I could speak to the issue, I think what you have in these candidates can best be explained through various flavors of ice cream." Being an inquisitive learner, I leaned in to hear David's raw genius at work.

The Democrats

Martin O'Malley: Marty is a classic banana sorbet. If anyone would bother to give it a chance, you'd actually probably like it. All its ingredients are good quality and the flavors are definitely likeable, but at the end of the day, who would pick banana? I mean, seriously. That's like an ice cream that two percent of Americans would pick. I'm not trying to be mean, though I mean, it's really not bad, but I'm not going to pick banana. I'm just not.

**Hillary Clinton**: That woman is straight-up vanilla, all the way. Standard, simple, and prepared for any situation. To be honest, nobody really wants vanilla over everything else. We want the chocolate that we've loved for so long, but vanilla is okay, too. It's definitely not my first choice, but who would say no to vanilla?

Bernie Sanders: Hmmm.... Bernie... You know, they have this new flavor in Colorado called Cannabis Cream. Supposedly, it tastes kind-of like a mix of Half Baked and figs—edgy, and kindof gritty. But I'll tell you one thing. Fans of this flavor are crazy devoted. I mean, these people are 100-percent for this ice cream sweeping the nation—as long as they can remember where their car is.

The Republicans

Ben Carson: That man is smooth. He's this delicious

love at first. You are lured in with the soothing draw of the sesame seeds. Everything is just warmer and simpler with zen butter. The problem is that you forget that the ice cream is, at its core, permeating

your brain with

Santiago Jaramillo / Contributing Illustrator

freezing-cold unhealthiness. The flavor isn't really crazy or dangerously unhealthy, it's just way too unhealthy to be chosen as a serious candidate-ice cream flavor! Sorry. I meant ice cream flavor.

**Donald Trump**: Trump is like cake batter. Why? Because no matter what you tell yourself about how childish, unhealthy, and cheap it is, you want it. Everybody will pretend they don't, but when you reach hour three of a kid's birthday party, all the dads will be crowded around the table taking fistfuls of the stuff like animals. Meanwhile, the moms will quietly suggest that we just stop having ice cream altogether.

Mike Huckabee: Mikey is the most honest American flavor out there. He is a sweet corn custard with sprinkles. What are those sprinkles? Southern warmth, a smile fit for the TV world, and an iron grip on anything those damned liberals spew from their politically-correct pie holes. I'm just sick of people trashing a flavor of ice cream so genuine that it literally tastes like corn on the cob on the fourth of July.

**Ted Cruz**: Tutti frutti comes to mind when I think of Cruz. The man has a pop and pizzazz

zen butter that people always to him that you'd expect to be really exhilarating for a lot of devout ice cream enthusiasts, and really terrifying for the ice cream establishment. I mean, tutti frutti has a sass and flavor that's so aggressive, it's almost too much!

Jeb Bush: He really reminds me of the new flavor, cayenne chocolate. The original chocolate was a strong favorite for a lot of the country. A while back they tried revamping the chocolate brand with a new twist: peanut butter. It was actually pretty successful, to the point where people chose it twice as much as it probably deserved in surveys. Ultimately, the low quality of ingredients and crafting ended up disappointing many. Now, they've tried this third flavor and it just gets zero traction. Whether it's in online ice cream-picking surveys or live competitions, what little punch this flavor packs is always dwarfed by the newer, brasher

flavors. Chris Christie: Talk about punch! That man is a pineapple passionfruit with a cherry on top! It's not the most popular choice in ice cream parlors, but when somebody has a spoonful, they have to take a step back. Never has so much hardcore bravado and pop been jammed into one cone. It's like the ice cream is eating you instead.

Carly Fiorina: Ah, Carly. I would peg her as black licorice (with a hint of lime). When you first see a scoop of it on display, you're excited, because it's something new and bold for the ice cream establishment. But nothing is more of an acquired taste than black licorice. I'm serious, I've tried it so many times with a totally open mind, but it's just like biting into a lemon with a nasty flavor surrounding it. This one will turn your smiles upside down. Actually, scratch that. I don't think you should associate smiling with black licorice.

Rand Paul: Blueberry goat cheese is the best classification for Rand. This ice cream is known for being a new and daring approach to ice cream. The flavor is unapologetic and strong to the last spoonful, even if somebody should've finished it off hours ago.

Marco Rubio: Once, when I was a little kid, I tried tomato sorbet. As far as ice creams go, it just looks so fresh and appealing compared to its surrounding boring sorbets. The problem with tomato, though, is that nobody would ever pick it when there is all that fun tutti frutti and cake batter sitting in the container. Yelling at you to pick it. Calling the other ice creams

Mistler-Ferguson is a member of the class of 2018.

### B.o.B.-isms

**BY CHRIS HORGAN** SENIOR STAFF

The semester is underway and daily naps are mainstays. Your Declining is already 45 percent gone. The problem sets and readings have left you feeling as overwhelmed as a clap-on light reacting to a standing ovation.

As you were preoccupied with work, rapper B.o.B. suggested that the Earth wasn't round. He then supported his statements with debunked theories to prove why. Take your mind off your work and forget everything you've ever learned. You are now ready to digest some B.o.B-isms.

1. Earth isn't a planet. It's just a really, really big stress ball. I know this because I have an Earth stress ball, with images to prove it.

2. Where does water come from? Scientists say that over an extended period of time, Earth's atmosphere eventually cooled enough for water to form. Scientists have no idea what they're talking about. Water comes from drinking fountains.

3. The year is said to be divided into four seasons. Luckily, I discovered that this is false. The seasons include football season, hunting season, and the third season of Lost.

4. Scientists try to convince people that gravity exists. If anything, scientists are bringing us down with these whack theories. How do you explain the balloon I lost to the clouds when I was five? Or a bird? Birds fly because they are light, and extremely determined.

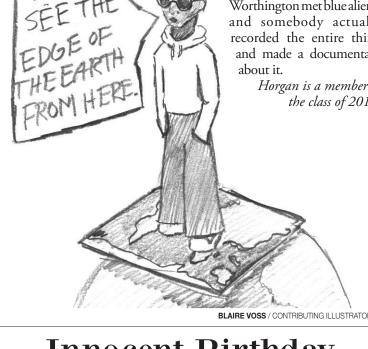
5. Plants don't produce oxygen, and they don't need it either—and here's why. Humans and plants are both living things. Humans need oxygen to speak. Plants can't speak. Therefore, plants don't need oxygen. Oh, and the bit you hear about them getting their energy from the sun isn't true. If plants get their energy from the sun, then why don't plants have solar panels?

6. Deforestation doesn't happen, unless you count the occasional closing of a Dollar Tree store.

7. Geniuses claim that evidence

of alien life has yet to be found on foreign planets. Are you kidding me? Did you not see the movie Avatar? Sam Worthington met blue aliens, and somebody actually recorded the entire thing and made a documentary about it. Horgan is a member of

the class of 2017.



### **Innocent Birthday** Party Act Turns Sour

BY CHRIS COOK **CONTRIBUTING WRITER** 

Whether or not Zuckerberg and whoever that other guy was did it intentionally, Facebook has now become a place where "friends" share their opinions on current issues. One post that really stuck out to me this morning as I laid in my bed, pretending that I didn't have class, was a rather long one by a local mother complaining about the quality of the clown that performed at her young son's birthday party.

Desperately needing a filler before the party's main act, this naïve parent hunted through the depths of Craigslist for a suitable and inexpensive clown. During this women's online diatribe, she commented that "the clown only had average reviews and wasn't that well known, but there is a reason he wasn't the main

attraction of the party." Clearly, she didn't know what she had gotten herself into.

According to this shocked mom, the children described the clown as "offensively bad," with tricks that were "unoriginal and not meant for this modern era." They added that, "he was clearly struggling to come up with material, and was just not expecting the caliber of kids we had at this party." Instead of taking their complaints to the clown in an effort to change his ways and help out future parties, the kids turned on the mom and blamed her for the clown's horrific act. She concluded her Facebook post by stating, "I hope that I can better choose acts that are talented and safe for the children. I don't want to expose these children to anything offensive in the future"

Cook is a member of the class of 2017.

### 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.

I met and befriended a Kazakh and a Turk before I had even my first conversation with a Swede.

I bought and had occasion to wear a wing-tipped shirt and tailcoat.

I watched five women be ordained as priests in an ex-Catholic cathedral in a country whose church is headed by a female primate.

I went to a club which chose, as their last song of the night, a remix of "The Lion Sleeps Tonight (Wimoweh)," accompanied by strobe lights.

A stranger walked up to me in the street and shined my shoes for free

My professor took me and my entire class out to a pub and bought us all as many beers as we wanted.

I learned that the name of the road I live on means "Hangmen's Mountain" because it used to be where all the hangmen lived.

My friend accidentally cut off the tip of her finger, only to have it be sewn back on for free by the Swedish welfare system.

I ate moose heart.

I had my sexuality questioned by a member of the Swedish Armed Forces... twice.

I saw seven naked men hanging from a ceiling on the same day that I watched a cannon be fired at the cathedral over a dozen times.

I danced like a 1930's lindy hopper with an Iraqi Swede.

There you have it—a completely ordinary, representative sample of Swedish life in the twenty-first century. I hope some stereotypes were shattered and light shed on the otherwise mysterious lives 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 CORCORAN

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 love to hate it. Some may hate that they love it. Some may love it so much; others hate them.

No matter how you feel, you've gotta admit that reality TV has brought gusto to television. These shows, typically, are cash cows that draw devoted audiences. It doesn't seem like reality TV is going away anytime soon, even though many reality shows have flopped.

To me, reality TV is interesting because it gives the viewers a voyeuristic angle into the lives of people more famous, more talented, or better looking than them. What better way to remind yourself of how boring your life is than by watching someone else's life play out onscreen?

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

With the spring TV season fully back into swing, consider

some lessons of famous reality

"Survivor (season 16)": During Tribal Council, when contestants air grievances before voting one of their tribe mates out, Erik, a nerdy superfan of the show, had the immunity necklace, 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 last year when Nick was humiliated on national television? His immaturity and lack of self-awareness caught up to him, 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, Nick.

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 "She Bangs." It 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.

Corcoran is a member of the class of 2018.

### Humor Section Tries Newspaper-Colored Ink

**BY CHRIS HORGAN** 

SENIOR STAFF

Horgan is a member of the class of 2017.

### You think you're funny?

Try writing for us.

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### Charles, Toddler Detective Chapter 2: A Fence Named Picket

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 singalong, 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 shove if you so much as look at them 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 whiffle 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 around.

I have my guys. Bradley Becker's always my first contact, a shady character who's rumored to have 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 nosepicking problem. Hey, we've all got our demons, y'know?

On this day, I find Picket looking ornery. It's never good to deal with guys who have tummy aches—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 little 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 I did."

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

missing tricycle.

"Well," he said, "Supposin' you did, I don't suppose it has something to do with that

something about Scarlet's

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 indiscriminately
peltin' Cheerios 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.

"Is that what I—"

"It's exactly what you think it is, Picket. Now, this'll be all yours if you can give me something to go on here."

"Hey, if you wanna get yourself into trouble, be my guest. I don't know too much about the tricycle, but I do know that you're not the only one after it. Big Luke is looking for it."

"The Big Luke?"
"The one and only."

"Alright. That doesn't exactly

do a fat lot for me, but here you go. And be careful with this thing."

I hand Picket his payment—documents outlining the blueprints for the new Pampers design. Rumor has it that they'll be including pockets on the new model. I guess only Picket will know now.

Big Luke. The guy's a legend around here, a crook through and through who should be in third grade. Instead, he controls the crayon racket for five counties and makes every four-year-old this side of Marble Ave. shudder in their sheets.

Leaving Picket to his devices, I head back over to the monkey bars, scratching my head and wondering what exactly it is I've gotten myself into.

Bernstein is a member of the class of 2018.

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## & ENTERTAINMEI

### Oscar Series: 'The Revenant' is Like Nothing You've Ever Seen

**BY JESSE BERNSTEIN OPINIONS EDITOR** 

There is something a 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, steaming animal carcasses (being used for, shall we say, Skywalker-esque purposes), and a frighteningly violent ending that, no matter how preordained it appears, is still excruciating to watch. Iñárritu is daring us to look away.

We can't, of course, because "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 Best Cinematography, seems to be a shoe-in for another; the camera seems to struggle right

#### "The Revenant" looks like nothing we've ever seen.

along with Glass, trudging through the snow and halfdrowning in rivers with him. The beauty of the landscape shots and of 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

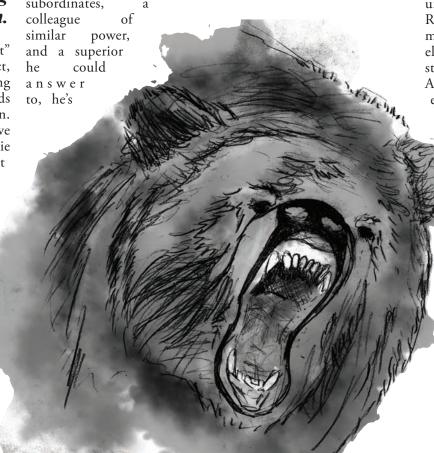
worth the money to go to a theater when they can watch anything they want from their

> "The Revenant" [positions] itself as a film that demands to be seen on a big screen.

own couches. "The Revenant" succeeds in that respect, very strongly positioning itself as a film that demands to be seen on a big screen.

It's all the more impressive that so much of this movie is dependent on the tiniest little tics and glances from its lead. Leonardo DiCaprio spends most of the film grimacing and recoiling 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 howling 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 supporting cast tends to work well in their roles, but it almost seems like they shouldn't—they all seem like miscast 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 maniacally 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,



it a stretch to envision him

Then there's Glass' halfwhite, 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 Golden

as a hardened frontiersman.

this change. The film explores an aesthetic that is largely new ground for period pieces, particularly Westerns, and that's the investigation and moral equivocation of the "bad guys." The Arikara Native Americans certainly commit unspeakable acts in "The Revenant," but as Iñárritu makes clear, so does everyone else, Glass included. The story spends real time on the Arikara, not just the necessary expository scenes that require them to be on-screen.

Again, the timing of this new narrative of the film is dubious, but if it leads to more nuanced and realistic depictions of Native Americans, so be it. At the end of the day, 'The Revenant' is a spiritual cousin to "Gladiator" with less dialogue and better cinematography.

"The Revenant" is a spiritual cousin to "Gladiator" with less dialogue and better cinematography.

DiCaprio Ryuichi Sakamoto's score attempted to shift the film's spare but effective, narrative from "endurance epic complementing the violence on fueled by a love of cinema" screen rather than attempting to "message movie about the to one-up it. Inárritu is an plight of indigenous peoples absolute master, a real magician of a director who pushed through "Apocalypse Now"level conditions to create a truly unique film. Even if he does seem to revel in creating Job out of Hugh Glass, it's a pleasure to watch him play God. Bernstein is a member

of the class of 2018.

MORGAN MEHRING / ILLIUSTRATION STAFF largely on his own in "The Revenant." His militaristic employees ignore his orders and order him around at points. Much like in "The Force Awakens," it's difficult for him to project power or ruggedness, and he really has to work to sell it here. Finally, Will Poulter (of "We're the Millers" fame) has the same problem—the softness of his face and his reedy voice make

the world over." Though it's suspicious and a little self-serving to wait until everyone was hanging on his words to make this switch (this change occurred during his acceptance speech for Best Actor - Drama), there is nevertheless something to

Globes,

### Oscar Series: Saoirse Ronan Discovers Home in 'Brooklyn'

BY ALEXANDRA JEREJIAN between her new home and her Brooklyn is eased when she find the best life for herself. Best Director.

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

"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 still feels as though it should continue indefinitely.

The period drama follows the experiences of a young Irish immigrant as she settles in Brooklyn in the 1950s. Eilis Lacey leaves her home country to build a future for herself, but when a family tragedy compels her to return, she must choose

old one. Played masterfully by Saoirse Ronan, Eilis' struggles to reconcile familial obligations, cultural expectations, and her own personal aspirations. This struggle is the driving force of the film. Ultimately, "Brooklyn"

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

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 meets the charming Italian Tony Fiorello, played by Emory Cohen. His warm presence enables 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

Ronan carries the emotional weight of the film flawlessly. Notably, many of the film's most

#### Ronan is skilled at conveying emotions through expressions alone.

poignant, well-acted scenes are those in which no dialogue occurs. Ronan is skilled at conveying emotion through expressions alone. "Brooklyn" showcases her ability as an actress, as she translates Eilis' emotions into focused looks and hopeful glances.

This year marks Ronan's second Oscar nomination, and her first for Best Actress. Surprisingly, director John Crowley wasn't nominated for

his ability to elicit such strong, emotionally-resonant performances from his cast, it is an odd snub. The success of the film is still remarkable, however, 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 Picture. 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 soft-spoken conversations and, sometimes, mere shared silences, "Brooklyn" should be underestimated. Jerejian is a member

of the class of 2019.

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### Concert highlights Black History



Jazz pianist Joel Martin accompanied Kathleen Battle in "Underground Railroad: A Spiritual Journey" last Saturday night.

#### BY ELIZABETH SCHUERMAN

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 attendence was made possible through generous donations from several local businesses foundations, including 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 concert also fell on the secondto-last day of January, a perfect the excitement on the faces

of some of the kids who had invited. The feeling positively contagious.

The concert opened with a message from Battle that was read by a narrator. She impressed upon the audience importance of the Underground Railroad—to her personally, and in general. She relayed how she had visited the Department of Rare Books, Special Collections and Preservation in Rush Rhees Library the day before—where I had the privilege of briefly meeting her and Martinand had seen several letters from Frederick Douglass, as well as a copy of The North Star, Douglass's newspaper that was printed in Rochester.

Martin entered first and performed a solo piece that he had composed called "Tradition." Ripe with blues and jazz influence, it was a gripping opening to the concert. When Battle finally entered wearing a black velvet gown and a golden, gossamer shawl, she started singing almost immediately. I have never heard a voice like hers before crystalline and flowing, clear and striking. Accompanied by Martin, the words of "Lord, How Came Me Here?" were rendered more haunting plaintive—sorrowful mournful, even—than I've ever heard them before.

One of the most interesting their heritage and history. The additions to the concert was the presence of two narrators, Nora Cole and David Shakes. transition into February: At intervals between songs, Black History Month. Both the two narrators—along with during intermission and after select members of the chorus the concert, you could see would stand and recite the words of famous Black writers,

including Frederick Douglass, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and Dr. Charles Blockson. The passages were all related to the issues of slavery and civil rights and were extremely moving on their own, but when brought together with the message of the spirituals being performed, they almost brought me to tears.

Not everyone in audience would necessarily have made the connections between some songs and their historical actualities. While we might know that "Follow the Drinking Gourd" (not performed at this concert) was used to provide directions to runaway slaves, we might not have known that the lyrics of "Wade in the Water" probably alluded to how enslaved people escaping to freedom would literally wade through water to throw off those trying to catch them. By having the narrators and their words present, the impact words of those spirituals—composed through so much pain and traumaeveryone present.

In every song she performed, accompanied or not, Battle managed to give us glimpses into the agonies experienced by enslaved people in the antebellum South—for none of us can truly know them—as well as their occasional joys. At the end of both the first act and the second, the audience rose for a standing ovation. And, we were not treated to one encore at the end, but three—one of which, entitled "Lift Every Voice and Sing," the entire audience sang with Battle, Martin, and the choir.

> Schuerman is a member of the class of 2018.

'CHANNEL SURFING'

### Ratboy Genius Lives Up to Its Name



**BY JEFF HOWARD** COLUMNIST

Ratboy Genius is one of the most brilliant channels on YouTube.

The channel is run by the one and only Ratboy Genius, a 3-Danimated yellow rat whose head looks like a drum key made out of clay. Ratboy Genius has many friends, including Happymantx and Little Summer Solstice Baby, who all live together in a kingdom made out of Minecraft blocks and other animated things. Ratboy Genius and his friends go on epic adventures and often play music together. In their thoughtful stories and splendid music videos, Ratboy Genius and his buddies capture the mystical and fuzzy feeling of having a fairy tale read to you as a child, with the visual stimulation overload that characterizes "Internet aesthetic."

The most classic Ratboy Genius video is called "Potato Knishes." It seems creepy at first, but throughout the video, Ratboy Genius is actually very warm-hearted. He sings in a minor key about a machine in his cellar that makes potato knishes. The cellar is made out of beige bricks, and there are tons of contraptions in it, like pulleys and conveyor belts. The graphics in this cellar are reminiscent of the iconic maze screensaver that once came with Windows '98 machines. As Ratboy Genius flies around in his cellar, he is sometimes perpendicular and other times parallel to the floor, his neck extending outward in all directions like an elastic band.

The motion of Ratboy Genius and all of his contraptions creates a sensation reminiscent of those dank dreams where you might not be able to move your limbs properly. This, combined with Ratboy Genius' songwriting expertise, makes for a viewing experience that is sublime even after repeated viewing.

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 classicalstyle harmony and MIDI instrumentation of other Ratboy Genius music, and produces warm, cozy, Internet feelings. The monkeys are animated in a cute and textured way, like the figures on the uncensored 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 stands as an example that creative genius 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.



**HEADLINER** FROM PAGE 1

book, "One More Thing: Stories and Other Stories," at various points during the show. To be fair, the stories were fantastic and, again, relatable.

Novak ended the show with jokes he had written, but wasn't entirely sure were up to par—so he read them to the audience. The jokes that received positive reactions went back into his

briefcase, and the ones that fell flat went into the garbage (recycling) bin. At one point, Novak trod on thin ice with a joke about attending a transgender meeting. But his punchline took a potentially offensive joke and did a 180 by making everyone aware of what not to joke about regarding transgender issues. My personal favorite joke discussed how honey often

comes in bear-shaped jars, which is completely unfair because bears steal honey, rather than make it, like bees. Novak noted that if he were a bee, he would totally sting everybody if he knew about

Overall, Novak's performance was witty, worthwhile, and impressive.

> Peters is a member of the class of 2018.



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ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

### 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.



Montague drives the ball to the basket over a defender's head.

#### 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 highlyrecognized 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 careerhigh 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 high that game, especially against the number 11 team in the country. But all credit goes to my teammates, especially Mike Mangan and Sam Borst-Smith, because they were able to keep putting 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 reenactment 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

This year before regionals, the Sledgehammers went a perfect 7–0 before losing to Colgate University 29-26 in a tightlyplayed match. Losing, however, did not bring the team down. Instead, they started to improve.

"This spring, we were going to be focusing a lot on fitness and basic skills in order to keep us in shape and ready for the fall season, because this was, ultimately, our downfall," sophomore and rugby team Vice President Isabella Drago said, referring to the loss against Colgate.

Despite this, the women's rugby team had a wonderful season, which culminated in being ranked fifth in the nation. For this honor, Drago gave all credit to her coaches and teammates.

"Going into the season, we

were unsure of how we were going 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 offbalance. 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 Sledgehammers set up an offensive scrum against Colgate during regionals

the women's rugby team has team," Drago said. "We truly a chemistry unlike any other

essentially a part of rugby culture. For many, our best friends are our teammates."

are a family, in every aspect. It's

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 2017.

### **AST WEEK'S SCORES**

#### FRIDAY, JANUARY 29

Women's Basketball vs. Washington University in St. Louis - L 38-59 Men's Basketball vs. Washington University in St. Louis - W 75-73

#### **SATURDAY, JANUARY 30**

Men's Track and Field Finished 2nd at College of Brockport Invitational Women's Track and Field Finished 1st at College of Brockport Invitational

#### **SUNDAY, JANUARY 31**

Women's Basketball vs. University of Chicago - L 56-58 Men's Basketball vs. University of Chicago - W 84-76 Men's Squash vs. Franklin and Marshall College - W 9-0

### THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

#### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Women's Basketball vs. Washington University in St. Louis - 6:00 P.M.\* Men's Basketball vs. Washington University in St. Louis - 8:00 P.M.\*

#### **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6**

Men's Track and Field at Ithaca College Invitational - Ithaca, NY - 11:30 A.M. Women's Track and Field at Ithaca College Invitational - Ithaca, NY - 11:30 A.M. Men's Squash vs. Bard College - Canton, NY - 2:00 P.M. Men's Squash vs. Hobart College - Canton, NY - 4:00 P.M.

#### **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7**

Men's Sqash vs. Vassar College - Canton, NY - 10:00 A.M. Men's Squash vs.St. Lawrence University - Canton, NY - 1:00 P.M. Men's Basketball vs. University of Chicago - 11:00 A.M.\* Women's Basketball vs. University of Chicago - 1:00 P.M.\*

\*DENOTES HOME GAME (DH) DENOTES DOUBLE-HEADER





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## **SPORTS**

### URWB Drops Two, URBB Sweeps

**BY AUDREY GOLDFARB** 

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

This weekend yielded mixed results for Rochester basketball 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 game against UChicago.

The 'Jackets stepped into the gym on Sunday determined to redeem their loss. Sophomore forward Al Leslie stepped up against UChicago, scoring 22 points and recording 18 rebounds to keep Rochester in the game. Despite a standout performance by Leslie, UR lost a heartbreaker with the final score resting at 58–56 after a closing layup by the Bears. The team came home with an overall record of 15–3.

Assistant coach Kaitlin Donahoe said that, although the Midwest trip did not turn out as the team had hoped or expected, it opened their eyes to the improvements that they needed to make going forward. "We have a great opportunity to improve as a unit this week in practice and have another crack at the same teams this weekend in the Palestra," said Donahoe. "I know

our players will be ready."

With a home-court advantage for their next four games, the first two of which will be against WashU and UChicago, the Yellowjackets hope to record victories in the upcoming UAA weekend.

Contrarily, URBB defeated both WashU and UChicago, sweeping their Midwest trip for the first time in a quarter century. The team demonstrated their resilience in the game against WashU on Friday night, coming back from a 20–7 deficit that was amassed within the first four minutes and 26 seconds.

"We were able to play through it, maintain our composure, and kept battling for the rest to give ourselves a chance to win it," Head Coach Luke Flockerzi said. "We had a handful of people step up and make big plays down the stretch."

UR's win against UChicago tied both teams for second place in the league, and Flockerzi is confident that they will carry this weekend's momentum into their upcoming games against the same squads at home.

The program has developed a team dynamic and atmosphere that contributes to the team's success. "Returning players have all played key roles for us and the talented group of newcomers have complimented that," Flockeri said. "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.

Goldfarb is a member of the class of 2019.

### A Surge in Fans for Club Hockey



RUAIRI CONWAY / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

Senior forward David York advances the puck against Jason Douglas of the St. John Fisher Cardinals on Friday night.

#### BY BELLA 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 suffered a devastating loss against Le Moyne. With just over a minute left in the game, Le Moyne scored the winning goal off a significant penalty play, ultimately costing Rochester the game.

"We're hands down the most talented/skilled team in the league," UR defenseman and Squad President Isaiah Patterson said. "We just need to play our game and go out and execute. We can't beat ourselves. We're definitely hoping to regain 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 end 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 contention for a spot at the playoffs, 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 turnout this season has been "phenomenal," and that the team has been attracting crowds of nearly 200 people. The Rochester UNYCHL squad has come to be "a team that other schools don't like to come play," due to the their consistent and numerous legion of rowdy supporters.

The squad has been extremely successful in promoting their games, given that they aren't a varsity team. "We've really encouraged people to come to our games through social media," Patterson said, "and working with fraternities on campus to make our games rush events for prospective brothers."

On Feb 5., UR faces Brockport at 7 p.m. at Genesee Valley Park Sports Complex. They encourage all fans, new and old, to come root for the team.

Drago is a member of the class of 2018.

### Rochester Red Wings Crack Top Prospect List

#### BY ANDREW LUCCHESI

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Talent scout eye candy Byron Buxton headlines a potentially star-studded group of Major League Baseball (MLB) prospects. 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 because 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 office in Minneapolis, whom the Rochester Red Wings exist to feed, are not concerned with their affiliated teams' wins and losses. While their record may be an indicator of how well the MLB hopefuls are progressing and how ready they are to succeed at the next level, it's not really an accurate one.

Evidence can be found in Hal and Hank Steinbrenner's

New York Yankees. While their Triple-A affiliate, the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre RailRiders, topped their division last year with a record of 81–63, the Yankees have struggled in recent years to project many homegrown prospects into success in the Major Leagues.

While those who work to boost attendance at Frontier Field often front team-related advertisements to the Rochester public, Minor League clubs and their Major League counterparts are in the business of developing professionals who will graduate to the biggest stage.

This function is not a mystery to any Minor-Leaguer 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 from Paul Molitor, the Twins' 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. Fron-

tier Field may feature future



SANTIAGO JARAMILLO / CONTRIBUTING ILLUSTRATOR

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 consistently appeared at the top of the annually-released

list of rankings. In fact, this is the first time since 2013 that somebody other than Buxton has appeared in the No. 1 spot. Buxton actually spent 46 games with the Minnesota Twins last year. One could argue that his promotion to the big leagues was premature. Buxton hit a disappointing .209 average and had only 10 extra base hits in his 46-game debut at base-ball's highest level.

#### Jose 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 consideration as a late-season call-up while the Twins were fighting for a playoff spot last September. The side of the argument that favored further development in the Minors pre-call-up ultimately won out. Jose Berrios remained a Red Wing and posted a 14–5 record with a 2.87 ERA in 27 ap-

pearances with Twin affiliates last year. Don't be surprised if Berrios makes the next stepto join the Twins' pitching staff soon. Some have speculated that the front office views him as a future 20-win type of player.

#### Max Kepler, OF/1B

Though he has yet to be named part of the Red Wings' official roster for the upcoming season, outfielder and first basemen Maximilian Kepler may find himself at Frontier Field this season. Kepler, the forty-fourth ranked prospect by MLB, left Germany in 2009 to sign with Minnesota. Kepler has bounced around in the Twins' farm system. There have been major concerns about his health, as he seems to be injury-prone in an everyday role. Still, this powerful 6'4" lefty, who has shown the ability to spray the baseball to all areas of the ballpark, played 112 games with Double-A affiliate Chattanooga Lookouts last season. In these games, Kepler held a very impressive .322 batting average and accumulated 71 RBIs. He was named Southern League Player of the Year.

Lucchesi is a member of the class of 2016.