

# Campus Times

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## Diet Issues Hit Dining Services

By SHWETA KOUL  
NEWS EDITOR

SA's joint initiative with Dining Services to accommodate more students' dietary preferences has recently received backlash from some students in the face of issues over allergens.

Sophomore Jenna Montague and first-year Serena Matera spoke to *Campus Times* about their unhappiness with Dining Services when it comes to mislabeling, cross-contamination, and not responding back to their concerns.

"Whenever I tend to have an allergic reaction, it's usually not my fault," Matera said. "It's because someone mislabeled something or contaminated something, and that's what's been happening on this campus."

Danforth prides itself for being a nut-free facility. However, Montague, who has a life-threatening nut allergy, encountered a sign that said a desert had almonds in it.

"I almost picked it up because Danforth is supposed to be nut-free and I usually just pick things up," Montague said. "I always glance through the allergen information just to make sure and nuts wasn't in the list."

Even though the sign said the dessert had almonds in it, it actually contained no nuts. It was a signage error.

"I understand we lose credibility with a mistake like that but it caught us by surprise," Director of Marketing and Strategic Growth David Feist said. "We want to assure people that this is something that we take very seriously. Our chefs are dedicated and vigilant of not allowing any nuts or nut products at that facility."

Another problem brought up was the risk of cross-contamination. Matera had an allergic reaction after eating at the Street Station at Douglass, which she assumed may have been from cross-contamination or mislabeling.

"I'm just very concerned," Matera said. "Not only am I very allergic to fish, but I know some people have allergies that are worse than mine. It's kind of ridiculous that they can't just look out for their

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## Tarana Burke Inspires With #MeToo Talk



GABE ISAACSON / PHOTO EDITOR

Tarana Burke speaks to students this past Monday about uniting and organizing against sexual violence. Read our interview with her on Page 3.

By SHWETA KOUL  
NEWS EDITOR

Tarana Burke, founder of the #MeToo movement, told students this past Monday that their voices are powerful together in the fight against sexual violence in their community.

"You are worthy of and deserve protection and safety," Burke said to the audience in the packed Feldman Ballroom. "When you enroll in a school, one of the top

priorities of that school should be to provide that protection and safety."

Burke said she felt disheartened after learning about the University's handling of sexual misconduct allegations against Professor T. Florian Jaeger. She thought the framing of the independent report released in January created distance between care providers and those seeking care.

"I was scrolling through the school's mission statement and

it said it was to learn, discover, heal, create, and make the world a better place," Burke said. "It's beautiful, right? My question would be to the administration is, 'How will the students do that without your guidance as an example and more importantly, how will you do it as a school without fixing your moral compass?'"

Burke said she thought the 12 points released by the administration are a good start, but she affirmed that the solution should

be centered around the students. She called for a cultural shift in which students come together to create solutions that would set a new standard for sexual violence on campuses.

"What happens when this thing is handled the way it is, is it tries to diminish the power that you have," Burke said. "It feeds you nonsense to distract you from the bottom line, which is you do have power. And what you have is collective power, which is dangerous."

SEE **EMPOWERMENT** PAGE 3

### PEOPLE PERSON

## Millions Watch Her YouTube Videos. Her Stars Are American Girl Dolls.



By SCOTT DANIELS  
COLUMNIST

You might not know it, but Anna is kind of famous.

The junior business and psychology major, whose last name the *Campus Times* is withholding out of safety concerns, runs the YouTube channel Basilmentos. Since 2009, she has garnered over 190,000 passionate subscribers. Several of her videos have racked up millions of views. One has almost 14 million. Her fans wouldn't be able to recognize her — she has never revealed her face.

Anna's videos, while professionally produced and entertaining, are a bit outside the mainstream.

She makes stop-motion videos starring American Girl Dolls.

"It's fun to have a secret, espe-



JUSTIN TROMBLY / EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Anna holds up a dressed-up doll from one of her videos.

cially something that big," Anna told the *Campus Times*. "And it doesn't hurt anyone."

Anna writes the script for each video, sews the costumes for the dolls, assembles royalty-free soundtracks, records the voiceovers for each character (her favorite part), and tediously films

the stop-motion action. According to Anna, it can often take as many as six hours of filming for one minute of finished footage. Many of her episodes are over five minutes long, some even topping 10 minutes.

"I'll hear my friends complain about taking 10 hours to finish

an assignment, and I'm just like, 'Yeah, well, it took me 16 hours, but I didn't mind,'" Anna said.

The videos feature a cast of characters Anna refers to as "the sisters." There are 12: Felicity, Samantha, Nali, Sarah, Eva, Julia, Gabby, Eleanor, Camile, Lucia, Alex, and Addy. Each sister has a unique personality and voice that carries from video to video. Nali likes to gossip and shop, Sarah is sporty, and so on.

Anna tries to use her videos to deliver small lessons to her audience, but not at the expense of the story or production value. She also adopts a clean, friendly persona.

"I know my audience. They're kids," she said. "They have parents who care about what they watch."

Her favorite video is called "Mermaid Cove - an American Girl Stop Motion Film!" It is over 16 minutes long and took an entire summer to put together. Every day for two months, Anna would gather her dolls and set pieces in a bucket and walk down to the beach to film.

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GABE ISAACSON / PHOTO EDITOR

## A CONVERSATION ON RACE AND POVERTY PROVOKED DISCUSSION

Students came together to tackle major topics in their community about race and poverty this past Thursday at Frederick Douglass Commons. They debated and listened to one another in a non-judgmental environment.

### PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE

#### Fire Alarm in Riverview and Genesee (1)

FEB. 3 — Fire alarm in Riverview and Genesee caused by burnt food.

#### Noise Complaint in Riverview (2)

FEB. 6 — Riverview received a noise complaint.

#### Fire Alarm in Sigma Chi (3)

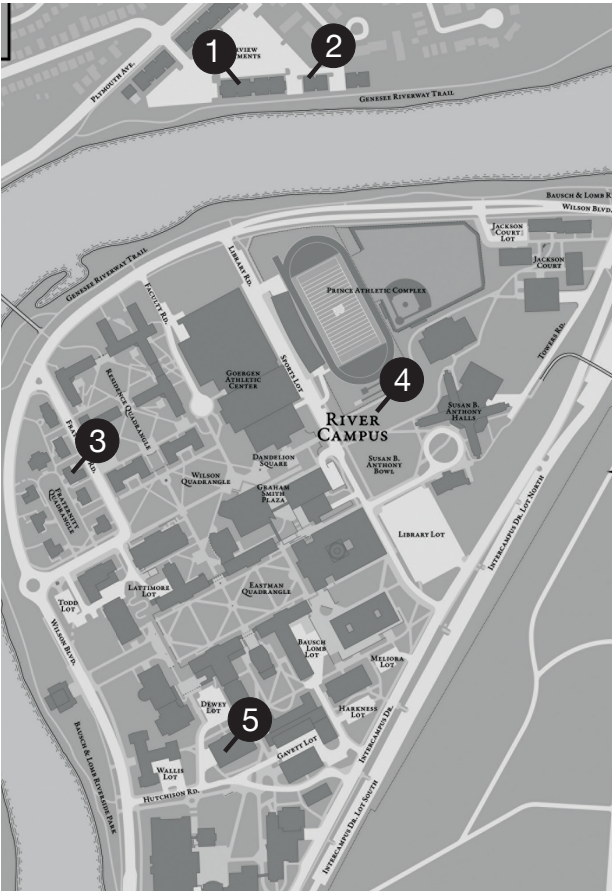
FEB. 7 — Fire alarm in Sigma Chi was due to a burnt bagel.

#### Visitor Injured (4)

FEB. 7 — A visitor fell between Genesee Hall and Fauver Stadium and injured their knee. The visitor refused treatment.

#### Staff Injured in Hopeman Hall (5)

FEB. 8 — A staff member was injured when they tripped on the stairs in Hopeman Hall. They were taken to Strong ED for their injuries.



MAP COURTESY OF UR COMMUNICATIONS

Information provided by the Department of Public Safety.

### THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS

#### TUESDAY | FEB. 13

##### POP-UP MEDITATION

RUSH RHEES TREASURE ROOM NEAR Q & I, 7 P.M.  
Peer health advocates will be helping students in taking a study break and refocusing for more productive studying.

##### EXHIBIT: FINDING INSPIRATION IN OUR SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

FRIEDLANDER LIBRARY, 9 A.M. - 5 P.M.  
Materials from the university's extensive collection of theater materials will be on display from February 13th till June 1st.

#### WEDNESDAY | FEB. 14

##### I <3 UR DAY

WILSON COMMONS HIRST LOUNGE, 10:30 A.M. - 2:30 P.M.  
Free t-shirts will be given away in Hirst Lounge for students to show their love of the university.

##### WEAR YOUR STRONG SMILE - REQUESTED BY STAFF, LOVED BY EVERYONE

URMC, 12:00 A.M. - 11:59 P.M.  
Stickers will be distributed at the medical center by members of the ICARE Guiding Coalition and staff volunteers.

#### THURSDAY | FEB. 15

##### 2018 SPRING CAREER EXPO

FREDERICK DOUGLASS COMMONS, 11 A.M.  
The Gwen M. Greene Center will be hosting the Spring Career Expo to present to students entry-level job and internship opportunities.

##### ART EXHIBITION: BLANKET STATEMENT

HARTNETT GALLERY, 4 P.M. - 7 P.M.  
Opening night reception for artist Julia Kwon's Blanket Statement. More exhibition dates will be announced throughout March.

#### FRIDAY | FEB. 16

##### RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

STRONG MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 10 A.M. - 3 P.M.  
Blood drive sponsored by Friends of Strong will be occurring Friday, February 16th.

##### BIOLOGY DONUT TALK

HUTCHISON HALL 316, 3 P.M. - 4 P.M.  
Tara Finegan from University of Cambridge will be talking about the rearrangement of cells during epithelial morphogenesis.

## Junior Gains Fame From Doll Stop Motions

YOUTUBE FROM PAGE 1

Anna started the channel when she was 12 years old. One day she was cleaning her room and noticed her dolls, Felicity and Samantha, gathering dust in her closet. Anna then curiously searched for American Girl Dolls online and came across a video: A stop motion clip of dolls dancing together and doing cartwheels. The video, and others like it, completely blew Anna away. She was inspired. She ran back to that closet, grabbed her dolls, and started filming.

According to Anna, when she started making videos, the most popular American Girl Doll channel had around 2,000 subscribers in 2011. Basilmentos, originally named after Anna's "Club Penguin" username, was a part of what many YouTubers in the American Girl Doll community refer to as "the Golden Age of AGTube." The community has grown exponentially since 2009.

"I guess I started to really feel like I had made it once I hit 2,000 subscribers," Anna said. "It might not seem like a lot, but that's a lot."

Because she was only 12 at the time, Anna's parents made sure her account remained completely anonymous. She was not allowed to show her face, publish her full name, or reveal any specific details about her life. That foresight by her parents is something Anna is grateful for.

The mystery of the true identity of Aniea from Basilmentos has captivated her fans for years. In a recent upload, Anna takes one of her dolls shopping. The video shows a rare glimpse at Anna, but only from the neck down.

"I was lowkey hoping to see your face," reads one of the comments on the video.

"There are a few conspiracy theory videos about who I am," Anna said. "I've seen one where they said I was in the Illuminati."

Some of those conspirators have been less than innocent. Adults have found her Facebook account. So Anna takes her secret seriously.

When going to meet a fan, she will wears disguises, ranging anywhere from a simple pair of glasses to full-blown makeup and wig.

"I was actually like Hannah Montana for a while," Anna said.

She's not far off with that comparison. Anna described how when her friends would come over to hang out, she would run up to her room and shove all of her dolls, costumes, set pieces, and camera into the closet so they wouldn't see it all and ask questions.

Anna first revealed her hobby in 2014, to her friend Julia Scott.

"I remember thinking that something was up because earlier that year she had told me she needed to quit theater because she was too busy. And she didn't have any other extracurricular activities, which I thought was strange," Julia said. "So when she told me about Basilmentos, it made so much more sense."

At first glance, her hobby seems strange, but once people see how much effort and talent it takes, they are accepting and often impressed.

"I had one friend that, once I told her, she went, 'Ew, that's really creepy.' And I guess it can seem that way. But two months later she actually helped me make a video."

As the years have gone on, Anna has become more comfortable with revealing what she does. When filming in public, she understands the weird looks, but encourages people to approach the set and ask questions. Some people are so interested that they go as far as asking to help. Anna recalled a time when she was filming in a hardware store. A young boy came in with his dad. Anna called him over, and the boy helped her film for a few hours while his dad finished shopping.

The "AGTube" community also offered her massive support. According to Anna it is "one of the healthiest, most supportive communities online."

Her fellow creators have a close-knit relationship. They often get together over vacations and keep in contact with each other via Snapchat and Facebook.

"There's an interesting YouTube family-friend-group thing we have going on," she said. "It's really cool."

Anna met her best friend, Lydia, thanks to her channel. They first met in 2012, while Anna was on vacation in Vancouver. At the time, Lydia was also making American Girl Doll videos, and the two decided to get together.

"She's my best friend in the whole world, and I met her because I make videos about dolls."

Since she's been in college, her video production has slowed a bit. But she does keep her dolls on campus and has filmed a few videos in her dorm and at nearby Genesee Valley Park.

After almost a decade, Anna doesn't have any plans to stop making videos.

"As long as I still enjoy it," she said. "Once it doesn't excite me anymore, I'll stop."

*Daniels is a member of the Class of 2020.*

Like to doodle?

Email

illustrator

@campustimes.org



# In Interview, Burke Talks UR

By **JAKIE POWELL**  
COLUMNIST

Tarana Burke, founder of the #MeToo. movement and a Time magazine “Person of the Year,” sat down for an interview with the *Campus Times* before her speech last Monday. The following transcript has been lightly edited for style, grammar, and clarity.

**Campus Times: You’ve been everywhere: The Red Carpet, Cornell, and you were on the cover of Time magazine with two professors from our school. What are your thoughts on what has gone on here and what came out of the independent investigation?**

Tarana Burke: I was just having a conversation with some of the students at the reception, and I think now that I’m here, I’ve read these things before I got here, and I was frankly, even before I read the beginning independent report, I was really disappointed in the framing of it. It starts out from a very defensive place, you know. And if the school is going to be defending anybody it should be students. So that set a tone for me. And I talked to the professors who are in Time with me, and I’ve been in conversation with them, and some other professors here. And so I had recently gotten some more background and another layer of background, which just made it even more just troubling to hear the depths that the school was going to to protect itself versus the students. This is what I talk about, why we have to not talk about perpetrators as indi-

viduals, but about systems that are in place. This is an institution that has a lot more power and leverage and resources to use. So they have to use it. You have to make a decision. Do you use it in service of or do you use it in defense of? It feels like they’ve made the wrong decision. And so I got here today, and I’ve been talking to students for the past hour, and hearing the sentiment from the students just really solidified for me that there is a huge disconnect between the student body, the faculty, and the administration. And whenever that happens, that divide, healing can’t take place in that divide. There’s a gap that exists. It won’t allow healing to happen anywhere, not on a campus, not in the administration, not among the students, unless that divide is fixed first. That’s how I feel. It’s terrible what’s happening here.

**CT: Richard Feldman, who will be replacing Joel Seligman on February 28, recently announced the creation of a website called “Cultivating a Culture of Respect,” and he laid out the 12 recommendations that Mary Jo White made. What can we do?**

TB: Let me pull that out right now. I just want to see what it looks like.

**CT: After looking at those 12 recommendations, what can we do as students and the University community to make sure that the UR complies with the recommendations in the report and on the website?**

TB: You know, I’m just looking

through the recommendations now [...] Well one, this senior cabinet-level official needs to report to or be held accountable to by a body which is made up of students and faculty. One of the things I say in my remarks tonight is that if whatever the solutions are — that you come up with — they have to be centered around students. Students have to be a part of that process and the survivors, who in this case really are just the students. There are the people who actually made the complaints and then there’s reverberation of that, which has affected the whole campus. And now you have a whole campus of people who feel victimized by this situation, and so they need to be centered in whatever the solution process is. They need to weaved all into these recommendations. I think that’s one way to ensure accountability and then even the ones that are not weaved into this process. As a student body, this is a moment where you have to be active and every way — and that doesn’t mean having a rally, protest or a march, but finding really creative ways to push back against the administration. You have to, as a collective, and you have to work across interests. This is when all of the clubs need to get together. All of the people are interested in justice across various boundaries that we usually create for ourselves, especially on college campuses, have to come together and make a real statement that says, “We won’t tolerate this.” This is you community, right. “

Full interview available soon at [www.campustimes.org](http://www.campustimes.org)

*Powell is a member of the Class of 2018.*

# Burke Lights the Match

EMPOWERMENT FROM PAGE 1

Collective power is why the #MeToo movement has kept itself in the conversation. Hashtags come and go, but Burke believed this is just the beginning.

#MeToo was founded in 2006. It recently went viral when actress Alyssa Milano tweeted it out and called for women to make public their experiences with sexual misconduct.

“What we are is a global community of survivors and allies who are committed to healing as individuals and as a community, and committed to doing the work of interrupting sexual violence wherever it lives,” Burke said. “Ultimately, our goal is about creating spaces for cultivating joy as a form of personal healing.”

She encouraged survivors to lean into their joy rather than to live in their trauma. To allies, Burke said to simply listen and trust.

For the future of the organization, Burke plans to have a website with one-on-one individual resources and offline resources like healing spaces and survivor leadership training.

Her speech was followed by a quick Q and A session in which Burke discussed how to include more men into the movement, the media’s exploitation of survivors, efforts to reach older generations, and alternative demonstration approaches.

“Sometimes it’s not having a march and it’s not having a rally,” Burke said. “They are used to that. I’m encouraging you to think out-

side the box.”

Uncommon alliances coming together on sexual violence is what Burke said will cause a shift in culture.

“They owe you accountability at the very least and they owe you safety,” Burke said. “Don’t let this happen on your watch. You can take your power back.”

Upon the recent happenings on campus, students were moved by Burke’s words.

“She’s entirely inspirational,” said Warner School of Education student Devin Bonner. “I think it’s extremely relevant that she’s here today and I think it’s exactly what the community needs.”

Burke’s call to come together empowered others.

“To me, Tarana Burke coming here really confirmed my notion that this is an opportunity for students to change the culture surrounding sexual violence at UR,” said junior Gabrielle Henry. “She really bolstered my confidence in our potential as students to make changes.”

Some students believed Burke reminded them of their rights.

“I felt that she addressed something that we needed to be reminded of,” sophomore Omo Matloga said. “It’s not demanding something that is not doable. We deserve to feel safe at this school. We deserve to feel respected and it’s up to the administration to provide that. Even with moving forward, we need to be at the center of the conversation. If that doesn’t happen, then we need to light it up in her words.”

*Koul is a member of the Class of 2020.*

# Mislabeling and Contamination

ALLERGIES FROM PAGE 1

students and try harder to label things correctly.”

There is also a risk of cross-contamination when it comes to using the same water to clean the spatulas used in cooking and serving.

“Students with allergies need to be comfortable simply asking for a new pan and spatula when they place their order,” Feist said. “Our staff is trained to handle requests of this nature, but if they don’t know they cannot help.”

There is also a risk of cross-contamination when it comes to using the same water to clean the spatulas used in cooking and serving.

“Students with allergies need to be comfortable simply asking for a new pan and spatula when they place their order,” Feist said. “Our staff is trained to handle requests of this nature, but if they don’t know they cannot help.”

Another station that has brought

concerns is the Pasta Station at Douglass. It is not always labeled accurately and the chefs sometimes put in garnishes, like oregano, without asking students.

Baked breads from an outside facility at Danforth have also been a concern for cross-contamination. They come from a local bakery that produces many nut products.

Even though the products brought to UR do not physically contain nuts, they still may have a trace amount. Dining Services has now put up a visible sign to address this.

Although, what has not been visible enough is Grab & Go’s allergen information. Located at the bottom of the label, some students find it difficult to read.

“Whenever I get something from Grab & Go, I have to hold it over my head and look at the bottom,” Montague said. “They should be putting that on the top — it’s the most important part.”

Labels are also squished and folded over, making the nutritional information and allergens

hard to read.

“We are currently looking at a new label that will better fit our packaging and thus make all the content more visible,” Feist said.

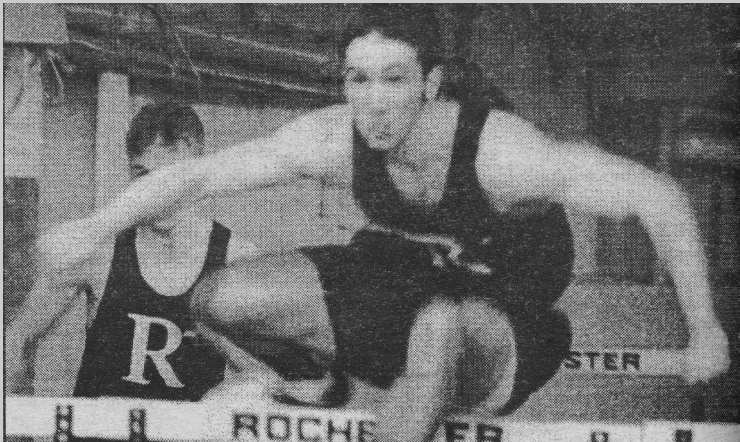
Reaching out has also been difficult for some students in regard to their dietary preferences. Matera, Montague, and friends struggled to get responses back.

Moving forward, Feist suggests for students to contact Dining, and added he will personally monitor the email. He hopes to eradicate all problems with mislabeling.

“Our location directors and supervisors are doing station audits each meal period to be sure our dishes/ingredient info/nutritional info matches what is being served,” Feist said in an email. “Our employees will be auditing all signs and labels much more vigorously and additional protocols and resources to ensure accuracy are being put in place.”

*Koul is a member of the Class of 2020.*

# THIS WEEK IN THE CAMPUS TIMES



EMILY BERENSON / CAMPUS TIMES 2000  
(Feb. 17, 2000) Sophomore Justin Lamontagne pushes himself to the limit in the 55-meter hurdles. UR set two school relay records in the meet.

*Editor’s note: In this new feature, you can find interesting events that happened this week in past editions of the Campus Times.*

## Feb. 14, 1979

The Student Activities Office installed the first computer in the country used to keep track of room reservations in Wilson Commons. The computer included an ISMAI 8080 processor.

## Feb. 16, 1981

UR Medical School doctors were reported to have approved of unsafe exposure levels to uranium in the 1940s with relation to development of the atomic bomb.

## Feb. 18, 1993

The New York Court of Appeals

rejected an appeal by former UR student William Griffin to overturn his murder conviction. As a freshman in 1987, Griffin stabbed three students while drunk in the Susan B. Anthony Residence Halls. One of the students later died as a result.

## Feb. 17, 2000

The Men’s Track team set two new UR records at the York University Open. The 4x400 relay team beat the previous record of 3:24.68. The 4x200 relay team set a new record of 1:33.83, beating its old record by 0.12 seconds.

## Feb 13, 2014

UR is nominated by PETA for 2014 “Favorite Vegan Friendly College.”

*Compiled by Features Editor David Schildkraut, Class of 2020.*

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# COMMUNITY

CT EATS

## Tsingtao: A Pocket of Tasty Asian Food



By LUIS NOVA  
WEBMASTER

It’s becoming a common trend in this column for me to eat Asian food on the weekly. Look man, I’m not going to lie, I’m a dumpling hound. I love ‘em. Gyoza, shumai, soup buns, I love any mix of braised meat and veggies that come in a doughy casing. I don’t know why they’re so delicious, but they are, and they make me happy, so let me live a little, won’t you? You will? Oh, hurray! Well then, that’s good, because I’ve got a treat for you: Tsingtao House, another Asian food place.

Tsingtao House, like many other places I go to, is right there in the big marketplace suburbanite heaven of Henrietta. It’s right off West Henrietta Road, a few plazas down from Movies 10 and Jay’s Diner. It’s a cozy little place with tables all around and some staff to keep it all running. The Democrat and Chronicle did a little bit on it recently, calling it “a Flushing-style eatery,” which basically just means that if you’re from Brooklyn and you miss it, you should probably eat here.

Tsingtao has a bit of a similar vibe to last week’s Sodam Korean Restaurant, so much so that their chairs actually look almost exactly the same as those at Sodam. Each table at Tsingtao gets the basics to keep patrons settled while thinking about food choices: a bowl of salted peanuts, a spicy plate of sprouts and



LUIS NOVA / WEBMASTER

Back in Henrietta, Luis Nova eats from a selection of plates offered by Tsingtao.

pickled veggies, and some tea to pour for each person at the table. The menus are actually done through some sort of app that they have on these mini tablets, which is super cool, because it lets you just pick whatever you want with your friends without having to bother the staff until you put your order in. You also get your final order total (including tax), which is pretty helpful when you’re trying to binge out on a budget.

My table went with a family-style approach to what we ordered: We’d each order a plate we wanted, and then just get extra plates on the side so we could pick and choose what we wanted from each others plates. Altogether, we got an order of 12 spicy

pork and green bean–steamed dumplings, a bowl of spicy pork noodles, and a plate of sweet marinated beef and mixed vegetables.

As I piled parts of each and every one of these dishes into my mouth, my tongue sizzled with the spicy kick of these Chinatown-style bites, clearing my sinuses and waking me up from my groggy morning disposition. My spice tolerance seems pretty good, so food like this doesn’t phase me much, but it does make my stomach feel great knowing that the spice in these is a flavorful kick rather than a weak wimper. Props to Tsingtao for making about 70 percent of their menu spicy food, this place could practically be recommended as a sauna treat-

ment for the inside of your nasal tract, and I mean that with only compliments in mind.

I should probably mention this now before I lose track, but this place is a total steal. The 12 dumplings my table got were from my personal choice of plates to eat, and they came in at roughly \$9 for the plate. Although the dumplings aren’t massive or anything, they’ve got good amounts of meat in ‘em, and they come with two different sauces on the side, a spicy one and a salty one. The other two plates were around \$12 each, and they were pretty big for something that was going to be passed around the table. I love how all these small business Asian food places in Rochester are some of the most affordable places

to eat around here. It’s good food, and it works well for my broke, lazy self, and my broke, not-as-lazy friends.

Tsingtao is at 2831 W Henrietta Road, which isn’t too far from here. I did the Uber estimate for you all (you’re welcome), and it costs about eight Washingtons to get there from campus. Since this is a family style food place, bring your whole friend group. They’ve got the table space for it, the food to feed you all, and I’m sure they’d appreciate the business traffic. Just make sure to tip, our waitress was super awesome, and the staff totally deserves any extra cash flow coming their way. Till next week, toodahoo UR.

*Nova is a member of the Class of 2018.*

Campus News. Every Week.



# OPINIONS

EDITORIAL OBSERVER

## Back to Basics With Books



By DAVID SCHILDKRAUT  
FEATURES EDITOR

Just thinking on the events from the past week, there’s a lot I could have written about. There was a government shut-down, the start of the Winter Olympics, and Trump making inappropriate comments on the #MeToo movement.

But instead of focusing on all the craziness that happened and letting it keep me up at night, I picked up a book.

Not an e-book. Not a download to iBooks. A hard-cover, paper-filled repository of knowledge. A good, old-fashioned book published in 2014.

And it was great. Like a Trumpian great, except better, saner, and written in actual, comprehensible English.

For me, it isn’t a question of the content I can access from a physical book versus a digital one. I can very easily get a copy of “The Art of War” or Grimms’ Fairy Tales on iBooks.

It isn’t a matter of how much fun I can have. When I’m not doing coursework or clubs, I’m frequently reading the news, watching anime, or playing video games. It is, however, a matter of modern-day technology. It is a matter of sleep. And it is a matter of how well I process information.

In all fairness, digital content has made the world accessible to anyone with a computer or a smartphone. (Money is an added bonus that is unnecessary unless you’re a hardcore “Game of Thrones” fan or want to subscribe to a paper like The New York Times.)

But consuming a lot of digital content can be unhealthy. Reports have shown that smartphone use can help fuel depression, and bedtime use of electronics can be disruptive to your body’s sleep cycle.

Thinking back to the past few years, I can see a significant difference in just my sleep quality when I read a physical book compared to when I read a digital book at bedtime.

When I read from my phone, I tended to feel more exhausted the next day, be a little more irritable and anxious, and I frequently woke up during the night enough that I remembered the next morning what I did when I woke up.

Conversely, when I read a book, for example a translation of the Japanese text “Kojiki,” I was able to better concentrate on my work, I was more alert in general, and I

was much perkier and positive. I rarely woke up enough to remember it. It was also easier to wake up after six or seven hours of sleep when I read a physical book instead of an e-book.

Of course, why should you care about my observations? I’m an optical engineering major, not a brain and cognitive sciences or neuroscience major, and how I sleep may be different from how you sleep.

Perhaps you’ve been sleeping just fine when reading from your phone each night.

But how much do you use your phone or computer during the day? If you’re like me, you’re rarely disconnected. (I mainly disconnect for classes since I take all my notes on paper.)

I have little against modern technology. There’s so much we can do with it, from contacting colleagues and writing essays to watching YouTube and playing video games. Even libraries use computers to keep track of book circulation. Many of you probably have digital textbooks (though I won’t go into details on this).

I cannot use a digital textbook. I find it difficult to process the information stored in the simplest way possible, 0s and 1s. So I buy all my textbooks. With other books, I face a similar challenge. To remain focused and retain information, I need a block of paper in my hands, not a sandwich of glass, plastic, and circuitry.

You may not face these challenges: Everybody is different. You may even be trying to save paper. (Kudos to your interest in helping the environment.) But that doesn’t mean you should stick to your screen the whole time. For millennia, books were the go-to source of knowledge. They’ve stood the test of time, and they haven’t failed us yet.

Try something different. Go to Rush Rhees and take out a book on something that interests you. Maybe you really dig archeology. Maybe learning about religion makes you feel enlightened. Maybe rocket science is more your speed.

Regardless of your interests, you will be able to find something that is a good read.

Nothing compares to the excitement and journey of reading a book, not for a class or a job, but for the enjoyment.

You won’t just learn something about the world or the universe. You won’t just be doing something fun and interesting.

You will be making a new friend.

*Schildkraut is a member of the Class of 2020.*

EDITORIAL BOARD

## The Fatal Flaw in SA’s New Transparency Bill

There’s a piece of legislation that’s just made its way through the SA Government system, and it’s about transparency.

The legislation attempts to remedy a loophole in an older bill by mandating that minutes be published within a week of approval and specifying who is responsible for the upload of what — the deputy speaker uploads Senate minutes, committee chairs upload their committee’s minutes.

These changes are praiseworthy, even if they essentially just bring SA where it should be anyway. But this bill should never have been passed.

Its details are head-scratching and, frankly, seem lazy.

Tacked on the end of the bill is a line revoking the requirement that meeting agendas be

released to the public if minutes are recorded for a meeting. There is no discernible logic to this decision, and it does nothing but close opportunities for students to participate in, with, or against their government.

With the passage of this bill, a student wanting to see what Senate was planning to discuss before a meeting would not be able to do so unless Senate decided it wanted to publish its agenda. This bill allows Senate and other SA Government bodies to conceal its plans from curious students. It would make it more difficult for students, upon seeing that Senate may be addressing a controversial issue at a meeting, to organize themselves to express their opinions.

Yes, agendas do not always reflect what actually ends up

being discussed at a meeting, but that’s no reason to allow groups not to publish them. And yes, most students probably aren’t clamoring to read Senate agendas, but if they want to, they should be able to, and SA shouldn’t pass something that could inhibit what should be a right.

In addition, this bill reclassifies who, exactly, is the public in the phrase “make publicly available.” Now, documents only need to be made available to students who have paid the student activity fee. What about faculty? Staff? Parents? Administrators? Aren’t these people who might have a stake in the rollout of SA initiatives? Why exclude them?

A bill that invokes increasing transparency in its name should actually do that.

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This editorial is published with the consent of a majority of the Editorial Board: Justin Trombly (Editor-in-Chief), Sarah Weise (Managing Editor), Aryaman Majumdar (Opinions Editor), and Ben Schmitz (Publisher). The editor-in-chief and the Editorial Board make themselves available to the UR community’s ideas and concerns. Email [editor@campustimes.org](mailto:editor@campustimes.org).

## Campus Times

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OP-EDS

# The Yellowjackets’ Service Trip Strikes a Dissonant Chord

By SAM DESANTIS  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The University premier all-male a cappella group, the Yellowjackets, is raising money to travel to Kenya for the second time in seven years. The 15-member group is asking for \$30,000 so it can “sing with orphanages and grade schools in the area.” But this just covers the “base costs” of supporting a Western standard of living for the duration of the trip. If the singers can raise more funds, they will use the money to “rent out venues to host free concerts all around the country.”

To clarify, these donations are being used for the Yellowjackets’ travel expenses and accommodations so that they can live comfortably when touring Kenya. Based on the information provided, none of this money is being used to directly support the communities they visit.

In our social media-driven world, crowdfunding these types of excursions has become commonplace. Unfortunately, many of these service trips fail to create sustainable change in the communities they visit and fall into the various trappings of “voluntourism,” an unsavory mix of “volunteer” and “tourism,” typically weighing heavily on the side of tourism. Characterized by poorly planned

and hastily executed projects, these programs primarily benefit the “volunteers” rather than the communities they aim to serve.

Although I believe the Yellowjackets had good intentions when planning this trip, the result is ultimately misguided. Aside from the obvious issue that \$30,000 could be much better used to make dramatic improvements to the standard of living in the communities they are traveling to, the very conception of the trip is problematic in nature. The premise of “spreading music education” is a thinly-veiled guise over what is an entirely self-serving vacation for wealthy, privileged men, looking to culture themselves. They claim they want to “learn from communities all over Kenya,” diminishing an entire country and people to a learning experience for the Yellowjackets. Gaining a new context and perspective on poverty may be the byproduct of a larger goal, but should never be the focus of a service trip.

The very premise of this “campaign” plays into deeply racist and colonial attitudes that are part of the reason these communities are in need support in the first place. The people of Kenya have their own traditions and music, and the mission of teaching them about ours is blind to the pervasiveness of Western culture

abroad and makes dangerous assumptions about who needs to be taught. While cultural exchanges can be beneficial to all people involved, when traveling to countries that have been colonized by Western nations, it’s important to approach those sorts of exchanges with an extremely high level of intentionality, context, and education. I am not convinced that the Yellowjackets have done this, though I would be happy to see otherwise.

Upon returning to the United States, the Yellowjackets will undoubtedly hoist up this experience as another example of their philanthropic nature, using orphaned children as a prop to further their narrative of service. Once again, the Yellowjackets’ shows will involve long-winding and self-indulgent speeches about the power of music, quickly followed by cringe-inducing renditions of African music like “Waka Waka” and “Wavin’ Flag,” seemingly ignorant to the problematic nature of such performances.

The Yellowjackets trip is voluntourism at its very worst. It is a group of well-educated, primarily white men, traveling to a developing country so that they can take an Instagram picture with poor children, brandishing the hashtag #musicsaveslives. I’m sure the kids they “saved” will love the post.

*Desantis is a member of the Class of 2017.*

# A Response From the Yellowjackets About Service Trip Criticism

Thank you to everyone who has been supportive throughout our “One World, One Song” campaign.

Since the campaign’s release, we have received feedback about the way in which we presented it.

We know our experience will be inspiring, exciting, and memorable, and we hope that our hosts in Maseno, Kisumu, Butere, and Nairobi will find the exchange as meaningful as we will. We are grateful for the kindness and generosity of our hosts and humbled to be welcomed into their community.

We are also grateful for the feedback that we’ve re-

ceived from you, our fans and friends, for helping us realize our mistakes in how we expressed both our goals and intentions for the campaign.

And what are those intentions? To celebrate the music that binds us together, immerse ourselves in a world-renowned musical culture, and leave our hosts with something in return. We’ve also decided to ask the M.K. Gandhi Institute for Nonviolence to provide us with some guidance on how to make sure our cultural exchange is as meaningful for our hosts as it is for us.

Meliora,  
The Yellowjackets

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# HUMOR

## Mummies in Space: Exciting New Astroarchaeological Discovery

By ERIC FRANKLIN  
HUMOR EDITOR

Zhgaurpt Flimpflo, a graduate student in the astroarchaeology program at the University of Jj-jjjj, was en route to the Alpha Centauri system last year to look for the site of the ancient Centaur High Temple when she noticed an unusual reading on one of their ship’s sensors.

The reading was just a blip coming from a minor yellow dwarf system they were passing on the way to Alpha Centauri.

“I was bored, so I just started staring idly at the long-range sensor data. I didn’t expect to find anything,” said Flimpflo about the initial sensor readings.

Her ship’s long-range sensors are capable of detecting all of the billions of objects orbiting nearby stars, down to the size of an Abrogziun jackaltermite. But one detail caught Flimpflo’s attention.

“I doubt I could have found it if I were looking for it. I just happened to notice that the spectral signal of one of the objects had a longer average wavelength than most of the other objects and its albedo was higher.”

In plain speak, she means that she saw something redder and shinier than usual. Though that does not indicate anything by itself, Flimpflo had a gut feeling

that they should take a look.

She showed the readings to her mentor, Dr. W’Xofsd Kghyru, but he was skeptical. Luckily for Flimpflo, the engines needed some minor maintenance that could only be performed while the ship was stopped, so Kghyru agreed to stop near the yellow dwarf and let her do some more advanced scans.

No one could have guessed what Flimpflo was about to discover.

“I ran more advanced compositional scans on it, and my stomachs dropped,” she said. “I realized it was made largely of steel and plastic — primitive, to be sure, but certainly not naturally occurring.”

Further analysis determined that the object is irregularly shaped, probably about three feet by 10 feet, with a hollow opening on one side.

That’s where they found the mummy.

Flimpflo couldn’t restrain herself any longer when asked about the mummy. “A mummy! A space mummy! This is entirely unprecedented in the history of astroarchaeology.”

It would be nearly impossible to date the body without physically retrieving it, but theories already abound as to the mummy’s origins. Most believe Flimpflo has discovered some type of ancient burial ritual.

Dr. Qp Pq is a professor of as-

troarchaeology at S#wize University and an expert on burial rituals.

“It’s fairly clear that the metal object is some type of primitive vehicle, perhaps a boat or a sledge,” said Dr. Pq, who was not involved in this project.

“It is likely that this species believed in a deity or deities that lived in a heaven above them,” Pq said. “After death, they would then launch their kings into space to live on among the gods.”

Some, such as G&}dq College’s Dr. Wägdja Thux, are more skeptical.

“Scans indicate that this being is only five feet tall and has four limbs,” Thux said. “Plus, there were no indications of any food or valuables sent with it to ‘the afterlife.’ Who’s to say this isn’t just some rich eccentric’s way of burying his pet? Like flushing a dead whalefalcon down a giant titanium toilet.”

But Flimpflo herself is convinced that the mummy was a king.

“Sure, we didn’t see any valuables, but that doesn’t mean it’s not a king,” she said. “It’s unlikely that we were the first ones to ever find this. The lack of valuables probably just means that space looters found it before we did.”

After Flimpflo realized that the object was artificially made, she began searching for the



An artist’s conception of what the mummified king may have looked like in life.

planet from which it originated. A planet-by-planet scan found that the third planet from the star was surrounded by metal debris, likely indicating the remains of the king’s domain.

While more research is scheduled to begin over the next four years, Dr. Pq does not think the civilization was very advanced.

“It doesn’t appear that these people had a very strong understanding of outer space,” he said. “Though they appear to have been able to launch metal into planetary orbit, so far we’ve seen no indication that they knew how to keep an organism alive in space.”

“No, unfortunately they probably never left the planet themselves,” Flimpflo said. “The king’s vehicle indicated a fundamental misunderstanding of the vacuum of space. It had no means of containing atmospher-

ic gases for breathing, no means of recharging its primitive electron transfer-based power system, and the only system that seems to have been running in the vehicle was an electroacoustic transducer, which can only produce sound through a gaseous or liquid medium.”

But though the transducer was long inoperative, the team was able to extract a telecommunications that seems to be a transmission from the home planet to the vehicle. Though universal translation technology is still fairly unreliable, one line of the message seemed to indicate that there was a problem with the vehicle after launch.

“Ground control to Major Tom, your circuit’s dead, there’s something wrong! Can you hear me, Major Tom?”

*Franklin is a Take Five Scholar.*

## There’s No ‘Good’ in ‘Goodell,’ But There’s an N, F, and L in ‘Not Fully Legal’

By MICAH GREENBERG  
SPORTS EDITOR

When Brandon Graham knocked the ball out of Tom Brady’s throwing hand at the end of the Super Bowl, Patriots fans were shocked. After so many years of winning, it seemed out of sorts for the Patriots to lose the Super Bowl.

Several players were shocked too. “I thought the Giants were the only team allowed to beat us,” injured wide receiver Julian Edelman said.

The fans, and even the players, didn’t understand the new status quo of the National Football League. For years, the Patriots’ victories have been dismissed by the nation due to accusations of cheating. But as it turns out, the deceit came from the league offices, not any specific team.

In 2017, the NFL decided to make all replay reviews (in cases of challenges, turnovers, official reviews, and scoring plays) be ruled on by senior officials at the league offices in New York. While this seemed like a fantastic way to make the rulings on close calls consistent, it really was a way to rig the games.

This season, several “haters” have implied that the Patriots are paying off the refs. They were mostly right. The Patriots did pay off the refs in several games,

including regular season games against the Texans, Steelers, and the AFC Championship game against the Jaguars. But now every single NFL game is rigged in a variety of ways.

The Super Bowl, for the first time in a while, was rigged against the Patriots. Certain calls, such as touchdown catches by Corey Clement and Zach Ertz, favored the Eagles, and could easily have been ruled incompletions if the game was rigged in favor of the Patriots. Additionally, clear infractions by the Eagles weren’t penalized on the Clement reception or the “Philly Special” trick play.

So then, you may ask, why did the league have a sudden change of heart against the Patriots? Well, the answer is simple. Every week, the teams negotiate with the league office, including Commissioner Roger Goodell, Senior Vice President of Player Engagement Troy Vincent, and Senior Vice President of Officiating Alberto Riveron. Every event in the past few years can be explained by these negotiations.

Often, the negotiations are centered around money. Teams that offer the most money to Goodell, Vincent, and Riveron are often rewarded with vic-

tory. The Patriots have a lot of money, and owner Robert Kraft is among those most willing to spend his own money on his team’s success, which has helped the Patriots achieve sustained success.

Another important aspect is the power of the team’s owner. Robert Kraft is the most powerful owner in the league, and he has secured victories by threatening to convince other owners to turn on Goodell and fire him.

It is also important for a victory to be plausible. A horrible team is unable to buy victories against a great team, but a transaction can change that. This explains the 49ers’ undefeated run after acquiring Jimmy Garoppolo.

There have been other tricks used to convince the league offices to grant a victory to a team. In 2014, the Patriots agreed to take the blame for a fabricated

cheating scandal, ruining the reputation of the organization and its pretty boy, Tom Brady. Also, the Patriots forfeited their first round draft pick and were fined \$1 million (peanuts compared to the amount it took for Kraft to bribe Goodell in 2004, though that money came from Vladimir Putin in exchange for a Super Bowl ring). In exchange for Deflategate, Super Bowl XLIX was rigged in the Patriots’ favor.

So how did the Eagles outbid the Patriots last week? To understand this, we need to know what the offers were.

The Patriots’ offer began with money. While the exact amount is uncertain, it’s assumed that Goodell alone was offered at least \$10 million. Kraft then said that he would allow the majority of his coaching staff, including Offensive Coordinator Josh McDaniels, to leave at the end

of the season and join other teams. Next, Kraft and Belichick argued that Malcolm Butler, the hero of Super Bowl XLIX, could again be heroic, with a feel-good story that could bring new viewership to the NFL. Lastly, Kraft promised that he could ensure that his friend Bon Jovi would play the Super Bowl Halftime show

next year.

The Eagles’ offer is still unknown, but we do know that it was better. Details about that offer will come out in the coming years. However, there is a chance that the Eagles got to negotiations early, and agreed to sideline Carson Wentz for the remainder of the season in exchange for playoff victories to help them get to the Super Bowl.

When the Patriots were informed that their offer was declined, it sent a spiteful ripple effect throughout the league. Belichick benched Butler to prevent any reminders of past Super Bowls’ success. Josh McDaniels backed out of his agreement to become head coach of the Indianapolis Colts. And Bon Jovi won’t perform at the halftime show next year.

As the “integrity of the game,” Goodell’s euphemism for his personal wealth, is protected, the league continues on. Next year, strange events will probably continue, and it’s likely those events will involve negotiations for the favor of the league offices. Goodell’s only remaining worry is the prospect of the XFL being reincarnated, as CEO of the XFL Vince McMahon is the only person better than Goodell at keeping a rigged sport entertaining.

*Greenberg is a member of the Class of 2020.*





# CULTURE

## Underhill Is Ambitious and Fascinating



GABE ISAACSON / PHOTO EDITOR

Part of the staircas portion of the exhibit in the Underhill Art Installation



GABE ISAACSON / PHOTO EDITOR

One of the display rooms In Underhill Art Installa-

By WIL AIKEN  
CULTURE EDITOR

I’m not sure how to describe “The Underhill” to someone who didn’t go, because it is nearly impossible to describe. The installation (which is not exactly the correct word, but it’s the one I’m going to run with) is a mix of mystery, fine art, sound art, horror, fantasy, science fiction, and storytelling. It ran from Friday to Saturday at Drama House on the Fraternity Quad.

The set up is as follows: The year is 1998. The place is Rochester. A young girl has gone missing. Her mother vanished several years prior. When I walked into Drama House to begin the experience, a police officer (played by an actor) gave me all this information in the breezeway. Other officers were stationed, seated or

spacing, in every room, giving the faintest traces of information about the mystery. The exhibition led me through Drama House, exploring rooms on the upstairs one moment, trying to make sense of the basement the next.

I’m going to come clean here. If there was a mystery to be solved, I certainly didn’t solve it. Similarly, if there was a story to be told, and I’m pretty sure there was, I only scratched the surface of it. “The Underhill’s” strength may not be in the storytelling department, but that’s quite alright, because the brilliance of its two greatest strengths absolutely outshined the other’s absence. The first strength that I refer to is that of world-building.

This observation is nothing new, its long been a popularly accepted (and true) criticism of George Lucas’

“Star Wars” saga, or J.R.R. Tolkien’s “Lord of the Rings” trilogy. You (or at least I) don’t read “Lord of the Rings” to absorb all of the hobbit dialogue. I read it because I want to be in that world. For 10 minutes, or however long I’m reading, I want to exist inside of Tolkien’s Middle Earth. Tolkien was not a particularly good writer, but he was a brilliant world-builder. The specificity with which his fantastical universe is constructed is irresistible.

Similarly so with “The Underhill.” I walked through the staircase, looking at drawings, diagrams, and frantically written notes. I wondered whether I was following the path of a detective, conspiracy theorist, or lunatic. When I found an almost entirely redacted letter from the girl to her father, I was examining the father’s study (and admiring the awesome

typewriter that was on the desk), and when I was looking at the news clippings and photographs that made up the trail of research that I, as viewer, followed, I felt like I was there. I was in the world of “The Underhill.”

The second great strength of “The Underhill” was simply the caliber of art. The way the rooms played with light and sound, photography, and paintings was beautiful and unsettling. One of the most striking manifestations of this was a finely set dinner table, complete with fancy silverware and a red, embroidered tablecloth, covered in black and white, vaguely violent photographs of an unknown woman. The ambient noise was disturbing in a way that was impossible to put one’s finger on. (It’s worth noting that the eerily effective sound design was done by first-year Brenn Whiting.)

The paintings featured were altogether remarkable. One, titled “Threefold” by seniors Kristi Thomas and Hayley Orciuch, depicted a woman with ram’s horns and embroidered eyes. Each work seemed more striking than the last. The imagination and skill level of the artists involved was essential to the universe that “The Underhill” cast itself into.

After I had finished exploring “The Underhill,” I spoke with the installations directors, juniors Saralinda Schell and Elise McCarthy. They told me that they planned out the exhibition in one burst at 2:00 a.m., Dec. 19. “The Underhill” feels just like a light night or early morning creative explosion should: beautiful, messy, and completely enveloping.

Aiken is a member of  
the Class of 2021.

## On New Album, MGMT Reverses Course, Slightly

By ASHLEY BARDHAN  
ILLUSTRATIONS EDITOR

Everyone knows MGMT for three songs: “Kids,” “Electric Feel,” and “Time to Pretend.”

All three appear on their 2007 debut album, “Oracular Spectacular,” and MGMT hated that. The music was meant to be sarcastic, not commercial, and so the band retreated deeper into a neo-psychedelic retaliation hole.

The effect of their retreat was immediately seen in their 2010 album, “Congratulations,” which was then followed by the self-titled “MGMT” in 2013. Both were pointedly devoid of the expansive, joyous pop hooks that had originally catapulted MGMT to fame, successfully alienating their audience and the sales that came along with them.

Five years later, MGMT seems to have reversed course.

But only partially.

“Little Dark Age,” the band’s new album, is a strange and anxious synth-pop celebration, like throwing a party to commemorate your dog dying. I don’t have

**‘Little Dark Age,’ the band’s new album, is a strange and anxious synth-pop celebration, like throwing a party to commemorate your dog dying. I don’t have a dog.**

a dog.

We begin the album with “She Works Out Too Much,” a spastic, ‘80s decry against online dating, with vocalist Andrew VanWyngarden welcoming you “to the shitshow / Grab a comfortable seat.”

It sets the tone for a lot of

what’s to come — pop hooks turned on their head, comprised of VanWyngarden’s flat wryness, “Baby, I’m ready, I’m ready, ready to blow my brains out” (on “When You Die”).

After we sit, we’re dropped into titular track “Little Dark Age,” which is a gothic perforation of snare. It seems shocked at itself and its time period, grieving “in stereo” but “the stereo sounds strange / [...] horrified / On the stage / My little dark age.”

Most of the album is characterized by a detached darkness. There’s the feeling that the band is looking out, or maybe down.

Sometimes they’re looking down on themselves, like in “TSLAMP” (“Time Spent Looking at My Phone”), which is suggestive of Depeche Mode and sees “Gods descend to take me home / Find me staring at my

phone.”

Sometimes it seems like they’re just looking down on writing pop, like in the lush “Me and Michael,” swelling and reminiscent of a coming-of-age prom scene. According to VanWyngarden, it was originally written as “me and my girl” until he found it to be too boring.

Unlike past MGMT albums, though, the detachment of “Little Dark Age” doesn’t estrange its listener so much as it tells you what it thinks, unfiltered. It’s a scraggly, 20-something-year-old that regularly drops acid and tells you that eating red meat will give you cancer, but we’re all dying, so, like, whatever.

The album’s earnesty becomes more clear in the last two tracks, “When You’re Small” and “Hand it Over.”

“When You’re Small” is the album’s most gentle moment, fas-

tened with sparse guitar twang that rises into full-band instrumentation as VanWyngarden mumbles, “When you’re small / You can curl into a ball / [...] No, you’re not very big at all.”

VanWyngarden’s voice becomes even more diminutive and self-effacing in “Hand it Over,” which reintroduces MGMT’s penchant of neo-psychedelia, at times sounding like a Tame Impala deep cut. He tells us, “The deals we made to shake things up / And the rights that they abused / Might just fuck us over,” until his voice submerges in the very end of the song, imploring from very far away to “hand it over.”

I don’t know what most of the songs are about, but I think I can understand the feelings behind them. Maybe that’s the point.

Bardhan is a member of  
the Class of 2020.



NOT VANILLA

Big-time Halftime Disappointment



By VENNELA PANDARABOYINA  
COLUMNIST

This year, when I sat down to watch the Super Bowl, I was expecting two things: a decent game and a memorable halftime show. I was pretty excited, especially knowing that the halftime performer was Justin Timberlake. He'd been out of the limelight for a good bit, so I was excited to see what he had in store.

His performance wasn't awful. I was definitely entertained during it, and I genuinely enjoyed watching him dance and perform, but it wasn't a lasting performance. It was even a little boring. I knew that by the time the next Super Bowl rolled around, I would struggle to remember who performed the year before, and that's not something you want out of a halftime performance.

The performance succeeded in showcasing all of Timberlake's greatest hits, and it established that he has had an impact on pop music the last 15 years. But the show almost aged him for me — I couldn't see a place for him in pop music's future.

This feeling first emerged a

couple days before the show, when I sat down to listen to his new album, "Man of the Woods." I had heard the single "Filthy" before, and it was, again, bland. Coming from an artist whose songs from years ago are still party staples, I was expecting a lot more with this new music.

The album lacks innovation. It's not clever, it's derivative. It's almost like Timberlake has taken what he sees as his signature — whether it's long instrumental breaks, plethora of innuendos or catchy hooks — spun it with these Southern music staple sounds. The album isn't bad, but it's not groundbreaking. It didn't make me feel anything. I was bobbing my head to songs, but when they finished I couldn't remember the chorus.

This is fine for most artists — being liked is enough for them to make more music. But I expect more from JT — considering he's a pop icon, I don't think it's excessive to want the albums he releases (that only come few and far between, reader) to be a big music moment. But instead, all I got from both his Super Bowl performance and his new album was a large amount of meh.

Don't get me wrong, I still liked it, but after five years of waiting for his next album, it was just disappointing.

*Pandaraboyina is a member of the Class of 2020.*

By EDDIE HOCK  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

20 Years of Neutral Milk Hotel

Saturday marked the 20-year anniversary of genre-revolutionizing album "In the Aeroplane over the Sea" by Neutral Milk Hotel. Two decades later, "Aeroplane" still manages to influence indie music and capture unique facets of the human experience.

"One of the best feelings in the world is when you read or listen to something and it feels like something you've always known, but were never able to express," said Ben Pierce, a sophomore and vocalist in a band called 1999.

Many would agree. "Aeroplane" is considered a seminal record that's among the most significant works released in the genre, especially in terms of musical influence and cultural impact.

Today, this lo-fi concept album about Anne Frank is universally acclaimed, despite an initially lukewarm response from critics who were not quite ready for a reinvention of indie music.

The album's tepid immediate response soon gave way

to the acclaim it enjoys currently as music critics adjusted to a total reinvention of the indie genre.

"Most of the time, the animus of human taste and interest dictates what's well-liked and 'good,'" Pierce explained. "But, occasionally, something comes along that's so astoundingly, undeniably good that it's, like, 'Fuck you, you're gonna like this.' Aeroplane created a taste."

In the twenty years since the release of the band's magnum opus on Feb. 10, 1998, its influence has only grown. It was the sixth best-selling vinyl album in 2008, a full 10 years after it came out.

A full fifth of a century later, we are left to consider exactly why it did, though. Obviously, the album is phenomenal. Listen to it yourself — you'll find its structure nearly perfect, its every song raw, evocative, and gorgeously well-performed, thanks in large part to the incredible work of frontman Jeff Mangum, who was so driven to create the album that he believed he was being possessed by ghosts. But there's something even more profound at work, too. First-year student musician Eleanor Lenoe talked about what she thinks sets "Aeroplane" apart.

"I think we listen to music to find out what it means to

be human. 'Aeroplane' taps into a vein of [human] peculiarity that can't be found in other albums. That weirdness [...] I'm talking 'Two-Headed Boy' [the album's

*The album's tepid immediate response soon gave way to the acclaim it enjoys currently...*

fourth track, rife with unsettling lyrical imagery and rich, vivid instrumentation]. Other singer-songwriters wouldn't describe codependence that way. That disgusting image," said Lenoe.

"Two-Headed Boy" is far from "Aeroplane's" only song with intense, visceral themes and imagery. Often disturbing, sometimes sexual, always profound, "Aeroplane" is far from a safe album.

Lenoe elaborated on what she sees as the album's unique, visionary and sometimes frightening humanity.

"It hits all the markers for a good piece of art. It's relatable, it's powerful, it's unique [...] it's hard to put into words. Maybe it's because we don't really talk in the same way that the album speaks to us. It's a different realm of speech."

*Hock is a member of the Class of 2021.*

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# False Advertising Shows Promise in First Show

By WIL AIKEN  
CULTURE EDITOR

You remember how in every In Between The Lines review we put out, it always calls IBTL “UR’s student-run improv troupe”? Well, that’s not true anymore. It’s now one of UR’s student-run improv troupes. As in now there are two.

The new troupe, made up of first-years Alaina Attanasio and Benny Srajer, and sophomores Louis Herman, Devin Hott, and Wade Bennett, is called False Advertising and had its debut show last Friday in the Friel Lounge.

You might think forming a second troupe is a bit redundant. How can one improv team be so different from another — different enough, at least, to justify going to both shows?

But the truth is that IBTL and False Advertising are coming

from two different places. In Between The Lines is comedic hysteria, with a foundation of wackiness and energy.

False Advertising actually brings something new to the table: discomfort. I’m aware that this doesn’t sound very attractive, but it really should.

The first game was a sort of mad lib. All but one performer entered and asked the audience

*But the truth is that IBTL and False Advertising are coming from two different places.*

to give them a person, place, and cause of death. (Santa Claus, the South Pole, and Mel Sauce, the audience decided.) The missing performer then

came onstage, as the rabbi at Santa Claus’ funeral, after he

*It was clear False Advertising isn’t out to provoke laughs. Its goal is to create a scene.*

died of too much Mel Sauce at the South Pole. The hitch was, of course, that the rabbi had no idea who the deceased was, where it happened, what the deceased died of, leading him down a Twenty Questions-style rabbit hole, with his questions being answered by other performers, smearing their words with over-the-top Jewish accents. But it was neither the victim, cause of death, or vaguely semitic references that

made this bit work. It was the discomfort. It was the fact that the performer playing the rabbi actually had no idea what was happening, or what everyone was trying to indicate, and the result was a palpable, squirmy kind of funny.

By the time the show had passed the halfway point, it was clear False Advertising isn’t out to provoke laughs. Its goal

*False Advertising succeeds by doing just the opposite: making its own place, and thriving there.*

is to create a scene. The scenes that worked best, such as a princess-and-the-frog scenario with some infidelity thrown in, worked best not because they

were funny (though they were) but because the characters and conflicts were consistent and entertaining.

Perhaps the funniest (and most uncomfortable) scenes were contained in the last game. This was a cluster of four consecutive scenes taking place at a Las Vegas bachelorette party.


A drunken priest and a very strange (and rudely named) casino machine made the scene, and the jokes within it, tense. It also made them hilarious.

So, believe it or not, False Advertising can absolutely hold its own against the comedic leviathan that is IBTL. But False Advertising isn’t trying to beat IBTL at its own game. False Advertising succeeds by doing just the opposite: making its own place, and thriving there.

*Aiken is a member of the Class of 2021.*



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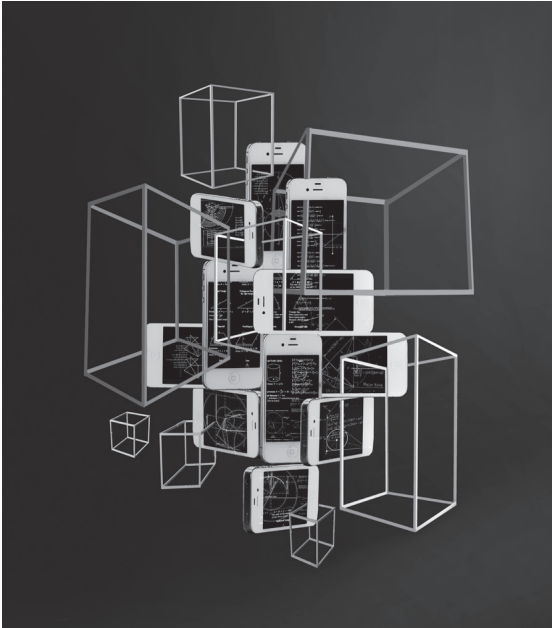
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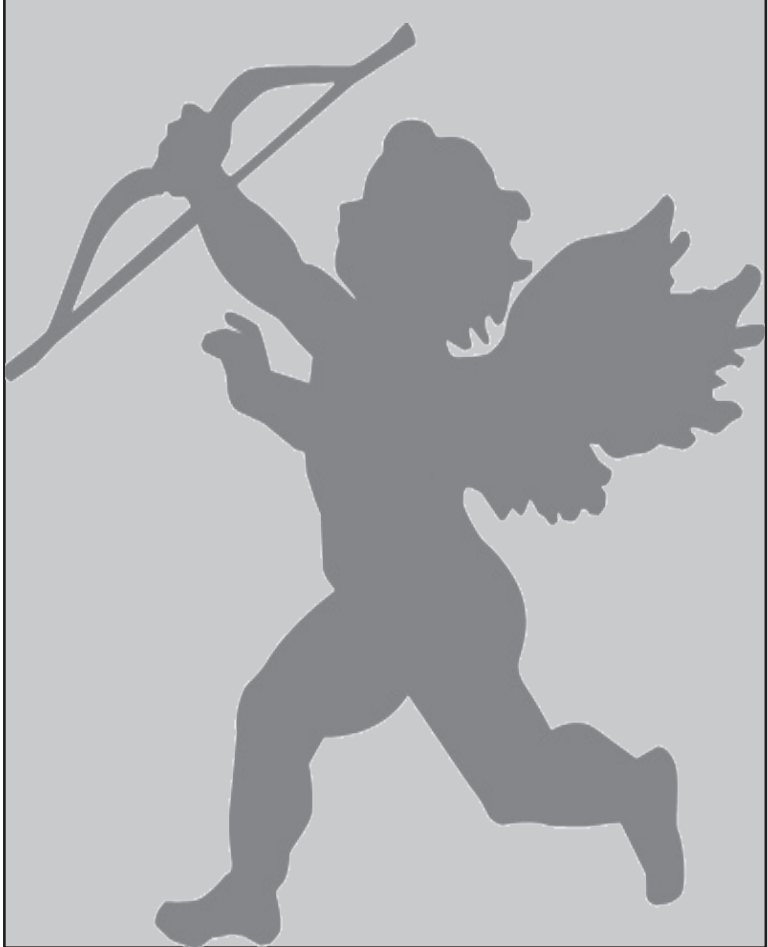
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LAST WEEK’S SCORES

**FEB. 9**  
WOMEN’S TRACK AND FIELD AT NYU INVITATIONAL – 4TH OF 27  
MEN’S TRACK AND FIELD AT NYU INVITATIONAL – 1ST OF 26  
WOMEN’S BASKETBALL AT CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY – W(81–49)  
MEN’S BASKETBALL AT CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY – W(71–58)

**FEB. 10**  
MEN’S TENNIS VS. VASSAR COLLEGE – L(3–6)  
MEN’S TENNIS VS. NAZARETH COLLEGE – W(9–0)

**FEB. 11**  
MEN’S BASKETBALL AT CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY – L(70–68)  
WOMEN’S BASKETBALL AT CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY – W(70–53)

THIS WEEK’S SCHEDULE

**FEB. 14**  
WOMEN’S SWIM AND DIVE AT DAY 1 UAA CHAMPIONSHIPS – 10 A.M.  
MEN’S SWIM AND DIVE AT DAY 1 UAA CHAMPIONSHIPS – 10 A.M.  
MEN’S SQUASH AT CORNELL UNIVERSITY – 6 P.M.

**FEB. 15**  
WOMEN’S SWIM AND DIVE AT DAY 2 UAA CHAMPIONSHIPS – 10 A.M.  
MEN’S SWIM AND DIVE AT DAY 2 UAA CHAMPIONSHIPS – 10 A.M.

**FEB. 16**  
WOMEN’S SWIM AND DIVE AT DAY 3 UAA CHAMPIONSHIPS – 10 A.M.  
MEN’S SWIM AND DIVE AT DAY 3 UAA CHAMPIONSHIPS – 10 A.M.  
WOMEN’S BASKETBALL VS. BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY – 6 P.M.  
MEN’S BASKETBALL VS. BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY – 8 P.M.

**FEB. 17**  
WOMEN’S SWIM AND DIVE AT DAY 4 UAA CHAMPIONSHIPS – 10 A.M.  
MEN’S SWIM AND DIVE AT DAY 4 UAA CHAMPIONSHIPS – 10 A.M.  
WOMEN’S TENNIS AT COLGATE UNIVERSITY – 10 A.M.  
MEN’S TENNIS AT COLGATE UNIVERSITY – 10 A.M.  
WOMEN’S TRACK AND FIELD AT CORNELL UNIVERSITY DENEALT INVITATIONAL – 10 A.M.  
MEN’S TRACK AND FIELD AT CORNELL UNIVERSITY DENEALT INVITATIONAL – 10 A.M.  
WOMEN’S TRACK AND FIELD AT COLLEGE AT BROCKPORT GOLDEN EAGLE INVITE – 10 A.M.  
MEN’S TRACK AND FIELD AT COLLEGE AT BROCKPORT GOLDEN EAGLE INVITE – 10 A.M.  
MEN’S SQUASH VS. PRINCETON UNIVERSITY IN HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT – 3 P.M.

**FEB. 18**  
WOMEN’S TENNIS VS. ITHACA COLLEGE – 10 A.M.  
MEN’S BASKETBALL AT NEW YORK UNIVERSITY – 12 P.M.  
MEN’S SQUASH AT TRINITY COLLEGE – 12 P.M.  
MEN’S TENNIS VS. ITHACA COLLEGE – 2 P.M.  
WOMEN’S BASKETBALL AT NEW YORK UNIVERSITY – 2 P.M.

LAST WEEK’S HIGHLIGHTS

**MEN’S AND WOMEN’S BASKETBALL AT CARNEGIE MELLON**  
Men’s and Women’s Basketball traveled to Carnegie Mellon to take on the Tartans on Sunday. After a close first half, the men’s team allowed Carnegie Mellon to gain a lead as large as 13 points in the second half. However, an exciting late comeback put the ‘Jackets ahead at one point. Down by two points with one second left, the ‘Jackets inbounded to senior guard Ryan Clamage who made what appeared to be a game-winning three-pointer, but the shot was called back when it was determined that he did not get the shot off in time, resulting in a 68–70 loss. The women’s team had much more success, outscoring Carnegie Mellon in each of the first three quarters and holding on in the fourth to secure a 70–53 victory. Senior forward Alexandra Leslie also moved into second in the school’s all-time scoring list.

WHAT TO WATCH

**SWIMMING AND DIVING UAA CHAMPIONSHIPS**  
The Men’s and Women’s Swimming and Diving teams will travel to Emory University in Atlanta to compete in the University Athletic Association Championships. The event will last four days and feature many events. Both teams have had mixed success as of late. The men’s team has lost two of the last three matchups, but have had a strong winning streak early in the season. The women’s team has lost its last two matchups, but had a winning streak of its own early in the season. The meet will feature many exciting races and a chance for two teams to bring home titles.

**WINTER 2018 OLYMPICS**  
The Winter Olympic games continue this week in Pyongchang, South Korea. There are over 100 events and over 90 nations participating. Notably, NHL players will not play in the men’s hockey tournament, leaving the event mostly to amateurs and professional players in other leagues. Other fan favorite events include figure skating, skiing, skateboarding, curling, and bobsleigh. Germany, Canada, Norway, and the United States are among the favorites to get the most medals.

# Basketball Dominates Against CWRU

By MICAH GREENBERG  
SPORTS EDITOR

The Men’s and Women’s Basketball teams traveled to Cleveland on Friday to take on Case Western Reserve University. Both teams played well and won by safe margins. At the beginning of the women’s game, the Case Western Reserve Spartans kept within four points of the ‘Jackets. Though the ‘Jackets maintained a lead for a large portion of the first quarter, the Spartans tied it back up at 15. The ‘Jackets responded with an 8–2 run to end the first quarter up 23–17. In the second quarter, the ‘Jackets were unstoppable. Superb defensive play held the Spartans to just three second-quarter points, and their shots were falling on offense. An 10–0 spurt to end the second quarter put Rochester up 38–20 at halftime. The ‘Jackets continued their defensive success, scoring an additional 17 points to start the second quarter before the Spartans were able to land a shot. However, Case Western Reserve matched the ‘Jackets in scoring across the remainder of the third quarter. The Spartans outscored the ‘Jackets in the first five minutes of the fourth quarter, but they

were already too far behind for it to make any difference. While the gap between the teams did not increase, the early success of the ‘Jackets was insurmountable. By the end of the game, the score was 81–49, and the Spartans never secured a lead. There were many fantastic performances from the women’s team. Senior forward Lauren Deming had a double-double with 11 points and 10 rebounds. Senior Alexandra Leslie put up an impressive 22 points. Sophomore for-

*The early success of the ‘Jackets was insurmountable.*

ward Brenna James was key to the team’s strong defensive showing, recording five steals. This in-conference victory puts the Women’s team at 8–3 in UAA play and 18–4 overall. The men’s team also showed signs of dominance and brought home a 71–58 victory, but weren’t as overwhelmingly dominant as the women were. The Spartans established a quick lead, and the game remained competitive at the beginning. However, after the ‘Jackets tied it up, junior guard Jacob Wittig hit a

3-pointer to gain a 10–7 lead. The Spartans fought back to tie it up again, but three-pointers by junior guard Michael Mangan and first-year forward Steph Peters-Smith scored from downtown to gain a 21–15 lead. The ‘Jackets continued to widen their lead, finishing the first half up 38–27. After exchanging scores early in the second half, the ‘Jackets went on a 9–0 run, increasing their lead to 21 points. The Yellowjackets continued to widen their lead, but the Spartans ended the game with a 9–0 run of their own, causing the final score to be 71–58. There were many strong performers for the ‘Jackets. Wittig had 18 points, five rebounds, four assists and a free throw percentage of 80. Junior guard Ryan Clamage had 10 points, seven boards, and five assists. First-year forward Ryan Algier matched Clamage’s seven rebounds, and also scored eight points, including the Yellowjackets’ only dunk of the game. Mangan and sophomore forward Patrick Benka each contributed nine points. This win was crucial for the men’s team, as CWRU has a better in-conference record than the Jackets. *Greenberg is a member of the Class of 2021.*

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# SPORTS

## UR Track and Field Hits the Ground Running at NYU



Senior Brianna Loughran placed 6th in the mile at the NYU Invitational



Senior Eric Franklin placed 17th in the mile with a time of 4:25.04

By NICK DAVIS  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Women’s Track and Field team has been performing at an extremely high-level recently. It took home the top team score at an invitational Feb. 2 at RIT and managed to win another one in New York City this week. The ‘Jackets finished first out of 26 teams in the NYU Invitational.

Junior Kylee Bartlett helped to lead the way, scoring in the 60-meter hurdles, long jump, and 200 meter events. Her teammate, sophomore Michaela Burrell, also had an exquisite showing, winning the 60-meter dash and scor-

ing in the 200 meter. Sophomore Lonnie Garrett and first-year Eileen Bequette both finished second in the triple jump and long jump, respectively. First-year Collette Anikwue scored third in the high jump, adding to the success of UR’s jumpers.

Junior Rachel Bargabos also had a strong day, finishing a 5K in 18:00.03, which was enough for a fourth-place finish. Senior Brianna Loughran finished sixth in the mile for the ‘Jackets, as did sophomore Jordan Hurlbut in the 800-meter sprint. First-year Danielle Bartolotta joined Loughran in the mile, finishing eighth. The women’s 4x400 meter relay team,

composed of Bequette, Colleen Arnold, Elizabeth Ross, and Alice Freese finished sixth, wrapping up a great weekend on the track.

The final scorer from the women’s team was first-year Grace Messina, who scored twice for the ‘Jackets, coming in eighth in shot put and fourth in the weight throw.

Burrell, Garrett, Bartlett, and Bargabos all qualified for the Atlantic Regionals, a postseason meet.

The Men’s Track and Field Team also had a great showing in New York City, bringing home a fourth place finish out of 27 teams. The highlight of the night

on the men’s side was junior Chris Dalke winning the 800-meter race. Teammates Hunter Phinney, junior, and Ivan Frantz, sophomore, both performed well in the 5K. They finished third and sixth, respectively. Another junior, Ben Martell, put together a fifth place performance in the 3K.

First-year Terry Cook was able to finish second in the pole vault, the top Division III finisher in his event. Sophomore Mark Westman came in sixth place for the triple jump. Rounding out the scoring for the ‘Jackets was the 4x400 meter relay team. Dalke, Dan Al-lara, Wesley Clayton, and Cole Gublo ran for a seventh place fin-

ish.

Dalke was the only one to qualify for the Atlantic Regionals on the men’s team.

Many more runners look to qualify next weekend as the teams will be splitting up and traveling to two meets. Some will compete in the Brockport Invitational, while others go to the Cornell Deneault Invitational. These will be the last meets of the regular season for the Track and Field Teams. After that they will begin postseason play, hoping to build on the success the programs have had thus far.

*Davis is a member of the Class of 2020.*

### EVERBODY TALKS

## Will We Remember Them?



By JACKIE POWELL  
COLUMNIST

I remember how, four years ago, when we spoke of Sochi, we discussed unjust gay propaganda laws, protests, and oh yes, that doping scandal.

What I do not remember, however, is how Jamie Anderson won the snowboarding slopestyle gold, USA Women’s Hockey won the silver, igniting a new rivalry with Team Canada, and how and Mikaela Shiffrin won the gold for women’s slalom skiing.

Four years later, we have our Vice President Mike Pence not only feuding with the first openly gay figure skater, Adam Rippon, but also refusing to acknowledge North Korean officials during the opening ceremonies. Russia is technically banned from this Olympics, but of course there’s a caveat.

Four years later, I say to myself, shame on me.

Why don’t I remember the actual competition and the ath-

letes rather than the scandals and political undertones? The only athletes of any Winter Olympics who I could name were short speed skater Apollo Ohno, snowboarder Shawn “The Flying Tomato” White and champion skier Lindsay Vonn, who didn’t even compete in 2014. She was still recovering from an ACL injury.

Isn’t that pathetic? What’s also pathetic is on day three in Pyeongchang, you will not find one Winter Olympics headline featured on the websites ESPN, CBS Sports, Fox Sports, or Sports Illustrated. I tip my hat to SB Nation and Bleacher Report, who prioritized at least one top story about the Winter Games. NBC, if it wasn’t broadcasting the event, it would most likely follow in its peer networks’ footsteps.

Do you know what these networks deem pertinent? Who the next coach of the Colts is and the “Cleveland Cavaliers’ New Era.” Those headlines are apparently more pertinent than an international sporting event held once every four years.

The only headline from ESPN that involves women in any sort of capacity of course concerned sexual abuse claims

against amateur volleyball coach Rick Butler.

On the other hand, sister site ESPNW is having a field day. Its content is erupting with stories about women we’ve never heard of: snowboarder Chloe Kim, figure skater Mirai Nagasu, and 18-year-old short-track speed-skater Maame Biney, who, by the way, is the first black woman in U.S. Olympic history to qualify for her event.

Here’s the message, here’s something that can distract us from political themes erupting onto our world’s biggest winter stage. Stories of female power and resilience. Tales of newcomers and firsts. That all should be memorable.

One reason of many why I’m so fascinated by the world of sports is because I’m a sucker for a great comeback story, a narrative about defeating all odds, a story about triumph. Trust me, these female narratives aren’t short of exciting. But let’s try to remember them, shall we?

So while you may have heard that Lindsay Vonn was delayed arriving in Pyeongchang, two weeks ago, she lost her grandfather, a family member very instrumental in her career. This will be her

last Olympics, and Vonn plans to “win for him.”

Newcomer Chloe Kim who is currently 17 and holds the record as the youngest Winter X Games medalist, comes to the 2018 games with Korean born parents, and will be grappling with her identity as a Korean American and her newfound fame.

Hilary Knight and USA Women’s Hockey arrived at the Winter Games with a giant chip on their shoulders. Last year the team boycotted USA Hockey before the IIHF Women’s World Championships in pursuit of more financial support for the national team and for development programs for girls.

They have something to prove, or do they? While the women won the silver in 2014, the men’s team finished in fifth. Now I’ll ask the question again: Do they really have something to prove?

Now speaking of male counterparts and comparisons, the media has been comparing 22-year-old skier Mikaela Shiffrin to Michael Phelps. While Shiffrin laughed off the question, she was right to call it an “apples and oranges” comparison.

Why does her excellence

have to be compared to Phelps? Why can’t her excellence stand alone, be impressive on its own?

This situation reminds me of the famous “she swims like a guy” comment from Ryan Lochte in Rio. I’m hoping and praying that we’ve learned from this, and now understand why it’s not okay to say that Katie Ledecky swims like a guy rather than herself.

And speaking of Rio, this idea that we should pay attention to sports — such as gymnastics — more than once every four years is fair game in Pyeongchang. As sports fans, we have a duty to learn and engage with athletic events that fall outside the four major sports.

With so many fascinating women’s narratives, the coverage in the next few weeks will determine the legacy of these young women. Will we remember them? I know I will.

*“Everybody Talks” is a radio show on WRUR’s the Sting that highlights women’s involvement in sports and the social issues that surround athletics. You can listen to it every Friday from 1–2 p.m. on thesting.wrur.org.*

*Powell is a member of the Class of 2018.*