

Campus Times

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



Sig Ep, Drama House and DLH staying on Frat Quad

BY JASON ALTABET
SENIOR STAFF

This week, UR Residential Life finalized its selection process for the Academic Living Centers (ALCs) housed on the Fraternity Quadrangle. The ALC program was started in 2002 to, as Dean Feldman wrote, “provide unique facilities for groups to create integrated educational experiences in a residence-based community.” For the last three years, Sigma Phi Epsilon (Sig Ep), Drama House and Douglass Leadership House (DLH) have resided within the houses allocated for the program. Each group typically receives three-year assignments before the next renewal presentation, with evaluations every April to determine whether early termination is warranted.

The renewal process requires the fulfillment of a detailed application provided by the committee, appointed by Feldman, that decides on the final three groups. The application selection criteria states that, “Emphasis will be placed on proposals that provide new and creative approaches to programming in a living and learning environment. In addition, groups must be able to recruit members and fill the number of beds within a house in order to be considered for the space.”

Furthermore, every organization must supply a cover sheet; a description of the academic living group’s mission; a review and honest assessment of the group’s accomplishments over the past three years if applicable; a detailed, educationally focused program plan focused toward the University community for next year (include program ideas and timetables); a more general three year plan for the group’s time as an ALC; a detailed plan for faculty involvement; an explanation of why it is necessary for the group to live together; a tentative list of names and signatures of students

committed to living in the house and the names and signatures of alternate participants and a number of other materials. Then, the various groups give a presentation in front of the selection committee, featuring a question-and-answer session directed toward the group applying.

Five groups applied this year to live in the ALCs: Phi Kappa Tau, Delta Upsilon and the three groups already living in the centers. Although only five groups applied, Director of Housing Operations Karen Ely noted that any group can apply to the program: “Whether the group has zero or 40 years of history, we look at everyone.” The committee then discusses what makes their group and potential programming academic, along with how they facilitate in-and-out of classroom learning.

Of the five groups to apply, all the groups who were assigned to the houses for the 2012-2015 period were renewed. DLH received a three-year continuation while Sig Ep and Drama House were granted one-year renewals with their next review in April.

“Our new mission is to foster student engagement by promoting leadership development pursuant to our cardinal principles of virtue, diligence and brotherly love,” Sig Ep Vice President of ALC Operations Ted Burke noted. “We really believe we can work with this and hold events in the spirit of these three principles that will bring people together and give them opportunities to lead and make a difference on campus.”

On the topic of the one-year stipulation, Burke said, “To be honest, we were a bit surprised at first to hear about the stipulation that we are initially only receiving the house for one year, but we understand the decision. Because it takes a while to get used to having a house on campus and running it effectively, we

SEE ALC PAGE 4



CHI HUANG / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

NJR PERFORMS “DANGER ZONE” AT THEIR FRIDAY SHOW

On Feb. 20., No Jackets Required presented “A Night at the Movies,” featuring music from popular movies. For a review, see page 11.

SA launches IMPACT website for student petitions

BY ANGELA LAI
NEWS EDITOR

SA officially launched and announced the beta version of IMPACT, a petition site “for students by students,” on Tuesday, Feb. 24. SA President’s Cabinet member and senior Ryan Puffer coded the site and Technology & Web Coordinator Sarah Hedrych designed it and will serve to guide future teams of students in maintaining the site.

Once students log in with their netIDs at sa.rochester.edu/impact, they can create, sign and comment on petitions. Students cannot edit or delete petitions once they create them, and their names are attached to any of their petitions or comments.

SA President and senior Antoinette Esce explained that when a petition reaches 100 signatures, “We’ll start looking into it, we’ll start posting updates and alerts on that petition from the site; that might mean I just meet with the person who posted it, it might mean that it comes up in the Senate conversation, we might pass a resolution,

maybe I put something on the [University] President’s desk.” The more signatures a petition has, she said, “the more power we can put behind it to really try to advocate for change.”

SA Vice President and junior David Stark added that even before a petition reaches 100 signatures, “anything on there is going to inform what we do as an organization or show that people are interested in a certain topic.”

“It’s also not necessarily the case that everything on there will be actionable in an advocacy sense right now, but it informs a larger understanding on what students want on the University of Rochester campus,” he said.

IMPACT also serves as a way for students to give feedback to departments like Dining, IT and ResLife. The category tags on the site mean that department members can easily view student feedback, potentially informing their daily decisions. All department members have NetIDs and will be able to participate in the conversations on the petition site if they wish.

Esce and Stark noted that students often post about problems on campus and give feedback on the Facebook page Overheard at Rochester, which they said is not ideal for formal discussion because of its many uses and its organization. Additionally, they observed that administrators do not feel comfortable going on there since it is a social space, so reported problems may not reach the people who can fix them. Thus, according to Esce and Stark, IMPACT will provide a more accessible forum for feedback for students and administrators.

Esce and Stark originally brought up creating up-to-date feedback mechanisms for students in their election platform last spring and began working on the petition site over the summer. The idea came out of a desire to lower the barrier between SA and students, and its implementation was partially inspired by Rochester Institute of Technology’s petition site PawPrints.

Lai is a member of the class of 2018.

INSIDE THIS CT



CHRISTIAN CIERI / ILLUSTRATOR

THANK-A-BARISTA DAY

Check out a behind-the-scenes look at the Starbucks in Wilson Commons.

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OBAMA VETOES KEYSTONE XL

Anna Garvey, president of College Republicans, weighs in on the veto of the Keystone XL pipeline.

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BIGGEST TRADE DAY IN NBA HISTORY

Jesse Bernstein evaluates the NBA trade deadline madness.

PAGE 16 SPORTS



DEBIE AGUILAR / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

FIRST UR POSSEPLUS RETREAT DISCUSSES JUSTICE

At the first ever annual UR PossePlus Retreat, students, staff and administrators attended a weekend long conference to discuss the nature of crime and punishment in the United States at Beaver Hollow Conference Center in Java, NY.

THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 26

Q&A WITH JOSH PECK

STRONG AUDITORIUM, 7:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.
Come see a moderated Q&A lecture with actor and comedian Josh Peck. Tickets, available at the Common Connection, are \$5 for undergraduates; \$10 for grads, staff and faculty and \$15 for the public.

TOOP PRESENTS “NO EXIT”

RIVER CAMPUS DRAMA HOUSE, 8:00 P.M. - 9:30 P.M.
TOOP presents Jean-Paul Sartre's existentialist play “No Exit” with director Devin Goodman. This is the first of four shows, with the following showings on Feb. 27 at 8 p.m. and Feb. 28 at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 27

ACTIVE MINDS SPEAKER: MAGGIE BERTRAM

DEWEY HALL 1101, 7:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.
Maggie Bertram, an eating disorder survivor who lives with anxiety and depression, will give a talk on mental health. Tickets are \$2 for Unversity students; \$3 for faculty and staff and \$4 for the community.

“THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES”

HUBBELL AUDITORIUM, 8:00 P.M. - 10:15 P.M.
The annual production of Eve Ensler's “The Vagina Monologues” is presented by The College Feminists. Tickets, which are \$5 for students at \$7 for the public, are available at the Common Market or at the door. All profits will be donated to Bethany House.

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 28

WARNER SCHOOL EVENT: WHY TEACH?

LECHASE HALL 215, NOON - 2:00 P.M.
The event will feature examples of innovative teaching practices in most subject areas and a panel discussion with current educators who will share their experiences in K-12 public and charter schools. The event is free and open to the public.

RA RA RIOT

DOUGLASS DINING HALL, 8:00 P.M.
Ra Ra Riot, an indie rock band from Syracuse, NY, will be performing in a concert exclusively for UR undergraduates. Tickets are available at Common Connections for free.

SUNDAY MARCH 1

ROCK REPERTORY ENSEMBLE

LOWER STRONG AUDITORIUM, 7:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.
Come see UR students perform at the Rock Repertory Ensemble's concert. The concert is free and open to the public.

EASTMAN CHORALE

EASTMAN KILBOURN HALL, 8:00 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.
Eastman Chorale is a select ensemble of singers from the Eastman School of Music performing a variety of the finest choral repertoire from the past five centuries. This event is free to the public.

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

Campus Times

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WEEKEND FORECAST

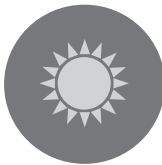
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FRIDAY



Mostly Cloudy
High 16, Low -2
Chance of snow: 20%

SATURDAY



Sunny
High 23, Low 2
Chance of snow: 10%

SUNDAY



Snow
High 31, Low 24
Chance of snow: 80%

PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE

Student takes unwitting visitor’s coat

BY ANGELA LAI
NEWS EDITOR

1. On Saturday, Feb. 21 at 2:11 a.m., Department of Public Safety (DPS) officers were advised by a visitor that her coat and personal belongings had been taken while she attended an event in Douglass Dining Center. The visitor left her coat unattended while at the event. As the visitor described her coat, a DPS supervisor remembered seeing a coat matching her description earlier in the night while he was interacting with a student. Officers contacted that student and found that she was still in possession of the coat. Officers responded and located the coat. The visitor confirmed that it was her coat and that all of her belongings were still in it. The visitor declined to prosecute the student for taking the coat.

Unaffiliated man using laptop in Quiet Study Area

2. On Feb. 21 at 6:37 a.m., a DPS officer on patrol observed a male in Gleason Library who “did not appear to belong.” The male was observed sitting in the Quiet Study Area using a laptop computer. The officers approached the male and determined he had no affiliation to the University. The male provided identification and

stated that he came in to stay warm and use the internet. The male was advised that the area was for affiliated persons only. The male was cooperative, gathered up his things and left the property without incident.

Unaffiliated man standing in aisle of dark Eastman Theatre

3. On Feb. 21 at 9:35 a.m., DPS officers were notified about a male in the Eastman Theatre who “did not appear to belong.” The officers entered the theatre and found the male standing in the aisle of the dark theatre. An officer asked the male to step out of the theatre and he complied. The officers found the male had no affiliation to the University and he stated he was cutting through the theatre because of the cold temperatures outside. The male had some food items in his possession that were for an event going on in the area. The male stated that a female employee told him he could take the food. The employee could not be located to verify this. It was determined the male had no legitimate reason to be on the property. He was given a ban form to stay off the property and escorted out without incident.

*Lai is a member of the class of 2018.
Information provided by UR Public Safety.*

Want to make the headlines?

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Career Center names new director



PHOTO COURTESY OF UR COMMUNICATIONS

Joe Testani will become the director of the Career Center.

BY JULIANNE MCADAMS
SENIOR STAFF

Joe Testani, who is currently the director of the Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU)’s Career Center, will be replacing the current Director of the Gwen M. Greene Career Center Burt Nadler, who recently announced his retirement after 16 years at UR. Testani will assume the role in June 2015. Testani led efforts to gather data for VCU through the use of The Outcomes Survey. The Outcomes Survey, according to a University press release, “looks at the first year of new college graduates to understand how they are using their major in their career and where they have located.”

“This is such an important topic in higher education today and VCU was in need of better data on where students were going after graduating with their degrees,” Testani said in an email.

Testani plans to emphasize data collection into UR’s Career Center, stating the value of “strategic planning, data-driven decision, the optimization of technology, and an investment in relationships.”

“Getting feedback [...] is an important part of getting to know the University,” Testani said, “but also to grow the awareness among students about how important this resource is as they plan their time at Rochester and beyond.”

Students’ Association met with Testani during the selection process as well, making themselves available as a resource to help him connect with campus life.

“I am excited to join the [UR] community,” Testani said, “and look forward to working to grow the opportunities and resources for students to connect and become career ready!”

A New York native himself, Testani said he wanted to return to his home state. More than that, though, he said UR’s approach to their Career Center was admirable.

Testani added, “Through my own experiences and relationships, I knew of the types of students and faculty that I would be able to work with at Rochester and was excited about the prospect of joining the community.”

McAdams is a member of the class of 2017.

Newly-discovered star “flew by” our solar system

BY FARKHOD DAVRENOV
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

A newly discovered binary star system was found to have passed exceedingly close to our solar system within the last 70,000 years. Associate Professor of Physics and Astronomy Eric Mamajek recently authored a paper, published in The Astrophysical Journal, detailing the trajectory of the star system WISE J072003.20-084651.2, or “Scholz’s Star.”

The star, named after its discoverer, Ralf-Dieter Scholz, was shown to have passed within 0.25 parsecs (0.8 light years, or 52,000 astronomical units) of the Sun 70,000 years ago. For comparison, one astronomical unit is defined as the average distance between the Earth and the Sun. Currently, the closest star to the Sun is Proxima

Centauri at 1.3 parsecs (4.2 light years)—five times as far from the Sun as Scholz’s Star’s closest approach.

Scholz’s Star has a number of interesting characteristics that drew the attention of astronomers. It is one of the closest stars to the sun, located only 20 light years away, and it has a very low tangential velocity—the speed at which the star is moving across the sky. Objects as close to the Sun as Scholz’s Star are generally expected to have a much higher tangential velocity—they should appear to be moving across the sky much faster than objects further away due to the parallax effect. This suggested to the astronomers that most of the star’s velocity was radial velocity—the speed of an object moving either

toward the sun or away from it. Independent studies from multiple researchers confirmed this; the radial velocity was measured to be 83 kilometers per second, compared to the the tangential velocity of only three kilometers per second.

No one in the astronomy community had noticed this star until quite recently—it was first mentioned in a paper published in November 2013. This is partly because Scholz’s Star is a very faint star, located in a very crowded region of the night sky and surrounded by many other, similar-looking stars. The low tangential velocity made it more difficult to spot, as it is easier to search for nearby stars that appear to be moving quickly. Scholz’s Star only garnered attention when

SEE **STAR** PAGE 4

Scientific American editor and UR alumnus Fred Guterl gives lecture

BY SAM PASSANISI
NEWS EDITOR

In the latest installment of the River Campus Libraries’ Neilly Lecture Series, executive editor of Scientific American magazine Fred Guterl addressed students and community members on Wednesday, Feb. 26 in the Hawkins-Carlson Room. Guterl discussed his book, “The Fate of the Species,” a speculative non-fiction work about potential human extinction events.

Assistant Dean of River Campus Libraries Nora Dimmock introduced the lecture. Guterl himself was introduced by his fellow science journalist and colleague Adam Frank, a professor of astrophysics at UR who previously worked for Guterl when the latter was an editor at Discover magazine.

Guterl, an alumnus of UR, graduated in 1989 with a degree in Electrical & Computer Engineering. While an undergraduate, he was an editor and writer for the *Campus Times*.

Guterl went on to explain how he started his career in journalism at the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE). “I knew when I was graduating that I didn’t really want to do engineering,” Guterl explained, “and I said as much to my advisor [...] and he knew someone at IEEE.” Guterl began writing for an IEEE trade magazine called Spectrum.

“That was like my graduate school of journalism,” Guterl noted. “That was where I learned how to write, you know, long form non-fiction.”

After leaving Spectrum and IEEE, Guterl worked as a freelance journalist and an editor for Newsweek before being hired at Scientific American, where he has worked for five years as the magazine’s executive editor.

In “The Fate of the Species,” published in 2012, Guterl discusses the potential dangers facing the human race, as well as our unique status as a “technological species.” He noted that the idea for the

book came to him while he was working at Newsweek, especially as he noted a trend toward coverage of disastrous and foreboding events such as SARS (Sudden Acute Respiratory Syndrome), bird flu and climate change. “There was always kind of a little hint of ‘Oh, this could be catastrophic,’” Guterl noted. He became interested in pandemics and other potentially apocalyptic events, researching possible scenarios and the science behind them.

In his lecture, Guterl mentioned an observation made by ecologist Jennifer Dunne, who noted that, from a strictly ecological standpoint, the exponential growth of the human race predicts a massive population crash in the near future. “I find that simple statement very chilling,” Guterl noted. He said that, in his book, he wanted to address the risks taken by the human race in terms of our technological development.

Guterl began his lecture by

SEE **NEILLY** PAGE 4

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Fraternity Quad ALCs will not change for the coming academic year



RACHEL HAMMELMAN / PHOTO EDITOR

Drama House, Douglass Leadership House and Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity retained their living spaces on the Fraternity Quad in a decision Friday from ResLife. Phi Kappa Tau and Delta Upsilon Fraternity were passed up for the opportunity.

ALC FROM PAGE 1

were much more successful as an ALC in the second half of our term than the first...and with our mission changing slightly, it makes sense that the administration wants to see that we can continue our success before granting us two more years.”

DLH President Sade Richardson noted the value of the ALC initiative. “ALCs serve an important purpose. I’m excited that the school sees the value of not just the academic

aspects, but the leadership potential of the students.” She notes that after successfully hosting or co-sponsoring 53 different events in its first two years, DLH is excited to continue expanding their programming and working with groups as diverse as the Music Interest Floor and the Student Association of Vegan and Vegetarian Youth.

On Wednesday, Feldman sent an email to the student body regarding ALCs and addressing

some misconceptions about the program. He explained that “the process places emphasis on proposals that provide creative approaches to programming in a residential learning environment,” adding, “I appreciate the strong level of interest in ALC space this year and look forward to the contributions the groups in these facilities make to the campus community.”

Altabet is a member of the class of 2017.

Guterl gives talk on future of humanity



PARSA LOTFI / PHOTO EDITOR

Executive editor of Scientific American magazine Fred Guterl ‘89 dicussed pandemics, climate change and computer viruses in a lecture on Wednesday, Feb. 25 in Rush Rhees Library.

NEILLY FROM PAGE 3

reviewing three main points covered in his book: diseases, climate change and machines.

Regarding diseases, Guterl described how airplanes and worldwide shipping have created a global environment in which communicable diseases can be spread not just from person to person, but from continent to continent. Referring to influenza and ebola as examples, Guterl noted that a communicable disease could easily become a pandemic.

Guterl also spoke on climate change, calling the public’s attitude “complacent.” He described the work of Dutch biologist Marten Scheffer, a researcher in the field

of weather and atmospheric patterns. Guterl noted that sufficient stress on the Earth’s climate could very quickly cause drastic changes in monsoons and other major weather patterns.

As for machines, Guterl discussed the vulnerability of Internet technology to viruses and malware. He proposed a hypothetical scenario in which a computer virus might disable or destroy half of all electrical generators in the United States, citing a 2010 cyber attack on Iranian research facilities as precedent. He noted that when Hurricane Sandy caused major power losses in New York in 2013, gasoline filling stations

were unable to supply gasoline because of their dependence on electrical pumps. This and other disruptions could lead to an apocalyptic scenario. Guterl noted that the ability of the human race to cause its own extinction is greater than it was 100 years ago.

Despite these dire predictions, Guterl described himself as an optimist.

“Extinction is a very high bar,” he said. “The future is not necessarily like the past...Just because we’ve done so well up until now doesn’t mean we’re going to keep doing the same thing.”

Passanisi is a member of the class of 2017.

Scholz’s Star closest-known flyby to Sun

STAR FROM PAGE 3

its distance to the Sun was measured.

The star came to Mamajek’s attention in a conversation with one of his colleagues in January 2014. After learning of its properties, he suspected that it had passed close to the Solar System. A quick calculation showed that he was right. He then spent his spare time working on the paper and performing further calculations while his colleagues around the world obtained more information on the star. Former UR undergrad and Caltech graduate student Scott Barrenfield helped with these calculations by deriving a more accurate trajectory. In addition, Mamajek had to intensively research the Oort Cloud, a branch of astronomy with which he was relatively unfamiliar. The article was submitted to The Astrophysical Journal in January and was published on Feb. 12.

Scholz’s Star represents the closest known flyby of a star to the solar system. Calculations have shown that its passing had even perturbed the outer layer of the Oort Cloud, a massive, spherical cloud of debris surrounding the outer edges of the Solar System. Perturbations in the Oort Cloud can cause comets to come loose and travel to the inner parts of the solar system. If an object were to pass through the inner part of the cloud, starting at 20,000 astronomical units from the Sun, more comets would be affected and it would be a more tumultuous event. Such events are incredibly rare. Mamajek cited the geological record and stated that such occurrences probably happen only once in about one billion years.

Simulations of Scholz’s Star’s orbit showed a 98 percent probability that it passed through the outer Oort Cloud but only a one in 10,000 chance that it passed through the inner Oort Cloud. The small number of comets it did impact will

take close to one million years to travel to the interior of the Solar System, moving at very slow velocities.

Mamajek mentioned the questions he received regarding the interactions between the gravitational fields of Scholz’s Star and the Earth or the Sun. Calculations showed negligible effects of the Sun’s gravitational pull on the star’s velocity. In addition, Scholz’s Star produced negligible effects on the Earth and its tides.

Mamajek’s paper also highlights an error when calculating the future trajectory of the HIP 85605 star, the previous closest flyby. The 2014 Bailer-Jones survey predicted, with trepidation, that the star’s trajectory would bring it within 0.1 parsecs (21,000 astronomical units) 300,000 years in the future. Mamajek notes that this would force the star to have a brightness entirely inconsistent with the type of star it is, a typical orange dwarf star. A more reasonable distance estimation would be ten times further than the initial prediction.

The discovery of Scholz’s Star and its trajectory suggests the existence of other undiscovered stars that may have performed similarly close flybys. According to Mamajek, such flybys are actually not uncommon. Around ten stars pass through the Oort Cloud every ten million years, few being large or slow enough to cause a significant impact. There is a lack of statistical data on unassuming stars like Scholz’s star. The GAIA project, launched in 2013 by the European Space Agency, will help collect more measurements on these kinds of stars.

Going forward, Mamajek will return to his study of the ring system of J1407b but will be open to helping anyone who picks up the research on Scholz’s star.

Davrenov is a member of the class of 2017.

If you’re interested in journalism, the best way to gain experience is to become a member of the CT.

Email editor@campustimes.org for specifics.

OPINIONS

EDITORIAL CARTOON



“I’ll study for midterms later....”

CHRISTIAN CIERI / ILLUSTRATOR

EDITORIAL OBSERVER

Dispelling UR myths



BY CHRIS HORGAN
HUMOR EDITOR

Dining: Here’s some food for thought to help alleviate some tension between students and dining options. Don’t provide food for the students for a week, and then see who is still complaining about the school’s cuisine. Students would soon learn that the idea of not having food would be tougher to swallow than the food they so commonly criticize. Maybe then, students would acquire a taste for Danforth.

That being said, the school could look at outside sources to increase student satisfaction. For example, I was reading about a restaurant that was offering pizza containing marijuana. This way, the pizza won’t be the only thing baked. There is going to be a strong push in 2015 for the legalization of marijuana in New York. It might be in the school’s best interest to be prepared to accommodate such legislation, (with moderation, of course).

Also, just to mix things up, you could replace all of the chefs with mailmen from the post office for a day. This is for one reason: they always deliver. Or, even hire psychics to take orders at Blimpie. You would never have to wait for your sub since it would always be there waiting for you.

Pool Hours: As I was walking with some friends, someone pointed out how the Goergen Pool offers open swims at inconvenient times. Students fail to realize the good thing about being in Rochester: Lake Ontario is open all year long. If you are trying to become a better swimmer, you might swim distances faster if the temperature of the water is near freezing.

Weather: Another common complaint about UR is the weather. It’s usually cloudy during the winter, so a lack of sun tends to

reduce students’ spirits. However, ask yourself this; if overcast days are sad, then why isn’t the sky blue? When a blizzard comes there’s nowhere to hide, so the weather is unavoidable. But I find snow appealing for many reasons, one of which being that because it can symbolize so many problems a student could face. It could be cold, like the heart of your friends who didn’t text you back for lunch. It could be compact, like your schedule after you add two labs, three workshops and four more recitations. And it can even, under the right conditions, form a liquid, like your eyes during exam week.

Snow is beautiful, plus it can fall from the sky without causing damage. If snow the size of SUVs started falling from the sky, then I could see some validity in the complaint. But, until that happens, try to find something other than snow to drive you crazy.

Parking: I can’t speak personally for parking, but I hear that it has some aspects that could be addressed. Regardless, I think I have an institution that could be set into place that would ensure an equal opportunity for every driver to get a spot. There should be an assigned time every day where everyone who intends to pick a parking spot meets in their car along Wilson Blvd. Large speakers then blast music, and participants are allowed to begin picking a spot. If the music stops and you don’t have a parking spot, well, then you’re out of luck. This would make parking more exciting and much less of an annoyance.

Library: the book stacks are confusing; I suppose that finding a particular book in the stacks would be challenging if you had no clue how the system worked. However, once you become acquainted with how the books are organized, finding a book in the stacks is as simple as finding a needle in a needle stack. If anything, you could always ask a librarian to help you find a book. They’re like a manual Ctrl+F.

Horgan is a member of the class of 2017.

EDITORIAL BOARD

With great location comes great responsibility

For the past few weeks, much of the discussion on campus has centered around the Fraternity Quad.

Specifically, students have been abuzz on social media discussing the three Academic Living Centers (ALCs) located on the Fraternity Quad and the recent bidding by groups wishing to live within them.

As detailed by Dean of the College Richard Feldman in a Wednesday email to the student body, Douglass Leadership House, Drama House and Sigma Phi Epsilon each kept their houses, leaving the groups on the Fraternity Quad the same as last year.

Before the announcement of which groups would occupy the ALCs until the next application cycle, one sentiment voiced on social media was the desire to see new

faces on the Fraternity Quad. Indeed, it seemed that some students were concerned with the level of engagement of the current groups occupying the ALCs. While we agree with the selection committee’s decision to grant these specific groups extensions, we encourage each of them to continue their efforts to engage the campus and the community and to expand and look for ways to further expand their outreach.

That being said, we do think that much of the controversy, especially the seemingly endless waves of bigoted comments on social media regarding the ALCs, could have been curbed if Dean Feldman and the University had addressed the issue immediately after the decisions were made, rather than waiting for conflict to

fester to hateful proportions.

The approval letters were sent out last Friday, and, while we appreciate the email, we believe that it would’ve been prudent to have sent it earlier.

Anyone who’s been on Yik Yak in the past few weeks knows that the feed has been flooded with a stream of outrage over the decision to allow DLH to remain in its house. These comments have ranged from questions about the selection process to blatantly racist remarks.

Perhaps if the selection committee or the administration had addressed the issue earlier and explained in detail its process and criteria, some of the student body’s questions would have been answered before some students turned to derogatory drivels.

SA starts to make an IMPACT

This Tuesday, SA launched the beta version of IMPACT, a website designed by students for students to lodge petitions about changes they want to see on campus. In just the past two days, the website has seen a broad response from the student body, as evidenced by the numerous petitions that have already received over 100 signatures from students.

SA President and senior Antoinette Esce announced that the site received over 10,000 unique visits within its first 24 hours, calling it a “success so far” because these visitors are “people who don’t usually interact with SA government.”

SA must be congratulated for its effective and relatively timely implementation of the program. The entire student body was notified of the program by a thorough email from Esce in which she explained the goals and mechanism of the program.

Considering the current prominence of complaining on campus, the site could not have launched at a better time.

For years, students have had myriad and disorganized ways to express their comments and complaints about the University, but now there is finally a way for them to civilly voice these concerns on a forum that will be viewed by a broader sample of the UR community.

Esce made clear in her email to the student body that IMPACT does not allow petitions to be posted anonymously. She also wrote that “SA Government reserves the right to remove any petition at any time for violating

the Code of Conduct.” SA clearly intends to monitor closely the content of the IMPACT site, though Esce clarified that “[SA is] not screening petitions.”

SA must proceed with caution regarding this stipulation in the site’s terms of service. Esce told the CT that “[SA] also [hasn’t] fully formed a workflow yet internally.” Launching the site in beta has bought SA time to analyze how students will react to an organized platform and hopefully will allow them to factor student input into the final version of the site.

We feel that SA should reconsider its policy on anonymous posts. IMPACT has launched at a point of high tension between many groups on campus, and SA, for good reason, does not want its new site to look similar to how Yik Yak has looked in recent weeks. But anonymity is not inherently a dangerous thing; on the contrary, it is sometimes necessary in a democracy to protect the identities of those whose requests might be sensitive and don’t want their names to be connected with their petitions.

If SA is to commit time anyway to monitoring the legitimacy of the petitions on the site, it could also spend additional time looking through anonymously submitted petitions and ensuring that those that go through be civil and handled with great care. IMPACT is not Yik Yak; students will find different uses for different media, and SA should not be so apprehensive

of anonymous petitions.

In the end, almost all of the popular petitions on the site demand something from a power separate from SA or fellow students, namely the administration.

Petitions asking for improvements in Wi-Fi service, UHS hours or bus schedules need to be seen by the proper departments of the administration to even be considered for implementation.

Dean of Students Matthew Burns told the CT that “there is no guarantee that ideas will be considered, and certainly no guarantee that an idea will be implemented. However, having a centralized location for these petitions may make it easier to gauge our community’s feelings about particular issues, and that can never be a bad thing.”

It is our opinion that the administration should take a stronger stance and consider the fact that if students can’t be guaranteed that their petitions at least be looked at by the appropriate office, they’re just shouting down an empty hallway. This will require additional cooperation between SA and the administration to ensure that students’ voices be heard.

The hard work of SA and the earnest voices of students should not go to waste. The University must realize that there is now an organized, civil way for students to voice their complaints; if they’re curious about what students feel should be changed, all they have to do is count the signatures.

The above editorials are published with the consent of a majority of the editorial board: Aaron Schaffer (Editor-in-Chief), Adam Kadir (Managing Editor), Justin Trombly (Opinions Editor), Jeff Howard (A&E Editor) and Aurek Ransom (Copy Editor). The Editor-in-Chief and the Editorial Board make themselves available to the UR community’s ideas and concerns. Email editor@campustimes.org.

Oklahoma’s AP U.S. History bill swaps education for indoctrination

BY JESSE BERNSTEIN

Did you know that many of the Founding Fathers had slaves? And that Thomas Jefferson, often portrayed as one of the great American proponents of liberty and freedom, had slaves until the day he died? How about the Japanese internment camps? The Trail of Tears?

How do we reconcile these events with our conception of American exceptionalism? Where do they fit into our national psyche?

According to Dan Fisher, a Republican in the Oklahoma House of Representatives, these aforementioned events and the other thematic discussions that are part of the College Board’s AP U.S. History course focus on “what is bad about America.”

Recently, he introduced a bill, HB 1380, in the Oklahoma House, which he says would put the focus back on America’s “founding principles,” rather than paint this country as “a nation of oppressors and exploiters.” HB 1380 proposes that, unless College Board rewrites the curriculum to fit a curriculum written for them, funding for AP U.S. History will cease.

Guess what? That bill already passed in the Oklahoma House Education Committee 11-4; all Republicans voted Yea, and all Democrats voted Nay. Fisher, who laments that the current curriculum places too heavy an emphasis on “robust analyses of gender and racial oppression

and class, ethnicity and the lives of marginalized people,” is currently rewriting the bill, which he’s deemed too “vague” for its upcoming date in the Oklahoma House of Representatives and Senate.

If this bill passes, it’ll be another setback for nuanced and thoughtful national discourse and a devastating blow to the Oklahoma school system, which, according to most research groups, was among the worst in the country last year. Fisher and his backers—including the entirety of the Republican National Committee, the Georgia State Senate and conservative think tanks across the country—claim that the current curriculum provides a drastically skewed, “leftist” view of our nation that is “critical of American exceptionalism [and] the free enterprise system and emphasizes negative aspects of our nation’s history while minimizing positive aspects.” Luckily, Fisher and the GOP are ready to swoop in and rewrite the curriculum “to accurately reflect U.S. history without a political bias.”

Now, how does this bill go about erasing this bias? The bill authored by Fisher—who is on the board for a group called “Reclaiming America for Christ”—states that the curriculum would include “documents...that contributed to the foundation or maintenance of the representative form of limited government, the free-market economic system and American exceptionalism.” Language about President Reagan’s “bellicose rhetoric” (as it’s put in the current

curriculum) would be replaced with a much more positive portrayal, including three of his speeches. President Bush’s

If this bill passes, it’ll be another setback for nuanced and thoughtful national discourse and a devastating blow to the Oklahoma school system, which, according to most research groups, was among the worst in the country last year.

speech on September 11, 2001 is the most recent addition Fisher recommended. Conspicuously missing from the curriculum are any speeches from the last three Democratic presidents. Luckily for those pesky “marginalized people,” Fisher graciously includes a speech from Malcolm X, two works from Martin Luther King Jr. and a speech from each Frederick Douglass and Booker T. Washington. The most recent speech included by a woman occurred in...oh, wait—there aren’t any speeches by women. The most recent work by a woman is Emma Lazarus’ “The

New Colossus,” a poem written in 1883. The “Declaration of Sentiments,” the famous feminist document that came out of the Seneca Falls Convention in 1848, is one of only two expressly feminist documents included in the curriculum—the other having been written in 1776 by Abigail Adams.

This bill is a farce. It’s reminiscent of Dinesh D’Souza’s recent documentary, “America: Imagine the World Without Her.” The film tackles different issues of American history that are debated in classrooms across the country, from slave ownership to the atrocities committed against Native Americans. D’Souza takes apart issues such as these and argues that they’re overblown, meant to make us feel ashamed about being American. According to D’Souza, people such as Barack Obama, Howard Zinn and Saul Alinsky thrive off our shame—as long as we’re ashamed, their liberal agendas will hold water. Rather than feel ashamed, D’Souza contests, we should be proud to live in the greatest country on Earth.

Truthfully, I don’t disagree with

the sentiment. We shouldn’t be ashamed of our country—the United States has done an incalculable amount of good for the world since its birth, and to be ashamed of it is to be ignorant

of some of the most important achievements in human history. But that doesn’t mean that we get to simply ignore the dark issues of the past because they’re not consistent with how certain people perceive our country. Fisher and his backers seem to believe that the classroom is not the place for nuance or discussion of America as a real, flawed place, but rather, that the classroom is for nothing but rote indoctrination and political slants.

Oklahoma isn’t the only state where this is happening. Georgia, Texas, North Carolina, South Carolina and Colorado are all having similar debates right now.

If you took AP U.S. History in a high school in one of those states, and this is troubling to you, please take the time to write to your local congressman that the curriculum doesn’t need meddling hands using it for their own ends.

Bernstein is a member of the class of 2018.



Keystone XL: inconsequential, vetoed or not

BY ANNA GARVEY

In the latest national news, the bill to authorize the construction of the Keystone XL Pipeline was vetoed by President Obama.

This was only the third veto of President Obama’s time in office, but this one was not unexpected. Now that the Republicans have control of both houses of Congress, this will likely not be the last time he uses his veto pen in the coming years. This veto was a rather decisive move on an issue that has been prolonged and wildly overblown for the past seven years. President Obama had promised time and again to veto this bill, so now that he has, the next political question is whether Congress will try to override his veto. It is likely that there will be an override vote, but not one that the GOP will win. Whether this all matters in the scheme of things or is just another political sideshow is yet to be determined.

The main arguments regarding whether to allow construction of the Keystone XL Pipeline from either side

revolve around job creation and the environment. Much of the Keystone Pipeline itself already exists, but the recent debate is

In reality, this project will have a minute impact on the economy and the environment but has been used to dramatize ideological divisions.

whether to allow an extension of it that will run from Alberta, Canada into Nebraska. There was actually some bipartisan support for this bill, something we very rarely see in this day and age in United States politics. While most Democrats sided with the environmental lobby, nine broke off and supported the bill and have also indicated they would vote to override President Obama’s veto. The bill has had strong Republican support from the beginning. Additionally, the majority of the public is in favor of allowing the pipeline to be

built, according to Gallup.

According to most estimates, construction of this pipeline will create up to 30,000 jobs during its construction. This accounts for both the direct jobs in creating the pipeline and the indirect stimulus to the economy from spending related to the project. Critics of the bill usually cite that this is a very small number of jobs created in comparison to how the economy naturally grows. This begs the question: how many jobs does a project have to create for it to be considered useful? I am sure that many people working construction would be glad to see this project come through and offer them a place to work and earn. Do we not care about businesses with the propensity to hire less than a certain number of employees? Where is the cutoff for when a business becomes big enough for us to care about? The argument that the pipeline will not produce enough jobs to justify its authorization for us to care about it seems to be oversimplified.

In response to the environmentalist argument, the nation is at a point where

we accept that climate change is occurring and need to make the right decisions about how to handle it. Despite our highest hopes, renewable energies are not yet at a stage where they can be relied upon to sustain our energy usage, so blocking

Without the pipeline, it is likely to be carried by trains, which pose a greater public health risk than the pipeline would...

all ways to extract and transport oil is counterproductive. The most important environmental aspect of the argument is one that the environmental lobby has not properly considered. Most of the oil that the pipeline would carry will be extracted whether or not the pipeline is built. Without the pipeline, it is likely to be carried by trains, which pose a greater public health risk than the pipeline would, as they have the ability to derail and catch fire, which

has happened on multiple occasions in the past few years. There are other concerns about damage done to the Sandhills region and the Ogalla Aquifer, which TransCanada has responded to by proposing several alternate routes that would avoid damaging these areas.

Above all else, this issue has been used as a weapon for politicians to paint their opponents as being anti-jobs or anti-environment, or as a tool to appeal to their constituencies. In reality, this project will have a minute impact on the economy and the environment, but has been used to dramatize ideological divisions. The country likely would have been better off by allowing the pipeline to be constructed, but the bottom line is that at this point, the political capital that has been wasted discussing this issue of minimal impact has probably outweighed any benefit we might have gotten from its construction.

Garvey is the president of the College Republicans. Garvey is a member of the class of 2016.

FEATURES

Starbucks serves up a hot cup of service

BY MICHAEL GULSTON
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Monday mornings are the worst. It's always a struggle to get out of bed for your first class. You get dressed, put in your earbuds and slowly begin walking to class.

On your way to the Academic Quad, you quickly realize that there's no way you're going to make it through the day without a nice, hot cup of coffee to get you going, so you decide to go to Starbucks.

As you arrive, you see that the line is going out the door into the lounge, and you become miserable, annoyed that the baristas are moving too slow and wish that you had gone to Connections.

As the rush hour begins, the baristas brace themselves for the multitude of caffeinated drinks they are about to create. Baristas play a pivotal role in the eyes of students. But what it is like to be one?

The University of Rochester Starbucks is open seven days a week, opening at 7:30 a.m. Monday to Friday and closing as late as 2 a.m. on weekends. Openers are at work earlier than that to make sure everything is ready for business to run smoothly.

With the high demand for coffee in the morning, those morning baristas have to be wide awake themselves to make sure they can make the drinks to perfection.

As the day tolls on, more and more baristas contribute to achieving their endless mission: to provide the University community

with quality Starbucks coffee and tea drinks.

Senior Teresa Oh worked at Starbucks for over five months and had an interesting time there.

"My experience has been both fantastic and horrendous," she said. "It's fantastic because it's a fast-paced work environment that

continues. Customer service can always be tricky. With any business, the customer is always right, and that can cause stress on the baristas during their shifts.

No matter how complicated the order may be, the baristas work hard to make it come out right.

Junior Tia Shipman worked in

appreciate the lack of training and communication in the workplace. Poor communication and training can lead to an inefficient barista staff that only causes further frustration for those anxious customers.

When asked about how they handle rush hour, Oh said that she

hour" is generally in between classes, especially in the morning right before the first time slot for classes. Post-lunch hours are also busy, especially on Tuesdays and Thursdays—remember this when you are about to make a Starbucks run during these times.

For learning new drinks, Oh made the procedure seem relatively easy for all baristas.

"There is a recipe card that gets added to our rather large booklet, and we just learn it. There isn't much training that is required, as most unveiled new drinks generally follow a similar recipe as the other drinks similar to it, with the exception of the syrups. We find out about it ahead of time, so we can agonize over how many drinks we'll have to make during rush hours and mentally prepare."

Knowing what it is like to be a barista can help students relate to the hard work they put in to give the best service possible. Additionally, baristas are students just like us who can understand our frustration.

Oh has one request for our campus community: "Please be nice to our baristas. When I didn't work at Starbucks, I used to get frustrated at how long I had to wait or how horribly incorrect the spelling of my name was. Now that I'm on the other side, I know for a fact that everyone is at work to ensure every customer receives their order in a timely manner and are satisfied with the service, I promise."

Gulston is a member of the class of 2016.



Starbucks baristas busy at work behind the counter making drinks.

PARSA LOTFI / PHOTO EDITOR

requires the barista to interact with both their fellow employees and the customers in a positive manner to ensure that Starbucks is offering quality service and drinks."

"Unfortunately, it has been horrendous for the same reasons, as customer service isn't always the easiest thing to offer on days with difficult customers," she

the food industry before coming to UR, so being a barista and dealing with the demand of customers does not faze her.

"My favorite thing about being a barista is free drinks during my shift. My least favorite thing is the lack of communication/training."

While getting free drinks is definitely a valuable perk, unfortunately, Shipman does not

does not think about the pressure and the very long line that's "outside and down the stairs." She says that if she just continues to do her job, the line eventually dies down.

Shipman said that she typically does not get overwhelmed because she is used to the large crowds from her previous work experience. This so-called "rush

UR Tech: Terror online

BY LUCIAN COPELAND
STAFF WRITER

The social media use of the world's most wanted terrorists is something of a paradox.

It reflects the contradictions within jihadi fighters themselves.

Foreign nationals from affluent countries such as Britain or Belgium are drawn by the promises of battle and ultraconservatism made by Islamic State (IS), but remain tied to the westernization of their home countries and the inherent attitudes of a globalized youth.

They are at once both murderers and children, militants and tweeters, bombers and idiots.

Unfortunately, their online presence is often all too effective.

IS uses the internet to broadcast propaganda, feeding religious fuel to the unseen masses of foreign sympathizers it needs to sustain its numbers.

The State Department has estimated that 12,000 individuals have travelled to Syria to fight for groups like IS, and the numbers continue

to grow every day.

Social media is leveraged to appeal to the ideal IS recruit.

To paraphrase Daily Beast editor Christopher Dickey, these recruits consist overwhelmingly of young males who feel oppressed and are susceptible to the jihadis' theatrical promises that the recruits will be able to project their frustrations on a world stage.

Tweeted selfies of severed enemy heads alongside battlefield luxuries like energy drinks solidify the appeal.

Dickey refers to the combination as TNT—testosterone, narrative and theater.

For women, the propaganda is more subversive.

IS targets the daughters of ultraconservative Muslim families, who are prohibited by their parents from exiting the house, making friends or living whole lives, and thus escape through the only venue they can—the internet.

Terrorist recruiters promise a life of empowerment in Syria contrasted with an eternity of captivity at home, and then mail money and plane tickets.

Stories abound of young women who simply disappeared in the morning, only to be found married to an IS jihadi

After discovering his lapse, he quickly blamed the broadcasts as an "enemy plot," though users were quick to



CHRISTIAN CIERI / ILLUSTRATOR

many months later.

However, perhaps more comfortingly, online activities from the front lines can backfire.

A Taliban leader had to go undercover pretty quickly after learning he had failed to deactivate the auto geolocation feature on Twitter, broadcasting his location in Pakistan with every tweet.

wonder how and why his enemies would have access to his Twitter account.

Other releases include the "doxing" (the release of names and addresses associated with an online account) of many IS propagandists by Anonymous, revealing members of the group operating out of India and the Americas.

And other online users

have been merciless in their portrayal of the inept behaviors of untrained and overexcited terrorists abroad.

Anger at the horrifying killings of journalists and a Jordanian pilot prompted the release of many "blooper reels", filled with IS members blowing themselves up through improper use of explosives and ranged weaponry.

Powerless to intervene but enraged at the brutality of the executions, many online users have found the depictions—featuring prematurely detonating suicide vests during photo shoots, back-firing mortars, and terrorists shooting each other in the back—to be a cathartic form of dark humor.

It's not a situation in which anyone can win.

But when it comes to combating the insidious propaganda and disinformation of terror groups, using positive elements of social media such as humor and aggressive fact-checking may turn out to be both a valuable tool and a psychological refuge against their brutality.

Copeland is a member of the class of 2015.

View from abroad: Amman, Jordan



Left: Shah standing in the Old Roman Theatre, located in downtown Amman; Right: lower Amman and the view from the top of the Roman Theatre

PHOTOS COURTESY OF NOOR SHAH

BY LUCY WU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

At the University of Rochester, International Relations majors are required to study abroad for a semester and complete at least two courses taught in a modern language in order to complete their degree.

Junior Noor Shah decided to fulfill this requirement by studying in Amman, Jordan, saying that she chose Jordan “specifically because of the Arabic language and rich culture,” which she always wanted to experience.

Shah is currently studying in the Diplomacy and Policy Studies program in Amman through the Council of International Education Exchange (CIEE), a non-profit US-based organization that offers education and exchange programs worldwide.

Through the program, students can “learn about international relations, political science, and economics with a Middle Eastern and Jordanian focus [and] engage with local experts, government officials, and diplomats through special cooperation with the Jordan Institute of Diplomacy (JID),” according to their website.

At the University of Rochester, a third of undergraduate students study abroad.

Traditionally, many of these students choose to go to European countries such as Spain, Germany or Italy, where the cultural and social aspects of the experience are more similar to those in the United States.

Increasingly though, many, like Shah, choose to travel to locations in the Middle East instead.

For Shah, the application process went smoothly. She had known that she wanted to study in the Diplomacy and Policy Studies program in Amman since her freshman year, and when it came time to apply, she says that “CIEE [made] it really easy to apply and show interest.”

Shah also notes that the process of getting her visa was uncomplicated, saying that “getting into the country itself is actually quite simple, [as] there is relatively minimal security and having a US passport is looked very highly upon in Jordan.”

Once Shah arrived in Jordan, she had 10-hour long orientation days, which, when combined with jet lag, proved to be very exhausting.

She also experienced the obstacle of not being familiar with the city in the first few days, because many streets have names that sound very similar and look alike.

She has gotten lost, saying that it “can be scary sometimes if you aren’t that comfortable with the language or the city.” Also, “hardly any of the drivers speak English or know street names.”

However, Shah did not hesitate to ask for help with directions. She reveals that “a lot of Jordanians are delighted to meet Americans, and will often look for any way to help you out and welcome you into their country, especially if you attempt to speak Arabic with them.”

Moreover, she thinks that the interaction with locals proved to be one of the aspects of the experience that has gone really well.

Although one does not have to be proficient in a language to study abroad, most students who study abroad in the Middle East work to become fluent in Arabic. Shah is pursuing a minor in Arabic, and is taking a standard Arabic course as well as a Jordanian Arabic class.

Shah is taking two other courses, “Jordan: A Case Study in Diplomacy and Development” and “Arab Diplomacy,” to complement her study of International Relations.

Studying abroad in Jordan provides an opportunity to see events happening in the Middle East from a closer viewpoint than in America.

As stated in the description of the program in Amman: “Classroom learning and field trips combine to dispel the myths of the Middle East and give students unparalleled insight into one of the richest histories in the world.”

A major difference she notes between being in Jordan and in the U.S is the water scarcity in Jordan.

“It is the third-poorest country in terms of water, which made me a million more times aware of how much more we consume in America. Here, only a certain amount of water is allocated to each household, and showering a lot less and drinking a lot less water is a huge difference that

takes a lot of getting used to,” she explains.

According to the World Health Organization, the water shortage problem will worsen in the following decades as the population rises rapidly and the weather becomes more unpredictable.

The influx of Syrian refugees due to the Syrian Civil War adds to Jordan’s water worries. Shah is currently interning at Mercy Corps where she works with these Syrian refugees, and is gaining direct knowledge of the issues.

Additionally, she is learning about Jordanian culture firsthand.

Despite being very busy, “[people] are extremely friendly and polite, and often invite you over to their houses for tea and a big lunch, which you are expected to finish entirely,” Shah reveals. The hospitality is unsurprising given that Jordan is often considered one of the most comfortable and welcoming countries in the region.

In the month that she’s been in Amman, Shah has adjusted to the differences in the everyday life. One difference is that instead of walking or taking the bus for classes, she travels in a taxi.

As a female, she observed that women are expected to dress conservatively, saying that “although [wearing] a hijab is not a requirement, women are expected to cover their arms and legs while walking around in public.”

She takes every chance she got

to explore important archeological sites.

Shah walked through old temples and Roman theatres on a trip to Jerash, a northern city filled with Roman ruins.

In Qasr al Abd, which translates to “Castle of the Slave,” located in western Jordan, she explored natural sites as well as old ruins.

“People are allowed to climb and hike right on the ruins without any sort of consequence, which is actually a nice change,” Shah remarks.

But even an everyday experience, which can vary from “trying a new food I’ve never heard of to hailing a cab downtown and walking around through different Mosques and souqs [marketplaces],” seems like an adventure, according to her, saying that she is “loving every second.”

On weekends and breaks, Shah likes to go the traditional souqs in downtown Amman, which have lots of fresh and relatively cheap produce as well as local stores.

Shah advises students who are thinking of going abroad but do not know where to go to start early, “It can take a lot of planning ahead of time if you don’t quite know where you want to go or why you want to go there.”

Shah adds finally that “even if my major didn’t require me to study abroad, I probably would still find some way to do it just to have this wonderful experience.”

Wu is a member of the class of 2016.

UR OPINION

BY RAAGA KANAKAM & PARSA LOTFI
FEATURES EDITOR & PHOTO EDITOR

“WHICH TV SHOW WOULD YOU WANT TO BE A CHARACTER IN?”



GEORGE IWAOKA '16
“How I Met Your Mother”



SARAH BJORNLAND '17
“Parks and Recreation”



ELIZANA JOSEPH '17
“Once Upon a Time”



ARI SHAPS '15
“Breaking Bad”



MEHR KASHYAP '15
“Suits”



GINA MARCUS '18
“Broad City”

Jodi Says: The myth of meaningless sex

BY JODI ARMSTRONG
STAFF WRITER

There’s this idea of “meaningless sex,” that sex can be “just” sex.

But if Mila Kunis and Justin Timberlake couldn’t pull it off in the 2011 romantic comedy “Friends with Benefits,” I’m pretty sure it can’t be done.

The concept of meaningless sex can go hand-in-hand with hookup culture.

People seem to think that they can separate the physical, somatic, chemical parts of sex from the mental, emotional, interpersonal parts.

The idea is that you can have sex without all the fuss and complication of emotions.

The formula is as such:

First, find someone on Tinder or at some frat.

Then, take them home.

Then, sleep with them.

And then, the next day, go on with your life as if nothing happened.

But, something did happen.

You took someone to your home, you trusted them with your naked body. Then, you touched them, were undeniably intimate, and it was great (hopefully)!

What if that person was a stranger? How does that take away from the “meaning” of sex?

It’s all the more remarkable that you were able to experience such a vulnerable act with that

person, considering you have very little reason to trust them with your intimacy.

It’s easy to see sex as all-or-nothing. It is commonly said: “Oh, it was just a one night stand...I’ll never see him/her again.” What is contrapositively said is, “I think I’m in love, I want to be with this person for the rest of my life.”

But can there really be no in between? How about, “I’m

not sure whether it’ll happen again or not, but last night was really special, and I’m glad it happened.”

Hookup culture seems to scare people away from over-committing, as if cherishing an experience requires a commitment to it.

No one wants to come off as clingy after a one night stand. For instance, I toured China one summer and really embraced my time there. I’m obviously not going to move to China, but I found meaning in my experience.

There should be a way to appreciate some casual sex without taking it to an extreme.

I suppose the problem is that sex is anything other than a meaningless, animal act that

introduces the complications of emotions. It introduces jealousy, insecurity and risk. Those are really scary things. Even with those words, I can feel myself getting defensive.

But don’t forget—the good comes with the bad. It’s only a risk if there’s a potential reward, right? I remember a discussion with my sister in which she said, “But sex just isn’t as good when you’re not in love.”

In my mind, the point is valid.

More importantly, I think she understands that sex is just as much about the emotions and the mind as it is about the body. The more acts of love there are in sex, the better it can be.

This doesn’t mean you have to be in love, just that you ought to have some. Call me a hippie, but I really believe that you can find something to love in anyone.

Also, if you get as far as hooking up with someone, you’ve already found something to love about them. Focus on that, hold it close and cherish it during sex, instead of denying its existence.

Doing so shows a greater respect for your partner as well as your time together.

And, in the end, the sex will be better and even more fulfilling.

Armstrong is a member of the class of 2016.



THE CHALLENGES AND POSSIBILITIES OF CAREERS IN TEACHING

Saturday, February 28
12 - 2 p.m.
LeChase Hall, Room 215
University of Rochester’s
River Campus



Join us for an interactive exploration of what it takes to be a teacher, and how Warner can help you become one!

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Crossword

BY JOSEPH LINDEN ‘17
DIFFICULTY HARD

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36				37		38			39	40	41	42
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49							50			51		
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- Across**
1 Italian mountain
4 Rapier or uzi
7 Settlers of _____
12 A lot (As in drawing lots)
13 614 ____ (A minor planet between Mars and Jupiter)
14 Awake and ____
15 Appetizers
17 Doctor fish
18 A tabletop game of deception
20 Towards the mouth (medical)
21 Arabic sign
22 A MMOFPS F2P game
25 Superbowl sponsors get to air these in return
27 Tree of Madagascar
29 2 papers fold to make a ____
32 Make up of a pride
33 The angry people are ____
35 Cubit
36 Plea
37 South Korean boy band
39 A tabletop game of deception
43 Objectively
45 Antennae
48 Less tonic-y (referring to g&t)
49 The univalent radical -NH2 when attached via a carboxyl group
50 Method for billing phone calls
51 Doc’s org.
52 Not fan-fiction
53 Court divider
54 Network that supplies data storage
- Down**
1 Allowed, slang
2 One that leads you on
3 Sheep dog breed
4 Great ____
5 Lasso
6 Singer Jessi ____
7 Umbrella term
8 Side sheltered from the wind (naval)
9 X
10 Trajectory
11 Arbitrarily large degree
16 Where floating things are
19 Grab
22 ____ Canyon, NM
23 Avoid windowless ones, esp. as a child
24 6 pack ____
26 Tabletop deck building game
28 Container where you might put bacon fat
29 What one might do in 18 or 39 across
30 I
31 Time between signal and reaction
34 German military office
35 Turns gas or electricity into motion.
38 ____ doner
40 Tendency to agree with Obama, slang
41 Muslim religious leaders
42 C5H6O ring
43 Hair Style
44 ____ circle
45 ____-Man
46 Open to questions of all topics, abv.
47 Jeremy ____ of the LA Lakers

LAST WEEK’S ANSWER:

A	B	E		F	D	R		G	I	S	M	O
L	A	M			L	E	A		E	M	E	E
A	L	P	H	Y	L	S		O	B	A	M	A
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H	O	U	S	E		P	A	S	C	H	A	L
A	R	R	A	S		A	M	I		E	M	U
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MAYBE WE’LL GIVE YOU A PRIZE.
MAYBE.

HUMOR

New bookstore makes students work even harder for good grades

BY SAM BORST-SMITH
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The University of Rochester has always been recognized for its academic excellence and rigor. While it is known that its students work endlessly to maintain a satisfactory GPA, the University and the City of Rochester went to great lengths to help with the overall stress that the students feel. In fall 2014, “College Town” was opened, providing multiple restaurants, shops, housing and more ways for students to blow through their money. The new school bookstore was also built there, changing the location from its previous, extremely convenient on-campus spot to one that’s just inconvenient for everybody.

The school bookstore has always been an extremely great resource, providing students with all the necessities for their courses. After having had the original location right at their fingertips, students are finding it awfully difficult to stay on top of their academics while their resources are now out of reach.

College Town is located on Mt. Hope and Elmwood Avenues, with the Barnes & Noble bookstore logo shown proudly on the corner. It is about a 20-minute walk from

campus, but if it’s snowing, you’re not going anywhere.

“At Rochester, we encourage students to ‘go the extra mile’ in an academic sense,” said one professor who preferred to remain anonymous.

“By moving the bookstore off-campus, we literally mean for students to go the extra mile.”

While the majority of students do not own cars, they have the choice to either take the bus or walk to the bookstore. But honestly, do students actually take the bus off-

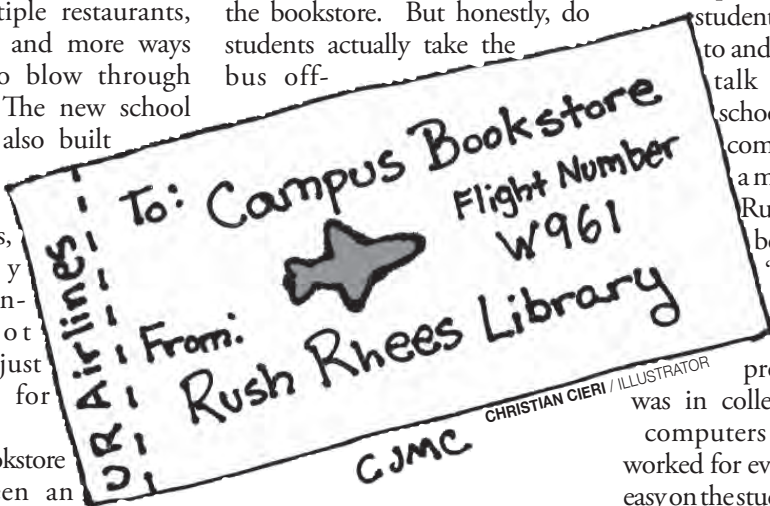
one case of frostbite.

“Being a mother and a nurse,” said one nurse, “you never want to see a kid come in as sick as those who have been here lately. One student came in and had icicles hanging from the one place where icicles aren’t supposed to hang from. When I asked how this happened, he simply replied, ‘the bookstore violated me,’ and didn’t speak again.”

To cope with the struggle of students trying to safely get to and from the bookstore, talk of expanding the school tunnel system has come into play. Building a mile-long tunnel from Rush Rhees Library has been up for discussion. “I’m opposed to the whole tunnel idea,” said another professor. “When I was in college, we didn’t have computers or iPhones. We worked for everything. Making it easy on the students here just doesn’t seem right.”

In all seriousness, the new bookstore is awesome—two-stories full of school apparel and surrounded with new places to “get away.” This new addition is a great fit for the university. At the end of the day, however, it remains a testament to the school’s devotion to make its students go gray at an even earlier age than originally expected.

Borst-Smith is a member of the class of 2017.



campus? That being said, almost all students are forced to walk.

One student walked to pick up her textbooks and paid the price. “I walked two miles in negative-degree weather and returned with my textbooks and pneumonia,” she said.

University Health Services has seen an immense increase of students who have come in with colds, pneumonia and flu-like systems. They’ve even dealt with

Fictional report cards

BY CHRIS HORGAN
HUMOR EDITOR

Ash Ketchum: While playing tag, Ash kept screaming, “Gotta catch ‘em all,” which was okay, but he kept saying it while we discussed venereal disease in health class.

Smokey the Bear: There was a fire in class, but Smokey missed it because he took a 6-month long nap.

Cyclops: Every time I look at your child he is winking at me, and I don’t think this is

Yoda: Don’t worry about your son’s grammar, we scheduled him for eight English classes next marking period.

Arthur the Aardvark: He ruined the ant colony experiment we did in science class.

Peter Pan: We are worried about Peter’s transition into high school. To be blunt, he needs to grow up.

Tarzan: Your child’s behavior lacks propriety. If I hadn’t known any better, I’d say he was raised by animals.

Tom: I see it was a mistake having Tom and Jerry sit next to each other in class. Then again, Jerry wouldn’t be ranked number one in his class if it weren’t for Tom’s constant chasing.

Phineas and Ferb: They need to come to class. Summer vacation ended four years ago.

Thor: I realize he doesn’t like to swim, but he doesn’t have to raise a storm every time his gym class goes in the pool.

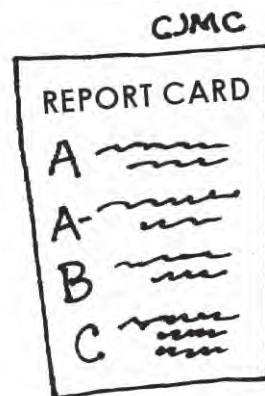
Snow White: She ate an apple before nap time and never woke up, so we sent her to the nurse.

Santa Claus: Your son procrastinates too much on big assignments. It’s as if he thinks he can get all of his work done in one night.

Loch Ness Monster: The only activity your child excels at is hide and seek.

Medusa: She has a great head on her shoulders, and I’d hate to see it go to waste.

Horgan is a member of the class of 2017.



an appropriate gesture toward an adult.

Oedipus Rex: To Oedipus’ mother: I assigned our class to write a love poem, and Oedipus submitted a rather disturbing piece about you.

Bugs Bunny: He seems a little delusional. We think he believes everyone is a doctor.

Superman: There’s something about your son’s stare that makes me feel as if he can see right through me.

Rent-a-parent: An ingenious solution

BY ERIK CHIDO
HUMOR EDITOR

Let’s face it. College is a busy place with busy people. Sometimes, we forget when our laundry is piling up and needs our attention. It gets so out of hand sometimes that when people are flying over Rochester, instead of seeing snow, they believe that they are seeing people’s neglected white articles of clothing. As an Economics major, with the free time that I have available, I sit and perform a cost-benefit analysis by weighing whether to study more or go to sleep. Just kidding.

For the time it would take to figure out whether or not to sleep, I wouldn’t have any time left to sleep. I seem to be digressing, so before this turns into an economics lecture, I’ll get back to my purpose for writing this article. I think that it would be really neat if colleges implemented a system where they hired parents to help students with their day-to-day mundane tasks. These rent-a-parents could help wash, dry, fold and place your laundry into their drawers. Sounds like a novel idea, right? The only potential risk for

this is when the rent-a-parent barges into your room at 6:00 a.m. complaining that not all your laundry was put into the hamper, or, the rent-a-parent scolds you for messing up the laundry that he or she had just folded.

Another great perk of rent-a-parent is its ability to motivate you

second one was from personal experience. What about when you ask rent-a-parent for advice? Let’s say that you come to rent-a-parent for advice on your next humor article. Naturally, you ask what she thinks about it. Rent-a-parent would respond with constructive criticism like “This is utter crap,” and “This is almost as bad as the macaroni dinosaur picture that you made in second grade.”

Most importantly, rent-a-parent can offer the unconditional love that your biological parent do, unless you commit petit larceny. Rent-a-parent wouldn’t be too keen on that. With the economy as it stands, rent-a-parent can’t afford to post your bail. Plus, it isn’t your real parent. You can’t expect rent-a-parent, a person who isn’t your real parent, to

love you or even approve of you after you have just committed petit larceny. I don’t even care about the joke itself. I just think petit larceny sounds funny and would be a good addition to the humor section.

Chido is a member of the class of 2017.



and offer you advice on how to approach certain situations.

When you get back from class and decide to take a nap or browse the interweb, rent-a-parent will motivate you with words of encouragement like, “Are you doing your homework?” or “What the hell are you doing? Is that Netflix? Get back to your studies, and stop screwing around!” The

Battling the cold

BY CHRIS HORGAN
HUMOR EDITOR

Despite midterms approaching, something else has been concerning students. For the past couple of weeks, UR has been hit with bitterly cold temperatures. It’s so cold that the George Eastman statue can’t feel his toes and the baseball team is wearing two gloves. In fact, ITS has received its highest amount of frozen computer screen complaints since 1935. But, how are students combatting the cold? In one attempt to evade the winter, sophomore Michael Kiplanoff wraps his feet with past CT newspapers, since they can also serve as great insulators.

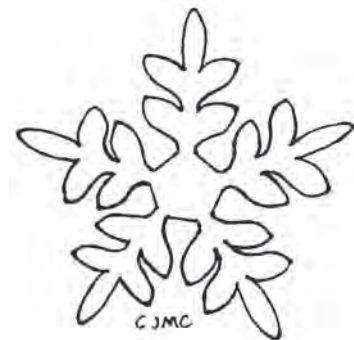
“The jokes from the humor section are so good they can be overwhelming, so as a precaution, I think it’s best to just dip your toes into the paper,” Kiplanoff explained.

Sophomore Alphonse Majeeta described the steps he takes to ensure warmth, telling us that, “First, I go to the Pit and get enough burrito bowls for eight weeks. Then, I pack it all into my room. Lastly, I stay in my room for two months.”

Majeeta says that after spending a few years in Syracuse, he has slowly adapted to the cold. A winter hat has grown on his

head and polar fleece gloves have morphed onto his hands, leaving some scientists’ minds boggled.

In an effort to address this, Majeeta pleaded that “It isn’t as neat as it looks. Now my iPhone screen can’t recognize my fingers, so everyone just thinks I’m



CHRISTIAN CIERI / ILLUSTRATOR

ignoring their calls.”

Local students are notorious for being prepared for the cold, so we decided to get the perspective from a student from outside of Rochester.

When asked how he stays heated, English major Pierre Monfils ’86, responded with “Où suis-je? Attendez, ce n’est pas RIT?”

Nevertheless, winter serves as a test, determining which students have the greatest will. However, there isn’t a curve—cold isn’t literally a test.

Horgan is a member of the class of 2017.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

NJR gets cinematic with ‘A Night at the Movies’

BY JEFF HOWARD
A&E EDITOR

On Friday, Feb. 20, No Jackets Required put on its third annual show, “A Night at the Movies.” The student-run rock ensemble performed renditions of soundtrack songs from classic movies of the 20th and 21st century, covering everything from Irene Cara’s “What a Feeling” (of “Flashdance”) to Counting Crows’ “Accidentally in Love” (of “Shrek”). While not as consistent as the group’s knockout “Soul Train” show from October of last year, “A Night at the Movies” had its fair share of memorable student performances.

“A Night at the Movies” loosely followed a plot starring junior Dan Chess. Chess’s character was, for some reason, named Andy Dufresne, even though his story had nothing to do with “The Shawshank Redemption.” Regardless, in NJR’s story, Dufresne had a paper to write on film and the deadline was coming up fast. With a little help from his friends, all of whom played other classic movie characters, Dufresne learned the true meaning of film and was able to write an ace paper.

At its best, “A Night at the Movies” was everything it



CHI HUANG / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

On Fri. Feb 20, No Jackets Required put on “A Night at the Movies,” which paid tribute to songs from classic movies.

should have been—cinematic, dramatic and entertaining. The group opened the show with a funky rendition of “Also Sprach Zarathustra/2001” (the theme from “2001: A Space Odyssey.”) The group’s cover, which might have been inspired by Phish’s groove-oriented interpretation of the song, was an epic and fun choice for an opener. NJR did an impressive job tackling classic ballads as well, such as Paul McCartney

and Wings’ “Live and Let Die.” The group’s rendition of the song brought out the best of the accompanying string and horn section, and it did justice to the elaborate and dynamic nature of the original song. In addition, NJR did a righteous cover of Elton John’s “Tiny Dancer,” which appeared in the context of the classic rock film “Almost Famous.” The rhythm section offered a strong and solid foundation behind some

powerhouse lead vocals, making for a truly inspiring cover.

Without a doubt, though, the standout performance of the night was the group’s tribute to “The Lion King.” Sophomore Roofer Li opened the performance with the infamous opening chant to “The Circle of Life,” accompanied by an interpretive dance from sophomore Aisyah Zulkarnain. Zulkarnain wore a focused and incisive expression on her face

as she moved to the music; in fact, her performance was so urgent that a few chuckles could be heard from the audience during its beginning. However, as the number progressed, the audience was captivated. From the uplifting and vocally spot-on choir to the adorably inspiring christening of stuffed animal Simba, the performance was transcendent.

NJR concerts are not short, and in the case of “A Night at the Movies,” the show dragged on a little bit. Many of the song choices of the night were ballads, which made for a lull or two in the set, like the group’s cover of Idina Menzel’s “Let it Go,” where the rhythm section’s backing performance was as apathetic as you could get. On the other hand, some of the set’s rockers highlighted technical issues—covers like “(I’ve Had) the Time of my Life” brought energy, but wthe rhythm guitars were out-of-tune and way too loud.

Hiccups aside, “A Night at the Movies” was an overall strong show from NJR. Where “Soul Train” brought the funk, “A Night at the Movies” brought the right mix of drama, ambition and a whole lot of fun.

Howard is a member of the class of 2017.

‘Birdman’ (or, why ‘Boyhood’ deserved to win Best Picture)

BY JOE ALLEN
STAFF WRITER

“The paradox is that true art, true individual expression, all the work of these incredible fellow filmmakers can’t be compared, can’t be labeled, can’t be defeated because they exist and our work will only, as always, be judged by time.” In accepting his Oscar for Best Director last night, Alejandro González Iñárritu made this wonderfully eloquent statement.

He understands—and puts clearly—the ways in which the Oscars themselves are something of a pointless exercise.

Though they celebrate “moving pictures,” as host Neil Patrick Harris put it, they also serve to pit what are typically wonderful films against one another, and force filmmakers to choose one of them as the Best Picture of the year. As Iñárritu states, the ultimate judge of these films won’t be the Academy Awards that they won, but whether, in fifty years, anybody can still recall their titles. With all this having been said, the most memorable

film of this year, contrary to what the Academy may think, was Boyhood.

In someways, both “Birdman” and “Boyhood” are films that’s central premise revolves around a kind of filmmaking gimmick. “Birdman” looks as if it is one continuous take, with no editing. This in and of itself

The most memorable film of the year, contrary to what the Academy may think, was ‘Boyhood.’

is an incredible achievement. It requires incredible amounts out of the cast and crew and means that any screw-ups force everyone to start an entire twenty minute sequence of the film over again from the beginning. “Boyhood,” on the other hand, involved a filmmaking process that took twelve years to complete, and required incredible gambles on the part of the filmmakers. It required choosing an actor who wouldn’t want to quit, as

well as the hope that the lives of these characters would turn into something interesting, even without any real plot to land on.

The real difference between the two is in substance. “Birdman” is a gimmick, and, I’d argue, little more. It’s about the struggles of a fading artist, sure, but there’s nothing truly profound or life-altering involved in this exercise. In addition, right down to its title, the film is one that rubs me the wrong way largely because of its overwhelming strand of pretentiousness. If you need evidence for this, look no further than the film’s lengthy and wordy subtitle, “The Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance.” Of course, if you want truly substantive evidence, the dialogue seems to support my claim. It’s a great deal of posturing about art, its meaning and whether it ultimately “matters.” In “Birdman”’s case, I would argue it might not.

“Boyhood” does matter. Sure, it may have started as a gimmick similar to that of “Birdman,” but it develops into a window that is capable of looking

accurately at adolescence as it is lived. It turns a lot of small, quiet, unimportant moments into a portrait of what it means to age, and what you lose and gain along the way. It’s poetic, and never ventures

‘Birdman’ is a gimmick, and, I’d argue, little more... the film is one that rubs me the wrong way largely because of its overwhelming strand of pretentiousness.

into territory that could be described as showy. Instead, it’s a rich experience that moves you without ever forcing emotions upon you, and allows you to take a ride with characters who are ultimately incredibly memorable, even if they are completely average people. “Boyhood” is a cinematic masterwork, and it’s a film that people will still be discussing in fifty years.

Am I being a bit reductive here? Absolutely. “Birdman”’s feat is truly one of technical mastery, and though it is ultimately a much showier film than “Boyhood,” it is not without its own merits. The performances in the film are almost universally appealing, and Michael Keaton is a beloved actor who has been long overdue for recognition. “Birdman” is the film the Academy was likely always going to vote for. It’s about actors, it’s about art and it’s a whole lot more in-your-face. As weird as it may be, it is ultimately the less rebellious option. “Boyhood,” the quiet three-hour epic with no plot to speak of that was made for \$4 million is infused with rebel spirit precisely because it’s so small, and does so much with so little.

It’s not a big deal really. As Iñárritu suggests, time will tell us whether I was right or not, and, until then, there are much more pressing questions to worry about. For example, why didn’t “The Lego Movie” even get a nomination?

Allen is a member of the class of 2017.

Discovering immortality in ‘Poetic Sentiment’

BY DAVID LIBBEY
STAFF WRITER

Amidst all this snow, it’s not surprising that some of it made its way into Wilson Commons. But it won’t be melting anytime soon thanks to the artistry of Mayumi Amada, who recently opened her show “Poetic Sentiment” at Hartnett Gallery. Her hand-crocheted snowflakes, created for the space, hung down from the high ceiling visible from the tunnels, peacefully twirling in the air. “Falling in Rochester” (2015) inspires the same emotional response that each of the five works in “Poetic Sentiment” do: it’s a little cold and sad, but there’s still something warm, even comforting about it.

Mayumi Amada was raised in a rural village in Japan and learned needlework from her grandmother. However, in college she studied physical education, and it was not until she travelled to the United States to learn English that she began investigating her artistic passion. She began taking art classes at the University of Minnesota, eventually enrolling there and earning her MFA in 2006. Since then she has shown her work nationally and internationally.

In school, Amada worked almost exclusively in metal,



Mayumi Amada offers a dichotomy between cold and warmth with “Poetic Sentiment,” currently showing in the Hartnett Gallery in Wilson Commons until March 15.

providing her with a sculptural aesthetic that comes out in every piece. Nothing in “Poetic Sentiment” is flat, even “A Blip In Eternity” (2010), a cut out tarp that is hangs from ceiling to floor in the center of Hartnett. What could be a two dimensional wall hanging becomes a three dimensional object viewable from all sides. A light shining on the tarp casts a long shadow, giving it an immense volume that is uncharacteristic of tarps. The light and the doily-inspired cutouts are the warm part of “A Blip In Eternity.” The cold part is the message it bears: “Our life on Earth / A blip in eternity.”

Stapled to the opposite wall are groups of flowers,

collectively entitled “Bouquets From Grandmas” (2010). The stems are made from strips of aluminum and the petals from warped plastic egg cartons. With the translucent shadows they project, the bouquets seem ghostly. Indeed, they are they exoskeleton of a once living being—the egg carton’s purpose is defunct without an egg to protect. However, walk past them quickly, or even give one a little puff of air, and they bob up and down, hinting at a spark of life.

Movement is also incorporated into the piece “Floating/Ukiyo” (2010), a rectangle of plastic flowers, each suspended inches from the ground, that eddy in



DAVID LIBBEY / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

the wind produced by a small electric fan. Amada was inspired by a childhood memory of a flower that had fallen into a shallow pond, casting its shadow on the lakebed in the bright sun. The flowers are made from the bottoms of plastic water bottles, which Amada associates with the growth of actual flowers from water and sunlight. But the use of plastic bottles also brings to mind the blight of pollution.

Despite the small size of “Poetic Sentiment,” it addresses complex themes in both subtle and straightforward ways. Mayumi Amada is eminently concerned with finding what she calls “immortality in mortality.” In one way or another, every

piece in the exhibition deals with death. However, each also sends a message of hope.

The use of recycled materials points out that even in death, new meaning can be found in different forms. Other pieces prominently feature the doily patterns that were taught to her by her grandmother, showing that knowledge connects past generations with future descendants. In effect, Amada openly acknowledges that our lives are limited, but proclaims that death is not the end of our story.

“Poetic Sentiment” runs through March 15.

Libbey is a member of the class of 2016.

‘Diablo’ and dungeon-crawlers: a gaming legacy

BY NICOLAS BROWN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The last time I visited my hometown, I found myself looking through some of my old arts and crafts from kindergarten. I soon came across a magnet I had made that had been on our refrigerator for as long as I could remember. The magnet features what looks like an orange dinosaur with a pointy tail and fire breath. However, I knew that this was no dinosaur. I had drawn a picture of the devil, and it had been on our refrigerator for sixteen years.

“Diablo” (Blizzard North, 1996) is the earliest video game I can remember playing. My dad would play it on the computer in the basement, and by the tender age of four, I was playing it myself (In retrospect, letting me play “Diablo” may not have been the wisest of decisions, but I have not developed any demonic tendencies—as far as I know). I love this game. It’s coated in a thick, viscous layer of nostalgia, and I enjoy going back and playing it from time to time. So, why now? Well, when looking for my next game to review, I ended up browsing through a few recent dungeon crawlers, and I figured that it might be a good time to open up this casket of nostalgia once again.

For the uninitiated, a dungeon crawler is essentially any game that involves, as its main

gameplay source of gameplay, the exploration of mysterious dungeons. Key gameplay elements in the genre include combat against monsters and the acquisition of loot. The genre can be traced back to “Dungeons and Dragons” campaigns, and I would assume even further, though I’m no game historian. In fact, “Diablo” isn’t at all an early entry into the genre. It just happens to be the first dungeon crawler I played, and, as such, it’s my go-to example. Let’s discuss “Diablo” in a little more depth.

In terms of gameplay, “Diablo” might more fully be described as a hack-and-slash third-person dungeon crawler role-playing game (a bit of a mouthful). The player chooses from one of three classes: warrior (melee focus), rogue (ranged focus) and sorcerer (magic focus), though the game’s expansion includes a few more options. The game is set in the town of Tristram, which faced disaster when horrible monsters and foul demons suddenly began to emerge from the town’s massive cathedral. Many townsfolk have been abducted and massacred by the wicked force, and the king, who has gone mad, is nowhere to be found. You, the player, are one of the only warriors to return from a disastrous clash with another kingdom, and so you are the only one who can stand against the demonic forces that have risen forth. During your

quest to annihilate the evil forces, you interact with townsfolk, listen to stories, find gold and items, manage your inventory and update your equipment, all while descending through the cathedral, catacombs, caves, and finally, Hell. The voice work, soundtrack and sound design are all masterfully done. They come together with the grim, painterly art style to give the game a colorful and gripping dark-fantasy atmosphere. The main RPG elements include leveling up (attribute points can be put into “strength,” “dexterity,” “magic” or “vitality”) and equipment management (finding items and discovering their traits is widely regarded as one of the most entertaining elements of the game).

All of these elements of writing, art, sound design and gameplay come together to make a game that I expect will long be remembered as a key entry into the dungeon crawler genre. Unfortunately, the game is a bit hard to come by, given its age. It was released for PC, Mac and PlayStation, but you might be able to find all sorts of modified iterations at this point. The main multiplayer mode is co-op, but again, good luck finding anyone to play with (although Blizzard’s Battlenet is still active).

I highly recommend this game to anyone interested in dungeon crawlers or dark-fantasy RPGs.

Brown is a member of the class of 2016.

Harris Wittels: in memoriam

BY JESSE BERNSTEIN
STAFF WRITER

Harris Wittels, a rising young comedy writer, passed away this week. He was 30 years old.

Wittels, a graduate of Emerson College, started out his career doing stand-up around Los Angeles. He eventually landed a job writing for the critically-acclaimed “The Sarah Silverman Program,” where he stayed until the series’ cancellation. After that, Wittels wrote for and sporadically appeared on “Parks and Recreation,” a show that he would come to produce as well. He’s also credited with coining the term “humblebrag,” on which he also wrote a book.

Many of his former colleagues expressed their mourning. Aziz Ansari, Amy Poehler, Nick Offerman and Sarah Silverman were just a few—

penned a long blog post commemorating Wittels.

Ansari wrote, “There are so few people that you meet in life that give you that feeling that you’ve found a real unique, original person. Harris Wittels was one of

Many of his former colleagues all expressed their mourning. Aziz Ansari, Amy Poehler, Nick Offerman and Sarah Silverman were just a few.

Wittels wrote for and sporadically appeared on “Parks and Recreation,” a show that he would come to produce as well. He’s also credited with coining the term ‘humblebrag’

Offerman and Sarah Silverman were just a few—Ansari himself

those and we lost him yesterday.”

Wittels had spoken openly about his drug addiction in the past, often in the candid, confessional style he performed in.

The day before he was found dead, he had spoken about his sobriety during a set at The Meltdown. Early reports have speculated that he died of a drug overdose, but the toxicology report is still pending.

Michael Schur, the showrunner of “Parks and Recreation” who also wrote alongside Wittels, had this to say: “I loved knowing him. And I will miss him every day.”

Bernstein is a member of the class of 2018.

‘Student Artists Speak:’ Dan Chess

BY JEFF HOWARD
A&E EDITOR

The spirit of punk is alive in Rochester, and Dan Chess is in the center of the scene. Chess, a junior, is the lead guitarist and frontman of the punk-rock duo Pterodactyl Scholars. Chess’ original music combines catchy pop sensibilities with gritty guitar and raw vocals. In addition to his solo endeavours, Chess is a member of student-run rock ensemble No Jackets Required.

I had the opportunity to speak with Chess, where we discussed the creative process, musical influences and more.

Jeff Howard: You have played original punk music in your project Pterodactyl Scholars. What’s the songwriting process like for you?

Dan Chess: Usually something just comes into my mind, and I go write it down. Sometimes I only get one part, and the rest doesn’t come until later. But it’s very hard for me to sit down and try to write a song.

JH: Yeah, the best ideas are often the spontaneous ones. I can force music out okay, but I hate sitting down and trying to make lyrics happen. I’ve seen you play Drama House, Strong Auditorium and Montage Music Hall, among other places. Do you have a favorite venue/concert you’ve performed in Rochester?

DC: Not sure. I always like shows with the half party/half



CHRISTIAN CIERI / ILLUSTRATOR

show vibe. I’ve wanted to play in a basement house show, but that hasn’t happened yet.

JH: Do you have any specific influences for songwriting?

DC: I guess. Most bands I like influence my sound a little bit, I think. I guess the biggest influences would probably be Bob Dylan, the Beatles, Neutral Milk Hotel, the Velvet Underground, the Strokes and a few others. I really like songs with lyrics that tell stories, so I like to do that. Generally

though, I don’t consciously try to emulate anybody. I just end up doing it.

JH: How long have you been involved with NJR?

DC: Since freshman year, so this is my third year.

JH: Did you perform before college at all?

DC: A little bit. A couple things at my school, but not much musically. I’ve been writing for a while though.

Howard is a member of the class 2017.

‘I’ll Be Your Pilot Today:’ ‘Schitt’s Creek’

BY SAM GILBOARD
STAFF WRITER

“Schitt’s Creek.” Yep. Just like it sounds. Except it’s with a “C,” so it’s funny. Or at least this is the emotion the show attempts to evoke from its audience. Comedian Eugene Levy and his son Daniel created and star in this riches-to-rags comedy alongside longtime collaborator Catherine O’Hara and newcomer Annie Murphy. While a noble concept, this pilot episode loses itself in the redundancy of its humor after the opening credits role.

You won’t find “Schitt’s Creek” on the major U.S. networks. As a Canadian import, it can be found on TV Guide Network’s rebranded Pop network or, just as easily, On Demand. Much like “Waiting for Guffman,” “Best in Show” and the other cult classic mockumentaries, the world of the story is strong in “Schitt’s Creek.” There is something tangibly funny in the misery that is “Schitt’s Creek.” But compartmentalizing it into twenty-two minutes will leave you feeling stuck, and, sadly, up a waterway of feces.

As a wealthy man whose empire

You won’t find
‘Schitt’s Creek’
on the major U.S.
networks.

suddenly crumbles beneath him and is forced to reside in the titular small Canadian town he bought as a joke for his son, Eugene Levy plays a father far different than his “American Pie” counterpart. Where the character of Mr. Levenstein was uncomfortable by nature, Levy’s

new character, Johnny Rose, is forced into a state of discomfort. It might take some getting used to seeing Jim’s dad in an Italian suit appalled by the idea of lifting his own suitcase. Catherine O’Hara, a strong member of the series of mockumentaries her and Levy worked on with Christopher Guest, delivers an over the top

Much like ‘Waiting for Guffman,’
‘Best in Show,’
and other classic
mockumentaries, the
world of the story is
strong in ‘Schitt’s
Creek.’

performance as Levy’s hoity-toity wife. The younger Levy and Murphy play the Roses’ pampered son and daughter. A glimmer of hope comes in the form of actor Chris Elliot, “Schitt’s Creek”’s local bum/mayor whose role is to further increase the Roses’ discomfort with their new home by stealing the doors from their motel rooms.

From the time they step off the bus in “Schitt’s Creek” to the end credits, the audience is peppered with the Rose’s dislike for anything other than Mercedes Benz and celebrity birthday parties. It will be difficult to imagine a plot for future episodes beyond Catherine O’Hara desperately seeking Chanel No. 5 at the local drugstore.

Complain, Complain, Complain. That’s the name of the game.

Gilboard is a member of the class of 2015.

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In Cleveland, Women’s Basketball puts up tough fight

BY KARLI COZEN
SENIOR STAFF

On Sunday, Feb. 22, the UR Women’s Basketball team was defeated 72-79 in Cleveland by the Case Western Reserve University Spartans. The game came just under a month after the original face-off between ‘Jackets and Spartans’, in which UR topped Case in a closely contested 55-54 victory.



PHOTO COURTESY OF UR ATHLETICS
Alexandra Leslie had a 79% shooting percentage against Case on Saturday.

This weekend, however, the Spartans came out looking for vengeance. Although the Jackets fought hard against the fellow UAA competitor, they ultimately came up short in an intense overtime loss. Right from the tipoff, Case came out hot, leading Rochester by up to seven points throughout the first half. However, the ‘Jackets ended the half strong, closing the gap and going into halftime with only a two-point deficit and a score of 31-33. Within the first two minutes of play in the second half, Case Western quickly stretched their lead to 6 points. Yet, UR did not give in, and they fought back, keeping the score close and taking the lead from Case for the remainder of regulation play. With 14 seconds left on the clock and a score of 66-64 in the ‘Jackets favor, Rochester had the ball under Case’s basket. But Case’s tight defense prohibited Rochester from inboundng, and was called for a five-second violation, giving Case the ball under their own basket with 12 seconds remaining. Rochester then fouled Case sophomore Jessica McCoy over a loose ball with five seconds remaining. The pressure was on, and McCoy came through

for the Spartans, sinking both free throws and tying the score 66-66, forcing the game to continue into overtime play. Case built on this momentum in overtime, and although the ‘Jackets fought hard, the Spartans pulled through. The Spartans earned a 79-72 victory in large part due to sharper shooting. They boasted a higher overall field goal percentage, three-point field goal percentage and free throw percentage than the ‘Jackets. Despite this tough loss, many players on the UR roster showed heart throughout the game. Key performances came from freshman Alexandra Leslie, sophomore Sarah Kaminsky, junior Tylar Guerrieri and senior Ally Zywicki. Leslie scored an impressive 25 points, making 79% of her attempted shots. Zywicki and Kaminsky also put up strong numbers with 20 points and 10 points, respectively; and Guerrieri was the queen of the boards grabbing 11 rebounds. This defeat brings the Jackets’ record to 14-10 overall and 6-7 in the UAA. UR hopes to overcome this loss in their final regular season matchup on Saturday against Emory University. *Cozen is a member of the class of 2015.*

Women’s Tennis starts season strong

BY BEN SHAPIRO
SENIOR STAFF

Women’s Tennis won their first match of the season last weekend, beating intrastate rival, Ithaca College, 6-3 at home on Saturday, Feb. 21. Five different ‘Jackets won



COURTESY OF UR ATHLETICS
Sophomore Dorothy Tai won in both singles and doubles against Ithaca.

matches on the day, with junior Christine Ho and sophomores Dorothy Tai and Lauren Zickar all grabbing wins in both singles and doubles. In doubles, Rochester jumped out to big leads at both the first and third positions. The third team of Zickar and freshman Alex Wolkoff were in control throughout, cruising to a comfortable 8-2 win to give UR its first point of the day. At first doubles, Ithaca battled to work their way back into the match after being down two breaks of serve. With the momentum appearing to shift

to the visitors, the pairing of Ho and Tai regrouped to close out the match with a strong service game from Ho at 8-6. Despite already dropping two of the three doubles matches, Ithaca kept themselves in the overall match with a win at second doubles, regaining some of the momentum as the team switched gears and moved into singles play. Any hope of an Ithaca comeback was diminished shortly after the singles began, as Ho, Tai, and junior Molly Goodman all won quick first sets at first, second and fourth. The three continued to dominate, each wrapping up their victory without losing more than two games in any set. The three wins gave Rochester the five total points needed to clinch the match. At this point, though the overall match was already decided, the ‘Jackets continued to earn another point at sixth singles, thanks to Zickar impressive effort, winning 6-1, 6-1. UR’s next five matches are all against nationally-ranked opponents, beginning in Cleveland on Feb. 28, where they will visit UAA opponent Case Western Reserve University. The team will then head to Southern California for their annual spring break trip, where they will play four matches against Carnegie Mellon, Washington University in St. Louis, Chapman and Whittier. *Shapiro is a member of the class of 2016.*

Finally, Mayweather and Pacquiao will fight

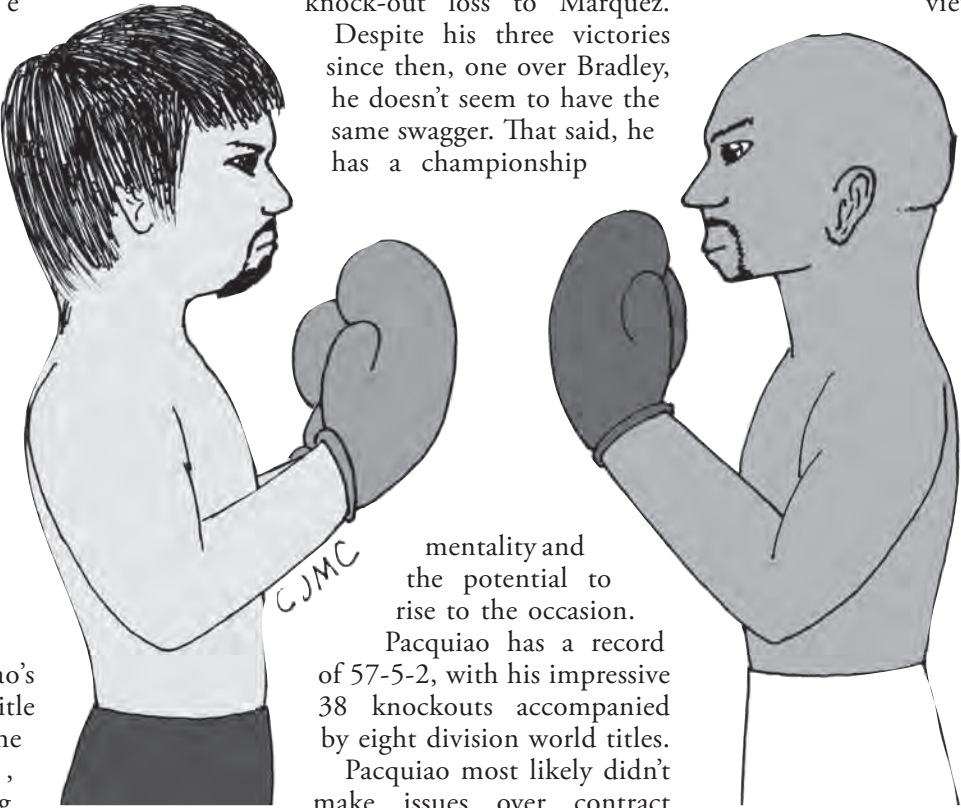
BY MAX EBER
SPORTS EDITOR

That’s right everyone, it is finally happening—the fight that we have all been hoping would come to fruition, albeit quite a few years after we had expected. Floyd “Money” Mayweather Jr. and Manny “Pac-Man” Pacquiao will meet in the ring May 2. This is easily one of the biggest fights in the history of boxing. The two competitors are widely considered to be the very best fighters of this era, and we finally get to see how they fare against one another. This welterweight duel will be for the defense of WBC, WBA and WBO titles, but unofficially will be for the crown of the single best fighter of this generation. The fight has been rumored, denied and flip-lopped back-and-forth since 2009. Who is the better of the two has been disputed almost non-stop since Pacquiao’s rise in 2008, during Mayweather’s brief retirement. As agreements continued to fail, often over issues of drug testing methods, time passed and both fighters aged. Mayweather Jr. is coming into the fight as a five-division world champion with a

record of 47-0 (26 KO). He is granted champion’s perks, which means he will walk to the ring and be introduced last. Additionally, he demanded his name be before Pacquiao’s on the title of the fight, along with the higher end of a 60-40 purse split. Manny put up no fight against Mayweather’s demands, as any hesitations or conflicts would probably dissolve negotiations. Many believe Pacquiao isn’t

the same fighter he was a few years ago. His confidence cannot be the same as it was, especially after consecutive losses; the first to Timothy Bradley and the second, a knock-out loss to Márquez. Despite his three victories since then, one over Bradley, he doesn’t seem to have the same swagger. That said, he has a championship mentality and the potential to rise to the occasion. Pacquiao has a record of 57-5-2, with his impressive 38 knockouts accompanied by eight division world titles. Pacquiao most likely didn’t make issues over contract specifics because this seemed to be truly the last chance for the superfight to occur. If there is an opportunity to prove he hasn’t lost his touch, this is the grandest possible stage for it to occur.

HBO and Showtime, who respectively have exclusive rights to Pacquiao and Mayweather, are coming together to cover the megafight. The pay-per-view price will be The cheapest tickets sold for over \$1,000, with ringside seats reaching up to \$250,000. Even without knowing how much revenue will be produced from pay-per-view, the event is expected to gross over \$400 million. Mayweather will make at least \$100 million, with Pacquiao making slightly less. But what seems to be the case is that this fight is not about money, but about who is truly the best boxer in the world. There will be no cross-country promotional tour, no guaranteed rematches, just the fight itself. Though it came a few years too late, we will still get the chance to see two of the best boxers go at it. Despite being the underdog, many—myself included—are hopeful that Pac-Man can rise up and take down the undefeated and egotistic Mayweather. It would be good to see him taken down a peg and have the well-liked Pacquiao be crowned the greatest of our age. We will have to wait and see how his historic battle will go down, but it is certain that it will be a showdown you will not want to miss. *Eber is a member of the class of 2017.*



CHRISTIAN CIERI / ILLUSTRATOR

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Michelle Landis - Women’s Club Ultimate Frisbee

BY DANI DOUGLAS
SPORTS EDITOR

1. How did you first get into ultimate frisbee?

Ever since I could walk, I’ve always loved to play competitive sports. So, after school volleyball season ended my senior year of high school, I played some casual pick up with some friends and played a bit at summer camp. I knew I wanted to play on the ultimate team at the college I went to, so I showed up to the first Rochester women’s team practice and, after a few weeks, I was hooked. That summer, while at home in Houston, I made the club women’s team there, Inferno, and was able to learn and improve a lot. The past two summers, I’ve continued to play with Inferno while also being a practice player on Showdown, a semi-professional team out of Austin, Texas, that is currently ranked fourth in the world. It has been such a fun and rewarding experience learning from such talented athletes these past three years.

2. What is the most rewarding aspect of the sport?

The most rewarding aspect of ultimate is that I get to travel around the country and compete against great athletes with some of my closest friends, who are just as crazy about the game as I am. Nothing is more rewarding than doing what you love with the people you love.

3. Do you feel like ultimate is becoming more competitive?

Ultimate in the US is definitely becoming a more competitive sport. Last summer, it became officially recognized by the United States Olympic Committee, which is a huge step for the sport. In addition, two professional leagues—the AUDL (American Ultimate Disc League) and the MLU (Major Ultimate League)—were developed, and, a few years ago, and the level of men’s and women’s play has increased dramatically over the past five or so years. There has also been huge growth at the youth level as every year, more and more elementary, middle, and high school teams are developing across the country.

4. What was it like to try out



PHOTO COURTESY OF MICHELLE LANDIS

Last summer, Landis tried out for the under-23 US Women’s National Team.

for the U.S. National team?

Playing for the Under-23 National team has been a goal of mine since freshman year, so getting the opportunity this past November to try out for the team was one of the most incredible experiences I have ever had. The top 100 players from the eastern US met in Florida one weekend in November and played our hearts out for 16 hours, all vying for our spot on the team. I was humbled by the amount

of talent at tryouts, and was able to gain more knowledge of the game, and received feedback from the coaches, which has been and will be invaluable to my growth as a player. 5. Where is your favorite place to compete? I don’t have a specific favorite place to play, but, if I had to pick, any place that has nicely groomed fields and warm, sunny weather. I love playing in Texas and Florida. 6. What would you say to

someone who said that Ultimate isn’t a sport?

I would tell them that it is definitely a sport and then proceed to explain why. A lot of people who have never heard of ultimate before confuse it with disc golf, or a bunch of people casually jogging around throwing a disc around with their friends. It is neither. In actuality, it is comprised of the core athletic components that make up basketball, football and soccer. It combines the cutting, jumping, sprinting and precise footwork needed to be fast and agile in basketball and football with the dexterity of throwing skills needed to shoot a basketball, throw a football or dribble and pass a soccer ball. If you are still not convinced, go watch the Ultimate Frisbee Sports Center top ten plays from last year—the plays that made it are pretty incredible! 7. Would you rather play Jenga with Steve Martin or Jon Stewart? I’d have to go with Steve Martin. Among other things, his character in “Pink Panther” was absolutely hilarious. Douglas is a member of the class of 2017.

LAST WEEK'S SCORES

FRIDAY, FEB. 20

- Men’s Squash vs Harvard University (Quarterfinals) L 4-5
 - Women’s Basketball vs Carnegie Mellon University
- Men’s Basketball vs Carnegie Mellon University W 55-64

SATURDAY, FEB. 21

- Women’s Tennis vs Ithaca College W 6-3
 - Men’s Tennis vs Ithaca College W 9-0
- Men’s Squash vs CSA Potter Cup (Second Round) W 6-3

SUNDAY, FEB. 22

- Men’s Basketball vs Case Western Reserve W 82-78
- Men’s Squash vs CSA Potter Cup (Third Round) W 6-3
- Women’s Basketball vs Case Western Reserve L 72-79

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, FEB. 27

- Women’s Diving at NCAA Diving Regional Qualifier - Geneseo, NY - 8:00 AM
- Men’s Track and Field at NYSCTC Indoor Championships - Henrietta, NY - 10:00 AM
- Women’s Track and Field at NYSCTC Indoor Championships - Henrietta, NY - 10:00 AM
 - Men’s Squash at CSA Individual Championships - Princeton, NJ - All Day

SATURDAY, FEB. 28

- Men’s Squash at CSA Individual Championships - Princeton, NJ - All Day
- Women’s Diving at NCAA Diving Regional Qualifier - Geneseo, NY - 8:00 AM
- Men’s Track and Field at NYSCTC Indoor Championships - Henrietta, NY - 10:00 AM
- Women’s Track and Field at NYSCTC Indoor Championships - Henrietta, NY - 10:00 AM
 - Men’s Basketball vs Emory University- 12:00 PM
 - Women’s Basketball vs Emory University - 2:00 PM
 - Men’s Tennis vs Colgate University - 2:00 PM
- Women’s Tennis vs Case Western Reserve University - 3:00 PM

SUNDAY, MAR. 1

- Men’s Squash at CSA Individual Championships - Princeton, NJ - All Day

*DENOTES HOME GAME

Jerome Kersey, Trail Blazers great, dies at 52

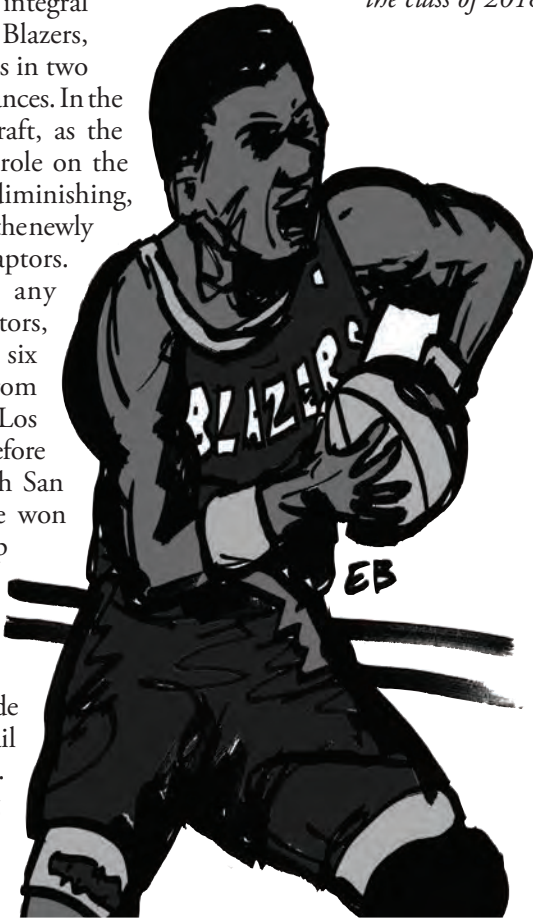
BY JESSE BERNSTEIN
STAFF WRITER

Jerome Kersey, one of the all-time greats of the Portland Trail Blazers, died on Feb. 18 of a pulmonary embolism caused by blood clots in his lungs. He was 52 years old. Kersey, a native of Clarksville, Virginia, was taken as the 46th overall pick in the 1984 NBA Draft out of the tiny Longwood College (now Longwood University), which was then a Division II school.

Over the following 11 seasons, Kersey became an integral part of the Trail Blazers, playing big minutes in two NBA Finals appearances. In the 1995 expansion draft, as the importance of his role on the Trail Blazers was diminishing, Kersey was taken by the newly formed Toronto Raptors.

He didn’t play any games with the Raptors, and spent the next six seasons jumping from Golden State to Los Angeles to Seattle, before finally landing with San Antonio, where he won the championship of the ’98-’99 season. He spent his last season in Milwaukee, but without a doubt made his mark with Trail Blazer franchise. After retiring from the game, Kersey worked in various different fields, ranging

from NBA assistant coaching to auto wholesaling. This year, he was slated to receive the William Henry Ruffner Alumni Award, which is given annually to a Longwood alumnus. As news of his death spread, former teammates and coaches all expressed their sorrow, remembering him as one of the most beloved players on the team everywhere he went. The Trail Blazers will be wearing “JK25” patches on their jerseys for the remainder of the season. Bernstein is a member of the class of 2018.



LIZ BESON / SENIOR STAFF

SPORTS

Squash excels in prestigious Potter Cup

BY NATE KUHRT
STAFF WRITER

This past weekend, the UR Men's Squash team traveled to Trinity College to compete against the top eight teams in the nation for the coveted College Squash Association (CSA) Potter Cup, the National Championship of college squash. To begin the tournament, the 'Jackets were seeded sixth and matched up against the number three seed Harvard. The match played out exactly as any squash fan hopes: intense matches that were all heavily contested, with neither team giving in. The lead went back and forth between the two highly-ranked teams, and the win came down to the final match. After eight matches, the score



Sophomore Ryosei Kobayashi stretches to save a ball.

was tied 4-4. In the last game of the final match, the score was tied 9-9 until Harvard's number 7 player, Tyler Olson, rallied to win the game 12-10 against Rochester's

Aria Fazelimanesh and secure a spot in the semifinals, forcing Rochester into the consolation bracket to compete for fifth place. After suffering a heartbreaking

loss in the first round of the tournament, the team responded excellently, overcoming Franklin and Marshall relatively easily. Rochester had lost to Franklin and Marshall earlier in the season but was able to avenge their loss with a 6-3 win. With early wins at the number three and number six spots, the 'Jackets jumped to an early lead and never looked back. After six individual matches, the team had secured an overall win by having a 5-1 lead. This secured the team a spot against Yale to compete for fifth place. Rochester was able to conquer Yale, a team Rochester had lost to earlier in the season without much trouble. The team began the match 3-0 after quick wins from the three, six and nine

positions. The team went on to win 6-3 to achieve the same 5th place finish as previous year. Looking back on the season, the 'Jackets have definitely established themselves as a team to watch in the upcoming years. The team has gained great experience against some of the best competition in the nation and showed that, in fact, they can compete with anyone, as demonstrated by a regular season win against Trinity College, this year's CSA Potter Cup champion and perennial college squash powerhouse. With the entirety of the 'Jackets' young roster returning next season, the prospects for impressive competition look promising in the future. *Kuhrt is a member of the class of 2017.*

The most intriguing trades at the deadline

BY JESSE BERNSTEIN
STAFF WRITER

In one of the most hectic trade deadlines in recent memory, with about nine percent of NBA players switching teams, almost 40 players—not including draft picks—were traded on deadline day. According to ESPN's Brian Windhorst, this is the most trades in history. There isn't enough room to even come close to touching upon all of those trades here, so let's take a look at the five most interesting trades of the day:

1. **Miami gets:** Goran Dragic, PG; Zoran Dragic, PG. **Phoenix gets:** Danny Granger, SF; John Salmons, SF; two first-round picks (from Miami). **New Orleans gets:** Norris Cole, PG; Justin Hamilton, C; Shawne Williams, SF

Obviously, the crown jewel of the trade here is Goran Dragic. The Dragon is coming off a year in which he made an All-NBA team, and while his numbers don't quite stack up to last year's, that's more of a reflection of other players in Phoenix improving rather than Dragic taking a step back. His final days in Phoenix were kind of ugly, and it seems like it was best for everyone that he left. Miami could be a tough team to deal with in the playoffs now, trotting out a Dragic/Wade/Deng/Whiteside lineup (Chris Bosh is dealing with blood clots, and will be out for the season). Besides that, Phoenix probably took themselves out of the playoff race this year, but they received a multitude of picks that could be valuable. New Orleans got a nice young point guard in Cole and a couple of spare parts

in Hamilton and Williams. Side-note: now that the Dragics got traded together, I want every set of brothers in the NBA to play together, so that when one is going to get

stockpile lean, young athletes, acquiring reigning Rookie of the Year Michael Carter-Williams to go along with the lesser Plumlee and Tyler Ennis. Meanwhile, Philadelphia walked away from the wreckage with a first-round pick. Why trade MCW? That's been the question surrounding this trade the last few days. He was young, cost-controlled, and obviously

pick from Detroit; Future first-round pick from Oklahoma City. Reggie Jackson tweeted that he was crying "tears of joy" when he heard about the trade, so I guess you

Afflalo, SG; Alonzo Gee, SF **Denver gets:** Thomas Robinson, PF; Will Barton, SG; Victor Claver, PF; 2016 first-round pick, lottery protected. Afflalo provides Portland with some much-needed depth in the West bloodbath, and while Barton might have turned out to be a nice player, this was a necessary trade. Denver would've been Robinson's fourth team in three seasons, but Denver released him to waivers, where he was claimed by Philadelphia. It's odd that a player of his obvious skills has gotten passed around like he has; the Nets and Robinson had agreed to a 10-day contract, but the 76ers snatched him before the waiver period had ended.

5. **Minnesota gets:** Kevin Garnett, PF. **Brooklyn gets:** Thaddeus Young, PF.

Garnett is the OG Timberwolf—seven years after he left, he's still the leader in almost every major statistical category. They've never made the playoffs without the Big Ticket, and they probably aren't going to now that he's returned—he's just not the player he once was. However, I can't think of a better player for the young Timberwolves (Rubio, Bennett, LaVine, and, of course, Wiggins) to be around than the greatest player in the history of the franchise. Thaddeus Young is a nice role player, and someday, he'll fill an important role for a contender. For now, he and his admittedly oversized salary (shrewd move by Minnesota GM Flip Saunders) are headed to Brooklyn, where he may be able to give them a much needed boost in terms of youth and intensity. *Bernstein is a member of the class of 2018.*



traded, he can point to the other and say, "We're a package deal." 2. **Phoenix gets:** Brandon Knight, PG; Kendall Marshall, PG. **Milwaukee gets:** Michael Carter-Williams, PG; Miles Plumlee, C; Tyler Ennis, PG. **Philadelphia gets:** First-round pick (via LAL), top-5 protected.

Phoenix is making a big bet on Knight costing less than Dragic and improving beyond his current state, because right now, Brandon Knight can't pass like an NBA point guard. It's a risky one, but we'll have to give this a few years to play out. Milwaukee continues to

talented—what's the use of another draft pick, another "maybe"? Those are legitimate questions. However, I believe 76ers GM Sam Hinkie saw an opportunity to sell high on a player who, skilled as he was, didn't have the skillset Hinkie was looking for. It's a tough pill to swallow, but, like the Knight swap, we'll have to wait a few years before we can make a judgment on this one. 3. **Detroit gets:** Reggie Jackson, PG. **Oklahoma City gets:** Enes Kanter, C; Steve Novak, SF; D.J. Augustin, PG; Kyle Singler, SF. **Utah gets:** Kendrick Perkins, C; Grant Jerret, PF; draft rights to Tibor Pleiss, C; 2017 second-round

could say Detroit is getting someone who actually wants to be there. Jackson is a talented point guard, and if he can learn to accept whatever role he's in (especially since he's going to be sharing the floor with the gunner of all gunners, Brandon Jennings), he'd do himself a lot of good. OKC comes out with exactly what they needed—another strong rebounder and a stronger bench with some veterans who have played in playoff series before. Utah is looking to the future, acquiring a couple of picks—the other players are inconsequential. 4. **Portland gets:** Arron