

Campus Times

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Concerns Persist Over Gun Proposal



University President Joel Seligman addresses the audience gathered at his town hall last Monday on arming Public Safety.

LEAH NASON / PHOTO EDITOR

Emotions and Argument Fill Seligman's Town Halls

BY ANGELA LAI
PUBLISHER

Perturbed by the prospect of arming Public Safety officers, UR students and employees worried at two recent town halls that officers with guns could heighten racial tensions and make UR feel less safe.

University President Joel Seligman held two hour-long town hall meetings on Monday afternoon, the first at the River Campus and the second at the Medical Center, to discuss and get feedback on the UR Security Commission's recent recommendation to arm 38 sworn Department of Public Safety (DPS) officers at the Medical Center as well as the four most senior DPS officers.

Guylda Richard, a third-year medical student on the Presidential Commission on Race and Diversity, is "absolutely terrified" of the idea of arming guards.

"The fear that I'm expressing to you now is not unique to me," she said at the Medical Center meeting.

She said the overwhelming response from minority students she spoke to was "I am terrified, I'm scared, this is not going to end well for me, this is not going to end well for patients who look like me."

As junior Daniel Southwell spoke at the River Campus forum in the Interfaith Chapel, he stepped from the microphone and spread his hands to demonstrate how a University parking agent's

SEE TOWN HALL PAGE 3

Minority Student Groups Vote Against Arming Officers

BY JUSTIN TROMBLY
MANAGING EDITOR

Minority student groups unanimously voted against arming Public Safety officers with guns at Thursday night's meeting of the Minority Student Advisory Board (MSAB), another echo of racial concerns about the proposal that has preoccupied University President Joel Seligman and vocal supporters and opponents since April.

"I think it'd be very powerful to have the presidents here, who, according to most of their constitutions, speak on behalf of their organizations," said Delvin Moody, former Students' Association senator and MSAB president, in reference to the vote.

"Of the people present, we have a unanimous consent that the

AALANA community is unanimously against guns on campus," he said, using an acronym for African American, Latino American, and Native American people.

Moody and others discussed plans to send Seligman a petition against the proposal via email.

Steeped in the tragic police shootings of unarmed Black people that have dominated the national media in recent years, students of color at the Gowen Room meeting, as they have at Seligman's town halls and at forums held last year on the issue, expressed their fears of encountering armed Department of Public Safety (DPS) officers on campus.

Particular worry was devoted to the expansion of the proposal—

which currently seeks to arm

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Turnout High as Four Elected in Freshman Senate Election

BY DAVID SCHILDKRAUT
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Freshmen turned out in droves last Thursday and Friday to elect four of their peers to the Students' Association (SA) Senate.

Over 700 freshmen voted for 19 candidates, who had spent the whole week campaigning.

The 53 percent voter turnout rate far exceeds the approximately 32 percent rate from the spring SA elections, considered by SA members as one of the most successful election turnouts in recent years.

An 11-hour delay in the release of the results meant many of the candidates weren't aware they had been elected when contacted by the *Campus Times*. Results were posted at 9 a.m. on Saturday.

Dan Pak, like the other senators-elect, had no idea he had won.

"That's crazy," he said upon hearing the results. "I would like to thank the students for taking their time to vote [and] my friends at Gilbert Hall for being such a great campaign team."

SA Senate is excited to welcome its new members.

FRESHMAN SENATE ELECTION RESULTS

KAMEL AWAYDA - 213
LEIF K. JOHANSEN - 194
DAN PANK - 173
JAMAL HOLZ - 140

"I think the freshmen senators tend to bring a lot of energy and innovation to senate," Speaker of the Senate Lindsay Wrobel said. "Every year when we get freshman senators, they are some of the most wonderful people here on campus."

One of the four senators is looking to work with the other candidates to implement their plans for making a change on campus.

"This week of campaigning was hard with 18 other individuals [who] had bright ideas to create change on this campus," Senator-elect Jamal Holtz said. "I look forward to working with all other candidates to hear their input." Campaigning, which began on Sunday at noon, was a high point throughout the week for many.

As soon as 12:02 p.m. on Sun-

SEE ELECTIONS PAGE 2

Wambach Event Points to Bookstore Success

BY JACKIE POWELL
SPORTS EDITOR

Hometown hero and soccer legend Abby Wambach returned to Rochester on Friday to promote her new memoir "Forward" at a unticketed book signing held at the UR Barnes and Noble bookstore.

The two-time Olympian not only captivated the greater Rochester community with her message, but headlined College Town's most high profile event in its two-year history, giving managers hope that the University's foray into business development can hold its own against Rochester's established venues.

Patrons began lining up for the event at around 4:30 pm, two and a half hours before the signing was slated to begin.

"At one point, the line stretched all the way past Texas de Brazil from our doors," Steven Lawrence, the bookstore's General Reading Manager, said.

The line was a hodgepodge of hundreds of aspiring soccer players, longtime fanatics, and University athletes.

Young children, teens, and college students made up the majority, with many wearing either Wambach apparel or sporting their own personal soccer swag.

One group of teens had traveled over two hours to meet their role model, the person who had empowered them to keep playing and fighting for their rights.

"I like that [Wambach] is fighting for equal pay in this country. Women deserve equal pay as they won the World Cup, while the U.S. men did not," Sara Rachon, 14, of Utica said.

Nine-year-old Marin Wood of Fairport cited Wambach as her soccer influence.

"I started playing soccer because of Abby Wambach," she said. "From watching [her] play, I've learned to become a bit more aggressive and win the ball more."

Although Wambach's fan base is filled with young people, she said in a press conference before the signing that her new book contains "real-life stuff" and not the "shiny perfect pretty stuff" that the soccer star's younger following is accustomed to.

For the Rochester native, it was her DUI in April that allowed her to recognize the "secrets" regarding her alcohol abuse she was holding onto. While the original purpose of her memoir was to serve as a career stepping stone, the focus shifted to helping

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TYLER KNIGHT / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

SIGMA NU HOSTS ANNUAL HOT WING-EATING CONTEST

Students participated in Sigma Nu's annual Hot Wing-Eating Contest this past week as a fundraiser for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE

iPad Stolen from Wilson Quad (1)

SEPTEMBER 9—A student's iPad was reported stolen from an unattended area of the Wilson Quad.

Visitor Found Wandering Sue B. Lot (2)

SEPTEMBER 10—A visitor was found wandering the Susan B. Anthony parking lot, with no legitimate reason to be there. The individual was identified, warned, and escorted off the property.

Bike Stolen from Danforth Dining Hall (3)

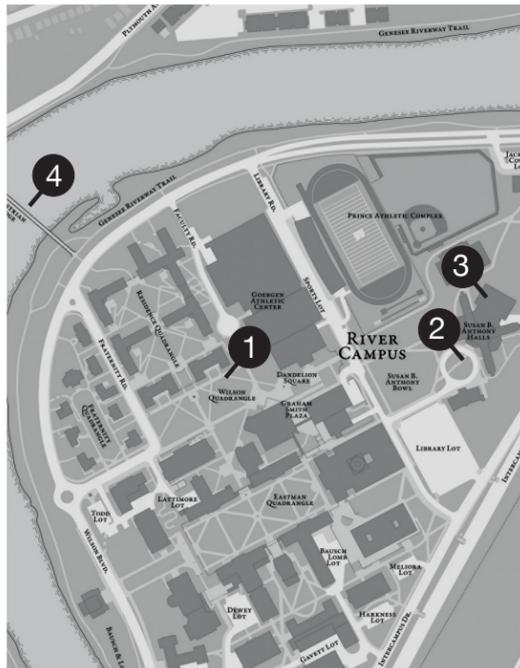
SEPTEMBER 11—A bike was reported stolen from Danforth Dining Hall.

Suspicious Person by Foot Bridge (4)

SEPTEMBER 12—A student reported suspicious activity by the pedestrian foot bridge.

Man Arrested for Trespassing (5)

SEPTEMBER 13—A Rochester local was found to have broken into a storage shed at 685 Mt. Hope Avenue, and was consequently arrested.



MAP COURTESY OF UR COMMUNICATIONS

Information provided by the Department of Public Safety.

THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS

TUESDAY | SEPTEMBER 20

EXHIBIT: THE TRANSFORMATIVE LENS

RUSH RHEES LIBRARY, 9 A.M.-5 P.M.
The Transformative Lens exhibit will feature photographs taken by Ansel Adams, a photographer who was hired by the University to take photos for a brochure, and the story behind the effects of his work.

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL VS. BUFFALO STATE

PALESTRA, 7 P.M.-9 P.M.
Watch the 'Jackets take on the Bengals in volleyball.

WEDNESDAY | SEPTEMBER 21

UNIVERSITY FARMERS MARKET

FLAUM ATRIUM MEDICAL CENTER, 3 P.M.-6 P.M.
Open to the University community, the market features fresh foods, local vendors, samples of goods, and nutrition and cooking tips from Well-U.

EXHIBIT: AFGHAN WAR RUGS

MEMORIAL ART GALLERY, ALL DAY
The Modern Art of Central Asia exhibit brings, for the first time ever, 45 rugs from distinguished private collections of Afghan war rugs.

THURSDAY | SEPTEMBER 22

MAGTHURSDAYS

MEMORIAL ART GALLERY, 5 P.M.-8 P.M.
Visit the museum for half price admission from 5 to 9 p.m. and listen to live music, and wine, beer, and food for purchase.

ART SOCIAL/AFGHAN KITES

MEMORIAL ART GALLERY, 6:30 P.M.-7:30 P.M.
Enjoy wine, beer, and food for purchase, along with quick shot art classes led by Sara Blake and Casey Cardillo. All tools will be supplied, and tickets are \$15 per session.

FRIDAY | SEPTEMBER 23

MAG HIGHLIGHTS TOUR

MEMORIAL ART GALLERY, 1 P.M.
This docent-led tour of the collections or current exhibitions is included in museum admission.

READ LOCAL: JOSEFINE KLOUGART

OFF CAMPUS, 6 P.M.-7:30 P.M.
This event will feature a short reading and discussion with Open Letter's youngest author and two-time finalist for the Nordic Council Literary Prize, Josefine Klougart. This event is free and open.

SA Changes Ahead with Deputy Speaker, Senator Resignations

BY JUSTIN TROMBLY
MANAGING EDITOR

Two members of the Students' Association (SA) Senate have resigned from their positions, adding to the list of SA leaders who have left their posts in the past year.

Junior Katherine Bakrania resigned as deputy speaker of the Senate in the opening weeks of the school year, citing the time commitment required.

"I prioritize school and work over other activities, and SA Gov, while being a really rewarding and awesome experience, is incredibly time consuming," she said in an email. "I no longer have the time or ability to give the position everything it needs."

Bakrania was elected deputy speaker last semester, after classmate Anmol Almast, who had held the role for less than

two weeks, resigned as well. Senior Chiziterem Onyekwere, elected as a senator last semester, also stepped down recently, but declined to comment for this piece.

Senate is set to elect a new deputy speaker next Monday night in the Gowen Room, and Onyekwere's seat will be filled soon by the next-highest vote-getter from the spring elections, Speaker of the Senate Lindsay Wrobel said.

That mechanism was established as precedent in an All-Campus Judicial Council case about succession between Almast and the Senate last fall.

Onyekwere's resignation follows that of fellow senior Samantha Lienert, who left Senate in January to escape what she called a hostile work environment within the SA branch.

Trombly is a member of the Class of 2018.

New Senators Elected

ELECTIONS FROM PAGE 1

day, it was possible to see campaign teams chalking every inch of Dandelion Square. Even more popular for candidates was to personally meet voters. Several held events, from town hall meetings to movie night meet-and-greets. To get the word out further, posters were put up around campus informing potential voters of who the candidates were.

There were numerous campaign violations visible around campus, including campaigning in unauthorized locations, as determined by the SA Elections and Rules Committee. One candidate faced disqualification from the race after a member of their campaigning team violated the rules set by the SA Elections and Rules Committee.

Elections and Rules Committee Chair and junior Jake Branicki declined to comment on

campaign violations.

The final two winning candidates, Kamel Awayda and Leif Johansen, ran a joint campaign.

"I'm still trying to process the results," Awayda said after hearing the news that he had won. "I couldn't have possibly voted for myself 213 times."

He added, "The magnitude of the support and positivity among all those in the voting process is what I owe my success to."

Awayda and Johansen each had the two best results of all the candidates running, with Awayda taking 214 votes, nearly a third of voters in the election.

"We have accomplished the easy part," Johansen said. "I think it's time to get to work. You heard our message, and now we are ready to hear yours." they go to office hours," she said.

Schildkraut is a member of the Class of 2020.

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Debate Union Hosts iDebate Rwanda



LIAM HEEGER / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

Top and bottom: Participants in the Public Debate: Featuring iDebate Rwanda argue the pros and cons of reconciliation after genocide.

BY SPENCER ROCKWELL
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

In the aftermath of genocide, is forgiveness more important than justice?

That was the concluding question of last Monday's debate between UR Debate Union (URDU) and iDebate Rwanda, a charity that enables debate training and a platform for public debate in East Africa, whose first stop on its national tour was in Rochester.

iDebate Rwanda spoke in proposition—or favor, in debate terms—while URDU spoke in opposition.

Critical thinking, introspection, and using debate as a constructive medium were the main themes of the Debate Union's opening season event.

"Debate is not about being opponents or having adversity, but instead about looking critically at a topic as an opportunity to teach," iDebate Rwanda presenter Amos Furaha said.

Having come from a Rwandan background and having coached debaters from the iDebate Rwanda organization, sophomore Derrick Murekezi brought the idea of hosting this event to URDU.

"The team thought engaging in this public debate would be a fantastic forum for bringing more diversity to the Rochester campus," freshman debater Brianna Terrell said. "Specifically, we wanted to create an entertaining public event that

could expose the stories, struggles, and perspectives of real-life survivors of Rwandan genocide."

As URDU's leader of opposition, Terrell began the debate by outlining the opposition's argument, laying out points of criticism for moral hierarchies.

She established the opposition's conception of justice, and argued that equality can only be regained through a restorative system of justice that arbitrates conflict and considers perspectives and evidence on an individualized basis.

Terrell argued that claiming forgiveness is more important than justice is counterproductive. She went on to say that while forgiveness is "one-size-fits-all," justice is specific on a case-to-case basis, thus validating the victim.

"It was significant for me, as one of the Rochester de-

baters, because it gave me the chance to empathize with a situation I might not have considered otherwise," she said. "It reminded me that nothing is an obstacle."

Following Terrell was the deputy prime minister of iDebate Rwanda, Isabane Muhumuriza Harmonie: "Forgiveness will make the victim willing to listen, to tolerate, understand, and be a starting point to go back to living their lives. Forgiveness deals with the problems at hand, while justice covers them up."

At the conclusion of the debate, the floor was opened for audience members' perspectives.

"Debate is a universally valuable thing that empowers individuals and transcends any ethnicity, any religion, and any personal obstacle," Terrell said.

Rockwell is a member of the Class of 2020.



New Town Hall Scheduled

TOWN HALL FROM PAGE 1

car followed him and his friend as they drove on campus.

"This bias that might be unconscious is very much active," he said in an emotional speech.

DPS patrol sergeant Edson Sawyers, speaking later at the chapel, said that as an officer who "will gladly lay down my life so that you can go home," he does "not feel safe."

"So when we start talking about what safety firearms bring or do not bring," he added, "don't forget about the view or the feeling of those willing to put their lives on the line for each and every one of you."

Seligman cited incidents which had exacerbated that fear in recent years among Public Safety officers—last winter's kidnapping and brutalization of two UR seniors and the August mugging of an undergraduate by a 12-year-old with a gun.

Assistant Professor of Religion Joshua Dubler saw the recommendation as an extension of the "folk wisdom" that good guys with guns will stop bad guys with guns.

Addressing the DPS officers present, he raised his voice: "You guys bear a burden, I understand, and that to me is fair. You should bear the burden. You're grown-ups, and you're trained, and you're compensated."

Attendees also criticized the evidence behind the Commission's recommendation. They felt that comparisons between UR and other universities were insubstantial, and that there was a lack of data showing that arming officers with guns would increase safety.

"Virtually every similar research university in the country has some armed officers. Virtually every comparable academic health care center," Seligman said in turn.

UR is the only member of the Association of American Universities, a group of prominent research institutions in the U.S. and Canada, with an unarmed sworn department. Only one of the 60 U.S. schools in the association has only non-sworn officers.

He acknowledged that other institutions may have based their decisions on local anecdotes or convictions, though he cited the University of Pennsylvania as an example in which reduced violence followed an increase of security forces, including armed forces.

Much of his reasoning in support for the move dealt with pleas from Medical Center employees.

"I have to deal with a different kind of data that's very powerful," he said. "I have an emergency department right now who is plead-

ing—pleading—we feel unsafe. How long are you going to take to adjust this?"

Michael Kamali, the UR Medical Center Chair of Emergency Medicine, said that he ultimately supported arming Public Safety. But if he "could have [his] wish come true," society would have to look at guns as a public health crisis and "think about what is going on."

DPS officers feel like part of the Rochester community, Director of Public Safety Mark Fischer said, and the department does not tolerate bias.

It has received five allegations of racially motivated behavior in the past three years, four of which stemmed from a miscommunication.

The Commission's report recommends 28 hours of bias and diversity training with refresher courses every six months, as well as additional background checks and psychological evaluations for officers.

Some, like Southwell, have questioned whether this would be enough.

Seats at the Interfaith Chapel, which held the first town hall meeting from 3-4 p.m., were sparsely filled at a time overlapping with classes. Students criticized the timing, and attendees felt that both town hall meetings had been poorly advertised.

Though Seligman had originally planned to hold three town hall meetings—one each at the River Campus, Medical Center, and Eastman School of Music—he has scheduled a fourth at the River Campus on Monday, Sept. 19, from 6-7 p.m. in the Hawkins-Carlson Room of Rush Rhees Library.

"I hate guns. I hate violence," Seligman said at both town halls. He wished that the issue did not need to be considered.

He will only make a decision about the recommendation after another town hall on Monday, a meeting with the Faculty Senate, and a meeting with the University's management team, and again encouraged community members to email their thoughts to him at president@rochester.edu by Sept. 23. He insisted that he would read every email he received.

As for concerns that arming Medical Center officers would make it easier to arm officers on the River Campus, Seligman he said that there is no hidden agenda: "No one should get the sense that this is the camel's nose in the tent."

Lai is a member of the Class of 2018.

Plans Made to Petition Seligman on Public Safety Gun Proposal

MSAB FROM PAGE 1

only officers at the Medical Center and the four senior officers on campus—to arming more officers on the River Campus, since, at this point, most believe Seligman will accept the proposal without change.

"I don't feel comfortable with the University of Rochester pairing with any of the surrounding police departments," said Daniel Southwell, a junior who also spoke at Seligman's Interfaith

Chapel town hall last Monday. "I don't feel comfortable with them expanding their jurisdiction beyond their limits, i.e. River Campus, Eastman School of Music, and literally the sidewalks that encompass their facility."

He said he'd prefer officers be armed with tasers, if they need to be armed at all.

Moody said he thinks there should be a binding document ensuring that no expansion oc-

curs. He also advocated for diversifying DPS' ranks to include more officers of color.

"Be careful what you wish for when you say you'd like to have more underrepresented DPS officers in those roles," University Dean Paul Burgett said, addressing Moody. "It doesn't necessarily mean you're going to be safer."

Later, he added, "If you give in and say, 'Well, we can live with this,' well, then, that's what you're going to get. You will

get what you can live with. So, whatever you're going to say you have to be unified and straightforward across the board."

The group laid out plans to have scores of students send Seligman a standardized email in opposition to the proposal.

The organizations present included: Black Students Union, National Association of Black Engineers, Spanish and Latino Student Association, Native American Student Association,

Minority Male Leadership Association, Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students, Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, Pan-African Students' Association, and Douglass Leadership House. fessional Engineers, Pan-African Students' Association, and Douglass Leadership House.

News Editor Amanda Marquez contributed reporting to this piece.

Trombly is a member of the Class of 2018.

OPINIONS

EDITORIAL OBSERVER

Making Mind Out of Matter



BY MIRA BODEK
PRESENTATION EDITOR

The equation that models gravitational force between two celestial bodies is almost identical to the equation that models the magnetic force between two point charges. The forces holding our universe together, at the largest scale and at the smallest, are only discernible by a couple of different variables.

The photographs we have of our universe are thirteen billion years old. What we see is not our reality. Light moves swiftly, but not swiftly enough, and the here and now has not arrived yet to our little corner of the cosmos. We look out into the stars and into our past, wondering at what the sky will look like when it catches up to us.

When we talk about science, when we talk about our world and our universe, we do not only speak in hard formulas, concepts, and equations. We do not speak in right or wrong answers. We speak in poetry.

The Law of Conservation of Mass states that matter is never created or destroyed, merely transformed from one form to another. We could think about our world that way; some people do. But we could also think about all the stars that died that for us to be here. Every atom in our bodies was once part of a star – carbon, nitrogen, oxygen, and so on – all stardust, running through our veins. These both say the same thing in different ways.

Is one way of thinking wrong? Is one right? My mother, a former physicist here at the University, was firm in the lessons she taught me. “Don’t lose your science,” she would tell me, “Draw, paint, write, but whatever you do, don’t lose your science. Women always lose their science.”

Yet every time I say that I am majoring in Mechanical Engineering, eyebrows raise and the reaction is usually along the lines of, “I could never do that, I’m not a science person.” Of course, it goes both ways. For every English or humanities major who claims, “I’m just not good at math,” there’s an engineer who bemoans, “I’m terrible at writing.”

These comments are familiar landmarks in what seems to be an everlasting tug-of-war between the humanities and the hard sciences. But they also suggest a deeper and more concerning viewpoint that seems to be increasingly prevalent: that you either you’re a “science” person, or you’re not. This idea, that one side of your brain dominates your way of thinking, is not only untrue, but it perpetuates the idea that the humanities and the sciences are mutually exclusive disciplines, that you can only do one.

If you had absolutely no interest in chemistry or improving your creative writing, why would you study it? We challenge ourselves most and work hardest in the things that thrill us and thus, become more adept in them. You may have a predisposition to succeed in one discipline, but that does not mean you cannot also excel in another. To suggest that you must be naturally skilled in a subject to succeed in it disrespects the centuries of advancements that each field has earned through hours of dedicated work by scholars. And even further, it disrespects the hard work and research done everyday by students and professors here at the University.

The story sometimes goes that the humanities are easier because there are thousands of right answers, and you are seldom wrong. In STEM, there is only one correct answer, making it harder to attain perfection. There’s a contrary story, however, that STEM closes doors on new interpretations and that the humanities are ever evolving, making STEM cold and close-minded where the humanities are welcoming and creative. Both of these lines of thought are limiting. To say one field is “easy” and one is “hard,” discounts the nuances between different subjects and also discounts the work people put into studying them. I may spend hours hunched over my engineering problem sets, but the history major next to me in the library spends just as long hunched over her readings and essays.

Our thinking is not limited to the left brain or the right brain—we do not solely rely on logic or creativity to solve problems; we use both. Our ideas are not written in binary code. Here at a research university like ours, it can feel as if the “and” in the College of Arts and Sciences is a divider rather than a link. But this concept of separation and inequality is not valid. We must respect all disciplines as equally formidable.

Every year we seem to have a funeral for the humanities – for literature, history, language, creative writing. This morbid view infantilizes and disrespects one of the most prevailing, persistent, and driven disciplines of study. We say that the humanities are dying while the natural and hard sciences thrive, that like the Law of Conservation of Mass states, one is created while the other is destroyed. But our thoughts are not made of matter, and academia is not weighed out in kilograms. Instead of creating or destroying, the humanities and the hard sciences transform and build on each other.

We must think beyond the binary and view our world with nuance. The world of sciences relies on creativity and the world of the humanities relies on logic – one does not oppose the other. Like opposite charges, the two attract.

Bodek is a member of the Class of 2019.

EDITORIAL BOARD

Learn from Lam Square

With the recent unveiling of Lam Square, the University has given students a glimpse into the future of Rush Rhees, an uber-modernized attempt to unify the library’s circulation and lobby areas aesthetic, to swap its antique charm with sleek, Apple-Store minimalism.

That is unfortunate.

Lam Square is modern, all right, and for all our hand-wringing about the upgrade, it seems to be just as popular a study space as ever—perhaps even more so than before.

Let’s give credit where credit’s due. There are some valuable and enjoyable features in the renovation, including the convenient recessed power outlets in the floor, the cozy booths set into the back wall, and a slimmed-down reference desk fit for the information age.

The tall tables on the north side of the room seem to be especially popular, although one can’t help but wonder if that space would have been better occupied by the famous antique tables that were so popular among students. Perhaps they clashed with the modern vibe.

But the space has lost so much

functionality.

Prior to the renovations, the circulation area boasted rows of desktop computers and printing services.

Those are gone.

Yes, there’s the “tech sandbar”—where is the sand, by the way?—that appears to be modeled in the Steve Jobs school of design, but it doesn’t offer the same range of options.

What, exactly, is the point of all those tablets, apart from serving as autograph books and doodle pads? Are they just advertisements?

The old circulation area was a convenient—and centrally-located—stop for students rushing to print off an assignment before class. As the semester gets moving, this shortcoming of Lam Square may become more apparent.

And we feel this could have been avoided. Sure, the forums hosted on the renovations were a commendable effort, but they’re a basic one—such common-sense steps don’t merit showers of praise. There are two issues here.

First, if student attendance at recent town hall meetings is indicative of a general trend, the University is not getting feedback from a wide cross-section of the

student body.

Second, and more importantly, is that the University administration is very good at soliciting feedback from the very involved student, but not from their common cousin. That includes members of SA government, club leaders, and the like.

Where the town halls, open forums, and focus groups fail is in their attempt to reach a broader swath of the student body—students who are less well acquainted with the administration, and who may be more likely to offer novel criticisms and suggestions.

To be sure, this falls on students, too. These forums are only as helpful and creative as the students who attend them, and the events didn’t go totally unpublicized. Students had reasonable opportunities to offer feedback.

The library administration has made it clear that they intend to move ahead with renovations of other parts of the library as more funding becomes available. Hopefully they learn from the renovation of Lam Square and work with more—and more average—students to ensure that future renovations do not sacrifice useful features in the name of an appealing design.

Town Halls Need More Publicity

University President Joel Seligman should be commended for his decision to hold another town hall forum on the River Campus to hear student feedback on the proposal to arm select Public Safety officers.

This proposal, which in various forms has preoccupied campus since April, is the most pressing issue facing the UR community.

It deserves more than just one, poorly publicized forum on campus, scheduled at a time when many students were in class—this can, after all, be a life-or-death decision, regardless which way it goes.

Still, though, word about this additional town hall doesn’t seem to have made its way around campus.

Seligman sent one email to the student body on Wednesday about

the event, and a notice also appeared in a UR Weekly on Sunday.

Perhaps students bear some fault here for not paying enough attention to their emails, but the University could have done more to promote such an important event.

The additional town hall is scheduled for 6 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 19, in the Hawkins-Carlson Room.

This editorial is published with the consent of a majority of the editorial board: Aurek Ransom (Editor-in-Chief), Justin Trombly (Managing Editor), Sam Passanisi (Opinions Editor), Angela Lai (Publisher), and Jackie Powell (Sports Editor). The Editor-in-Chief and the Editorial Board make themselves available to the UR community’s ideas and concerns. Email editor@campustimes.org.

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On Arming DPS Officers

Guns on campus will make violence more likely, not less

“What has changed?” President Seligman asked at last Monday’s town halls about the Security Commission’s recommendation to arm some Department of Public Safety (DPS) officers. The answer is supposed to be self-evident: Crime is up, and we’re all in greater danger than ever. In fact, this is a myth. As the Democrat and Chronicle reported in April, “the crime rate in Rochester is at a 25-year low.” So what has changed to justify the Commission’s recommendation? A cultural shift on guns and public safety.

Following the Sandy Hook Elementary shooting in 2012, NRA president Wayne LaPierre argued publicly that the solution was to arm guards in schools. “The only thing that stops a bad guy with a gun is a good guy with a gun.” This is magical thinking. Armed civilians have never stopped a mass shooting. The presence of an armed guard did not prevent the Columbine shooting, nor did armed campus police prevent the Virginia Tech massacre—two of the deadliest school shootings in U.S. history. Behind the heroic fantasy lies a grim reality: guns in schools make students, faculty, and staff less safe. Guns can discharge accidentally. They can be dropped, lost, or stolen. They can be fired by officers who are startled, distracted, or scared.

The arming of campus law

enforcement despite these risks belongs to a fear- and industry-driven cultural trend toward militarization and securitization. Increasingly, “public safety” means subjecting Americans to the possibility of state-sponsored lethal force. While this approach may make some feel safer, it has plunged many others into ever greater danger. The lives lost and shattered by confrontations with armed officers, and the fear this danger engenders among people of color, must factor into any and all conversations about community safety. Too often, they don’t.

The Commission’s report is an unfortunate example of such oversight; it fails to sufficiently consider the input of people of color or academic experts, even though the Commission was expressly asked to do so. These omissions matter. Not only is the resulting report oblivious to minority concerns (the UR Minority Student Advisory Board has unanimously rejected it), but the Commission’s data collection, presentation, and interpretation would not hold up in a UR freshman writing seminar. Some examples: The report’s data on confiscated weapons fail to distinguish between real guns and toy guns. Its “benchmarking” list of UR’s “peer institutions” notes whether sworn officers are armed, yet does not place this information in the

context of enrollment, location, and crime rates. It derives its national data on the “justified” use of deadly force by armed campus police from a single security-industry publication and, incomprehensibly, classifies as “justified” the accidental shooting of an officer’s girlfriend while he was cleaning his gun. Alarmingly, with the state-of-the-art Goergen Institute for Data Science sitting next door, President Seligman has nonetheless delegated critical decision-making to individuals unversed—or uninterested—in the rigorous pursuit of knowledge.

Can our community afford to base life-or-death decisions on such dubious reasoning? At the town halls, President Seligman cited a recent incident in which a student was confronted on the pedestrian bridge by a 12-year-old with a gun. While it is possible that the presence of an armed officer could have defused the situation, it is also possible that the child might now be dead. Is that the sort of outcome we are looking for?

We appreciate the risks that DPS officers assume for our community. We also appreciate that officers are compensated adults who have assumed these risks voluntarily. The same cannot be said for the children across the river, whose presence on the pedestrian bridge may—like Tamir Rice or Tyre

King, shot dead in Columbus, Ohio last week—mark them as a threat. Arming DPS increases this insecurity, and it’s hubris to believe that proper training will eliminate these risks. It is unjust to shift the burden of public safety onto the most vulnerable and underrepresented members of our community: minorities, the poor, and people with disabilities, who often depend on the Emergency Department for survival.

There is an understandable appeal to following the cultural drift of our institutional peers when considering critical issues. However, just because everybody else is doing something doesn’t make it a good idea—especially when the potential for lethal force is in play. Gun violence constitutes a public health crisis. Arming DPS officers is not the solution to the problem but one more symptom of an acute social disease. We urge the campus community to remember our unifying core value: *Meliora*. The cultural logic that adopts violent means to curb violence must be overturned. Let us reject fear and embrace instead a public safety rooted in reason and compassion. It begins with us.

UR Coalition for a Gun-Free Campus comprises UR undergraduates, graduate students, staff, and faculty. Join us on Facebook.

When we send officers to do their jobs unarmed, we disregard their safety

I am writing on behalf of the 130 Public Safety Officers I represent as the President of the University of Rochester Public Safety Officers Association. Our profession is an inherently dangerous one and we provide the service of a fully sworn agency while not being provided all the means to protect ourselves and our community.

As part of our duties, officers face inherent risk, and we must be appropriately prepared to respond quickly and effectively in an emergency situation.

The University is our home; we know the people, the buildings, and the intimate workings of the community that we serve. The Department of Public Safety’s mission statement is to “protect people at the University.” Currently we are ill-equipped to do this. Our officers are the only sworn campus officers in the entire state that are not currently armed.

Our officers should not be sent out on patrol in the hopes that they may not confront a threat, as reality has shown us the threat of violence is constant and inevitable.

We have a duty to appropriately prepare our officers and provide them the necessary confidence through their training, so that they may protect not only their lives, but also the lives

of our community members.

If a situation arises such that an armed response would be needed on campus, an armed officer will respond. The question becomes: Do you desire a response from the Rochester Police officers who could be miles away and do not know the intimate workings of the University, or do you want the fastest, most efficient response possible, from your Department of Public Safety officers? Your UR DPS officers, who patrol the campus daily and have a very intimate knowledge of the people, buildings, culture and layout of this University, are the first and best choice.

The University of Rochester is a highly visible entity and we have not been without incident over the past few years. The University values and embraces an open campus (River Campus, Medical Center, Eastman School of Music, Memorial Art Gallery, Strong Ties, methadone program, etc.), and hosts hundreds of thousands of visitors every year. However, we must not overlook the significant responsibility this comes with.

Students and staff have been the victims of armed robberies on multiple occasions. A UR DPS lieutenant was assaulted with a box cutter, which resulted in hospitalization. The patrol

commander had a bullet narrowly miss his head when someone fired a bullet in a building a number of years ago. Numerous other incidents have happened over the years that have been forgotten.

The emergency department has treated over 900 gunshot victims since 2011; many people visiting these victims are surely armed and potentially dangerous. Many active gangs operate within a small radius of the Riverview complex. Strong Memorial hospital is the only Level 1 Trauma Center in this area of the state.

Nationwide, 88 officers have been killed in the line of duty since Jan. 1, 2016, and 40 of these officers were killed by gunfire. This is a 43 percent increase from 2015. This is the reality of the world that our officers serve and protect in. We cannot pretend that we live in a bubble. On a daily basis, our officers encounter and many times arrest violent felons who have a history of armed robberies, burglaries, and other violent offenses.

It must be understood that we are encountering and at times arresting people whose intent is to do us and the people of our community harm. Many of these people carry knives and guns. When one of our officers attempts to take those same peo-

ple into custody and the person has already made up their mind that they are not going back to jail, it can become a volatile and dangerous situation for the officer.

Unless we can protect ourselves, we cannot protect the University community.

The safety of officers, students, nurses, doctors, staff, patients and visitors should be the number one priority of this University, and I believe it is. However, we need to make sure we are following the best practices to do so.

Our safety should never be dependent on the kindness of criminals who wish to victimize our community. We are people with wives, husbands, sons, daughters, fathers, and mothers, and we deserve to be properly equipped to defend ourselves, if need be, so we can go home at the end of our shifts to our families, who care so much about us. We also need all the tools necessary to fulfill our mission of providing the very best public safety to the members of the University community that we so proudly serve.

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas H. Andreano,
President, University of
Rochester Public Safety
Officers Association

Armed officers would address a crisis at Strong

Dear Editor,

As an emergency physician, I have seen firsthand the carnage caused by guns in our country and community. In Rochester, these events seem to have an almost daily occurrence. Having to tell a mother that her child has died due to an accident is brutally difficult. Having to tell a mother that her child has died due to suicide or murder is indescribable.

America has a serious issue with guns that is unlike most other developed nations. We have gotten to the point where some people in our country and community are afraid of being shot by those who serve to protect us, and those who serve to protect us are afraid of being shot by one of the 300 million guns in our society. The only reasonable solution seems to be disarmament of our society.

However, with the violence I see and the violent individuals that walk through our doors, I feel that the arming of our Department of Public Safety Officers is necessary, and I support it. I recognize that there may not be statistical significance in improving our safety in the emergency department with armed officers, and I consider the risk of having guns in our environment, but I am also realistic. We live in a violent society that seems to have rampant disregard for one another. Our staff has been verbally and physically assaulted, and I fear a person who has the intent of harming or killing our patients or staff.

Our Department of Public Safety Officers have worked in our department for some time. They work to de-escalate situations and treat mentally ill patients and all patients with respect and care. They understand that our environment must be healing. They have had and will have further and recurrent training that is specific to our healthcare setting. This reflects our intent to provide a safe environment for all patients and staff.

I hope that one day soon our society can adequately address the serious gun issues we face and reduce the associated gun violence, leading to no need for armed officers in our hospitals, as well as fewer grieving mothers. The solutions are right in front of us. But for now we have a crisis, and the emergency department often feels as if it is in the crosshairs of that crisis.

Michael Kamali, MD
18 September, 2016

Dr. Kamali is the Chair of the Department of Emergency Medicine at Strong Memorial Hospital.

OP-EDS

Should Public Safety Officers Carry Guns?

Armed public safety officers are needed to protect Medical Center staff

BY JAMES GUNN

A hospital is a place of healing, of sickness and recovery, and of courage. Doctors work tirelessly for their cause, be it aiding the gravely injured in the emergency departments or developing a new vaccine in a laboratory. They are selfless to the point of being self-sacrificing, caring little for their own health. More often than not, this will mean little sleep, less food than normal, and perhaps elevated levels of anxiety.

Yet one more issue remains, surprising as it may be. The doctors at our very own Strong Memorial Hospital do not feel safe in their workplace. It can't be a crime to desire safety for those who save us. There may be several ways to make our doctors more safe, but they have made their wishes known: they want UR's Department of Public Safety (DPS) officers to have all the tools necessary to ensure a safe working environment and a safe recovery environment for patients. These tools, put simply, are firearms in the hands of trained professionals.

The relationship that our campus has with Public Safety is a fine one. I will truthfully say that I would feel much more comfortable being confronted by a Public Safety officer than any other law enforcement officer. There are very few reasons to doubt

Public Safety. In the past three years there have been five complaints of racial bias; upon further investigation, four were determined to be unwarranted or caused by misconception. Out of countless interactions between officers and students, there was one valid complaint. That sounds a heck of a lot better than perceptions of most public law enforcement.

If we can trust the police department to have armed officers, can we not trust Public Safety? After all, there are numerous fully-qualified members of DPS. Out of the four command staff who will be armed, three have decades-long experience in law enforcement and the fourth has been a member of DPS and of our community for 31 years.

Another key aspect of this proposal is the scale. The University will not be crawling with armed guards, accosting every passerby. There will in fact be no armed guards on the River Campus or at the Eastman School of Music; however, they will still be near enough that they can respond to any emergencies far more quickly than the local police department. Furthermore, only 20 sworn peace officers, nine sergeants, six lieutenants, one captain, and the four command staff previously mentioned will be armed, and will only be so armed during their shift: a mere 21 percent of the officers on duty at any time. Compared to the

number of people that can be on campus at any given time, this is a very small number.

This recommendation is also not without precedent. The University has consulted with peer and local academic medical centers and academic medical center hospitals: 24 out of 30 and 19 out of 23, respectively, have armed guards in some capacity.

An even stronger reason for arming public safety is the shocking amount of confiscated weapons. In 2015, 245 knives, 9 guns, and 55 "others" (anything from pliers to bullets to throwing stars) were recovered. People have attempted to smuggle in handguns, a rifle, and even a machete. These all represent a danger to the doctors in their workplace; armed Public Safety will make our doctors feel safe.

And to all students: You need not worry for your own safety in regards to public safety. Besides the trust we have built with public safety, they will hopefully never have to even draw a firearm. In the past four years, Campus Safety magazine cited 22 uses of force by officers on more than 4,000 college campuses, of which only one was determined to be unjustified. So it's vanishingly unlikely that this would happen at UR, and students have nothing to fear from Public Safety.

Gunn is a member of the Class of 2020.

Guns may increase violence on campus, and racial biases are not being considered

BY YOENIA KROKOVA

It's been over two years since Mike Brown was murdered. Almost two years since Tamir Rice was shot and killed. Only a couple of days since 13-year-old Tyre King's last breaths. The police utilizes weapons because they "fear for their lives." But should we fear for ours?

The University is one of the last remaining college campuses in New York without armed officers. Rather than rushing to catch up, however, let's reflect on why other campuses consider armed officers necessary: perhaps to protect the students from dangers, or perhaps for the officers' feelings of safety. If more campus officers are armed, incidents such as the shooting of Samuel Dubose by a University of Cincinnati officer during a traffic stop may occur more frequently. The chance of fatalities does not decrease with a higher number of weapons, but fear within communities of color

will increase.

It is indisputable that one of the underlying reasons for Public Safety's concerns relates to the proximity of UR's River Campus to the 19th Ward. While the area's crime rates are high, theft or robberies with some occasional unarmed assault make up the vast majority of the cases. The assumption that the Ward is violent and students need to be protected from it stems from a deeply rooted socio-economic and racial prejudice that a police officer with a gun cannot solve.

Another occurrence that has been stressed as a justification for the arming of the campus officers involves a man with a carry permit, who didn't know the proper rules of a concealed weapon, entering the Medical Center once. One time. Is that enough of an impetus to arm police officers? Historically, the UR campus has experienced zero fatal shootings. No Public Safety officer has ever been severely harmed by a student or an outsider. Force has been

used 15 times since 2014, and not one of these cases required a lethal weapon. Whether some of the 15 people would have been dead if Public Safety had been armed is a concern we didn't need to contemplate until now.

In the current climate regarding police force, guns do not make students feel safe. With the Black Lives Matter movement combating police brutality, arming campus officers would undermine the efforts made by students and activists by dismissing their legitimate anxieties. Before implementing such a drastic measure, the University must address several questions. Will officers use their weapons on outsiders only, or on students too? Will Public Safety officers be treated like regular officers in their use of weapons? Will self-defense equate to shooting to kill? Will there ever be repercussions for killing a person? Are they protecting us or themselves?

Krokovia is a member of the Class of 2019.

No Guns on Campus

BY NICO TAVELLA

There is a problem with gun culture in this country.

This should not come as a surprise to anyone keeping up with current events. The number of mass shootings increases each year. Parents are afraid to send their children to school. People of color try to stay in groups because of persistent, armed racism. Colleges are beginning to consider arming their campus security officers.

This is where the University finds itself today.

University administration is coming to the end of a discussion on whether they will arm Department of Public Safety (DPS) officers. University President Joel Seligman recently released a report on their recommendations, and the issue was brought up at the latest meeting of the College Diversity Roundtable. The Security Commission has recommended arming some officers on the Medical Center campus, and having a few armed officers that patrol both campuses.

Sentiment among students has not changed since the first mention of this discussion; many students are overwhelmingly opposed to any armed officers on our campus.

Seligman, when Yik Yak was being used to make anonymous threats to students of color, steadfastly refused to block Yik Yak from university servers because of concerns of opening a door that would lead to graver consequences. My question for him is: If blocking Yik Yak opens some Pandora's Box of censorship, doesn't arming campus officers open a similar issue of gun violence? If we bring guns on this campus in one form, does that not follow the president's sentiment that it would lead to more issues? Guns do NOT make people any safer.

The discussion seems to recognize that violence is increasing across this country. But there appears to be a gap in logic, where people say "yes, there's increasing violence and I don't feel safe," but then in the next breath they say "let's give our officers guns."

Now, maybe these people feel safer with armed Public Safety officers, and if so, then I can understand why they would want to arm them. What I think we need to do, however, is something we learn in class every day: challenge common sense. Why do you feel safe with armed campus police? Could it be because you feel like they are on your side? That their guns would be

used on other people to protect you?

Consider why others don't want Public Safety to be armed. Maybe, in the same way you feel that officers are on your side, others feel that officers are a threat to them. Now imagine how that fear will increase if those same officers are given guns.

What this decision ultimately comes down to is whose lives are most in danger. The administration cites an increase in violence on campus, but the data they cite is not even slightly alarming, statistically. In my own experience on campus, I have found more hostility from fellow students than from the outside community from which we are being "protected."

By arming our DPS officers—who already have an arsenal of non-lethal weapons at their disposal—with guns, we perpetuate the culture we are attempting to fix. Violence does not solve, stop, or prevent violence.

Even if we did arm Public Safety officers, we know all too well the consequences of arming officers, especially without proper training. This is why, time after time, unarmed black people are shot and killed by police for "looking suspicious." They shoot first and ask questions later. And for those of you rolling your eyes as you read me "pulling the race card," I cannot emphasize enough how relevant "the race card" is when we talk about arming security officers. In particular, the dining staff, made up largely of Black people from the inner city, is given no voice on the issue, despite having even more reason to be opposed to arming officers than the student body.

If we arm Public Safety officers, it becomes more likely that this epidemic of police brutality will show up not only on our campus but also in the greater Rochester community. The administration cites "gang violence" and robberies as the cause of the pending decision, but the reality of the situation is that this threatens the Rochester community far more than it does our campus community.

If we arm Public Safety, we will see not an increase in campus safety, but rather an increase in violence outside the campus bubble. This has happened across the country, and I think it is naïve to assume it will be different if we do it here in Rochester. We have an obligation not just to each other, but also to the city in which we live, to improve, not worsen, the quality of life.

Tavella is a member of the Class of 2017.

FEATURES

SEX & CT

Get the ‘Yes’

BY SIMI GREWAL
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

In some situations, consent is straightforward. In others, it can be murky. Let the Campus Times break it down for you.

What is consent?

Consent is the approval of any sexual behavior including kissing, touching, oral or penetrative sex. It must be informed, freely given, and mutual.



Who can consent?

People over the age of 18 who share a mutual desire for one another and are not incapacitated due to alcohol and drugs, haven't been coerced emotionally or physically, aren't unconscious or asleep, or aren't mentally disabled can give consent.

What is affirmative consent?

In three words: Yes means yes. UR, like many colleges around the nation, is an affirmative consent school. Affirmative consent requires that both partners give permission to engage in any sexual acts.

What about “no means no?”

“No means no” is what a lot of us have been taught growing up. While true, it can be easily misconstrued. It gives the upper hand to the person that initiates sex because, under this guideline, they can assume consent until their partner says no, which could be due to a myriad of reasons, including fear. This lacks any discussion of or insight into what the non-initiating partner wants.

How do I get affirmative consent?

You ask! This is where the arguments about losing the heat of the moment or being robotic come in. But asking your partner what they want doesn't ruin sex—it enhances it. Let's say this together: We cannot read minds, so we don't want know what our partner wants until they tell us. Body language or clothing can deceptively suggest a yes, but it cannot be assured until you get a verbal yes.

It doesn't have to be robotic—asking can improve your sexual experience. Ask questions like: “Do you like that?”; “Can we keep going?”; “May I take your shirt off?”; and “Is this okay?” throughout the advancement of sexual acts. If the person says yes,

then sexual activities can continue. If your partner doesn't give you the green light, then stop the act.

Is it okay to have sex if we're both drunk?

Sex after drinking alcohol is ubiquitous on college campuses. UR has developed guidelines in the Sexual Misconduct policy to address this. If you and your partner can both affirmatively consent to sexual behaviors, then yes, it's okay. But if you or your partner is incapacitated, then consent cannot be given.

What blurs the line is that incapacitation looks different on different people. Some guidelines, if someone is slurring their words, cannot sit or stand up straight, cannot walk straight, and is clearly not in complete and total control of their body, then that person is incapacitated. Even if they manage to squeeze out a yes, it would be wrong and illegal to engage in any sexual activity with them. The least murky option would be to stay on the safe side and not have sex while under the influence of alcohol or with someone who has had alcohol.

What if you're both incapacitated?

This still falls under inability to consent. You're probably not going to be doing much of anything, anyway, because, for many people, incapacitation signals the loss of precise motor functions. If both of you can't move, there probably isn't much sex going on.

What if we're dating or we've had sex before? Can I assume consent?

Assuming makes an ass out of you and me, as the saying goes, and assuming consent—well, that'll ruin two lives. Never assume you have consent. The best way to not assume is to communicate your desires and wait for an affirmative response to continue. Also note

It doesn't have to be robotic – asking can improve your sexual experience.

that consenting once isn't a free pass; even during the act, consent can always be withdrawn. Consent doesn't have to be a mystifying, scary thing. At the heart of consent is communication. It's as simple as asking your partner if they want to continue and having your partner check in with you. Not only does it improve your sexual experience with another person, but it's the best way to show respect for someone else.

Grewal is a member of the Class of 2017.

UR TECH

Shocking Yourself into Gear

BY AARON LIM
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

As the sun peeks its head over the horizon, a sprinter, lean and statuesque, stands in preparation for the morning's workout. But before beginning her routine, she puts on a pair of over-ear headphones and opens an app to kick off a round of transcranial Direct-Current Stimulation (tDCS).

Put simply, she is shocking her brain to improve her training.

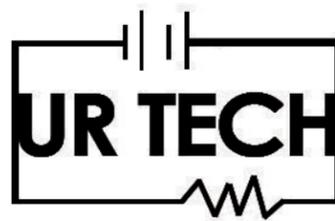
A new device that implements tDCS has found its way out of a San Francisco startup headed by Daniel Chao and Brett Wingeier. They call their newest gadget Halo Sport and have already sold out of pre-orders.

Halo Sport looks and functions like a pair of regular over-ear headphones, but it can be used to send small electric currents to specific parts of the brain. Chao has a master's degree in neuroscience and a medical degree from Stanford University, while Wingeier has a Ph.D. in biomedical engineering. Chao does the science and Wingeier does the tech, and together, they are trying to stretch the capabilities of the modern athlete.

The science behind Halo Sport is well understood. Two electrodes (an anode and a cathode) are placed on the scalp and a small electric current is used to induce the firing of certain neurons. The more times these neurons fire, the stronger their neural pathways become. Ultimately, our brains get better at remembering how to do a particular movement.

But using tDCS to improve

athletic performance was not Chao and Wingeier's original plan. Electrical stimulation of the brain has been around for many decades, and has been used for a variety of applications, with varying rates of success. Chao and Wingeier wanted a product that would give them solid results. After a series of tests with over 1,500 volunteers, they found that the motor cortex (the area of the brain involved with voluntary movement) showed the most promise. Thus, Halo Sport targets this brain region, which starts at one ear and stretches over the head to the other ear. Its



placement makes it perfect for a headphone band.

Although many are skeptical of the results of studies involving tDCS, Chao and Wingeier proudly report that their tests show increases in the speed of clicking a button and pressing a key on a keyboard. Of course, here is a big difference between clicking buttons and swimming or playing baseball. This is why Chao and Wingeier also tested Halo Sport on skiers and snowboarders. A lot of training by these winter athletes is actually done indoors. One such type of training is jumping on a force plate to practice doing tricks. The force plate measures how much

force the athlete exerts. The more force produced, the higher the athlete can jump and the more intricate the trick can become. After using Halo Sport during training sessions, skiers and snowboarders showed a slightly increased ability to jump.

The key point in the above example is that the athletes were using Halo Sport along with their usual training regime. Unfortunately, you can't just wear Halo Sport on your couch and expect to acquire new athletic abilities. This technology is meant to be used while performing some sort of action. It's not just for Olympic athletes, either—people of all skill levels can use it.

But if it is for the general public, people should ask how safe it is. You have probably heard of electroshock or electroconvulsive therapy, and the horror stories associated with those terms. In those cases, practitioners used upwards of 800 to 900 milliamperes (mA) of electric current. Halo Sport only uses a measly 2 mA. It is no more dangerous than touching a potato battery.

So, if you are interested in trying Halo Sport, the first commercial models are expected to be available in October, with a retail price \$749. The device can pair with any smartphone and is controlled completely with an app. You can adjust the amount of time you are receiving tDCS as well as its intensity, making it incredibly user-friendly.

The only question left to answer is: Is brain hacking cheating?

Lim is a member of the Class of 2017.

Beta Theta Bubble Soccer

BY CAITLIN DAVIE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Students rushed around, kicked a soccer ball, and tried to score on tiny nets on the Wilson Quad this past Tuesday, suited up not in shinpads and cleats, but in bubbles.

They were stumbling their way through the game as part of a Beta Theta Pi rush event, the first of their inaugural year as a fraternity.

The game consists of two teams playing soccer while encased in large, plastic bubbles that create a barrier around the player's head and upper body, which allows for boisterous tackling. Both spectators and members of the fraternity seemed to enjoy themselves as they appreciated the sunny evening.

“A bunch of people were having fun. Everyone was just there to have a good time,” said junior Claudia

Perez, a spectator of the game.

As students watched their friends play the game, they laughed and enjoyed recording the events on their phones. Passersby and attendees could also eat free Insomnia Cookies that were being given out on the porch of Wilson Commons.

Perez's favorite part of watching the game was seeing people getting knocked over.

“There were people who would get flipped upside down, and then you would need to push them over because they could not right themselves back up,” she laughed. “It was great.”

The idea, which originally came from the chapter's group chat, had the members excited to start planning immediately.

Besides finding food and a venue, they had to find a provider of the equipment. The bubble soccer company was actually in Boston, so the provider drove seven hours

in order to set up the event, and when it was finished, he drove another seven hours to get back to Massachusetts.

While this was all part of Rush Week, there were larger goals in mind for this event than to recruit new members.

“A lot of fraternity rush events keep it insular to their organization, but we really wanted to branch out to the community,” Michael Gilbert, President of Beta Theta Pi, said. “We wanted people to get to know us.”

Gilbert, a senior, thought the event was a success.

“The bubble soccer was great because it was fun and it got a lot of energy,” he said. “I just think it's great that we have so much excitement.”

With forty new additions to the organization, he believes the members are ready to do anything.

Davie is a member of the Class of 2019.

Keep UR Summer Alive



SHAE RHINEHART / FEATURES EDITOR

UR Students enjoy an picnic on the Eastman Quad.

BY RAAGA KANAKAM
COPY EDITOR

As we enter the third week of school, it may feel like the days of soaking up the sun and enjoying the outdoors are over while you stress over all your deadlines and commitments.

Don't fret! Though it might feel like your work is multiplying by the minute, there is still some sun left to get your mind off of school for a bit.

Take some time to explore these options so you don't miss the last few rays of sun before we dive into the winter months:

Letchworth State Park

Located 35 miles south of Rochester, Letchworth State Park holds an abundance of opportunities—hiking, rafting, camping. Hiking trails around the park range from a half a mile to 20, varying from easy to moderate difficulty. Whitewater rafting on the Genesee River is available to experienced whitewater paddlers. You can even go hot air ballooning over the park until mid October, with each ride lasting 45 to 60 minutes.

"My team goes on hikes there every fall," sophomore Colleen Stone said. "It's a really pretty hike up to the waterfalls."

The star of the park is the Genesee River, cascading over three falls, one of which is the 107-foot drop of the Middle Falls. If you hike here, be sure to stay after dark to see the Middle Falls illuminated by lights (only until October).

Lake Ontario Beach

Hamlin Beach, located 30 miles away from campus (a 30-minute drive), is a beautiful beach on the shores of Lake Ontario. With lots of amenities and crystal-clear

water, it is a great way to have a chill day with your friends.

"It's a nice place to go to get away," junior Dominick Sarappa said. "It's a good place if you like to go to the beach and relax without worrying about all the chaos."

If that's not your thing, though, Hamlin Beach offers plenty more for you to enjoy. There are six miles of hiking and biking trails to use for some outdoor exercise and fun, as well as salmon and trout fishing. Worried about how you'll get there? Just rent a Zipcar for a couple hours (or become friends with someone who has a car).

"It ain't no Jersey shore, but it'll do," Sarappa said.

River running trails

You don't need to travel all the way to Hamlin Beach or Letchworth for running and biking trails. There are over 40 trails right here in Rochester. The one that runs right by the River Campus is the Genesee River Trail, which you can follow for one or two miles before hitting a route to the Rochester suburbs.

"Of course, I love running along the river trails, because they're beautiful," varsity rower and junior Sarabeth Rambold said. "But also because running there gives me a different perspective [...] of the river and the surroundings of campus that I don't really get to appreciate while rowing."

Run, bike, walk, skate—you can do anything on these trails. Be sure to make use of these beautiful, scenic routes at least once before winter hits.

Biking

Biking is another great way to get outside on a sunny day, but with the added benefit of allowing you to shop or sightsee as well.

The closest fun location you can bike to is Collegetown, where you can grab a bite to eat and hang out with friends. It's incredibly easy to travel downtown, as well, requiring only a three-mile bike ride on the Genesee Riverway Trail to reach the Eastman School of Music.

"I barely left the UR bubble during freshman year and never realized how many hidden gems there are around the city of Rochester," sophomore Josephine Foong said. "I decided to invest in a bike and made a list of places I'd explore."

Don't have a bike? No problem! The school offers the City-Cycles program, a bicycle-lending library that allows you to check out a bike for 24 hours or until the close of the next business day, whichever comes first. Considering how bicycle-friendly the city is, it is easy to get wherever you need to go on two wheels.

Picnics

Genesee Valley Park is home to eight picnic shelters and is located right across the street from the University entrance by Elmwood. Grab sandwiches, waters, and fruit (or just order some Dinosaur Bar-B-Que), and toss a frisbee around while listening to music. Of course, there are plenty of spots around campus, too, such as the Eastman and Wilson Quads or Jackson Court and the surrounding grass.

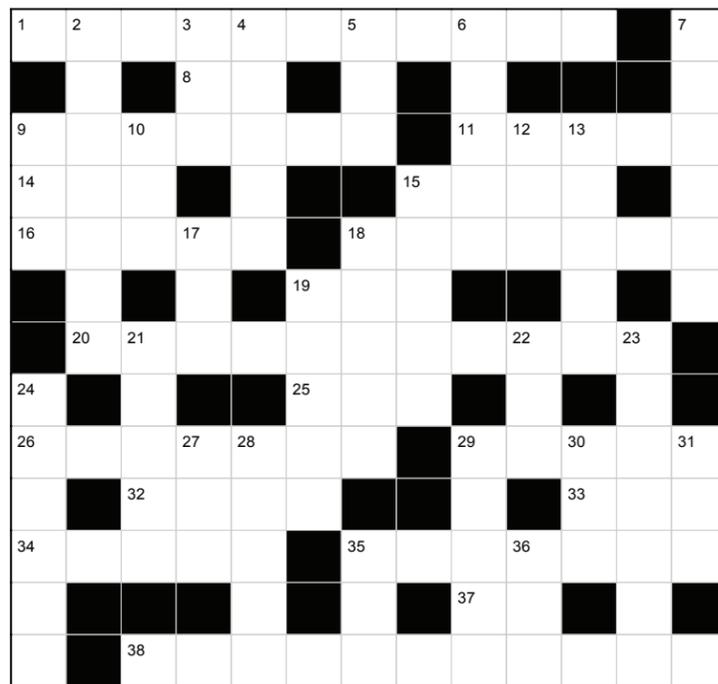
"My favorite part about the warm months [...] is eating ice cream from Hillside by the river by the little picnic benches," junior Siena Krey said.

Be sure to go outside once in awhile and enjoy the sun while it lasts because, even though schoolwork may have you stuck in Rush Rhees with your face in a book, it's only a matter of time before the first snow falls.

Kanakam is a member of the Class of 2017.

PUZZLES

Crossword Puzzle



BY **SAM PASSANISI** '17

DIFFICULTY **EASY**

ACROSS:

- The King of American horror
- ___ amo, as a lover might say
- Treetop browser
- Traditional antagonist of business, one might say
- ___ them eat cake!
- E.g. Pepsi, Sprite, etc.
- Egg repository
- One variety of heretic, to early Christians
- Communist Chairman
- Actor's affliction?
- Behind, in a nautical sense
- Driver's (and taxpayer's) bane
- Snacks or appetizers, esp. in Spain
- Optimist's outlook
- Supplier of sundries to the Simpsons
- Pre-euro French currency
- Water fountain, or this, to Wisconsinites
- Job sector for CS majors, perhaps
- Independence Day essential

- Rochester's transit org.
- Source of revenue for websites, newspapers, etc.
- Make your cookies one _____ at a time
- Pig noise? Or a way to get high?
- Same as 10 Down
- Politician's slip-up
- Grainy, unappetizing, if describing fruit
- "Four" prefix
- Rating of academic success
- High-flying acrobat's art
- You're looking swell, dandy, or perhaps this.
- Diner waitress' term of address
- Famous grouch
- It's connected to the knee bone, as the song goes
- Friendly term of address
- Big ____, a famous surf spot
- Could be a pen or a lighter
- Internet cryptocurrency, abbr.

DOWN:

- Honor among these?
- Public school auxiliary org.
- "Big and tall," a little less tactfully
- America's premier science guy
- No refrigerator needed, in this house
- You wouldn't download a car—unless you were engaged in this
- Kind of stick you might find at a rave or festival

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HUMOR

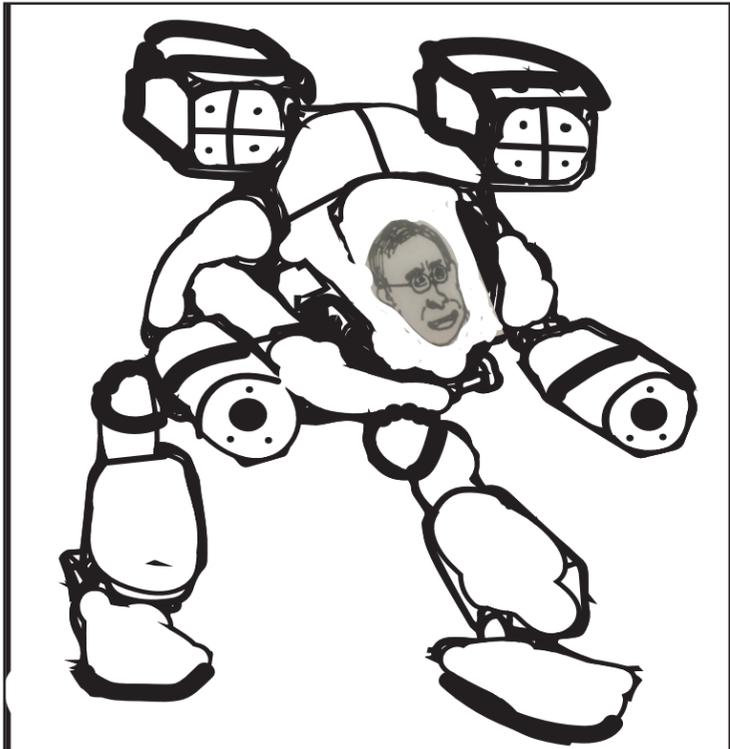
Security Commission Recommends Arming Seligman

BY SAM PASSANISI
OPINIONS EDITOR

A recent email from the office of University President Joel Seligman has revealed that in addition to recommending some Public Safety officers be equipped with firearms to ensure safety on campus, administrators have also decided to recommend arming Seligman himself.

“Let’s face it, a few cops with guns can only do so much for us,” trustee Jimmy Winters commented. “They might be able to keep the peace in the face of ordinary threats. What about a 60-foot atomic lizard rising from the waters of the Genessee, or a fleet of hostile aliens descending on campus? That’s why we need a 12-foot tall Mecha-Seligman equipped with dual shoulder-mounted missile launchers and arm cannons.”

A hand picked team of mechanical engineering grad students was tasked with making the necessary upgrades to Seligman, transforming him from a mild mannered college



SCOTT MISTLER-FERGUSON / HUMOR EDITOR
AUREK RANSOM / EDITOR IN CHIEF

A University-released mock-up of the Commission’s proposed upgrade for Seligman.

administrator into an implacable cyborg enforcer.

This isn’t the first time the University has upgraded one of its presidents. In 1926, Benjamin Rush Rheeshad a miniature fusion reactor implanted in his chest to enable him to single-handedly construct the library that bears his name. While not a president, per se, George Eastman also underwent surgery in the early 20th century to equip him with a self-contained cryonic preservation system. After donating huge sums of his fortune to the University, Eastman stationed himself between Morey and Lattimore Halls and converted his organic matter into a frozen effigy of adamantium, where he remains to this day in a dead-but-dreaming state, waiting to awaken and reap the souls of all who betrayed him in life.

“This is exactly the type of threat I’m talking about,” Winters stressed. “When the Azariah Boody cultists finally succeed in raising Eastman from his slumber of aeons, who’s

gonna stop him? Not some cop with a pea-shooter. I’m putting my money on Seligmanator and his bristling array of weaponry.”

When asked for a comment, Seligman professed that he is “**totally friggin’ stoked.**” about his new cybernetic capabilities.

Seligman’s new capabilities will be demonstrated for the University community during Mel Weekend, when he plans to vaporize the statue of George Eastman with a pair of energy beams projected from his eyes. Then, Seligman said, he’ll probably activate his afterburners and perform a couple of sick barrel rolls in the sky over Wilson Quad.

“**We’re hoping this will really cut down on underage drinking on campus,**” he added with a wry smirk.

Passanisi is a member of the Class of 2017.

Queen Elsa’s Retribution

BY DAVID SCHILDKRAUT
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Citing the failure that was the last Rochester winter, Ice Queen Elsa has promised to set things right this time around.

“Last year, an amazing opportunity presented itself to me,” Elsa said. “Taking that opportunity ended up being quite a distraction from my role in society. This year, I’m going to do it right.”

After a

on an upcoming, but still unannounced, Frozen sequel, produced by George R.R. Martin.

Martin, the popular Game of Thrones author, declined to comment.

Promises of an actual winter have the University community in high

Vice President for University Facilities and Services Bruce Bashwiner said. “Things might get a little crowded and messy, but we are working with [University President Joel] Seligman to ensure that this year, there are still no snow days and the professors can get to campus.”

Despite the threats of students having to attend class this winter, Speaker of the Senate Lindsay Wrobel and Students’ Association (SA) President Vito Martino announced at last Monday’s Senate meeting a joint SA initiative to expand

Winterfest. Plans include extending Winterfest to envelop an entire week, holding a prayer service to Elsa at the Interfaith Chapel, and a Public Safety-sponsored “Public-Safety Snow-Officer-Building Contest.” They encourage all interested in the event to attend a Skype general interest meeting on Friday, which will be automatically played on every electronic device connected to the University Wi-Fi.

“In preparation for the expected blizzards, Facilities and Services has purchased an extra 1,000 tons of salt and hired over 20 new employees,” Associate

Schildkraut is a member of the Class of 2020.

Broken Records

BY NATE KUHRT
SENIOR STAFF

With his alarm blasting, head ringing, and heart sinking, senior Erik Franclin dragged himself out of bed. He had spent the night before at bars with all of his 21-and-up friends, because he is now over 21, and had forgotten to consider the repercussions of his actions. Choosing to ignore the common decision reached by most of his peers, Erik was determined to continue his perfect attendance for the semester.

After a whopping two-and-a-half weeks, he has yet to miss a course, and according to Franclin, “does not plan on missing one until at least fall break,” when he actually will consider a vacation day. “It only makes sense that us seniors get a vacation day or two. You know, to prepare for when we miss real-world work,” Franclin said.

This is being dubbed as an attempt at a “Perfect Semester,” an accomplishment only matched by the perfect game in baseball. If Franclin is able to complete the semester without missing class, he will go down in history as only the

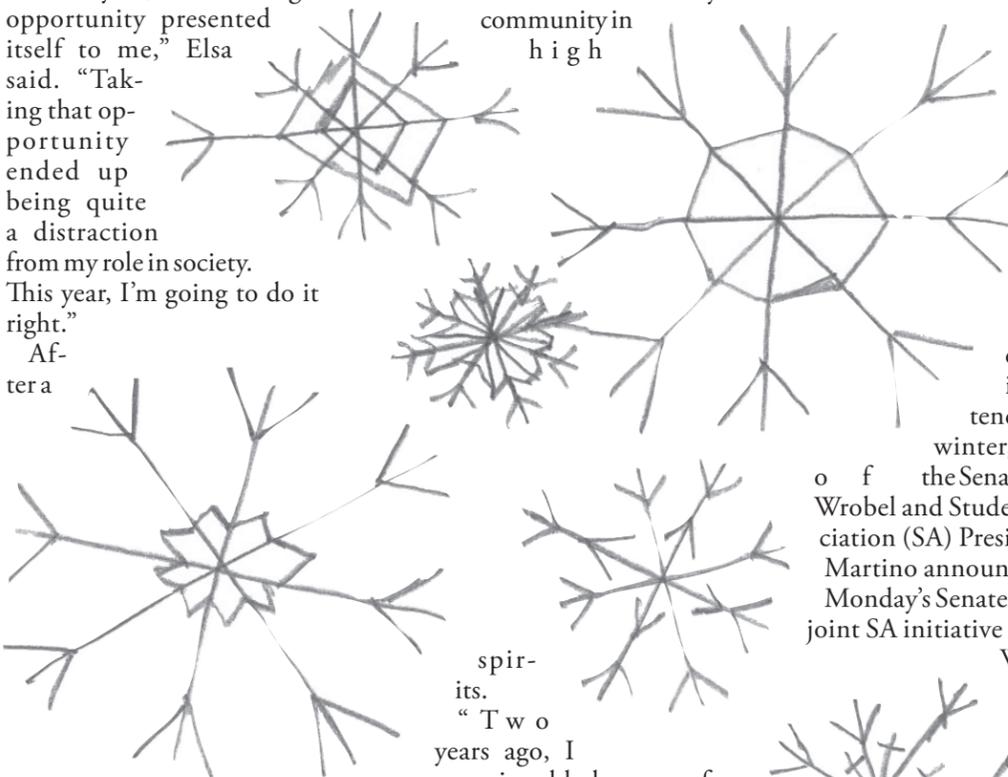
fourth senior to achieve the feat. When asked if he has any tips to rising students, he said, “Sleep. And I mean whenever you can.”

Franclin’s fellow biology classmate and senior Shmyle Shmith commented on Franclin’s determination, “I have yet to see a fellow student so focused on the goals at hand. It’s incredible. He makes it to class. Then sleeps. He knows every minute counts when making it to and recovering from a 9 a.m.”

With all of the attention Franclin has garnered, he has offered meet-and-greets (at the cost of some Declining) in between his busy senior schedule. He is available anytime Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. He also can be found most of the day in ITS or in the back of his classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays, either asleep or looking for full-time jobs.

When asked if he considers himself a role model, Franclin responded, “I am not the senior the school wants, I am the senior the school needs. The one taking his studies seriously all the way into that Take Five year.”

Kuhrt is a member of the Class of 2017.

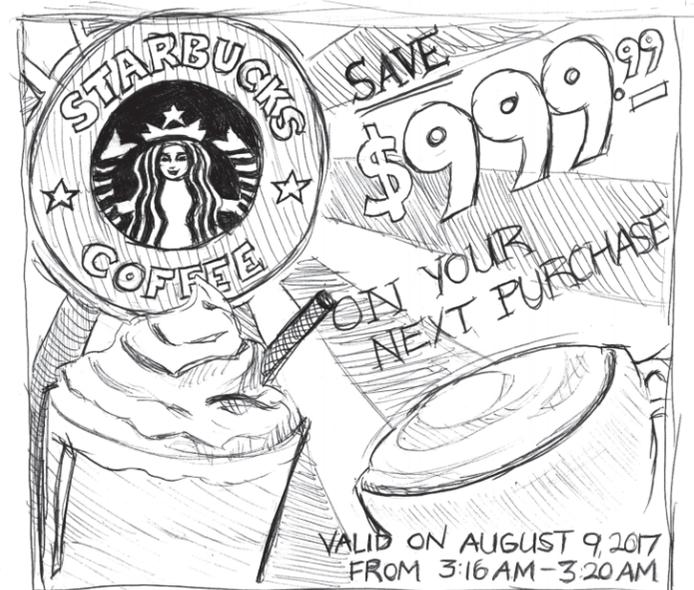


SCOTT MISTLER-FERGUSON / HUMOR EDITOR

thorough investigation, the Campus Times found that Elsa has been working at Disney World since July 2014. She was working part-time, and winter was not offered as a full-time position, so Elsa went on strike. Coming north to Toronto in protest, her anger caused a stormy, miserable winter.

After that storm, Disney relented, hiring Elsa full-time. This job distracted Elsa, and as a result, last winter was unseasonably warm.

Donald Duckal, a Disney spokesman, told the times that Elsa was hired full time to work



ANGELA LAI / PUBLISHER

Yaktivity

BY SCOTT MISTLER-FERGUSON
HUMOR EDITOR

6064

To the douche on the date night who tipped \$0 and wrote fuck you on your tab: your date thinks you're a tool and I hope you step on a Lego and don't get laid

(2 replies)

1. To this douche I say

Good and evil don't act in a tricky way

They're both dogs keening at you

For attention saying "do as I do!"

Either can convince you of a greater need,

But the one that wins is the one you feed

2. He wants money to burn and his soul he would sell

But he really burns cash to practice burning in hell.

4172

HUGE TURN ON: When people smell good and are hot. Sometimes spicy. Wrapped in tinfoil. Are actually burritos.

(1 reply)

1. Lust and love are louder than screaming.

Sometimes the simpler indulgences

have more meaning.

3981

Just saw a guy run to catch

up with a girl so he could share his umbrella. Keep doing you kid

(3 replies)

1. Hope is that guy.

The lawyer stopping himself from a lie,

The mother rushing to her child's cry,

The drive who lets another pass him by.

Hope is small and it is enough.

2. He's started a wave

With an act not brave

But humble and sweet as a finger wave

3. I always cry at a happy ending

So why is this one

Not contending?

Maybe I've an idea

That leaves me bending

Towards a hope that these acts

Are unforced and unending.

1274

Why Did I Do That?: a novel by me, with special guest appearances by several alcoholic beverages

(4 replies)

1. Let the world know that your drinking is your Vice. It will never change for what else could entice

The way a cool beer and burning head feel?

Both are will suffice.

2. The mistakes you make

will only be worthwhile If you make them less or not for a while.

3. Telling me about your life while telling so little

Is a gift given to you by anonymity so unreal and brittle.

4. If you don't tell everyone that you drink

Do you even get intoxicated to the brink

Of retching into a toilet bowl or a sink?

6

I think it's time to be happy again

(1 reply)

1. I think it's time you're definition of happiness

Expanded to fit moments filled with stress.

Welcome to college.

4

Truth is, we're all missing someone and hoping that they miss us too

(2 replies)

1. Truth is, you're opening up to the world while being anonymous.

Before projecting pain and pity onto us you should learn to trust

2. Every upvote just might be them.

Every downvote is a rose broken at the stem.

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

Bad Advice from Brian

BY BRIAN LEONARD
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Dear Brian,

How do I know whether I should pass/fail a class?

-Margery Kempe

Hello reader, and welcome to the inaugural edition of Bad Advice from Brian. Here, I'll be taking reader-submitted questions and trying to respond to them as best as I know how. Let's start with the question at hand: when should I use the pass/fail option on a class? Well, in order to understand the complexities of this issue, we need to delve a bit into the history of the pass/fail system.

It was early in 1979, I believe, when former University President Dax Ratfarmer was taking his ceremonial morning butterbath and reading National Review." Now, there's no concrete evidence of this, but legend has it that Ratfarmer's wife, Belize, came into their bathroom that morning and asked Dax if he was interested in having a Greek yogurt for breakfast, to which he quickly replied "pass!" and indicated that, once again, he'd be going with Go-Gurt instead. I know it's hard to believe so many things could go right at once, but according to the legend, after this, Belize turned to

leave the bathroom and slipped on Dax's splashy-water, falling on her rumpus plumpus. If we take the scribes at their word, it is at this moment that the president cries out "fail!" at his wife's misfortune. Here, Dax has his "eureka!" moment—there should be a pass/fail option for our classes!

Wow, what a great history lesson. It's stuff like this that gets me incredibly engorged.

Let's move on, though, to how the pass/fail system actually works, huh? Well, it's pretty simple. Let's say you're in the second month of your first semester of organic chemistry. Things are going well; you're keeping up with the labs, and you did well on the first test. By all rights, you should be a shoo-in for a B+, come grading time. That is, until you are visited by Grumbo the Coupons Elf, who endows you suddenly with the ability to produce stupendous deals out of your fingertips. Quite the change of circumstances!

All of a sudden, you're quite the hot item on campus. Everyone wants to take you on their Wegman's runs, hoping to benefit from your poppin' fingerbargains. This helps you climb the social ladder, but it eats into all of your orgo study time! Pretty soon, you're failing badly. So I guess my advice is, drop out!

Leonard is a member of the Class of 2017.

A Comprehensive Ranking of the World's Greatest Soups

BY SEAN CORCRAN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

With autumn quickly approaching, it is only appropriate to shift our focus onto soup. Soup, of course, is the most versatile of the non-solid foods, being artisanally crafted into a plethora of tantalizing concoctions. It's often hard to pick which soup to have. Many factors come into play such as the weather, your mood, and the source. For our purposes, we will look at the nuances and intricacies of the five most relevant soups.

Chicken noodle soup: Ah, yes, the grand poobah of soups. Just throw together your entire vegetable garden with some chicken to get this masterfully versatile broth.

Did you know there are more chickens on planet Earth than people? Chicken's probably the most versatile meat, so it's no surprise it surfaces on the soup power rankings. It's imperative to use the breast of chicken, rather than the leg, as it will more readily absorb the broth and melt on the palate. Pair this with a nice slice of sourdough bread, and be on your way.

Beef stew: You may find yourself saying, "What's the difference, other than the type of meat?" Well, the stew differentiates itself from a noodle broth with its thicker consistency, the use of biscuits or dumplings rather than noodles, and the use of heavier vegetables. This soup falls to second place, if only for the difficulty of preparation. It is really hard to make a great beef stew, and stews definitely find their niche in particular types of weather. What's more, show me

to add colorful vegetables and spices for a well-rounded stew, which should be put on a medium-high to hot-simmer for approximately 45 minutes and then cooled before serving.

New England clam chowder: The staple of the northeast. A mighty-fine, creamed soup with a touch of spice to go along with a rich consistency. It's critical to keep this soup at a warm, medium-warm temperature

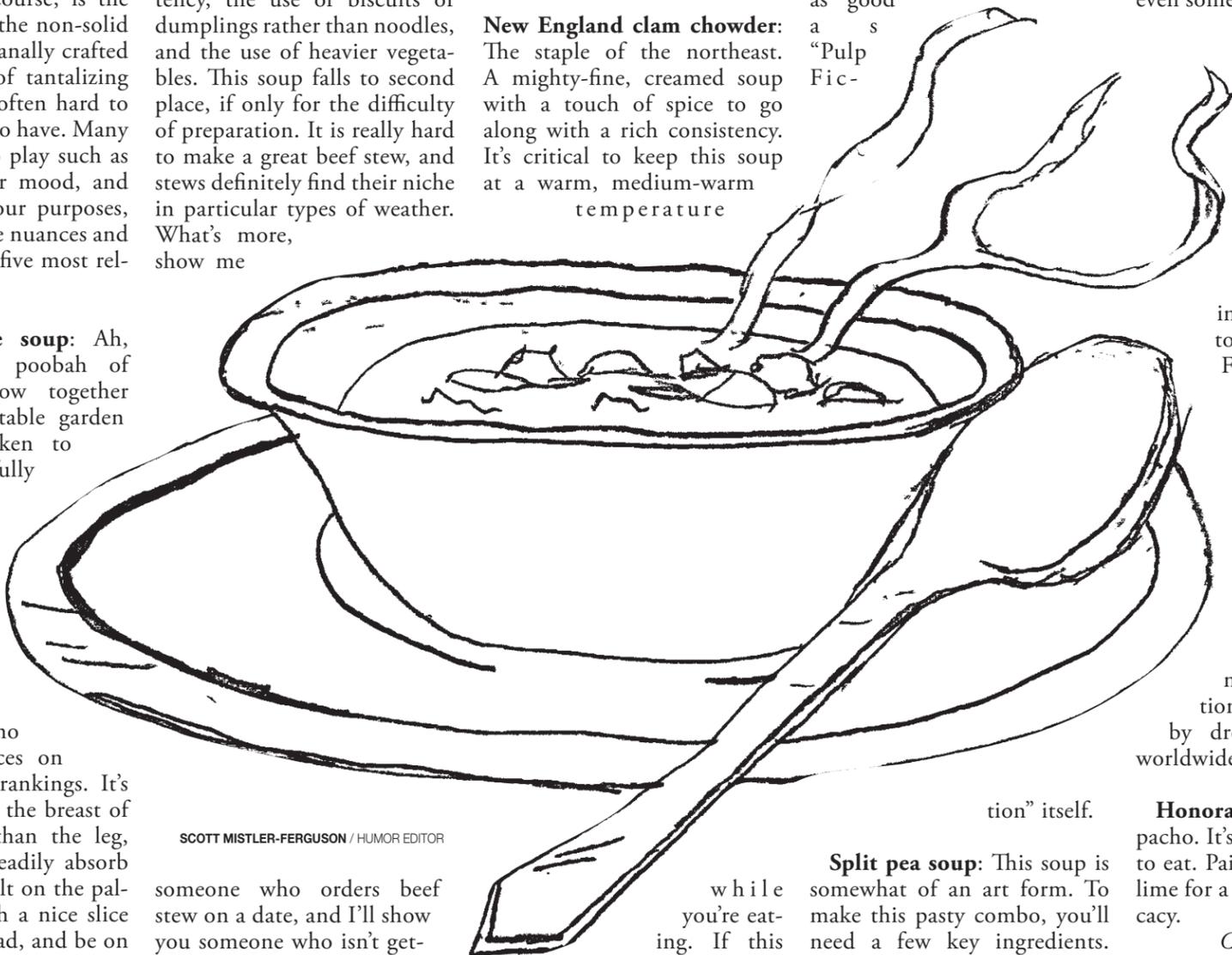
person, it would be Samuel L. Jackson. It's never the star of the meal, but ubiquitous enough to be a big draw. Throw in a few cubes of potato here or there, and you have a dish as good as a s "Pulp Fiction"

a must, as the peas must become one with the broth. A ham bone adds that smokiness you simply cannot replicate with other soups. Throw in a touch of thyme, some dill, and even some light parsley for aesthetic excellence.

French onion soup: I'll tell you what—this could be considered an upset. French onion soup seems to have a loyal following that lurks in the shadows, only to come forth when French onion takes ridicule. Sure, the croutons in the mahogany broth create a nice combination, but where does it stand out? Be it for fear of choking, or for an apprehension about combining soup with a layer of thick mozzarella, this option is underappreciated by droves of soup-eaters worldwide.

Honorable mention: Gazpacho. It's fun to say, more fun to eat. Pair with a Corona and lime for a crisp lunchtime delicacy.

Corcran is a member of the Class of 2018.



SCOTT MISTLER-FERGUSON / HUMOR EDITOR

someone who orders beef stew on a date, and I'll show you someone who isn't getting a second date. Be sure

while you're eating. If this soup were a

Split pea soup: This soup is somewhat of an art form. To make this pasty combo, you'll need a few key ingredients. Simmering on medium-low is

tion" itself.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Garth Fagan Fringe Fest Performance is Universally Moving

BY ISABEL DRUKKER
A&E EDITOR

I am what the dance world would term a beginner.

You could call the friends I brought with me unfamiliar.

I can say with confidence, however, that we all enjoyed the fusion of contemporary, ballet, and Afro-Caribbean dance in the Garth Fagan Dance Studio's Fringe Fest performance.

Fagan, the Tony Award-winning choreographer wearing a long-sleeve plaid shirt and leather vest with jeans and sneakers, introduced his "rookies" alongside his "beloved baby brother" for a small performance at his own studio in downtown Rochester.

"They're going to dance so beautifully," Fagan said in his opening speech.

They didn't disappoint.

In a crescendo, the Afro-Caribbean influence slowly overtook the performance. It began, though, with a heavily ballet-influenced piece. The dancers stretched, pliéed, and slowly moved their legs into arabesques all on their own individual times, while their formations and style still gave them an illusion of synchrony. Only the slow, modern music and rhythm paired with a flexed—not pointed—foot hinted that something was going to change.

By the last piece, the dancers on stage were all smiling brightly as traditional Caribbean music played in the background. Not only were feet flexed, but hips swam through the stage, straight arms pointed up, and flat palms reached upwards. Fagan's brother and another dancer moved their limbs through a mock game of

limbo.

Fagan is an award-winning choreographer, known for his groundbreaking fusion of dance genres as well as for his choreography for the 1998 Tony-Awarded Best Musical, "The Lion King," for which Fagan also won a Tony for Best Choreography.

Let this indicate Fagan's ability to touch even those who are miles away from the dance world.

During a duet in "No Evidence of Failure," choreographed by Fagan, there was audible laughter throughout the audience. The two dancers tousled one another's hair, teased each other with kisses, and felt one another throughout the dance. This flirtation and maturing of love ends with the simple act of hand-holding, touching the audience more than any other performance. When the dancing and applause had ended,

an elderly couple sitting in front of me shared a single kiss.

Fagan declared himself "madly in love" with this work, and it wasn't hard to decipher why.

The second piece, "A Moderate Cease," was choreographed by Norwood Pennewell and similarly provoked the audience. The number was set to grandiose chamber music, juxtaposing the small ensemble of dancers. In the duet, the couple danced in a contemporary and ballet-influenced style, featuring a couple who spun, flipped, and stretched into a constant embrace, but never manages to look at one another face-to-face.

This juxtaposition of liveliness and solitude is found often throughout Fagan's choreography. The last piece, though cheery in sound and appearance, is danced to a voiceover read by

Fagan describing the death of a man as his lover kisses him for the last time.

"He died full of life," Fagan said, as the two dancers representing the couple folded into a cheek-to-cheek hug and the remaining performers moved in a lively circle around them.

The selection at this Fringe Fest event was the raw, almost costumeless version of what will be performed at the Nazareth Performing Arts Center from Nov. 30 through Dec. 3.

If you know what it is to feel the pleasures and toils of relationships or loneliness, if you know what it is to be a person in want of life's joys, you will enjoy Fagan's piece.

Even if you don't quite understand it.

Drukker is a member of the Class of 2017.

Student DJ's Craft Sates Campus Desire for EDM

BY BEN SCHMITZ
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The student-produced music scene here at UR is rather unique.

Due to the vibrant jazz scene in the City of Rochester and at the Eastman School of Music, funk and fusion bands are abundant. Stereotypical college rock bands are nowhere to be found.

There are, however, the occasional outliers, trying to make waves in this scene by doing something different. Sophomore DJ and producer Henry Pierce is one of these students.

Working under the name Apollo, Pierce produces electronic dance music (EDM), specializing in various styles of "melodic dubstep."

"I just make whatever is in my head," he said. "Whatever idea I have, sound design-wise or writing-wise, is what I go with."

Music production is nothing new to Pierce. He initially ventured into the craft as a freshman in high school, citing a rather unexpected source of initial inspiration in the form of a TV advertisement for breakfast cereal.

"A Weetabix commercial came

on and had a Mord Fustang song in it by the name of 'A New World,'" Pierce said. "I heard that and got obsessed instantly."

After a period of learning the ropes independently, Pierce took to the DJ booth.

"I went to an open mic thing in New York," Pierce said. "Somebody by the name of Mark Martinez, who was, at that point, the resident DJ and booking manager for Bassment Saturdays at Webster Hall, heard me and took me under his wing to teach me his craft when it came to DJ-ing."

Pierce cites Webster Hall, specifically their Bassment Saturdays series, as a sort of home base for him. He considers it an integral part of his artistic foundation.

"Bassment Saturdays was a very important part of me growing up and gave me a lot of really nice insight because I got to meet big artists and see them play," he said. "I got to stand in the booth behind them and watch how they mixed and how they read the crowd, and network with them after the show."

Looking forward, Pierce would like to amplify his profile on campus. He has only performed once

at UR as of now, opening for Matt and Kim at last spring's Dandelion Day concert.

Pierce is confident, though, that there is a strong demand for his talent here.

"There's not a very big scene on this campus for people who like this kind of music," Pierce said. "And I know for a fact there are plenty of people on this campus who do like this kind of music."

The nature of the party culture on our campus is not the most conducive to DJ performances. Pierce noted that "people want to hear what's on their iPod" at fraternity parties, "which is fine."

Pierce expressed that for a DJ scene to be more prominent, events more tailored to the purpose may need to be planned.

In the coming months, Pierce will be releasing a new track with Bad Catholics (duo music group with Tyler Buck and Luck Crouch), as well as a remix of a track by Getter. Pierce said he is working on performing on campus throughout the fall, hopefully expanding UR's student music scene in the process.

Schmitz is a member of the Class of 2019.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALEX REMNICK

Sophomore Henry Pierce (pictured) has been DJing since early high school.



PHOTO COURTESY OF UNDRGRND SOUND

Pierce currently DJs under the name Apollo.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHUCK KWOK FOR BASSMENT SATURDAYS

Pierce DJs.

Expanded UR Bhangra Team Swings into New Semester

BY MUHAMMAD HADI
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Anyone who has spent a week or two on campus can safely assure any foreign readers of the popularity of Bhangra, the Southeast Asian dance. Synonymous with the pride of Punjab, it started out on campus in 1998 with an aim to represent the vibrant and unparalleled Punjabi way of life some 7,000 miles west of its birthplace.

As the club expands, so does its leadership.

“Most people join the team with no prior Bhangra experience, many with no dance experience at all,” seniors Rebecca Ho Van Dyke, Nikhil Kasarla, and Brian Chang, captains of the Bhangra team, said in an email. “This is why our captains and our eE-bBoard are committed to investing a lot of time in our new dancers.”

With leadership so dedicated to their art, it’s no wonder that the group dominates its competitions. Ever energetic, with their feet thumping on the ground in holy matrimony, the beats of their hearts syncs with each other and the music.

The team leadership has also gone through a series of



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALEXANDER ABRAMS

The 2016-2017 UR Bhangra team poses in front of Rush Rhees.

changes.

“Most recently, we expanded our executive board and enacted new positions to better cater to a growing and dynamic team,” the captains said. “We elected a third captain, a cultural chair, and expanded efforts to reach out to our newer

and developing members/dancers.”

“A big focus these past couple years has been ‘sustainability,’ and above all else we want to enact policies that drive engagement and help our team compete at this high level for future years,” they added.

No doubt the recent alterations in the management of the team have helped UR Bhangra achieve their goal.

But the e-board can’t take all the credit. After going through a grueling three-step callback process, only the most Punjabi of them all make it onto the

team. Practicing for almost 10 hours a week, they beat upon their craft day after day, perfecting move after move. And their efforts do indeed pay off.

The UR Bhangra team ranked first at the Dancers for Difference competition at the University of Connecticut, as well as the Taste of India competition in Norfolk, VA last semester. They have also successfully qualified for several prestigious competitions elsewhere in the U.S. and in Canada.

Lack of sustainable funding has been a recurring issue for the team, according to its captains.

“Essentially, due to our exclusive nature, we aren’t given direct funding or a budget,” the captains said. “When competitions arise, we must apply for supplemental funding and can only apply twice per year, despite our growing number of competitions per year.”

Despite these difficulties, the captains look ahead earnestly.

“Money is always a challenge, but we are optimistic that, now and in the future, we’ll be able to work with the administration to continue to grow.”

Hadi is a member of the Class of 2019.

Student Fringe Performance ‘Here I Lie’ Connects Culture, Community

BY SREYOSHI SUR
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The eagle head above the entrance to Writers & Books prepared the audience for the touching, multidisciplinary play “Here I Lie” on the opening night of the Fringe Festival.

A young woman sitting with a somber expression, clad completely in white in front of a white screen, created the melancholy mood required for this piece.

After receiving the small pamphlet containing the translations of the songs, I realized that parts of the performance would be in Spanish, since this stage performance is based on the work of Argentinean poet Alfonsina Storni.

“I think it is a moving piece; it is really difficult to portray such a complex character,” Eastman dual degree senior

and vocalist for the performance Michele Currenti said “I have never lost a loved one, so it was a struggle to find that character.”

She is doing her dual degree in brain and cognitive sciences at UR and the Vocal and Opera program at Eastman. One of the reasons she was chosen by Alberto Carrillo ‘16 the dramaturgist for this opera-like production, was her Latina roots.

The concept for this production came to Carrillo last spring.

“I was fascinated by Storni’s poems while growing up, but the rumors surrounding her overshadow her beautiful poems.” Carrillo, who graduated last year and is now completing a master’s degree in theater studies at Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, said. Storni was a modern poet and staunch feminist. Her poems reflected

those fervent emotions associated with the repression of women and the puritanical prejudices of society. Interestingly enough, she is remembered more for the way she met her end. It is believed that she walked into the sea as a final act.

This play enacts the journey of a young woman going through an emotional cycle of love, loss, and redolence.

Her last poem, “I Am Going to Sleep,” was also the part of this production. The line, “If he telephones again/tell him not to persist/that I have already.../gone,” was among the most heart-wrenching.

The sea played a central theme in many of her poems,

and that is one of the key aspects of the video projection in “Here I Lie.” The videos were exclusively recorded for this play by senior Molly Nemer, who is studying film and media studies. She also integrated the ambient sounds and the projections that comprised an integral part of the stage performance.

“This show was an exciting experiment in order to integrate projections with physically-staged performances,” Nemer said. “This is the first time I used video in a theatrical context.” The slow hitting of waves on the shore of a beach strewn with glass bottles provided the contemplative environment required for the poem recitations.

This play enacts the journey of a young woman going through an emotional cycle of love, loss, and redolence. The

music of Manuel De Fella was still able to instill the emotions the performer was trying to express, even to those unacquainted with Spanish. Carrillo said he hand-picked these songs because the lyrics were connected to Storni’s poetic style.

Fella’s song cycle alternated with the detached voice from the poem’s recitations. The video projections helped in depicting the context of each song. A concise form of “Here I Lie” was also part of the day-long creativity festival, Art Awake, last spring.

This show is labeled as multidisciplinary because it maximizes performance art to express poetry. All should attend the next show, which will be held in Writers & Books again on Sept. 24.

Sur is a graduate student in the College of Arts & Sciences.

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'CHANNEL SURFING'

Al Qadiri Ahead of Her Time



BY JEFF HOWARD
COLUMNIST

Fatima Al Qadiri is an electronic music composer from Kuwait.

Her music is characterized by brooding horn synthesizers, crystalline steel pan sounds, and brittle plucked strings. For an electronic music composer, her sound stands out in her genre for featuring less of the percussive textures that many producers use these days and instead for having a curious sense of atonality. However, the purpose of this article is to discuss another underrated aspect of her art—her music videos.

Qadiri has some of the most visually stimulating and enchanting music videos I've ever seen. The music video for the song "Vatican Vibes" is quintessential Fatima. The best way I would describe Fatima's

characteristic aesthetic is early 2010s CNN news network visuals mixed with pharmaceutical industry advertisement vibes. On "Vatican Vibes," the clinical visuals cut like a knife, and the images of red blood cells would make viewers squeamish if they weren't so beautiful. Mixed with the Caribbean bell textures and dystopian synthesizers, the visuals pair with electronica music in a manner that creates a sense of suspense and exhilaration. It's reminiscent of the thrill of entering a mid-2000s movie theater for the first time as a kid, and feeling frightened yet enticed by the visuals for the arcade game "Gauntlet Legends," which stood in the lobby among other racing and zombie-shooter themed games.

Other videos on Qadiri's channel straddles the line between frightening and divine by mixing psychedelia and erotica.

he music video for D-Medley features iTunes visualizer-style graphics, which, halfway through, become the background for female dancers who appear as though they are

trapped in a pop-up advertisement for an adult website. The dancers and the psychedelic visuals juxtapose in a way that makes the viewer appreciate the realness of the mid-to-late 2000s general aesthetic.

It also brings to light a certain grotesqueness in the way women are objectified in the 21st century, something that can be hard to see in the same light that one would when viewing, say, a clearly sexist and dated advertisement from the 1950s that features a woman in the kitchen. In this sense, Qadiri's music videos have an artfully political edge to them without coming off as having an "agenda." The art speaks for itself very sophisticatedly.

Fatima's music videos on her YouTube channel are four to six years old.

However, I would venture to say they are very ahead of their time. If you like the vaporwave aesthetic, which is becoming more and more trendy each day, check out Qadiri's music videos. They may be half a decade old, but they still appear beyond modern.

Howard is a member of the Class of 2017.

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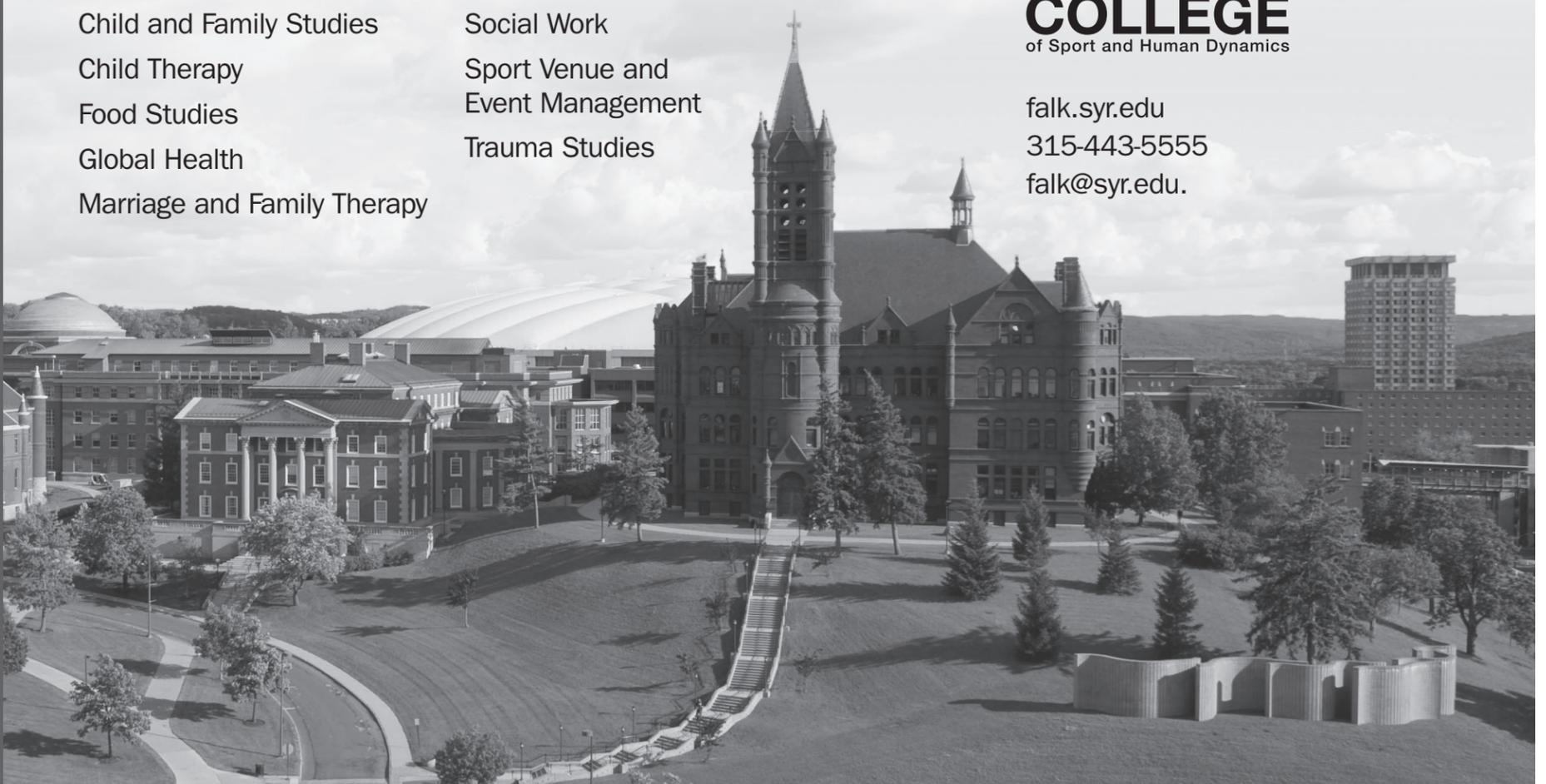
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The Most Volatile Relationship in Sports

BY SEAN CORCORAN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

By now, it's no secret that there is palpable animosity between the NFL's players and its commissioner, Roger Goodell. Whether it's James Harrison calling Goodell a "crook," or Michael Bennett calling him an "asshole," clearly there is an "Us vs. Them" mentality in America's most popular sport. To the outside eye, it's apparent that there are two key issues driving this tension: player safety and player discipline.

Goodell, who is technically an employee of the 32 NFL Franchise owners, has received widespread negative attention throughout his tenure. This animosity stems from the 2011 Collective Bargaining Agreement between the NFL and its players, which lasts until 2021.

As with every professional sports league, this agreement creates clear and concise language that governs the relationships between players, personnel, owners, and the league office.

While the players and the NFL Players Association (NFLPA) were elated to finally get their fair share of league revenues (a 50-50 split), there was massive oversight on their part in this agreement. The accord allowed Roger Goodell to be the judge, jury, and executioner when it came to player conduct and discipline. Whether on or off

the field, Goodell's influence was widespread and widely viewed as overbearing.

An example of this was 2014 Deflategate Saga in which Goodell levied a four-game suspension on Tom Brady for allegedly using underinflated footballs in rainy weather to gain a competitive advantage. On top of Brady's suspension, the team was issued a \$1 million fine and lost a first-round draft pick. Conversely, Ray Rice, who was caught on tape punching his then-fiancée, now-wife Janae to the ground, rendering her unconscious, was suspended for just two games.

Does it seem at all rational that Brady was suspended twice as long as Ray Rice? Not at all. Swiftly, Goodell implemented a harsher set of penalties when it came to domestic violence misconduct, which starts the player suspension at six games after the first offense. This might be the first good decision Goodell has made when it comes to player discipline in his 10-year tenure.

These types of decisions caused the league significant ire in the loss of sponsorships and negative media coverage. On the topic of bad optics for the league, player safety is a polarizing topic the NFL can't seem to shake.

Back in 2013, retired

players were awarded a sum of \$765 million in injury settlement. After contentious mediation, it came out that the NFL concealed information regarding the severity of head injuries, often rushing players back to the field. On the same topic, current research has shown a convincing correlation between head-to-head hits and the occurrence of Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy (CTE), a sobering brain disease.

Hundreds of former players battle addiction, depression, and debilitating injuries. Over 30 percent of former players were listed as

plaintiffs on the initial lawsuit. The NFL currently does not cover medical costs to former players.

With the recent announcement of an additional \$100 million donation to the research of head injuries and brain disease, it is hard not to view this as a PR stunt from Goodell. He claims that this is going to be an "immediate game changer" to player safety, but if you were to ask an NFL player, current or former, they would be skeptical that any change is coming in the

near future.

It's not hard to see why Harrison and Bennett have the opinions they do. It is imperative for Goodell in the future to achieve a balance between honoring the wishes of team ownership while working with the NFLPA to ensure substantial concussion legislation and protocol.

Corcoran is a member of the Class of 2018.



RUKI PRATHIVADI-BHANKARAM / CONTRIBUTING ILLUSTRATOR

Wambach's Discussion of Her 'Truth' Leads to Bookstore Success

WAMBACH FROM PAGE 1

people who are struggling with similar addictions.

"In the recovery world, secrets are the kiss of death," Wambach said. "For me, I had to tell my truth, I had to tell it open, honestly, and unashamed, and I think I've done that with this book."

To provide her young fans with some relatively age-appropriate insight, Harper Collins, the memoir's publisher, released a young readers' edition. But, when asked about her shifting optics from the parents of these young readers, Wambach responded without regrets and apologies.

"I'm not out here to be a role model; I'm out here to be myself," the World Cup winner said. "If you choose to follow me and choose to want to be with me in my corner and have your kid follow in some of the footsteps that I lay, that's great, but I'm not out here trying to get fans. I want fans to see who I really truly am unapologetically. I'm not hiding anything now. I think people want real. I would rather be honest and loved than shiny and admired."

Her fans appreciate and admire Wambach's candor and understand her imperfections.

Rina Bardin, UR junior and longtime fan of the soccer star, values not only her honesty, but her humility.

"She's always honest very humble while being a good



YIYUN HUANG / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

Rochester native Abby Wambach returned home on Friday to sign copies of her new memoir, "Forward."

spokesperson who doesn't let criticism get to her," she said.

Irondequoit resident Robert Bens "doesn't think any different of her," as Wambach is only human.

"I support [her] because she's the leading career scorer in international [competition] of either sex," he said.

In discussing her life off the field, the Our Lady of Mercy High School alumna veered

into her future aspirations and goals for society.

The contents of her memoir contain all of the labels she's been previously assigned.

Her ultimate goal is to aid society to help strip itself of labeling and instead "meet people with real truth."

Her visit invigorated the University's College Town project, which has taken a hit in the last year as some businesses

packed their bags and left.

"In our around two years being here, this is our biggest event yet," Lawrence said. "[This event] helps college town in general, not just [us]. For example, a lot of different people are going to Insomnia," he said.

Francine McAndrew, the bookstore's event manager, concurred.

"This shows that we can

handle a big event," she said.

"Rochester is not the place people normally come to on book tours," Wambach said at the event. "But I'm here because Rochester has been such a valuable part of my career. There's no better way to come and celebrate with the people that helped me grow up, helped me learn about myself."

Powell is a member of the Class of 2018.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Freshman Leo Orsini Emerges as Leader for URMXC

BY AUDREY GOLDFARB
SPORTS EDITOR

Freshman Leo Orsini joined the Cross Country team this fall after competing as a multi-sport athlete in high school. He proved himself to be a top competitor early in the season, finishing first for the the 'Jackets at the Cardinal Early Season Cross Country Invitational at St. John Fisher College. On Saturday, URMXC placed 14th out of 29 teams at the Yellowjacket Invitational. They will compete at the Harry Anderson Invitational at Roberts Wesleyan on Sept. 24.

How is the season going?

I think that our season is off to a great start. Our success in workouts for these first few weeks is definitely a positive indication of what we are capable of this season. Moreover, our team's chemistry, which has developed profoundly even among newcomers, promises to be a powerful motivating force in pushing all of us to be our best. As for my season, I'm very pleased with my results from our time trial and the 6k Saint John Fisher Invitational. Although I didn't feel like my results from the Yellowjacket Invitational were outstanding, I'm looking forward to making some big improvements for the rest of the season.

What motivates you to keep going mid-race?

Most of the time, the idea that I am part of a fantastic team is a big motivating factor at any point in the race. The knowledge that my teammates are out there working as hard, if not harder, than I am is an empowering feeling during a race. This is another reason why I feel that our team chemistry is going to provide a big boost to our performance this season. Another way that I find the energy to keep pushing during a race is a phrase that my high school coach said occasionally: "The faster you run, the sooner you're done." Although it's a fairly obvious statement, the prospect of being done with a race is a great motivator for me, especially in the final mile or two of the race. Bonus motivation if I know about free food after the finish line.

What other sports have you participated in?

For my first two years of high school, I participated in soccer (position: left bench), Nordic skiing, and tennis. Successes in Nordic skiing prompted me to join cross country and track as cross-training for Nordic season for my last two years of high school.

What do you love about running?

It's a complicated relationship. The social component of it is definitely a major reason why I do it. The camaraderie that stems



PHOTO COURTESY OF AYUMI YUASA

Orsini and fellow freshman Ryley Robinson are cheered on by URWXC athlete and junior Ronnie Judge.

from the team's shared suffering during workouts and races creates some of the closest bonds between teammates. Although it is difficult, I think the challenge of it also plays a part in what I enjoy about running so much.

When did you decide to compete in college?

The spring of my senior year of high school. Before this point, I only really had a shot at a collegiate athletics career in Nordic skiing. However, since my heart was set on [UR], I didn't really have the option to continue skiing. Luckily, I made some huge improvements the 800m during outdoor track. It was at this point that I decided to compete in college.

What is the best piece of advice you have ever received?

"Push yourself." It's about as cliché as you can get, and it has been said in so many ways (including one of the key mottos on our team, "always finish," which applies to workouts and food alike), but I feel that its applications are universal. If I'm not challenged by something

that I do, I often find that it isn't worth doing, whether it's in school, sports, or any other activity.

What is your role on the team?

I think that I fit the "clueless freshman" stereotype on the team quite well, even if my teammates are too nice to confirm my suspicions.

Do you feel that you can be a leader despite being a freshman?

Absolutely. Even as a freshman, I was never made to feel inferior to even our most experienced teammates. I think that I speak for all of my fellow freshmen in describing and praising this unique team atmosphere. Although we do have captains, the expectation is always there for any team member to step up and lead in whatever situation might arise.

How do you feel you've grown as an athlete over the last few years?

In just the past four years I think I've grown tremendously as an athlete. My transition to

doing cross country and track during my junior year of high school was a big change, but one that I'm ultimately glad that I made. This summer also was a big change for me, as I transitioned to more running-oriented training as opposed to the training for Nordic skiing I had done for the last two summers. Being on the cross-country team here also is a big opportunity to further grow as an athlete. It's an opportunity I'm honored to have, especially with being on such a great team.

Would you rather run a marathon handcuffed to Martha Stewart, or bear-crawl a 5k?

Hands-down a marathon with Martha Stewart. I'm sure she'd have some great ideas for decorating a dorm room, not to mention some great recipes. Although running while handcuffed to another person for 26.2 miles would be extremely painful, I couldn't imagine doing a 5k bear crawl.

Goldfarb is a member of the Class of 2019.

LAST WEEK'S SCORES

SEPT. 14TH

MEN'S SOCCER VS BUFFALO STATE-W (1-0)
WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL AT BROCKPORT-L (0-3)

SEPT. 15TH

FIELD HOCKEY VS BROCKPORT-W (3-0)

SEPT. 16TH

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL AT ELIZABETHTOWN COLLEGE-W (3-1)

SEPT. 17TH

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL VS ROWAN UNIVERSITY-W (3-1)
WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL VS MESSIAH COLLEGE-L (0-3)
FOOTBALL AT ALFRED STATE COLLEGE-W (55-27)
MEN'S SOCCER VS RIT (HILLSIDE SHIELD GAME)-W (1-0)
WOMEN'S SOCCER VS. WILLIAM SMITH COLLEGE-L (1-3)
FIELD HOCKEY AT ONEONTA STATE-W (3-1)
MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY YELLOWJACKET INVITATIONAL-14TH/29 TEAMS
WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY YELLOWJACKET INVITATIONAL-13TH/27 TEAMS

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

SEPT. 20

MEN'S SOCCER AT ST JOHN FISHER COLLEGE-PITTSFORD, NY-7 P.M.
WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL VS BUFFALO STATE- ROCHESTER, NY-7 P.M.

SEPT. 21

WOMEN'S SOCCER AT HOUGHTON COLLEGE-7 P.M.

SEPT. 23

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL AT CLARKSON UNIVERSITY-7 P.M.

SEPT. 24

WOMEN'S TENNIS REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS IN GENEVA, NY-8:30 A.M.
MEN'S AND WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY AT ROBERTS WESLEYAN COLLEGE-10:30 A.M.
FOOTBALL AT UNITED STATES MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY-2 P.M.
FIELD HOCKEY AT UNION COLLEGE-3 P.M.
MEN'S SOCCER AT RENSSELAER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE-5 P.M.

WHAT TO WATCH FOR

URVB V. BUFFALO STATE @ 7PM ON SEPT 20TH

The Yellowjackets will play Buffalo State this Tuesday in the Palestra. The Bengals are currently 5-8, and URVB hopes to improve their current record of 8-4.

LAST WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

WOMEN'S SOCCER @ ITHACA

Paige Gloster scored both of Rochester's goals to tie with Ithaca, the #18 team in the nation, 2-2. Freshman goalkeeper Gwen Haffenden had seven saves.

MEN'S SOCCER V. RIT

The Men's Soccer team defeated RIT with an overtime penalty kick after an 86-minute lightning delay in the first half and a 15-minute delay at the end of the second half when the lights blew out. The goal was scored by Bryce Ikeda. UR remains undefeated at 5-0.

FOOTBALL @ ALFRED STATE COLLEGE

Scoring back-to-back touchdowns orchestrated by junior quarterback Daniel Bronson, the 'Jackets earned their first win of the season on Saturday against Alfred State College.

PALESTRA HONORED BY BASKETBALL HOOP HALL

Rochester's Louis A. Alexander Palestra was named by Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame as one of the top 125 basketball arenas in the country. The Basketball Hall of Fame's Instagram account described the Palestra as "a DIII venue with an A1 atmosphere."

SPORTS

Stat Analysis Predicts Winning Season for Field Hockey

BY TREVOR WHITESTONE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

UR Field Hockey (URFH) continued their flawless start on Thursday with a 3–0 victory against Brockport (1–4). The Yellowjackets (7–0) throttled their opponent to the tune of a 25–1 shot advantage, as well as an 18–0 edge on shots-on-goal.

Sophomore Nancy Bansbach, senior Callie Fisher, and freshman Amanda Guido had goals, assisted by senior Sayaka Abe, junior Samantha Dow, and Fisher, respectively. The team is performing at a high level despite losing a number of key seniors from the previous season. This

The team is performing at a high level despite losing a number of key seniors from the previous season.

group included Michelle Relin '16, who scored a team-record 22 goals, polishing off a career that saw her post four of the top five Yellowjacket seasons ever in that category.

This year's squad is continuing that legacy. As of Tuesday, UR was ranked 13 in the country in the coaches' poll. The team was also ranked 15 overall by Kenneth Massey's online statistical rankings, and 9 in defense. The team ranked 16 in

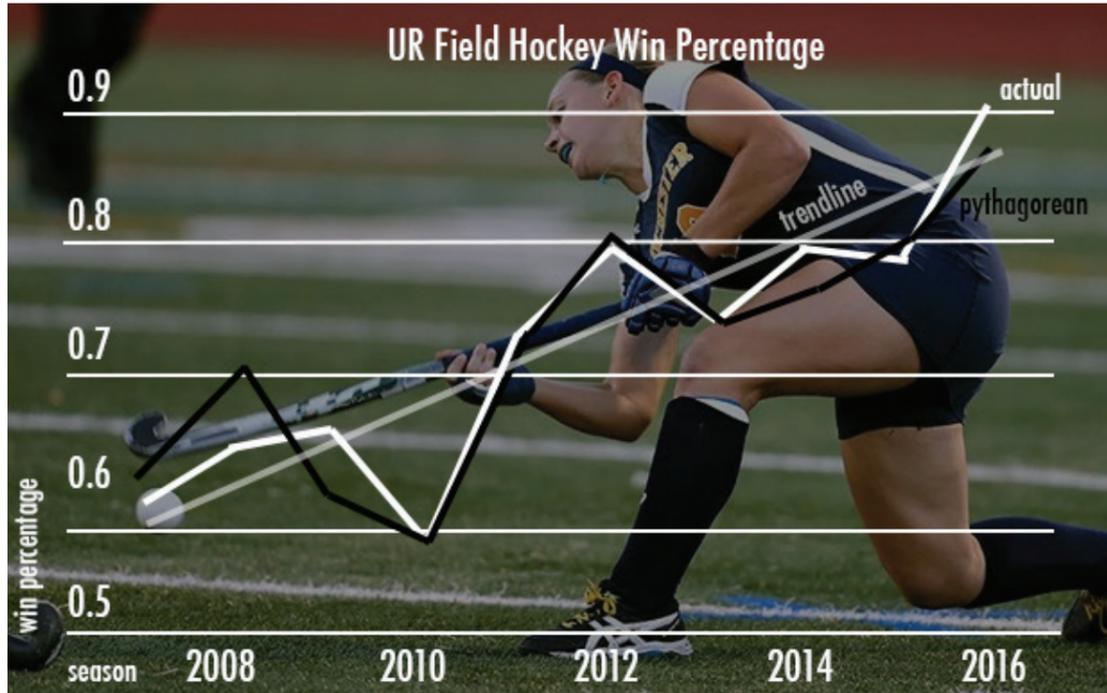


PHOTO COURTESY OF UR ATHLETICS | GRAPHIC BY MIRA BODEK
INFORMATION PROVIDED BY TREVOR WHITESTONE

goals allowed per game, largely thanks to junior goalkeeper Kiran Sundaram, who is ranked eighth individually in the country for that category.

The offense has kept pace with this performance, ranking 23 nationally in assists per game. Abe has lead the way, ranking 20 individually. The team's two-way dominance also makes itself apparent by the team's differential of a full two goals per game, a 10.1 margin in shots per game, and a 28 percent relative advantage in shooting percentage. This is despite the team playing a .571 strength of schedule so far, in contrast with the .431 mark they have to deal

with in remaining games.

All of these stats paint a vivid picture of the Yellowjacket's excellence, but one number is particularly appropriate to describe their success.

This number is pythagorean expectation, which is a formula created by baseball sabermetrics pioneer Bill James. Originally, the formula was $(\text{runs scored}^2) / (\text{runs scored}^2 + \text{runs allowed}^2)$. If runs are changed to goals for translation to field hockey, the relation almost fits. The caveat, however, is that this formula does not translate directly to other sports. The exponent depends on the game and league: For example, 13.91 is used in

the NBA, and 2.37 is used in the NFL. No such standard has been used for field hockey.

Using data from UR Field Hockey going back 2003 in order to test out the exponent that best fit, the final adjusted formula came to $(\text{goals scored}^{1.1}) / (\text{goals scored}^{1.1} + \text{goals allowed}^{1.1})$. (Note that it would have been more accurate to collect data from every team to reduce noise and possible bias from the team's style of play.)

This year's team, by that standard, should have been expected to win 79.4 percent of their games so far, as opposed to their perfect start. However, a

team exceeding this expectation is probably benefiting from a mixture of statistical luck and an unusually strong ability to win close games.

UR Field Hockey has improved year-by-year with a strong trend. If projections from Massey Ratings prove accurate, that trend will increase this year.

UR Field Hockey has improved year-by-year with a strong trend. If projections from Massey Ratings prove accurate, that trend will increase this year. It's worth mentioning that these projections are blind to the as-yet-unscheduled playoff games, which would be against stronger opponents. This would, however, do little to dampen the trend.

The 'Jackets improved their record to 7–0 on Saturday, defeating Oneonta 3–1 with goals by Fisher and freshmen Maya Haigis and Guido. Assists came from Fisher and Abe.

The numbers are ultimately clear: the 'Jackets are on a trajectory to the upper echelon, and they're showing no signs of slowing. URFH will attempt to solidify these projections and extend their streak next Saturday at Union.

Whitestone is a member of the Class of 2019.

Roc Rower Faces Gender Bias in Azerbaijan

BY MADDIE GRAHAM
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Rowing is a demanding sport. Between the practices at dawn and the constant injuries, even sophomore Saralina Schell admits, "If you ask anyone on crew why they love it, they don't really know. We just do."

Growing up, Schell and her family were never big on sports. Though she did have a stint with swimming, the Kentucky resident never found rowing to be accessible until she came to UR. The Genesee River provided a platform for Schell to pursue rowing, following in the footsteps of her grandparents, who also rowed.

As it turns out, she loved the sport and the camaraderie that came with the all-female team. So, when Schell found out that she was going to Azerbaijan the summer after her freshman year, there was an expectation that she would continue rowing. Unfortunately, this was a lot more difficult than she anticipated.

After completing an exchange program in Turkey as a high school sophomore, Schell looked forward to returning to the country; she could continue improving her understanding of the Turkish

language and culture. Plans quickly changed as Schell found out she would be sent to Azerbaijan in light of safety concerns looming in Turkey. She stayed there for two months with a host family, and attended classes solely taught in Azerbaijani.

The experiences Schell gained outside of the classroom were perhaps the most important in understanding her role as a woman and specifically, as an athlete. Given its recent transition from a socialist government to a democracy, many Azerbaijan people still hold conservative values, especially with regard to women.

Schell couldn't ignore the culturally-accepted habit of men staring at women. This tradition was present even at the local gym, where Schell emphasized how uncomfortable it was to be watched as she exercised.

"Most of the men were on the weightlifting side of the gym while women were on the treadmills," Schell said.

There's a taboo surrounding weightlifting women and stairmaster men. Whether the lack of women in weightlifting areas is a result of accepted gym norms or societal standards for leaner female bodies remains to be seen. Whatever

the case may be, Schell pointed out how gendered gyms exist across many borders.

Though Schell was successful in finding a gym close to her school, many of them didn't have indoor rowing machines that she could use to practice. Rowing is not a popular sport in Azerbaijan.

"Even if there was a rowing team I could practice with, it would be all men and I wouldn't be allowed to practice with them," the sophomore said.

Indeed, there is a national Azerbaijani rowing team for men—but not for women. When trying to find teams to row with, Schell was often asked why she would want to row or exercise in the first place. Exercising is not a huge part of the Azerbaijani culture, and is only beginning to catch on with younger, more affluent men.

Not only due to accepted gender norms, but in large part due to the weather, exercise outside is especially rare. In fact, the entire time she was there, Schell only saw one person running. Unsurprisingly, that person was male.

Staying fit doesn't only have to do with exercising, but also with eating right. As an athlete, Schell understands the importance of getting her daily dose of fruits and

vegetables—a more difficult task in Azerbaijan.

"The food in Azerbaijan is similar to German food. They use lots of fats and oils in cooking, so it's nice to be back at school with healthier

options," Schell said.

Back to eating healthy and rowing, Schell is starting off her sophomore year on a high note.

Graham is a member of the Class of 2018.



HANNAH HENSON / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

Sophomore Saralina Schell will continue her career on the Women's Rowing team this year.