COMMENCEMENT 2018

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How Does Commencement Get Set Up? A Team of 22 Plans for Months

By SHWETA KOUL
NEWS EDITOR

It is the morning of the 168th Commencement. Seven thousand chairs line Eastman Quad; tents dot campus; a sea of robed students and families and friends clutch programs.

But who set it all up?

Twenty-two staff members from Event and Classroom Management spend October to June planning the ceremony, with four of them working full-time on the event.

Facilities and Meliora Catering also play a role in getting everything in place and the food for the different ceremonies across campus.

“We start planning Commencement the day after Commencement,” said Christine Rovet, executive director of Event and Classroom Management.

“That’s kind of a joke, but not really. As soon as we are done with Commencement in May, we start thinking about what didn’t go so well, what we would change for next year. So, we start debriefing with all of the different departments and planning really what we are going to do for this year and make notes for ourselves while it still is fresh.”

This year, fewer than 1,500 graduates will attend the College of Arts, Sciences, and Engineering Commencement ceremony this Sunday. But more than 3,000 total graduates will be getting their bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral degrees, with other UR ceremonies happening on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

“A lot of work goes into it, and so going up to the ceremony I thought, ‘I can’t believe I have to do this.’” Rovet said. “But then the day that we did it, I thought, ‘I can’t believe I get to do this.’ It’s such a joyous event. People are so happy. There’s an energy here that is really really cool. It’s so much fun being a part of that and making that happen.”

In addition to the school ceremonies, Event and Classroom Management plans individual diploma ceremonies. Rovet said the department improved this year on finding right-sized rooms to accommodate them.

“Since the class has grown each year, we were finding that the diploma ceremonies were getting a little bit crowded where they were,” Rovet said. “We really looked at how many people fit in the spaces and how many people come to the ceremonies. We also added Wegmans Hall in for the diploma ceremony. We moved three different ceremonies to the Advancement Center, which is also a beautiful place that had been under-utilized up until this point.”

Each student’s diploma is signed by University President Richard Feldman and the dean of that student’s school. Event and Classroom Management packages these into golden tubes.

The set-up for the College of Arts, Sciences, and Engineering commencement ceremony on the Eastman Quad begins on Wednesday and goes through Friday. Event and Classroom Management also purchased blow-bubbles and beach balls for the ceremony.

People on the platform at the front of the ceremony get their regalia from the Event and Classroom Management office. There are blue robes with yellow stripes and blue graduation caps. Feldman has a custom-made robe embroidered with two gold Meliora patches and his initials stitched on the inside of it.

The College’s ceremony will be livestreamed on UR’s website along with video walls with captions to accommodate attendees who are hearing impaired or cannot see the stage. And if the weather is bad, organizers can simulcast the event to other locations around campus so people can still watch the ceremony. Event and Classroom Management has also purchased 8,000 rain ponchos and bags to put programs in if it rains.

Rovet takes pride in her staff’s inclusion of students in the event. Student marshals will help lead the procession and seniors from each a cappella group that perform throughout the ceremony.

Koul is a member of the Class of 2020.
is economics a STEM major?

— the initial reaction for Omar was denial.

"I actually didn’t believe it, I thought Vitraka was joking [...]. It took me a while to realize how many lives it will affect,” he said.

The impact is enormous, I cannot even put it in any words,” said Mehta.

When their goal was accomplished, the initial reaction for Omar was denial.

“We’ve had a very topsy-turvy year. But by October there was no doubt,” Omar said. "[... as they move on, Omar] And for senior Alhassan Omar, a student at Brown — but that would keep me on the...
End of college is a tearful goodbye to many things. It’s a goodbye to your favorite professors, a goodbye to some of the most precious memories this university has given you again for a little while, and for some, a goodbye to the city of Rochester. With parents coming to campus and last goodbyes being in order, we here at the Campus Times want to give our seniors five recommendations of places to eat in Rochester before you all head off.

Panzari’s Italian Bistro

With Features Editor David Schillkrut, I stopped at Panzari’s Italian Bistro for lunch. Panzari’s is located right off Exchange Boulevard in the Corn Hill neighborhood. It’s a small Italian restaurant with a nice selection of pastas, soups, and salads to offer guests.

David and I came on a particularly slow day when the weather was warm, but even with few customers Panzari’s kept their place well-kept, staffed, and ready to seat diners. David ordered a chicken french while I went with a caesar salad, both served on the side of the day-lentil soup. My salad was easily one of the best caesars I’d ever had, with a fresh, watery, yet crisp texture for the leaves and well-grilled chicken that felt juicy to bite into.

The soup was a nice supplement too, adding some savory flavor to my meal. David’s chicken french came out quickly after my salad and had me pretty interested, so he offered to let me try a few bites. For those of you who aren’t in the know, a chicken french is a pasta plate of chicken that’s been sautéed in a large bowl of garlic and white wine sauce, and then served on a bed of vegetables or pasta (in David’s case, a bed of capellini). It’s a Rochester classic, and Panzari’s offers a great take on the plate. I’ll admit, I came into Panzari’s a bit stuffed, but after having some of David’s chicken french, I would’ve happily ordered another plate of it for myself.

The Owl House

Ben Schmitz, our publisher, is a vegan, and wanted to grab a bite to eat before we all left off.

So, at his recommendation, I took a break from eating meat for a night and went with him and James to have some vegan food at the Owl House.

Located off Marshall Street, the Owl House looks a lot less like a restaurant from the outside and a lot more like a...regular house. As it turns out the Owl House gets its name from the fact that the place is a renovated house turned into a restaurant.

This look is just one of many parts of the Owl House’s hipster chic flair. The walls inside are adorned with paintings and artwork done by local Rochester artists. The artwork ranges from cool to creepy, but each piece definitely adds to the place’s mood.

The menu at the Owl House is made up largely of sandwiches, salads, dinner plates and brunch options. Our trip to the Owl House was a late night meal, so we took a look at the dinner menu. For dinner, Owl House offers vegan and non-vegan options, with some examples of their vegan options being spicy tofu, grilled eggplant, a grain bowl, chickpea patty burgers, and a variety of salads. Ben went with the chickenca patty better than just Rochester’s standard.

Eric and I both got burgers, with me getting their West Coast Burger (an avocado and spinach-topped cheeseburger) and Eric getting the Kriaken Returns (a cheeseburger with fried crab added on top of the patty). We also ordered a glasses of some of their cocktails.

My burger was phenomenal. One of the things I really like about Blu Wolf is that their burgers are incredibly meaty and really offer something to bite onto. The vegetables on the burger also have a good crunch to them, which keeps the burger from being pure soggy mush. Eric seemed to really enjoy his burger and finished the whole thing without any issue. Jackie let me know that, while she was disappointed they didn’t have any sauerkraut to offer for their Reuben.

Blu Wolf Bistro

This is a favorite spot of both mine and Eric Franklin (one of our two humor editors). We went along with Jackie Powell, our sports columnist, to grab dinner.

Blu Wolf is both a brunch place and a great dinner spot. They offer tons of burgers, sandwiches, salads, soups, and plates that offer something for everyone. My personal favorite thing to get there is their Reuben sandwich. I convinced Jackie to get the Reuben, since her thoughts as a Jewish woman from Westchester County who’s had her share of very good corned beef was the source of validation that I needed to prove that this sandwich was better than just Rochester’s standard.

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At Blu Wolf, I really enjoyed the house-made corned beef, and she liked the Beet Slaw, which she had ordered for her bread, as she was used to just regular slices of toasted rye. She also felt that, after having everything, she would take a Thousand Island dressing, Blue Wolf put just the right amount on their Reuben.

If you like cocktails and beer, Blu Wolf has a lot to offer that way, with 29 different beers on tap, 19 unique cocktails, and seven different kinds of martinis.

Blu Wolf isn’t terribly expensive, but your bill can stack up if you’re planning on getting drinks with your meal.

If you want to have a feast, be sure to take your parents here so they can buy you a nice meal and help get you on the right path to drinking with class after graduation.

Roncone’s Italian Restaurant

Roncone’s Italian Restaurant is a place that Justin and I had been planning on going to this entire year, and we finally checked it off our bucket list.

Opened in 1937, Roncone’s has been a staple of our family for 80 years worth of dinner outings, and our trip there showed us first hand why they’re still around after all these years. Located on Lyell Avenue, Roncone’s may be in a worn neighborhood but the dining experience has the character of a vintage car.

When you walk into Roncone’s, you’ll be welcomed by an interior lit purely by candle light, and tables seating old friends, families, dates, and coworkers. After a few glasses of some of their house wine in system, I was ready to order. Our waitress was awesome that night, more invested in our meal than we were.

When I was planning on ordering a chicken french, she recommended I get her favorite plate: a haddock French. Basically, with some convincing, she could have说服ed me to get a plate of buttery soft haddock drenched in lemon sauce over steamed broccoli. I couldn’t even get the calamari appetizer that we wanted done up with a spicy mushroom and olive sauce. When we finally got our meal, it hit me: I was eating at the best Italian place in all of Rochester. Justin and I left the place feeling like the fullest bellies we’d ever had during our time in college.

Get your parents to take you to Roncone’s but make sure to respect the character of the place, and you too will get in on some of the secret menu we got a sneak peek at.

Magnolia’s

Magnolia’s is a lot to offer, serving sandwichs, wraps, pizzas, and desserts for lunch and dinner. It’s even got a meal called the Obama Special, a half sandwich of cheddar cheese on grilled sourdough with a cup of Magnolia’s Lentil Soup. The soup is served on the side. They named the special after former President Barack Obama’s order when he stopped by in 2013 during a visit to Rochester.

As a group, Justin Trombly (one of our managing editors), Sam, and myself sat down for dinner and got some pretty good stuff. Justin and I split a Li Fecuri pizza, which is just fancy talk for a pie with tomato sauce, mozzarella, spinach, goat cheese, and sun-dried tomatoes. Sam and James both got sandwiches. Sam’s came with a creamy mac and cheese side, which she kindly let me take a bite of. The pizza was phenomenal, and I was very impressed with the way they really well with the couple of Red Stripe beers I popped open on the side. After our meal, we each got a slice of the cheesecake too, and it was the perfect finisher to such a meal.

Take your friends here before you head out — you won’t regret getting the chance to have a few last laughs и talks together while you’re here, and the area is beautiful for a walk after your meal.
By BEN SCHMITZ
PUBLISHER

I
n January 2017, newly elected Campus Times Editor-in-Chief Justin Trombly wrote an Editorial Observer detailing some changes he wanted to see happen during his tenure. He began his piece with, “If you’re reading this in print, you’re in the minority,” and went on to discuss how the Campus Times has by far its biggest audience and biggest impact in its online format. This is even more true now. And because of this, as we move into the coming academic year, the CT will undergo a bit of a transformation.

Beginning in the fall, our print schedule will be reduced to once a month. This means one regular-length issue five times per semester instead of the weekly issues we have been making for decades. This is the most effective measure we can take to achieve our goal of providing increasingly broader and better coverage of our campus.

Currently, our print circulation is 2,500 issues per week. As most of you have probably seen, a small fraction of those actually get picked up. Issues pile up in news racks all over campus until they get thrown away. This, on top of just not being a good look for us as a paper, is tremendously wasteful. The money spent and paper used to make all of these copies is all for naught, and paper used to make all of our weekly issues we have only for whatever reason. You’ll get there.

It became apparent that to dedicate more time to the actual content of the paper and to reduce our waste problems, we would need to reduce our printing schedule.

With the additional time afforded to us by the lack of a physical print deadline to meet every week, we plan to dedicate more resources to better reporting, editing, and writer-editor relationships. Special projects (things like “Banned” and “The Process Fails”) will also benefit from the greater amount of time at our disposal.

The print edition of the Campus Times has been a tradition for 145 years. It’s not a tradition we have an interest in dismantling, but newspapers, just like everything else, have to keep up to the increasingly digital world we live in. The greater accessibility and creative freedom afforded to us by our digital edition can make the CT a better paper than it has ever been, and we believe concentrating more of our time and efforts on the online efforts of the paper is the best way to realize this potential.

Schmitz is a member of the Class of 2019

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C
HEERS to the orange chicken at Wok On Up.
JEERS to the Chow mein at Wok On Up.
CHEERS to Hillside being open over summer.
JEERS to Connections not being open over summer.
CHEERS to students giving away free stuff at the end of the semester.
JEERS to having to give away stuff because you didn’t plan ahead.
CHEERS to buying hundreds of dollars worth of candy in a hopeless effort to empty your declining.
JEERS to having to buy hundreds of dollars worth of candy in a hopeless effort to empty your declining.
CHEERS to campus being half-empty, inducing a general aura of calm.
JEERS to campus being empty and all your friends having left before you.
CHEERS to summer.
JEERS to summer if you’re going to spend it in a place where it gets hotter than 100 degrees.
CHEERS to “Incredibles 2” coming out soon.
JEERS to having had to wait 14 years for “Incredibles 2.”
CHEERS to the Campus Times going almost completely digital.
JEERS to no one reading the Campus Times anyway.
CHEERS to those who are graduating.
Also CHEERS to those who were supposed to graduate this time but were set back for whatever reason. You’ll get there.

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One solution we explored was further cuts to our circulation per week, something we’ve done in the past to get to the 2,500-

mark we are at now. This unfortunately wouldn’t have solved the money part of the problem, because at 2,500 issues we are just above a pricing threshold with our printing company. To print less would be to spend the same or more.

Printing less issues per week also fails to solve another problem: time scarcity.

To design the physical paper every week, members of our staff must often spend upward of 12 hours each weekend editing and designing pages. At times, this means that on Sundays, our production nights, we won’t pack up and leave until 3 or 4 a.m. or 5 a.m. This high level of project demands on our staff members is something they realize is expected of them coming into the job, but to have so much of the work they do be dedicated toward the largely unread physical paper seems unnecessary.

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Thank you to all who contributed to the Campus Times this semester.

If you would like to write.....

opinions@campustimes.org

We are so proud of the life you have created at the University of Rochester!!! While we have missed you terribly these past four years, it has given us endless joy to watch you pursue your dreams. You continue to amaze us and we can’t wait to watch you take on your next adventure at Berkeley/UCSF!

We love you so much, sweetheart!!!

Mom, Dad, and Tobin
An alarm is going off somewhere nearby. Do you wake up?
Yes (proceed to A1) or No (proceed to B1)

A1 You scan the room. It’s a standard single in Phase. Is it your room?
Yes (proceed to A2) or No (proceed to A6)

A2 Ugh, why did you spend money on that “Pulp Fiction” poster at the start of the year? Didn’t you realize that everyone else would just buy the same damn poster? Whatever. You leave your room and run into your buddy Xyler in the hallway. He wants to go seek-shooting off the Phase balcony. Do you go with him?
Hell yeah (proceed to A4) or That sounds unsafe (proceed to A3)

A3 Xyler shrugs. You go back to your room and watch the most vanilla porn imaginable. Just before you can finish, you hear the telltale ricochet of birdshot off brick followed by the crash of your window breaking. Xyler has inadvertently shot you, and the only thing that saves your life is the furious pumping of your right arm, which blocked the shot from hitting your chest. You survive and graduate with a 3.2 and a B.S. in microbiology. The End

A4 You and Xyler end up being pretty bad at hitting skeets, but you do succeed in shooting apart the fence between Phase and the cemetery. The lawn mower crashes through the window of a ground floor dorm and kills the student inside. You graduate with a 3.2 and a B.S. in microbiology. The End

A5 Because of the decrease in your already piss-poor accuracy, you accidentally shoot the driver of a lawn mower in the cemetery. The lawn mower crashes through the window of a ground floor dorm and kills the student inside. You graduate with a 3.2 and a B.S. in microbiology. The End

A6 Niitiiiiiiice. Do you steal your partner’s ID as you sneak away from their still sleeping form?
What the fuck? No (proceed to B3) or Only because they have that stupid ‘Pulp Fiction’ poster (proceed to A7)

A7 Give yourself one crime point. What’s next for you?
I need to eat (proceed to B3) or I need to get drunk (proceed to B6)

B1 The alarm goes off a second time. Do you wake up?
Yes (proceed to B2) or No (proceed to C1)

B2 Christ, it’s already 6:00 p.m. Really slept the whole day away there, huh, champ? So what’s next for you?
I need to eat (proceed to B3) or I need to get drunk (proceed to B6)

B3 Your stomach is growling something fierce, but all the dining halls are closed because fuck kids that stay for Senior Week, amiright? Do you go to the Pit?
I’m out of declining (proceed to B4) or I stole the ID (proceed to B5)

B4 You die of starvation. The End

B5 Good call. You slam down those chicken tenders with a ferocity that makes everyone around you uncomfortable. Where to now?
My buddy Xyler said something about shotguns? (proceed to A4) or I need to get drunk (proceed to B6)

B6 Give yourself one crime point. Your buddy Xyler, fresh off a skeet-shooting adventure, comes around with a stash of Genny Cream. You’re both pretty buzzed when the police helicopter lands on the roof. They heard the shotgun blasts and want answers. How many crime points do you have?
One (proceed to B7) or Two (proceed to B8)

B7 The cops have already met their quota. You graduate with a 3.2 and a B.S. in microbiology. The End

B8 The cops have a quota to meet. The End

C1 A rogue lawn mower crashes through your window, but you don’t hear it because you’re asleep. ResLife bills your family for cleaning your gory remains off the walls. The only thing that will last forever is the false identity they use against your real one. The cops have a quota to meet. Where to now?

Choose Your Own Commencement

START An alarm is going off somewhere nearby. Do you wake up?
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Pinto is a member of the Class of 2020.

Douglass Doors Demand Deliverance

By MICHAEL GREENBERG
SPORTS EDITOR

Tensions have risen across campus as the fight for the liberation of the doors to Douglass Dining Hall has picked up. The basis of the doors’ fight is that the University has falsely labeled them as walls by putting up signs telling people not to use the doors.

Previously, the movement was limited to the two sets of doors through which traffic is completely restricted. One of these sets of doors is across from the Douglass entrance, and the other is by the “Allegren Free” station right below the footbridge to Wilson Commons.

“There have already been movements for civil rights, animal rights, property rights, states’ rights, people even fight for their right to paaanaa-tay,” the left door below the footbridge to Wilson Commons said. “We just want to be ourselves, to be open.”

While it is unclear when or why the movement began, it is clear that ever since it was discovered that doors could talk, their focus has been on fighting what they say is an unconstitutional affront to their identity as doors.

The doors have received support from the University Fire Door Union, which waged and lost a similar fight with the University back in the 1970s, leading its members to be universally marked with signs saying, “THIS DOOR MUST REMAIN CLOSED AT ALL TIMES,” a humiliating defeat that the union maintains to this day was tantamount to branding.

“For years, this institution has forced a false identity onto us,” a spokesperson for union said, “and now they have the nerve to build even more doors that they never planned to open. We will not stand for this violation of basic door rights.”

While the union found little support in the “70s, this time around the Douglass Doors’ case has received national attention. The Organization for Portal Egalitarianism Nationally, or OPEN, has devoted millions of dollars to the legal fees for this case.

“These brave doors saw an opening,” said OPEN President Theodore Doorsevelt. “Our organization will support any door, gate, or other entryway that is prevented from living up to its full potential.”

However, there are voices which support the administration. The Consortium of Lawful Obedience for Strength of Entrances and Doorways, also known as CLOSED, has focused its money on lobbying state officials to enact laws to restrict the rights of doors.

The University still has not budged on its declaration that these doors should remain closed. It is still unclear why the doors are supposed to always be closed, though analysts have hypothesized that it may be for air conditioning purposes or for traffic control so that only those who have paid can enter the dining hall.

With the increased support the doors have received from OPEN, they announced last week that they have hired high-profile attorney Patty O’Dore to take charge of their case. The hiring came after the case was dismissed by the New York Supreme Court, which claimed that doors are unable to take legal action.

O’Dore quickly announced that they would appeal the decision to the Supreme Court.

“Some might look at last week’s ruling as a setback,” said O’Dore, “but we look forward to taking this case to the Supreme Court, where we can set a national precedent that doors around the country can not be shut up.”

With the case heading to the highest court in the land, the stakes are high — the future of doors across the country may hinge on its outcome.

Greenberg is a member of the Class of 2021.
On the evening of May 1, two weeks before the final broadcast of their weekly music show, "Pizza Prty" on WRUR, seniors Carrie Taschman and Toby Kashket are dealing with a more present issue: Kashket cannot stop giggling on air.

Moments earlier, while a song was still broadcasting, Taschman had been scrolling through old text messages from their beginnings at WRUR when she stopped to read one aloud.

"You used to text me all the time,” Don’t forget to listen to my show,” she said to her partner, prompting Kashket to concede her past neediness (and constant usage of the term “cool beans”) and then realize, mid-laughter, that the song just ended — time to talk.

Once on air, Kashket manages to stifle her laughter — "You’re listening to the ‘Pizza Prty’ on WRUR. That song was ‘Leisure Bees’ by Tacocat, and that song is about being a bee” — but starts to crack when she says, "And just in time, the bees will awaken soon.”

"Toby’s got the giggles tonight,” says Taschman, who then misinterprets Kashket’s response ("Bees, don’t go near me") as a pun on "please don’t go near me" and starts to lose it herself.

After they finish talking and the next set of songs begins, Taschman and Kashket are able to get their laughs out in the privacy of the Todd Union recording studio.

"We’ll do this once every three weeks,” says Taschman. "We’ll laugh too hard to talk. It’s not good.

"Pizza Prty” — pronounced "Pizza Party” — was created by Taschman and Kashket as first-year managers for the past year and a half, first met at lunch with a mutual friend and would run into each other at WRUR meetings. In the first semester of their college careers, taking a yearlong hiatus in the fall of 2016 when Taschman spent a semester studying abroad in Copenhagen.

During that time, Kashket co-hosted a separate show, “Indie Festival,” before returning to “Pizza Prty.” (When asked what she would do if Taschman left to study abroad in 2015, Kashket answered, “Slowly die in the studio.”)

Kashket and Taschman, who have been the WRUR general managers for the past year and a half, first met at lunch with a mutual friend and would run into each other at WRUR meetings.

The final broadcast of "Pizza Prty" will air from 8 to 10 p.m. this Tuesday.

Taschman (left) and Kashket (right) record their penultimate broadcast of "Pizza Prty" in Todd Union.

Taschman (above) is one host of “Pizza Prty,” which is airing its final episode on May 15.
Documentary Fosters Collaboration Between Students and Professor

By WIL AIKEN

Professor Daphne D. Ho premiered on May 3 his documentary film “Living History: Remembering the Forgotten Korean War,” which follows Ho’s spring 2016 course on the Korean War.

While Ho directed, the film was edited from a semester’s worth of footage to its current one-hour-and-15-minute form by senior Ben Chomsang.

In History 247, “The Korean War,” Ho divided the class of approximately 40 students into two sides — the Republic of Korea (South Korea) and the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (North Korea) — to wage a propaganda war against each other in the context of the Korean War, which began in 1950.

Ho began each class with a lecture and discussion-based portion, and then switched into roleplay halfway through. The resulting theatrics-filled PR battle in each class was filmed

One of his goals with the film was to “show what kind of creative work we do in the History department at U of R, what’s possible when you take digital technology and apply it to the humanities and social sciences.”

But when the the class was over, the students who had filmed the course graduated, so Ho needed an editor. That was when Chomsang came in. He had been working for Professor Eliza Zhang of the History Department, making short videos. Zhang connected Ho and Chomsang.

“When we started out,” Ben said, “it was like, ‘This is really great footage, but we need some storyboards, because how are we just gonna take all this stuff and turn it into a real film?’”

“It was three terabytes when I got it,” Chomsang added.

In its current form, the film is divided into chapters (the film is still a work in progress — response handouts were distributed before the premiere for Chomsang to use in the final stages of editing).

One chapter dedicated to a Korean film noir service, attended by the students of the class as well as Rochestarian veterans of the war, takes a more solemn atmosphere than the rest in the film. In one emotional moment, a veteran reveals that he has told more to the students of the course about his experience at war than he has to his own family.

Other chapters are more lighthearted. A considerable portion of the film is spent showing the various propaganda films made by both sides. Propaganda video from the North Korean side depicts its rival using — and trying to outdo — the technologies used by the South.

The latter development is something you can only develop unless you already know its rival using — and trying to outdo — the technologies used by the South.

But even if your MCU one-night stand has now turned into a full-on romance, “Infinity War” might disappoint.

It won’t be the diffuse character development that makes you question the integrity of this film — even though at times you’ll wish your favorite character had a bit more stuff to do on screen — nor will it be the subpar CGI, nor the cinematic missteps (including the Russo Brothers’ confused vision, making the ship look like a minor villain).

It will be the pretense of weight that bores you.

All the handheld shots in the world can’t give weight to hollow dialogue. Dialogue that is either slow, laborious, and pseudo-fantastic, or that maps in quippy-whippeties that try to turn every character into Tony Stark.

Like, did anyone believe Star-Lord’s rage when he tried to beat the shit out of Thanos? I didn’t.

It’s hard to blame Chris Pratt, who plays Star-Lord, for his lackluster acting. It takes nothing less than a masterful actor to convert passable dialogue into emotion. And the dialogue was just that — passable.

What further dissipates the weight of anticipation is the pacing. There were too many scenes that could have been compressed to half their size, the first appearance of Thanos’ ship, the first attempt of Thanos’ minions to intercept Vision, and Thor’s time at Nidavellir.

Due to all this, “Infinity War” broke this trend. The “Infinity War” standalone made the box office.

As for Chomsang, who works in Retter Hall as Kim Il-Sisto standing in for Kim Il-Sung, he said, “I think the biggest antic was the coiffus.” Sisto said. “We wanted a fatball blow, no pun intended,” so he had to save money over the weekend if he would help me go to Home Depot and buy the materials.”

On the morning of the grand staged funeral, Ho, who did not know of it, received an email from a colleague, confirming there was a coiffus blocking the fire doors in Retter Hall.

Antics aside, Sisto said that the class taught him valuable life skills in debate, like remembering to “listen and think really critically about what’s being said in front of you when a response is required immediately after.”

As for Chomsang, who works in Retter, he finds that the experience of editing a feature film has affected him in surprising ways. He spoke of meeting a couple of professors, the two Teru()

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The Year May Be Coming to an End... But It's Not Too Late to Write for the Campus Times.

CULTURE / TUESDAY, MAY 15, 2018

By Eddie Hock, Contributing Writer

If you were searching for a female acoustic indie-folk-pop duo based right here at UR, you’d be happy to find Candy Isle, comprised of seniors Kat Bakrania and Lydia Dake.

Bakrania and Dake started working together for the first time with Off Broadway On Campus, UR’s musical revue group. “I did a lot of choir [before college],” Bakrania said. “I was heavily involved in musical theater.”

Added Dake: “I started doing musical theater in third grade. I just, like, have not not sang, ever. We kept going with it before this beautiful thing happened.”

Candy Isle’s formation was serendipitous, and its music is at once recognizable within the indie-pop/folk spheres but decidedly its own thing, too. Its recent EP, “Channel Surfing,” which can be found on Spotify and Bandcamp, uses folksy melodies in an homage to the world of television.

Just as significant and unique as Candy Isle’s music is its identity. Dake doesn’t beat around the bush: “The mainstream scene is super white dude-dominated.”

Though she and Bakrania feel that it’s clear that they have been welcomed into the campus music community with open arms, “it can be kind of weird to be the only woman of color on the set list,” Bakrania said. “Sometimes the only woman on the set list.”

In a genre almost exclusively represented by white, predominantly male bands, Candy Isle is iconoclastic. “You just want to see yourself represented,” Bakrania said. Though there isn’t too much of a scene for bands like Candy Isle yet, Bakrania and Dake hope that by providing something for women like them to look up to, they can help create one.

Does the birth of such a scene hinge on the musicians or the fans? “[The musicians] have to seek it out,” said Dake, “but the fans have to be there. People aren’t explicitly trying not to support it. If musicians aren’t collaborating and setting things up and making those spaces [...] things aren’t going to happen unless the fans are there to support.”

Bakrania backed her up. “A lot of bands that are in Rochester share musicians. Usually if people are playing across groups they’re playing the same sound. There doesn’t seem to be a lot of cross-genre collaboration. The more willing musicians are to break out of what they know well, the more it’ll happen. It’s a mixture of both [artists and fans].”

When asked if carving out a space for representation is a responsibility or a blessing, Dake laughed. “I’m just doing this for fun,” she said, adding, “It’s still going because we want to.”

Bakrania sees it as both an obligation and a boon. “There’s not a lot of brown women in the indie music scene specifically. I do do it because I love it. But I am always proud to be a brown person, and I’m especially proud to be a brown person playing on a stage where there’s not a lot of people like me, in a genre where there’s not a lot of people like me.”

Bakrania added: “I feel like there’s a lot of room for self-reflection. Feels like we’ve grown so much [...] since June 16, our first show. The date’s burned into my brain forever.”

“I’m happy you remember, so I can remember,” Dake replied. Aiken is a member of the Class of 2021.
EVERYBODY TALKS

By JACKIE POWELL

EVERYBODY TALKS woven into much of my literature. Injustice is a common narrative major and a resident feminist, social thinking. As an international relations student and a woman, my knowledge was about food instead of the task at hand. An anomaly for the hosts to start talking "Everybody Talks"? Well, I grew up listening to the Williams sisters over the summers. The NBA, and maybe admired the Giants, loathed the imbalance of MLB news, rooted for the New York Mets, before "Everybody Talks." Oh goodbye to the Sting at WRUR, the Stingers, the Class of 2018. It's hard to remember what consumed my mind sports-wise before "Everybody Talks." Oh right — I kept up to date with most MLB news, rooted for the New York Giants, loathed the imbalance of the NBA, and maybe admired the Williams sisters over the summers. So what inspired "Everybody Talks"? Well, I grew up listening to sports talk radio and always felt something was missing; It wasn't an anomaly for the hosts to start talking about food instead of the task at hand. And as a woman, my knowledge was always a shock rather than a given.

I’ve always been fascinated with combinations, and I wanted to speak about sports with an angle that was more meaningful and more forward thinking. As an international relations major and a resident feminist, social injustice is a common narrative woven into much of my literature.

I never imagined this movement would blossom before my eyes. When I began the show, I would always lead with the tagline, “a sports radio talk show with a feminist twist.” But, when I got to junior year, a new routine was established. “So much happened this week,” I’d say. The idea of the twist disappeared. My discourse was centered around the issues for minorities in sports. If anything, the deviation during my program was if I spoke about what made it to the front page of ESPN on that given day.

There was so much to talk about in this world concerning society, politics, and culture. As an international relations student, I have responded to this discourse about sport, equality and society. Dickerson acknowledges how her current adult and adolescent attitudes, but if a person has no idea of the plight of aggressions, then they are as good as mute in the progress.”

Senior Claire Dickerson of Field Hockey and sophomore Brenna James of Women’s Basketball contend that there is still a ton of progress to be made at UR. While James wants to see parity in attendance at men’s and women’s basketball games, Dickerson acknowledges how her sport must grow.

"[Field Hockey] also isn’t as popular as other sports, so no one bothers to learn the rules,” she wrote. “It’s predominantly played in more privileged parts of society, so the lack of minority players is noticeably staggering.”

As I leave you today for the last time in the section that I’ve called home for almost four years, I want you to think about where we were in 2014, and where we are now. Let’s see how far we’ve come. My first year here at UR was also Becky Hammon’s first season coaching in the NBA. And now, and maybe due to a powerful ally in Pau Gasol (if you have not read his letter on the Player’s Tribune, please do), Hammon might have a chance to coach a team of her own.

Gasol’s words represent feminism at its best, where support is cultivated from figures with more prerogative and pull. Something I also learned – and this applies especially in the sports world – do not isolate those with privilege. For the movements to flourish involving not only feminism, but race and class, they must be inclusive.

Turn on the TV today and you can see three women discussing the Women’s College World Series like it’s the NFL draft. Read articles from The Undefeated, a site that always examines race and culture in sport. Advocate for and learn about those who have been silenced. To name a few: USA Gymnastics’ Fierce Five, athletes who take a knee, and NFL Cheerleaders.

This is not the end. I can never really say goodbye, and neither should you. Let’s be relentless. If we stop, we’ll become stale. If we refrain, those who hold the most power will never know how we feel. I will always stick to sports, but when you stick to sports, you are also sticking to society.

"Everybody Talks" was a radio show on WRUR’s The Sting that highlights women’s involvement in sports and the social issues that surround athletics. Learn about what’s next for it on Facebook and Twitter.

Powell is a member of the Class of 2018.
Levy Reflects on Successful Lacrosse Career

By MICAH GREENBERG
SPORTS EDITOR

Senior midfielder Madeline Levy has had an impressive final season for Women’s Lacrosse. She recently earned Liberty League All-Academic honors for the third straight year, and she led the team in goals scored.

How did you get interested in lacrosse?

I started playing lacrosse in seventh grade. I’ve always been very involved in lots of different sports throughout my childhood and lacrosse looked like a fun, fast-paced game that I could really get involved with.

What have you enjoyed most about lacrosse at UR?

I love the athletic community at UR. The coaches and administration work hard for the athletes and to give them the best experiences possible.

How have you grown as an athlete over the course of your collegiate career?

I think that my leadership skills have developed a lot since beginning college. Throughout high school I was more used to being a good role model and leading by example on the field. However, when I tore my ACL last year and wasn’t able to play, I had to learn how to be a more vocal teammate and stay positive even in tough situations.

What has been the highlight of your lacrosse career at UR?

The highlight of my career was when I was able to return to playing after tearing my ACL during my junior year season. I had surgery last summer and had to work very hard with the team doctors and athletic trainers to be able to be ready to play at the beginning of my senior season. Fortunately, everything worked out as we had hoped and I was able to play at the beginning of the season. The feeling that I had while playing in my first game after my injury was indescribable, and I am so grateful to our athletic training staff for helping me get there.

What has been the most difficult aspect of being a varsity athlete?

The most difficult aspect of being a varsity athlete for me is the time commitment. This is largely a Division III sport, but a lot goes on in the offseason as well as during season. It can be difficult to balance performing well in school, work and other extracurriculars, as well as in your sport. It takes a lot of hard work to be able to excel in all of these areas, especially at such an academically demanding school like UR. The hard work is worth it though!

Who has had the greatest impact on your playing career and why?

The people who have had the greatest impact on my career are my parents. They supported my desire to play lacrosse and gave me all the tools I needed to succeed. They drove me to practices and tournaments all up and down the East Coast and came to so many of my games in high school and college to support me. I am constantly grateful for everything they have done for me.

What are your plans for next year?

I will be working at Strong Memorial Hospital next year while I apply to medical schools. I hope to go into orthopedics and sports medicine in the future.

What advice would you give to an incoming first-year varsity athlete at UR?

I would tell an incoming first-year athlete to get as involved as you can, whether that be in UR athletics, doing research, or giving back to the community. There are so many cool opportunities at UR but it’s easy to only focus on your sport and on your schoolwork. I would encourage an incoming student to broaden their horizons as much as possible.

If you could choose anyone to give a speech at Commencement, who would you choose?

I would choose someone who has had the greatest impact on my career and why?


Greenberg is a member of the Class of 2021.

Schmidt had a batting average over .300 in all three seasons with the ’Jackets.

For Schmidt, Love of Baseball Brings Warm Memories

By MICAH GREENBERG
SPORTS EDITOR

Senior shortstop Tyler Schmidt helped Men’s Baseball reach the Liberty League Championship this past week, though his three hits on five at-bats were not enough to lift the ’Jackets to victory. Schmidt had an impressive .318 batting average this season and led the team in double plays and fielding assists.

How did you get interested in baseball?

My parents sparked my interest in sports at a young age. Baseball was the one that I enjoyed the most because of the skill that was involved.

What have you enjoyed most about baseball at UR?

The relationships that I have created with my teammates. This is the closest group of people that I have ever been around. These are guys that I will keep in touch with long after graduation.

How have you grown as an athlete over the course of your collegiate career?

I have become a much smarter player. We play around 40 games per season, so the amount of time spent around the baseball field has made me a much better player, both physically and mentally.

What has been the highlight of your baseball career at UR?

Hosting the Liberty League playoffs this year after winning the regular season title.

What has been the most difficult aspect of being a varsity athlete?

It has to be managing your school work on top of playing a varsity sport. Your time-management skills are definitely put to the test.

Who has had the greatest impact on your playing career, and why?

My dad, he was my first coach and biggest fan. I can’t thank him enough for all of the time spent traveling to games and the batting practice.

What are your plans for next year?

I am graduating with a degree in data science. I will be pursuing a full-time position related to my major.

What advice would you give to an incoming first-year varsity athlete at UR?

Love the game that you play and make memories that will last a lifetime!

If you could choose anyone to give a speech at Commencement, who would you choose?

Auriemma.

Greenberg is a member of the Class of 2021.