**Dandelion Day Sucked, Students Say**

On Friday, April 30, many students were looking forward to the Dandelion Day they never got. Given last year’s pandemic-induced cancellation, sophomores hadn’t experienced a D-Day before.

This year, Wilson Commons Student Activities had an array of activities planned, many of which were new in hopes of encouraging engagement and preventing off-campus parties from turning into superspreader events.

In an email to the Campus Times, Assistant Director of Programming Jill Wulfenstein said they tried to offer "the same traditional Dandelion Day events while adding some new and exciting things!" Activities included carnival rides, cosmic golf, laser tag, roller skating, yoga, frisbee, tag, soccer, bubble soccer, take-and-make crafts, tie-dye, lawn games, and more. One of the more exciting events happening this year would have been the hot air balloon, but it was cancelled due to wind.

"The hot air balloon was what I was looking forward to the most," first-year Lucy Keffler said, who participated in most of the activities. She added that the food trucks were "the only good thing about D-Day.

"But even that was a flop," she added, having stood in line for two hours before realizing that the truck was out of food. The most noticeable addition to this year’s D-Day was the accommodation of NYS COVID-19 guidelines. According to Wulfenstein, activities were much more spread out across Fauver Stadium, Library Lot, and the Fraternity Quad. Another change was that there was no headlining concert, although there were featured student bands and DJ’s on the quad.

Additionally, many events were virtual to allow for remote student participation. There was a remote giveaway and activities such as a virtual murder mystery and virtual late night bingo.

Despite the effort to make the day safe and exciting, many students expressed their disappointment due to the weather and impending finals season, made worse by only a two-day reading period over next weekend.

"I thought it sucked," sophomore Jason Salonowski said. "The weather was awful, and the food truck lines translated to lots of wasted money. But those are my only complaints. Overall, although there was a remote give-away, there were complaints. Overall, it's not different. While the donut itself was delicious — dense and rich, but not to a point where it was overwhelming — the icing caligraphy of 'Go Bills' was a bit disappointing after the beautiful writing published on their social media. In the end though, icing is icing, and it tasted great — even if it may not have been beautiful enough for any online advertisement.

Impressed by the quality of the donuts (much better than Dunkin’ or Tim Hortons), I followed their Instagram page to stay updated on their menu options, which they post weekly. This was how I found out about their Easter pre-order donuts. My family decided to order the set of Easter-themed ones for our dessert. The dozen donuts included three chocolate "birds nests," three carrot cake-flavored ones, three square ones with a peep on top of the center hole, and three cream-filled eggs.

SEE DONUTS PAGE 3.

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**Beautifully Decorated Boxcar Donuts**

I discovered Boxcar Donuts through a repost on the @rochesterny Instagram account displaying their Buffalo Bills themed donuts. As a lifelong Bills fan, this picture sold me, and I immediately made plans to head over to the Public Market District to fulfill my newfound donut craving.

The interior of the shop is open and bright, with large windows facing the street and plenty of seating — all accompanied by an industrial/modern theme. Their specialty is gourmet (ex-pensive) donuts, but they also serve coffee, beer, and cocktails, along with some breakfast and lunch options.

As we all know, only the best of the visually appealing best make it to Instagram pages, and Boxcar Donuts is no different. ‘Only the best make it to Instagram pages, and Boxcar Donuts is no different.’

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**A Two Way Street: UR’s Adherence to and Influence on Public Policy**

It’s difficult to browse the University website for long before coming across a mention of regulation or legislation that mandates how the University operates.

Because the University is such a large institution, it is directly affected by many aspects of government policy — but it also wields a lot of influence on those policies. There are two offices at the University who most directly interact with these government policies: The Office of Government and Community Relations (OGCR) works to shape policy, and the Office of Counsel works to ensure legal compliance with policy or to represent the University in the judicial system.

These offices are important to the University. Donna Gooden Payne, the University’s General Counsel, and Peter Robinson, the head of OGCR, are two of the 10 members of President Sarah Mangelsdorf’s Senior Leadership Team, and both have the title of Vice President.

‘It is directly affected by many aspects of government policy.’

As a 501(c)(3) educational nonprofit organization, the University is somewhat limited in its advocacy abilities. It is not allowed to donate to campaigns directly or to publicly tell people to support specific candidates. Nonprofits can conduct lobbying activities, but they can’t be a “substantial part” of its overall activities. All of these limitations come from the policies of being a nonprofit, though. Namely, the University is tax-exempt and does not have to publicly report its donors.

But the University is allowed to influence policies through lobbying. OGCR publishes its state and federal legislative priorities, and requires that all lobbying for the University be done through OGCR. In their report, they advocate for specific legislation, but not for or against any candidates.

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**CT EATS**

By Sarah Woodams

***STAFF WRITER***

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**A NEW SA PRESIDENT?**

By Micah Groomberg

***SPECIAL PROJECTS***

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SEE POLICY PAGE 2.
Not all heroes wear capes. Some just have driver’s l- censes and big hearts. This is the case for Dr. Greg Savich (affectionately called “Greg” by his students), an adjunct professor for the Institute of Optics. All New Yorkers aged 16 and old- er have been eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine since April 6.

Following this announcement, Savich took time out of his class period to share with his students all the necessary information for vaccination sites and sign-ups, should they choose to receive the shot. Embedded in this dis- cussion was his offer to per- sonally drive students to their vaccines if they need a ride.

In an interview with the Campus Times, Savich ac- knowledged that, as with many aspects of adulthood, the process of obtaining a vaccine contains many bar- riers. He offered some mak- ets on pieces he had read about perceptions and realities of increased vac- cination hesitancy among college-aged individuals, noting that “one way to fight hesi- tancy is to remove excuses.”

This philosophy and his goal of helping his students achieve a vaccine comfort level with minimal hesitancy inspired his transportation offer. However, Savich was careful during his class pe- riod not to mention his per- sonal beliefs on his students. He rather provided as many resources as possible so that they can make an ed- ucated decision concerning the vaccination, and if they choose to be vaccinated, he would minimize the barriers in the way of receiving a dose.

With further regards to this transportation offer, he discussed how he was a res- idential undergraduate on the River Campus for eight semesters, and can relate to the sense of geographical iso- lation students face at times. For on-campus UR students, it is not that important to transporta- tion is a bit of a puzzle once they leave the bubble of River campus living. The bus system is conve- nient and free, but with it comes new apps and un- reliable scheduling. Students also have access to Ubers and ZipCars, but these options can be costly and time-con- suming. However, until URMC began advertising student vaccine appoint- ments, Yellowjackets who were eligible early were forced to find a site in the greater Rochester area or if they wanted to be vaccinated, with students driving as far as Canada.

Savich extended his ride offer to both his UR and Monroe Community College students, who referred him- self as “flabbergasted” when UR first-year Zach Sobel- Pressman, actually took him up on this offer. He was surprised both involved parties with a chance to con- nect on a deeper level than their biweekly Zoom lectures. Savich was honored that Sobel-Pressman felt comfort- able enough with him to reach out. Sobel-Pressman was eli- gible for the vaccine before April 6, and thus had to trav- el outside of Platinum Hall for his assistance in driving him to his second dose was very much appreciated.

Sobel-Pressman was eager to expressed his gratitude, saying, “I’m really lucky to have a professor as caring and selfless as Greg. I’m also happy that the University is now providing vaccines on

UR’s Influence on Public Policy is a Two-way Street FROM POLICY PAGE 1. The Office of Counsel does less to directly influence pol- itics, but it legally represents the University in its role as outside counsel to do so. That means that sometimes it argues in favor of different interpreta- tions of state or federal law. More commonly, though, the Counsel’s Office tries to prevent any issue from being raised by interpreting govern- ment policies and advising the University on the best course of action that is in the University’s best interest.

OGCGR publishes a report on its community benefit, highlighting the ways it ben- efits society. It points to the University’s major capital investments, its innovation through research and fostering of entrepreneurship, its economic role in purchasing millions of dollars of goods from local vendors, and its ability to draw visitors to the city who spend money at local restaurants and hotels.

City Councilors Malik Evans and Mitch Gruber both said in interviews with the Campus Times that the most basic source of the University’s influence is its economic im- pact, especially its role as the region’s top employer. This means that the University has a profound impact on the region’s economy, as its staff members spend money and are taxed in the region. The re- port quantifies the tax revenue it generates at $140 million. But some don’t think that’s enough. OGCGR’s published priorities only focus on state and federal priorities. Gruber, along with his former doctor- al advisor and Professor of History Stewart Weaver, ar- gued that the University too often sees itself as a nation- al or even global institution, and doesn’t engage enough in the community. To them, the University has not kept up with its responsibility to the city, and as a result, they think a payment in lieu of taxes is necessary.

“The report quantifies the tax revenue it generates at $140 million.”

Healthcare policy is a major focus of OGCGR. A portion of the University’s revenues and expenses flow through UR Medicine, making it particularly important to the University. Government policy around research fund- ing, healthcare regulation, and more recently, telehealth, have direct impacts on the financial success of the University. It is not surprising that all but one of the staff members at OGCGR have URMC email addresses.

It’s also important to note that UR Medicine is not just a focus of the University’s political agenda, but a key source of its power. It is one of the top hospital systems in the country, and the largest and highest-acclaimed hospital in the region. If the state gov- ernment wants to affect public health policy, it needs to work with URMC to implement it. But healthcare isn’t entirely positive for the University’s po- litical image. Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) requires that the University pay a $3 mil- lion fine in 2019. And Daniel Payne pointed out that de- spite the University’s best ef- forts, policies are sometimes imposed that go against their wishes. OGCGR, Title IX regulations in recent years under the Trump ad- ministration both clashed with the University’s preferences and were difficult to adapt to. “We look to be compliant with the rules and regulations,” Robinson added, “even if we don’t fully agree with them.”

Some of the policies gov- erning the University are hard-and-fast requirements. For example, the University is required to host on-campus protests or votes educa- tional privacy laws. But many of the rules and regulations governing the University are conditional. The University is unable to support or oppose specific candidates for office not be- cause it can’t, but because do- ing so would threaten its non- profit status, and it considers its nonprofit status more im- portant than supporting or opposing political candidates.

Similarly, Title IV educa- tional policy also governs how the government can use federal funding. This use of conditional aid to influence student decisions concerning public policy also manifests itself in the annual Constitution Day program put on by SA.

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This seems to highlight the importance of politics at the University. Complying with rules and regulations and the College and other agents with the institution’s goals re- quires that the University act strategically and prioritize which rules and which to comply with. It makes sense that Payne and Robinson report directly to the University’s executive vice president so that directly im- pact the University’s decision making.

THE CAMPUS TIMES is a member of the Class of 2021.
Burnout Was a Big Deal this Past Spring

By Michelle Shaw
FEATURES EDITOR

After two and a half semesters of Zoom-education, UR students are ready for a change of pace. The modified schedules for the fall and spring semesters left students without the typical fall or spring break. Sporadic mental health days, one during the fall semester and two during the spring semester, were ineffective in mitigating student stress and burnout. To be clear, UR students are no stranger to burnout, but it has been particularly different this past year due to the academic conditions, global pandemic, and a challenging social climate.

Sophomore Jules Stewart saw a change in this past semester compared to previous COVID-19-impacted semesters. “It’s also been different this semester versus the fall or even spring 2020, because there was a lot more leniency, because everything was new online,” she said. Stewart added that “this semester, professors were like, ‘you guys understand how to do everything online,’ and [they’re] not as lenient in giving extensions or [understand] from the student’s point of view.”

Echoing Stewart’s experiences, junior Kate Lindsey described her experience burning out faster this past semester than ever before. “COVID-19 has definitely made the burnout hit quicker,” Lindsey said. “I’d say normally it’s about halfway through the semester, and I feel like at the end of February, I was already done.”

For junior Sophia Stafford, the lack of breaks or a true sense of exhaustion isolated in her room augmented her burnout. “I think a combination of no spring break, being in the library all day doing classes, and not walking around campus and seeing people in class really accelerated it,” she said.

The lack of break translated into “many months of just straight work” for first-year Joel DeVries. He felt that the lack of traditional breaks during the semester did not provide students with apt time to decompress and recharge from the academic course load. Although mental health days were provided, there was no opportunity for an actual break. Instead, he “ended up doing work on those days anyway, just because it was only one day.” He felt that completely removing spring break from the 2021 schedule was a mistake, saying, “Spring break is very important just to give people a break [within the semester].”

The challenges online courses brought upon from previous semesters, but seemed especially difficult this semester: “I’d say focus is probably one of the hardest things, and the fact that [. . .] I’ve had experiences with professors thinking that because things are online, we have more time, which is definitely not the case [. . .] it’s just overwhelming.” Take-Five Scholar Toni Hahn said. “When you have more work and less focus, it’s just stressful and you’re just stressed and it’s an endless cycle.”

Sophomore Elaina Beittel had similar experiences with a never-ending workload. Beittel said, “I just don’t have the motivation to even begin any of my assignments, and it all just piles up and I get super stressed.”

Stewart found it hard to work over “Zoom. Usually when you meet in person to do either group projects or even to go to class, it’s a sense of togetherness that you get,” Stewart said. “When you’re just on the Zoom, it’s you alone and [so I personally don’t feel] like there’s a lot of meeting with people motivates me a lot to try harder and get my work done.”

However, Stewart did not know about available resources to address her burnout. “I know there’s a counseling center, but then again there’s also a huge wait time,” Stewart said. “It could just be that I don’t know what resources are available or what resources I have.”

UR connected more than ever to mental health programs without direct feedback. “As a student, my family has so many times — ‘is that really a safe space?’”

Likewise, it can be a challenge to analyze how students react to mental health programs without direct feedback.

"Especially as an Asian person, my family has so many taboos around therapy and mental health resources. They’re refugees, so they’re like, ‘There’s bigger problems,’ and I think that’s a very pervasive thought in a lot of communities of color and ethnically non-white communities. So deconstructing that is something that I want to dedicate my life to,” Nguyen continued.

There are diverse on-campus spaces for students of color, first-generation/low-income students, LGBTQ+ students, and students with disabilities. These spaces include the Kearns Center, the Newman Club, and the Black Student Union, but Nguyen wishes that those spaces had more funding from the University.

Similarly, Kamala said that it’s the student coaches that makes UR Connected more approachable. “Sometimes you just need someone who can kind of relate more closely. I know a lot of the feedback we get, people mention that talking to coaches can feel like talking to a friend.”

Still, students like Nguyen have concerns for how the University is supporting student mental health advocates. “We are creating space. We are carving out space to heal for specific racialized events, which I think is really good,” Nguyen said. “I just wish that the University gave more support, instead of always having it all on the students.”

Woodams is a member of the Class of 2023.

A Review of the Spring Semester’s Mental Health Advocacy

By Haven Wolsey
NEWS EDITOR

Conversations about mental health have sprung up within the Rochester community, inspired by cruel incidences such as the murder of Daniel Prude. Similarly, the UR community has been significantly impacted by recent events surrounding mental health.

There are many resources for UR students, both remote and on-campus, although most have been entirely online due to the pandemic. Many support students who are struggling include the University Counseling Center (UCC), the UR CARE Network, UR Connected, the Health Promotion Office, and many more. Because of the critical nature of the pandemic and social justice issues that have occurred throughout the year, students have felt it important to review mental health advocacy for the Spring 2021 semester, and how it will continue for the upcoming in-person Fall 2021 semester.

UR Connected coach and first-year Kareenro Rose Kamala shared her thoughts on how the surrounding community impacts the institution’s approach to mental health: “UR tends to forget that they’re part of the Rochester community as a whole, and there’s definitely a responsibility to play their part, especially when people’s health is on the line. As for improvements, I think UR just needs to be more cognizant of their impact and hold themselves also to need to more actively listen to students.”

‘The UR community has been significantly impacted by recent events surrounding mental health. Care.”

CARE Network Associate Director Kaithlin Legg told the Campus Times in an interview that as a part of their service, the CARE Network works with students to “better understand what resources work for the [student’s] situation.” If a student doesn’t feel comfortable with an institutional resource, UCC or the CARE Network can direct them towards off-campus resources.

“Especially as an Asian person, my family has so many taboos around therapy and mental health resources. They’re refugees, so they’re like, ‘There’s bigger problems,’ and I think that’s a very pervasive thought in a lot of communities of color and ethnically non-white communities. So deconstructing that is something that I want to dedicate my life to,” Nguyen continued.

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For the class of 2025, there are no accepted students’ days or on-campus meetups. As a result, most incoming first-years have been unable to interface with the University in any substantial way. To make up for it, students have taken it upon themselves to connect virtually through social media. Take the UR Class of 2025 Instagram account, similar to those for other colleges across the country. The premise of these accounts are pretty standard and straightforward — accepted students send in photos of themselves with a short bio, so future classmates can scope them out as potential friends or roommates. However, UR’s Class of 2025 Instagram account differs in a couple of ways. In order to provide students with information about campus life, the account admin set up collaborations with various student organizations and on-campus residents. They’ve partnered with the UR representative for the custom clothing company UTees to make Class of 2025 shirts, and even set up Instagram takeovers with students on campus to give more personal accounts of life in Rochester.

Because of its success, the Campus Times set up a Zoom interview with the account owner, who asked to be referred to as Maverick to maintain anonymity runs the account alone, coming to UR after a gap year. Initially, Maverick noticed the importance of similar Instagram accounts last year through friends who applied in the Class of 2024, who utilized social media to figure out the general vibes of the student body of each university they were considering. After they were accepted on March 24, they didn’t see anything on Instagram for UR, which was surprising to them considering that early decisions applicants had already been yellowjackets months. Thus, they decided to make the account themselves as a way to help them understand the gist of UR from a different perspective.

When questioned about other platforms for incoming students, they mentioned the existence of a Discord server and Facebook account. However, it was noted that both platforms have the issues of being more private and thus less open to browsing, which is a main benefit of a public Instagram account. To start advertising, they began following accounts through the UR Admissions Instagram page that interacted with the page and had a class year in their bio. After one hour, they had an incoming student reach out with a post for the account, and since then, they have accumulated over 800 followers and over 200 posts. Maverick stressed the importance of being a gap year student because the number lowers and over 200 posts. Average days or on-campus meetups.

Maverick plans to do an identity accepted 2025 students. When it comes to the posts chosen for their Instagram story, any UR organizations are welcome to send information to the account to advertise as a form of mutual support. For instance, group chats for the Class of 2025 and Discord servers have been promoted, as well as events for on-campus groups such as Vocal Point’s recent spring show livestream and HerCampus Rochester’s events. Interest floors such as MIF and Greenspace have also promoted through the UR Admissions Instagram account. Since then, all other takeovers have been students who have reached out to the account themselves. Currently, over 20 students have reached out to do a takeover, but others are encouraged to contact the account owner to advertise as legitimate as you can get. The account was contacted by Patio, which is a new platform for college students that creates group chats where you match with students based on interests and can engage with others in a virtual group setting. They signed a contract with Patio in order to promote their service to UR students, but there has been a low rate of engagement due to the preexisting Discord server and Facebook account, which already fill that niche.

When it comes to the T-shirts that were made, the students who run UTees at UR decided to reach out to the 2025 account to ask about merch ideas. Since creating the page, the admin’s main push was to set up Q&As with current students. After initially reaching out to Class Council (to no avail), they continued to contact students who were engaging with the account in order to see if anyone was interested, which was how first-year Shamsul Chowdhury was the first student to participate in an Instagram takeover. Since then, all other takeovers have been students who have reached out to the account themselves. Currently, over 20 students have reached out to do a takeover, but others are encouraged to contact the account owner to advertise as legitimate as you can get. The account was contacted by Patio, which is a new platform for college students that creates group chats where you match with students based on interests and can engage with others in a virtual group setting. They signed a contract with Patio in order to promote their service to UR students, but there has been a low rate of engagement due to the preexisting Discord server and Facebook account, which already fill that niche.

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Go Off the Grid and Build a Log Cabin

By Jacob Hanley

That's what 18-year-old Erik Grankvist did right after graduating high school in 2019. With only a few simple tools and no prior construction experience, Grankvist set out into the vast Swedish wilderness to realize his dream of building a secluded log cabin by hand— all by himself.

With no construction crew or complex machinery, Grankvist chopped down trees, built a stone foundation, and stacked logs on top of one another to create his humble off-the-grid home. The entire project is documented on Grankvist’s YouTube channel, where viewers can find several videos of his journey—from braving the Swedish winter to learning how to throw axes.

I must admit that when I first heard about Grankvist’s project, my initial thought was: “But what about college?” Did this man have any long-term plans for his future that didn’t involve building a log cabin? What about building a steady career path? Did he consider constructing a reliable retirement fund?

But as these questions were running through my mind, another one struck me: “Why does it matter?”

Why do we so often measure success by amount of schooling or the perceived longevity of a stable career path? If building a log cabin alone in the middle of a Swedish forest will make you happy, then why wouldn’t you pursue that over a 9-5, even if it might mean you make less money in the long run? Who’s telling you that pursuing such a project isn’t the “right” choice?

Happiness, success, and what ultimately brings you peace is a deeply personal matter, and the pursuit of those things shouldn’t be dictated or influenced by a money-oriented, often greed-based world.

Now, I can’t say that I know the specifics of Grankvist’s personal life, financial situation, or career path; he could have a perfectly stable, well-paying job that he manages to work in conjunction with his off-grid project. But that’s besides the point. Even if he doesn’t, he is completely dedicating himself to and actualizing his dream. How many of us can honestly say that we’re doing the same? What does the trivial acquisition of wealth matter if it stops you from fulfilling a lifelong goal? Why would you pursue a career for the money if it requires you to spend most of your time doing something you don’t like?

Obviously, I can’t overlook the fact that in our current society, some amount of money is needed for basic needs and comforts. It’s just the world we live in. But most people shoot for luxurious or comfortable lifestyles well above this minimum requirement. Of course, there is absolutely nothing wrong with this; it’s a personal decision. A lot of people are happy and comfortable in materialism. It’s just that far too often, this decision is seen as an unbreakable norm, or the only true career choice. But pursuit of a lucrative career shouldn’t come at the expense of sacrificing or diluting a dream—or even just weakening our dedication to something that is personally important.

We choose jobs or education paths that we think will make us happy in the long run, but in doing so, we overlook activities and passions that make us happy in the present. Having lots of money in retirement would make anybody happy, but if you spend decades miserable to acquire that wealth, was it worth it? In fact, such activities don’t just constitute present-moment happiness. Commitment to a passion or even something that brings you peace is an invaluable long-term investment.

Grankvist will have that log cabin for the rest of his life. Even if his retirement fund is slightly smaller because he dedicates great deal of time to this project—who cares? He’ll be an old man sitting by the fire in his cabin, enjoying the satisfaction that comes from years of hard work. He spent his time on something that he’s proud of. Even if the financial inheritance he passes down to his children is not as large as it would have been he not pursued this dream, they’ll still be inheriting the fruits of their father’s labor in an arguably much more personal and meaningful manner.

Besides, the fulfillment of a dream and the acquisition of great wealth are obviously not mutually exclusive—if you really want to become a famous movie star, that’s amazing. Go for it. But vast financial success shouldn’t determine whether or not you pursue that dream. If tapping trees on a maple farm for a living brings you peace, then that’s amazing, too.

I know it’s easy to talk a big game. It’s not as easy to drop out of school and pursue your wildest fantasy full-time. But regardless of your dream, you don’t necessarily have to. What matters is that you never lose sight of what is truly important to you and where your passions lie, even if you can’t put everything else on hold. In, the midst of the rat race, tree by tree, don’t forget to build your log cabin.

Hanley is a member of the Class of 2023.

Becoming an Artist and Mixologist at Sip and Paint

By Sarah Woolams

In dire need of a break from finals, I went to a “Sip and Paint Study Break” last Thursday. Co-sponsored by the Creative Arts Club and the UHS Health Promotion Office I learned how to watercolor paint a cherry blossom branch and made a so-called “Yellow Jacket Mocktail.”

The event was led by student artist Naushin Khan, along with senior Alma Petras, the outgoing Creative Arts Club president. I was not one of the first 25 people to register, so I didn’t get to paint a free watercolor set and I didn’t hit Michael’s for the cheapest one I could find. I’ll admit—I was quite salty when not even 25 people showed up. However, once I got over it (after reminding myself it was only $6), the event was quite relaxing, as I painted delicate pink cherry blossoms onto my thin branch.

Kahn and Petras gave us tips on how to make good sakura petals, such as adding a little bit of red to the center, along with some yellow dots to represent the stamen, and starting with a layer of light pink and adding a darker pink toward the middle. Kahn also shared some fun facts about sakura. She mentioned something about all the cherry trees in the U.S. originally coming from Japan, and the National Parks Service article detailing the over a century long timeline of the U.S. and Japan exchanging trees. You know when you’re painting or drawing something and you reach an impasse? Do you add more, or do you leave the piece as it is? Most of the time when I add more, I ruin the entire thing. I can’t tell if I did that with my watercolor cherry blossoms, but overall it came out looking better than the lilac I made with the Rochester Brainery a few weeks ago.

After finishing my painting, I turned to making one of the mocktails from the recipes sent to us before the event. I chose the 4-star difficulty rated Yellow Jacket mocktail over the 1-star Life’s a Beach (which was literally just pouring three drinks together). I boiled an absurd amount of blueberries, sugar, and water, mashed it all together, and strained it to make blueberry syrup and juiced a half lemon. The instructions said to be “mindful not to mix the ingredients” in the glass, yet that was physically and seemingly scientifically impossible as my lemon juice immediately dissolved into the blueberry syrup.

Ideally, I’d imagine they would remain separate, forming blue-ish and yellow sections of liquid for our school colors. Instead, after adding the final ingredient, water (didn’t have sparkling), I got a raspberry colored drink that I garnished with a lemon wedge, tropical umbrella, and red straw. I felt like a real bartender using my parents’ mini measuring cup for the syrup. Also, like a bartender, I didn’t drink my own creation. I instead passed it on to my mom, who actually enjoys sugary drinks.

‘The event was quite relaxing, as I painted delicate pink cherry blossoms onto my thin branch.’

Her review? “Yum!” When asked for more details she responded that it was quite sweet and fruity, with a little tang.

Watercolors are such a fun and mostly stress-free medium that I’d like to get into more in the future. I mostly make digital art with photography and graphic design, so it’s fun to get a break from that and try something new with other kinds of projects. I have an extra 1.5 cups of blueberry syrup, so I will also need to find a way to use that soon. Blueberry syrup on the rocks, anyone?

Woolams is a member of the Class of 2023.
Working at the Moorings

By Fabian Hohlbacker
STAFF WRITER

A light snow freckles the path at my feet. It’s an aching kind of cold. I doubt any of the residents are outside right now — except maybe Joe, because no force of nature or weary healthcare worker could keep that old man from waddling about the complex as he pleased. He wasn’t allowed sugar, but you could count on him to ask you for a soda on the down-low.

I work at a retirement home called The Moorings, where things operate at a walker-asisted hobble. Stroll around on any given day — there are residents gazing, some blissfully and others with a certain aura of disappointment, out at the pond. The swans that live there (nasty things) poke and beak at the ground-level picture windows like they want to speak to admin. Yet, from a different picture window overlooking the pond, these thick-necked Karen birds are pieces of fine china. Porcelain beasts are the marvels of the complex — they compete with the weather in terms of conversational relevance.

It’s all very even-keel, obvious, often boring. But after a semester in the throes of college life at UR, in the type-A frenziness, I chaver, I savored that kind of boredom. Usually they have me pouring soda and scooping fruit cups in assisted living, the Highlands, the home to residents who live semi-independently. Many of them are in the earlier stages of dementia or otherwise semi-lucid.

Most of us wait staff are just a tiny bit, maybe begrudgingly, attached to the Highlands residents. It’s kind of an attachment that surfaces when you, with an eye-roll, grab Mrs. Nicholl’s prune juice for the thirty-seventh time. An outside observer might mistake it for exasperation.

When Mr. Becker bats at his wheat roll with a thick, veiny finger and insists sternly in his German accent that he wants a “yellow one” instead, you complain out of obligation as a part-time food service worker. But, at least for me, it’s hard not to get all smirky and misty-eyed on your way down to the kitchen. A typical shift in the Highlands is check-full of these sorts of partly annoying, partly funny, and (in a way) serious interactions.

There’s Laura and Rico. Their TV speaker is distorted beyond all reason, but they don’t seem bothered, because the news is always cranked. Laura makes it her duty to get up and let us know which of the dishes we are allowed to clear and which ones we aren’t, one by one. This one, but not that one; that one, but not this one. Rico doesn’t say much. Four cranberry juices, two each, which often go unfinished.

There’s Mrs. Stitt, who has an elementary school named after her. She once gushed to me about it over an order of fresh oranges that she’d asked for. She prefers NPR over television, and it smells like flowers and oatmeal-raisin cookies in her suite. Immiscible vibes. A glass of water for her.

There are the Lydons. Mr. Lydon is an open-hearted teddy bear of a man in a wheelchair with a slight memory problem. He likes to talk Chicago sports and seems to spend a lot of time waiting for his wife to get home. Mrs. Lydon is more guarded and calculated, with no memory issues of her own. She looks out for Mr. Lydon, but they need each other equally. Two cokes.

After a semester at UR, I savor that kind of boredom.

Mrs. Mackeever. Gone now, but you’d better get her exactly three dishes of ketchup, or who knows how she’d react? I do — she once threatened to “growl and bite” at me when I foolishly offered her two, which turned out not to be an empty threat. A fabled exchange between a wait staff member and Mrs. Mackeever gives something like this:

“Nice walker Mrs. Mackeever.”

“Thanks, I got it for my birthday.”

“Oh? When was your birthday?”

“Seven years ago...”

I’d be lying if I said I remembered what she liked to drink. Cranberry juice is the default.

There’s Sue Wilson. It’s refreshing to deliver to her room, because otherwise I am subconsciously absorbing FOX news all day — her rare propensity for CNN is a detox from all the dog-whistling. This past winter, sometimes I’d stick around for a few minutes so we could shake our heads in mutual disappointment at the TV. Coffee.

There was Mrs. Sadler. Gone now, I think. Several weeks ago, I’ve offered her a drink — as in V8 or prune juice — she’d look up at me with a wry, unknowing smile and ask, “At this hour?” We once made uncomfortably intense eye-contact as she licked chocolate cream pie off of her (for some reason) knife. Wine.

I could go on. When I come back from college, I am forced to see that not much has changed at The Moorings. Things go a bit too fast in college sometimes, and it’s nice to be reminded that there are other paces to life. Less frenzied ones.

We’ll all keep seeking internships and love and sex, and clout and whatnot, as it should be, but I think it pays off to slow down every so often. While many of us are focused on post-grad insanity and driven to question our entire life direction on a weekly basis, Mr. Becker bats at his wheat roll, Mr. Lydon waits for Mrs. Lydon, and Mrs. Stitt sits happily at her radio with dinner and the evening traffic report.

Hohlbacker is a member of the Class of 2023.

LIV ON THE EDGE

Have A Great Summer?

By Olivia Alger
MANAGING EDITOR

It’s finals season, which means we’re finally near the end of the school year and summertime is fast approaching. Change is in the air: it’s Taurus season, there was a supermoon last week, and I’m getting my second dose of the vaccine next week. Over the course of the next few months, things will continue to change dramatically as people finish their vaccinations and we all return to campus in the fall, which has me feeling both excited and nervous.

Last week, I was nostalgic scrolling through my photo library and came across a picture of Eastman Quad I took in fall of 2019. It was completely unrecognizable — choked with people running to class, brush against one another, out of breath, maskless.

‘That time feels so distant I can barely remember it.’

That time, although only just over a year ago, feels so distant I can barely remember it. Now, the hallways are almost completely deserted. We’re scattered all across the world. Of the few students who aren’t remote, I don’t recognize anyone underneath their masks. I haven’t had an in-person class since March 2020. The college experience, as we once knew it, has completely transformed.

Going back to in-person class for my final year of college feels surreal. I’ve been looking at my computer for over a year nonstop, and my world has been almost entirely virtual. It’s going to feel like to be in class face-to-face again? What’s it going to feel like to sit in-person, side by side, with my peers?

The pandemic continues to rage onward, but things are not the same as they once were — slowly but surely, things in Rochester are crawling back to some semblance of normalcy. Concerts are returning. Restaurants are open again. Even movie theaters have begun holding showings. Come September, this city will feel entirely different.

‘The pandemic continues to rage onward, but things are not the same as they once were.’

But what does “back to normal” even mean? Businesses are opening up again and society is returning to its old habits, but I’m not sure I ever will. The pandemic has affected my perception of the world indefinitely. I am not the same person I was in March 2020, and I’m not sure how my newfound perspective will adjust to in-person classes again.

‘I am not the same person I was in March.’

But we have a whole three months of summer until we see each other again on campus. Until then, have a great summer (remember when we used to write H.A.G.S. in each other’s yearbooks with a glitter gel pen?) and keep in touch. I’ll see you soon.

Alger is a member of the Class of 2022.

Write for the Campus Times

editor@campustimes.org
CONGRATULATIONS

Class of 2021

Thank you for all you did during your time here at UR. It was our pleasure to cover you. We wish you luck in your future endeavors.

Sincerely,
The Campus Times
This year has been a year of figuring it out as you go for everyone. The Campus Times included. Next year will be, too. My Publisher predecessor, An Nguyen, wrote that the Campus Times would return to print, “Because the physical is not yet obsolete.” I think everyone has learned this at some point in the past year. Maybe it was when you zoned out of the 100th Zoom lecture, maybe it was being unable to perform music live, or maybe it was just not hugging your friends.

“When we do our best work, we represent the memory of when we do our best work, we represent the memory of when we do our best work.”

Bebop is a quintessential 90s anime. Set in the year 2019, the show was made in the year 1998, the show follows a young, charismatic, cocky bounty hunter, Spike, as he talks to an exiled, seasoned veteran of a partner, Jet, through the galaxy on their spaceship (called the Bebop). Sure, the show can be a bit cheesy – everyone’s got a dark past, everyone’s got a love interest they lost, left, or learned from, but the creators more than make up for it with their attention to detail and sense of humor. Bebop is rife with small clever jokes and pokes at pop culture, and gets more surreal (art:gy) as the episodes progress. 

Rojack Horsemann (TV): Chances are, you’ve either watched this show before or heard too much about it for your liking. If you’re in the latter group, then I humbly implore you to give the series a try. This is a show that has a lot to say about abuse, glamorized mental illness, sexism, and basically any other staple of the Hollywood (and it doesn’t) pull its punches. 

Cowboy Bebop (TV): Bad news first, it’s an ‘em. Then that only the cool kids are left reading, with their attention to detail and sense of humor. Bebop is rife with small clever jokes and pokes at pop culture, and gets more surreal (art:gy) as the episodes progress. 

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This editorial is published with the consent of a majority of the Editorial Board: Hailie Higgins (Editor-in-Chief), Ethan Busch (Publisher), Lucy Browne (News Editor), William Maranci (Managing Editor) and Olivia Algar (Managing Editor), The Editorial-in-Chief and the Editorial Board reserve all rights to the opinions expressed, and opinions available to the UR community’s ideas and concerns. Email editor@campustimes.org.
The Equality Act Isn’t The Free-For-All Conservatives Claim

By Eddie Hock
Assistant Editor

It’s hard for me to believe, but I’ve been writing for the Campus Times for almost four years now. Barring some seriously unexpected circumstances, this will be my last article for the paper, as I graduate in a month.

It feels strange. I’ve written dozens of pieces for the majority of the CT’s sections at this point, covering everything from politics to student theater to competitive Tetris, but I’ve never felt as much more for me to talk about. I’m not a journalism major, and I certainly don’t have any plans to work directly in the field when I graduate, but there’s something about this job that keeps drawing me back. There’s something about journalism that feels extremely important. But what is it?

“Journalism” as a term defies easy definition. In a vacuum, it’s not so intuitive that opinion pieces, media criticism, the reporting of news, candid photography, and just about everything else that belongs in a newspaper really, truly belong in a newspaper of all things. Yet there’s a harmony to a well-organized and diverse paper, a balance between style and substance, and an assertion that everything is just where it needs to be. The job of a good presentations department is to ensure that balance, crafting a structure for the reader that makes navigating between sections easy for those only interested in some other public or private insurance policies.

The importance of gender-affirming care for the health of transgender individuals cannot be overemphasized. Gender-affirming care, including hormone therapy and gender confirmation surgery, is agreed upon by professional medical societies as the recommended treatment to alleviate depression, anxiety, and stress brought on by improper gender expression, but there’s still so much more to the study of this topic for trans persons. Additionally, studies have shown GCIS has an approximately equal rate of complications as similar surgeries, and patients post-surgery are more highly satisfied, with regret rates hovering around 1%.

If the Equality Act is passed, trans and non-binary folks would become more empowered advocates for their health, but contrary to its detractors’ concerns, it wouldn’t explicitly lead to widespread access to gender-affirming care. Federal legislation would only allow access to gender-affirming therapies and surgeries for transgender patients is also not required. States that require that transgender and gender non-conforming folks get the care they deserve. Martin-Olenski is a member of the Class of 2022.

The Value of Journalism: A Senior’s Farewell

By Mattie Martin-Olenski
Social Media Editor

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How My Allergies Made Me Free

By Kylah Rendell
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

When I first heard from my doctor that I was allergic to timothy and orchard hay, it weighed pretty heavily on my mind. I was a rambunctious kid growing up, running and tumbling around big, open fields and playing with the animals on my friend’s farm. I never suffered from pollen or the outside in general, except for the sun freckling my skin at the slightest touch. There were no limits placed on me as a child.

After I learned about my allergy, I felt that a kind of curse had been placed on me. I could never get a rabbit or a guinea pig, since hay is the main component of their diets. I remember that sinking feeling in my stomach, and when I realized I was so seriously allergic to something that I’d always need to keep an Epipen within reach.

Disappointment at this burden was the first feeling that sunk in, the sudden distancing from my younger, allergen-free self. But with time, I began to see my allergies as a gift instead.

I was the kid that tried never to complain. I was okay with being down for six hour drive in a cramped car with my knees to my chest. I was okay with eating burnt or undercooked food. I was okay with having to wear a jacket that was more dog hair than jacket. But this allergy finally let me feel comfortable saying “no.” I finally felt free to refuse to go places or do things where my allergies would act up. I didn’t have to apologize for or explain my nausea at the smell of grass clippings. I didn’t have to be down on myself or justify not wanting to sit on the grass with my friends on summer days while I got bitten.

Yes, my hay allergy limits some activities, but it’s also given me a broader appreciation for experiences I actually like and want more of. I’m happy and grateful to be getting a dog instead of a bunny (let’s be honest – rabbits poop too much, anyway).

This allergy that was supposed to be “so dangerous” was actually letting me breathe, and break out of my bubble of what I thought was “normal.” I now have a renewed sense of gratitude, and I rarely worry that I’m asking for too much.

I ought to thank this allergy for giving me the space to be free.

Rendell is a member of the Class of 2023.

Letter to the Editor: UR’s Love-Hate Relationship With the 19th Ward

By Ashley Baradan
ALUM AND SENIOR STAFF

My first memory of the 19th Ward is the pedestrian bridge is from my sophomore year, when I didn’t know where I was going. The 19th Ward, said the older student walking with me. “I’m going to live here.” He didn’t say it out loud, but he didn’t have to. “I could tell he thought the area was dangerous, that he was being brave and gracious by choosing to live there any way. Based on how UR and its students usually spoke about the 19th Ward, that wasn’t surprising. My impression of the neighborhood was also negatively influenced, by two years of Public Safety issuing campus-wide emails about another mugging, another car break-in happening on the pedestrian bridge.

UR has made attempts to improve relations between the neighborhood and campus, to varying degrees of success. The Neighborhood Engagement Office is described as itself having been created for many reasons, but also (almost as afterthought) to improve relations between long-term “neighborhood residents.”

This is the more service-focused Center for Community Engagement, which encourages social work, community leadership, and “breaking the bubble” that separates UR from surrounding neighborhoods.

“From a history perspective, [UR has] been very strategic, not transparent,” Dorian Hall, former head leader of the PLEX Neighborhood Association, said. He attributed his optimism for the future of Community-University relations to the newest University President, Sarah Mangelsdorf. “She seemed to be more inclusive and willing to work with folks,” Hall said.

But not every UR president has made him feel welcome. When the Association first proposed the pedestrian bridge, residents formed the 19th Ward Neighborhood Business Association, said Roger Levy, remembered playing in the Class of 2019.

He didn’t say it out loud, and UR security guards come, ready driving “through my neighborhood,” he said. “The University is a huge bulldozer, I believe.” And with UR students
during the 19th Ward relationship.

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Dear UR Community,

It has come to the administration’s attention that many University students are distraught about the COVID-19 vaccine requirement for the upcoming fall 2021 semester. While this policy was agreed upon and implemented with the goal of keeping our community and our students safe, it is becoming increasingly clear that the vaccine alone will not be enough to push our students toward a safe semester.

In light of this revelation, and instead of a vaccine, all students must show proof of a negative COVID test result before returning to campus. We believe that this is the only way to ensure that Strong Hospital and the surrounding community will not be flooded with COVID-19 cases — if you all get sick at home.

For those of you who manage to make it back to campus, we believe that this policy will result in a safer, quieter campus environment.

We do understand that students who are already vaccinated may still have their doubts, facing the wrath of our exhausted, burnt-out puppy-dog eyes. It won’t look good for incoming students, especially if you, dear student, are miserable, will it?

Pop-up financial aid: Although a healthy amount of UR students can subsist off of the sole resource known as “daddy’s money,” not everyone is that lucky.

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Ideal To-Do List for a Depressing D-Day

By Philip Cavallo

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1: Check your bank account

Instead of getting drunk, rowdy-reality and find out how broke you are. Checking your bank account will not only instill a fear of spending money, but also impart an astonishing sense of guilt for all you’ve spent on alcohol, Starbucks, and UberEats. If you want something even more soul crushing, check your student loan debt. Similar, but worse! So much worse!

3: Think about your pet

If you can still call family members, you cannot call a pet. Spending your D-Day thinking about the last time you were able to cuddle your beloved animal in an almost great way to shatter the last vestige of mental strength you had left. Even alcohol wouldn't numb the pain.

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4: babysit your drunk friends

As a designated sober friend of your group, this will involve chasing down your drunk friends to make sure they aren’t doing anything too stupid, like try to climb the carnival rides or go axe throwing. Wonder what you did to deserve this as you wait in the freezing cold for hours to buy some subpar poutine.

These are just a few alternatives to getting hampered. Ultimately, there are many more reliable options. Just find out what works best (read: worst) for you.

Cavallo is a member of the Class of 2022.

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Pop-up sloshed:

If you can’t relieve your stress by doing it all in another way (puppies or praying), the only thing there is left to do is to absolutely fucking hammer. Case in point: D-Day. If WCSA can set up on-campus happy hours, why not just do it on another level? While it may seem like a bad thing that dangerous substances are one of the few things getting us through this semester, this could be a ploy for admin to continue to push EverFI training while giving students what they really want.

Ludas is a member of the Class of 2022.

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Wellness Wednesday Advice: If Going to be Sad? Don’t!

By Brianna Lindsey

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Dearest readers, this week, the one and only Campus Times brings you the most exclusive insider scoop: a look behind the scenes at the one and only campus-gone-on-plans for the University’s future, and suggestions for students concerning their mental health.

Recently, one of our dedicated researchers came across a stash of emails, believed to be within the University’s drafts. Clearly, someone had been trying to dispose of the evidence. These emails, after careful examination, found to be a collection of scrapped Wellness Wednesday concepts.

The following titles were among the most shocking discoveries:

- Tired? Try a new approach to insom- nia? Drop by a lab and swipe some chloroform!
- Why meditate? Drugs are everywhere!
- Counselors available whenever you need (who will only ask how you feel while using theem in the context of their own emotional health and well-being).
- FEELING BAD? DON’T

These astonishing findings are just the tip of the iceberg, which comes when it to the realization that Wellness Wednesday brings. I myself as a student can say with full certainty that I have done, most likely, 100% probably noticed at least one of these emails in my inbox this semester.

The mental health crisis among students is reaching a boiling point. However, when asked about this, admin denied this was the case by saying “it’s still cold outside, therefore a boiling point could not have been reached.”

Despite the fact that we are unmatchted in this battle of intellect. The almighty figureheads know what is best for the students. With the pandemic continuing into this semester, executive decision making has never been more crucial to the needs of the creatures known as “college students.”

An entire two days were given to air out the mentally ill. Not together, silly. Then they might have time to do something, or rest, and we can’t have that, god.

The University sleeps soundly knowing they have exhausted every available resource to maintain the well-being of its students. That is, of course, the most important part of a human being. Wait, these are college students, people. Too tired to care why they don’t need sleep?

With the stellar outcomes of these never-before-heard-of techniques like telling students to “Keep Going”, it’s a wonder every institution of higher learning didn’t adopt this approach. After all, what students need above all else is another voice telling them what they want.

Lindsey is a member of the Class of 2022.

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A List of COVID-19-Friendly Pop-Up Requests

By Luca Ludas

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After both our spring break and reading period were stripped away from us by the grubby hands of administration, they attempted to cover up their wrongdoing with the sticky-sweet syrup of handcuffed sodas and honey-glazed donuts from catering pop-ups. While there’s certainly a charm to free food that can easily entice us to overlook the simmering shithole that the University has become, it’s not enough.

If UR administration really wants to right some wrongs, the least they can do is start to take suggestions for the free handouts they’re choosing to provide. Otherwise, they’re no better than the cockroaches lurking around in our bathrooms. Thus, we here at Campus Times are issuing an ultimatum: Institute these pop-ups for the remainder of updates to current campus goings-on, plans for the upcoming fall 2021 semester, and instead of a vaccine, they attempted to cover up their wrongdoings with an amount of aid you receive into a game of Plinko.

Pop-up sermon: Hosted by the Interfaith Chapel, this could serve as a wonderful way for people to connect to their spiritual side as a last resort for passing their finals. Bring a small kitten pool with a priest in a hazmat suit for those willing to go the extra step of getting baptized for their non-COVID-friendly sins this semester.

Pop-up puppy party: Not only will you fill people’s lack of physical touch during these times, but also our universal love for furry, small, and sweetly onder-skinned mouths. Sadly, these puppies would have to be changed out every 30 minutes, and we’re sure the amounts of bleach needed between each visitor to maintain COVID-19 guidelines. One upside: They could all start to resemble Guy Fieri with their new frosted tips.

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Ludas is a member of the Class of 2022.

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By Brianne Lindsey

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The hotly anticipated tethered hot air balloon rides that were set to feature at this year’s Dandelion Day (D-Day) were cancelled at the last minute, allegedly due to weather. However, eyewitness accounts suggest that the sole balloon the school had rented was in fact stolen by the ghost of deceased freshwater pirate, Barnabas “Bellowing Barney” Sykes. According to historical records found in a deep, near-forgotten corner of Rush Rhees Library, Captain Sykes was ridded by his piratical peers for choosing to ply fresh waters. His crew sailed lakes, rivers, and tributaries to sidle up to ports as unintimidating as Milwaukee and Toronto, while the so-called “real” pirates frequented Tortuga and Santo Domingo in their oceangoing vessels. Sykes reportedly shook off a layer of typical Genesee riverbed (industrial sludge, Genny Light cans, bike parts, etc.) and loudly proclaimed his return, to the shock of a passing group of completely sober students. “At long last me hearties, I’ve been dredged out of this damn river!” Sykes allegedly said. “Now to plunder the world of the living!”

The undead scourge of creeks and streams declined an intrepid Campus Times reporter’s request for a statement. He chose instead to cackle wildly through paper-thin, watery lungs as he set his moldering eye on the brightly colored canvas of the lone balloon, which had just been inflated for the day’s activities. Almost immediately, Sykes leaped into the basket and began slicing away the tethers and weights. As he rose into the air, he was heard to cry, “Now I have a ship that sails the sky! Who’s laughing now, Blackbeard!”

After his brief ascent, however, Captain Sykes had to reckon with the unexpected hurricane-force winds that characterized this past D-Day. Unprepared for sailing a modern airship, the dread pirate quickly lost control and was whisked away to parts unknown. Meteorological data suggests he may have finally hit the ground in Quebec, with a bone-crunching impact that doubtlessly shattered his fragile skeletal form. It is currently unknown whether the pirate’s awakening was caused by a new side effect of the Genesee’s potently polluted waters, a reanimation ritual performed by engineering students to keep themselves awake for finals, or if overcrowding among the many corpses in the river simply forced them to evict someone, and Barney had been there the longest. Whatever the truth, rest assured that the CT will have the latest updates on the ongoing ship-tuation.

To candidacies in a virtual election this year, and I didn’t. Maybe it was their cords found in a deep, near-forgotten corner of Rush Rhees Library. By Alyssa Koh PAGE 12/CAMPUS TIMESBy Micahel Riches PAGE 12/CAMPUS TIMES

The SA President We Needed: An Inside Interview with Megan Browne

By Alyssa Koh

VOTE MEGAN
2021 SA PRESIDENT PLATFORM
“Bringing Humor To The joke that is SA”

For the SA President We Needed: An Inside Interview with Megan Browne

2021 SA President
President of Hall Council for the Hill Vice President of Lenape Middle School
Being hilarious (see articles here and here)
Their proposals include:
Bring back partying on the quad. Force frats to have a big bar menu and pizza. Keep Starbucks Grubhub open all night.取消OptiKale and Peet’s Coffee.

When Megan didn’t win the election, I felt something inside of me break, from the time I studied to until I became a disgruntled parent: not sad, just disappointed. However, to bring further light to their short-lived run, I decided to interview them about the process of establishing a platform and running for SA.

What was the thought process behind running for SA?

How did it come about?

Honestly, I think that SA’s biggest issue is that it doesn’t put enough pressure on admin or administration even though we have the platform to do it. They talk a lot about how the administration doesn’t listen to them or kinda pushes them off, but they have the platform to let students know and have their voices heard. They should not be on the side of admin, but ultimately annoy them as much as possible. They even refused to put a write-in option for the vote until after an hour into the elections...

What are your plans now post-election?

Not super sure, might release an EP. I hear that’s what people are doing now.

Koh is a member of the Class of 2024.