

Campus Times

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ACJC hears student appeal against SA Senate

BY JUSTIN TROMBLY
OPINIONS EDITOR

Students' Association (SA) Senate and sophomore Anmol Almast sparred over notions of constitutionality and reasonability before the All-Campus Judicial Council (ACJC) on Friday, Oct. 16, in the first ACJC appeal hearing since 2010.

Spanning over two hours in the packed Gowen Room in Wilson Commons, the hearing—Almast v. Student's Association Senate—centered on the Senate's decision to fill a vacant seat through a senator selection committee.

That decision, according to the appeal filed by Almast, occurred during a Senate meeting on April 27 last semester and came in the wake of senior Melissa Holloway's resignation from the Senate. Holloway had been elected as both senator and SA vice president; she resigned from the former position to become the latter. The Senate reaffirmed its decision in a meeting on Sept. 14.

Almast, the overall next-highest vote-getter in the spring elections after Holloway appealed the Senate's decision, feeling that it violated the SA Constitution and that she was the next eligible candidate to fill the slot. In its own interpretation, the Senate resolved that only a senior would constitute a candidate eligible to take Holloway's spot, given that the Bylaws require the election of three senators from each upperclassman year. Only three seniors had campaigned.

At the start of the hearing, the nine ACJC justices looked out at the appellant and respondent benches stationed before them—Almast with her advisor, junior Tristan Ford; Senator and senior David Stark, representing the Senate, with his advisor, Senator

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University announces senior leadership changes



AARON SCHAFER / EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Senior Vice President for Research and Dean of the Hajim School Rob Clark (left) will replace Peter Lennie (not pictured) as University Provost when Lennie retires in June 2016. Senior Associate Vice President for Budgets and Planning Holly Crawford (center) will replace Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance Ron Paprocki upon his retirement in January. University President Joel Seligman is on the right.

Holly Crawford to replace Ron Paprocki

BY SAM PASSANISI
NEWS EDITOR

UR administrators announced on Wednesday, Oct. 21 that Senior Associate Vice President for Budgets and Planning Holly Crawford would succeed Ronald Paprocki as UR's Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance, Chief Financial Officer, and Treasurer when Paprocki retires in January. The announcement was made at a press conference on Wednesday morning in the Hawkins-Carlson Room of Rush Rhees Library. Paprocki's plans to retire were announced this May, prompting the Board of Trustees to organize a nationwide search committee to find his replacement.

"[Crawford] starts with a nuanced and complete understanding of the University," University President Joel Seligman said in a press release from UR Communications. At the press conference, Seligman noted that, prior to Crawford's appointment, he had been approached by board members and UR leaders who had praised Crawford, calling her

"terrific."

Crawford holds an M.B.A. from the Simon School, of which she said, "was one of the best decisions I have ever made." She has been an employee at UR since 1998, when she was hired as Director of University Audit. There, she developed a construction auditing program to reduce costs within the UR Facilities department. In 2000, she was tapped to become UR's budget director by Paprocki, and has worked in budgets and planning since that time. Recently, Crawford was a key leader in the \$100 million development of College Town.

As Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance, Crawford will be responsible for overseeing nearly all of UR's finance operations, a vast sector of the University that encompasses Dining Services, Public Safety, Human Resources, and the various departments within Facilities and Services. She will also be tasked with planning and construction on the River Campus.

Passanisi is a member of the class of 2017.

Rob Clark named next University Provost

BY AARON SCHAFER
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

On Thursday, Oct. 15, University President Joel Seligman announced that Dean of the Hajim School of Engineering and Applied Sciences and Senior Vice President for Research Robert Clark would become UR's next provost. The audience of the press conference, which was held in the Simon School of Business Administration's Eisenberg Rotunda, was largely made up of Board of Trustees members, senior administrators and faculty.

"We will continue in our efforts to embrace diversity of all kinds in engineering and our other domains of study here at [UR]," Clark said, adding, "diversity of thought, gender, culture, race, etc. all contribute to a wonderful richness in our learning environment."

"Rob has been a key part of our recent progress," Seligman said. Seligman recounted that Clark's accomplishments at the Hajim School include the doubling of enrollment in the Hajim School

since Clark took over in 2007; the integration of Computer Science into the Hajim School; the creation of a fabrication lab in Rettner Hall; the coordination of Wegmans Hall, which is currently under construction; and managing the creation—alongside Professor Duncan Moore—of the over 700-page document delivered to the Department of Defense, which, according to Seligman, was "the basis of us succeeding in this national contest [for the Integrated Photonics Institute]." In the press conference, Seligman noted that "Rob's role in photonics is going to be one that will continue and will be quite consequential—as will be clearer—in the days to come."

Among other things, Seligman gives Clark credit for "[demonstrating] a gift for assembling strong leadership teams," and eagerness, upon his appointment as Senior Vice President for Research "to seek an office in the Medical Center, to try to better coordinate our research efforts on both sides of Elmwood."

"I feel greatly privileged to have

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MORGAN MEHRING / STAFF ILLUSTRATOR

THE MAN BEHIND THE MUSIC

Campus Times interviews Keith Elder, director of concert activities at the Eastman School of Music.

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BACK TO THE PRESENT

Twenty-six years ago, Robert Zemeki's sent audiences to the far future year of 2015. UR Tech examines how BttF 2 stacks up against reality.

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SOCCER BEATS CASE WESTERN

Women's soccer scored four goals to their opponents' zero in their biggest win of the season last weekend.

PAGE 16 SPORTS



RACHEL HAMMELMAN / SENIOR STAFF

COLLEGE FEMINISTS HOST ANNUAL TAKE BACK THE NIGHT EVENT
On Oct. 20, UR College Feminists held their annual Take Back the Night event, offering a resource fair with information for survivors, opportunities to volunteer with community organizations that raise awareness of sexual assault and more.

THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS

THURSDAY
OCTOBER 22

NATIONAL DEPRESSION SCREENING DAY
GOERGEN ATHLETIC CENTER, 5:00 P.M. - 6:30 P.M.
National Depression Screening Day offers a free, confidential self-assessment followed by a brief, private conversation with a UCC professional. A screening will also be held in Friel Lounge from 11 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

TOOP PRESENTS ‘ENERGY MASS LIGHT’
RIVER CAMPUS DRAMA HOUSE, 8:00 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.
TOOP presents a comedy about time travel, young love and a misplaced parasol. “Energy Mass Light” was written by Katherine Varga, T5, and is directed by junior Jordan Polcyn-Evans. This event is free.

FRIDAY
OCTOBER 23

VARSITY FIELD HOCKEY VS. SKIDMORE
FAUVER STADIUM, 4:00 P.M. TO 6:00 P.M.
Come support our varsity field hockey team as they play against Skidmore College.

NJR PRESENTS ‘BEST OF THE BRITS’
WILSON COMMONS MAY ROOM, 8:00 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.
NJR presents “The Best of the Brits,” with music by the Beatles, Led Zeppelin, Queen, Fleetwood Mac, David Bowie, the Clash, Pink Floyd and Elton John. Tickets are \$3 for UR students, \$5 otherwise and are available at the Common Market and at the door.

SATURDAY
OCTOBER 24

‘START BY BELIEVING’ CAMPAIGN EVENT
DEWEY HALL 1-101, 2:00 P.M. - 3:30 P.M.
Attend a public awareness event focused on educating the public’s response toward victims of domestic violence. Detective Sergeant Daniel Barrett of the Buffalo Police Department will be a guest speaker. This event is sponsored by Sigma Psi Zeta.

30TH ANNUAL VIENNESE BALL
WILSON COMMONS MAY ROOM, 8:00 P.M. - NOON
The Ballroom Dance Club presents the annual Viennese Ball, with the theme of Blue and Gold. Tickets are \$10 for UR students, \$11 for University affiliates and \$15 for the general public. Get a crash course in Waltz at 7 p.m. Formal attire is requested.

SUNDAY
OCTOBER 25

HILLEL FALL FEST
INTERFAITH CHAPEL, 2:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.
Join Hillel and AEPI for a Fall Festival featuring pumpkin pie, apple pie, apple cider, donuts, pumpkin carving and more. Please bring a can of food or packaged non-perishable item as a donation toward the Brighton Food Cupboard.

ROCK REPERTORY ENSEMBLE CONCERT
EASTMAN KILBOURN HALL, 7:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.
Come check out the UR Rock Repertory Ensemble’s first concert of the semester, featuring songs by Judas Priest, Carole King, the Doobie Brothers and many more. This event is free.

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

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It is our policy to correct all erroneous information as quickly as possible. If you believe you have a correction, please email editor@campustimes.org.

WEEKEND FORECAST

COURTESY OF WEATHER.COM

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Sunny High 49, Low 34 Chance of rain: 0%	PM Showers High 62, Low 49 Chance of rain: 40%	AM Clouds/PM Sun High 56, Low 39 Chance of rain: 20%

PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE

‘Dance concert’ forbidden at Eastman

BY ANGELA LAI
NEWS EDITOR

1. On Oct. 15 at 4:12 p.m., Department of Public Safety (DPS) officers responded to a report at the Sibley Library at the Eastman School of Music (ESM) of a male who “did not appear to belong in the area.” When officers arrived, they found that the male was talking to staff at the circulation desk. Officers asked the male to step outside the building to speak with them. He was cooperative and followed the officers out. The male told officers he was there because he wanted to “hold a dance concert for the students.” The male was told that he needed a legitimate reason to be on the property. The male was banned from the property and sent on his way. The male was cooperative and left without incident.

Melting spatula sets off fire alarm

2. On Oct. 16 at 8:25 a.m., DPS officers responded to a fire alarm in Gale House which led to an evacuation. Upon arrival, officers were advised by a student that they had caused the alarm. The student stated that they had left a pot with a spatula inside on a stovetop which was turned on. The spatula eventually melted, causing the alarm to go off. When officers entered the suite, there

was a smoky haze in the area. The Rochester Fire Department (RFD) responded to the alarm as well. RFD disconnected the breaker to the stove and the area was ventilated. The alarm was reset and UR Facilities was notified to service the stove. The only damage was to the stove and spatula, and no injuries were reported.

Missing items from room in Eastman Annex

3. On Oct. 17 at 7:29 p.m., a student at ESM reported that several items were missing from a room in the ESM Annex. The student was reporting three different incidents which occurred between June and October. The student stated that several items were taken from the secured practice room sometime between June and August of this year, with another item taken in September and a third incident sometime between September and October of this year. The student reported all the incidents at once. There were no signs of forced entry to the practice room. The total worth of the missing property was just under \$600, and arrangements were made to secure other property somewhere else.

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

Correction:

An article in last week’s issue (“Ain Center for Entrepreneurship renamed for alumni,” News) noted that the Center for Entrepreneurship was established with a \$3.6 million donation from the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation. The article neglected to mention that there was also a \$7.2 million contribution from UR.

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Rob Clark will follow Lennie as provost

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the opportunity,” Clark said. “I have spent a lot of my time, obviously, in the sciences, engineering, the technology, the research strategic plan. You have probably little known that I also play music and care a lot about the humanities and the social sciences and have always looked for links for engineering in that space, but I am so blessed to have the opportunity now to work across all of these schools, and to really embrace all of these domains that I have not had the opportunity to do so far. So, [...] from my perspective, [...] serving in this role is having a seat for an intellectual buffet. And, I can just cruise through and look at all of the wonderful things that are there. I just have to watch my diet—it also has some eating responsibilities with it too.”

Clark will participate in a listening tour to prepare for his assumption of the role of provost. As Clark stated, he will be using it “as an opportunity to gain perspective of our collective aspirations and goals.”

According to Seligman, the role of the university’s chief academic officer is the provost’s most important, and “is one of enormous consequence.”

Seligman did not mince words when it came to the provost’s role. After stating that the provost is “equivalent to the vice president,” Seligman went on to note that he has “told Peter [Lennie] to make sure I look both ways before I cross streets. In effect, the expectation is if anything untoward were to happen, that the provost would instantly become the interim president, and then, I would expect at this University, we would have a national search.”

According to the Democrat & Chronicle, when Seligman underwent surgery in May 2014, Lennie was in charge of the operations of the University. Howard Anderson was acting president from May 1960 to February 1961, and Provost McCrea Hazlett was the acting University president between the de Kiewiet and Wallis presidencies.

“The role of provost at this University is important for a number of reasons,” Seligman noted. “But, one of the things that I have particularly enjoyed working with Peter [Lennie] and Ron Paprocki on is what we call ‘The Troika.’ And, this is a ‘gang of three,’ if you will, that is focused on reviewing every budget, reviewing strategic plans, reviewing facilities projects above or of a certain size and I have asked that Rob start joining our meetings for the balance of this year as part of his preparation.”

Clark was recruited to UR by Lennie, and he joined UR in 2008. Since then, he has served as Dean of the Hajim School. Clark was also named Senior Vice President for Research in June 2012.

The role of Senior Vice President for Research grew out of a restructuring of the role of

provost, which occurred when the eighth provost of the University, Ralph Kuncel, was succeeded by Lennie. The restructuring also combined the functions of the role of UR Provost and Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Sciences and Engineering.

The June-August 2012 Rochester Review quotes Seligman as stating that “This new structure will more effectively address the provost’s role in our decentralized university governance model as well as the ongoing expansion of the research side of the Office of the Provost,” and that “[The restructuring] will simplify and clarify responsibility, reduce an administrative level, and achieve some synergies by combining the provost’s academic functions and the position of Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Sciences and Engineering and by creating a senior vice president to oversee the expanding responsibilities for research.” This week, Seligman stated that the separation between the two positions “may make sense for [Clark’s] successor particularly if the responsibilities of the positions increase.”

In a September-October 2008 Rochester Review, Clark stated: “I really believe that science and engineering are going to be critical to policy decisions as we move forward.” He added that “As with anything that separates two cultures, it’s understanding that helps them communicate better. And it’s our responsibility to give non-engineering students the background they need to understand the way engineers think.”

Clark clarified his current position on the issue this week, stating, “I believe engineering students need perspective afforded through studies in the humanities and social sciences, and I believe that humanities, science and social science students benefit from perspective in domains of engineering and technology.”

Since the establishment of the Office of the Provost in 1948, Clark is the second provost to have come from an engineering background. Provost Emeritus Brian Thompson, who was provost from 1984 to 1994, was a Professor of Optics and was later Director of the Institute of Optics and Dean of Engineering. Of the eight other provosts to precede Clark—besides Thompson—four have had formal backgrounds in the natural sciences; two have had backgrounds in Brain & Cognitive Sciences, and one chemist and one physicist.

“In our ‘Troika,’ in our deliberations generally, Rob is the keeper of the flame,” Seligman explained. “He will never let us forget, as Peter has never let us forget, that we are first and foremost an academic institution where faculty matter enormously, where students matter enormously, where our mission is the transmission and development of knowledge.”

Schaffer is a member of the class of 2016.

Almast, Stark debate Senate decision



AARON SCHAFER / EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Nine of the eleven justices on All-Campus Judicial Council (ACJC) pose questions about the Students’ Association (SA) election to SA Senator and senior David Stark and sophomore Anmol Almast, who filed the appeal. The hearing took place in the Gowen Room of Wilson Commons at 4 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 16. ACJC will announce its decision by Friday, October 30.

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and sophomore Jordan Smith. Advisors were barred from participating directly in the hearing, though each whispered into their party’s ear throughout.

ACJC Chief Justice Wesline Manuelpillai laid out the format of the hearing—opening statements, a fact-finding session, closing statements and adjournment—and, among other introductions, established that all participants agreed to a code of mutual honesty.

In her opening statement, Almast guided the justices through her narrative leading up to the hearing, moving from her narrow loss in the spring elections to seeing that Holloway had won both her Senate and vice presidency races.

“Since I was the next eligible candidate,” she said, “it made sense that I would be offered the seat.”

Almast detailed her trials navigating a bureaucratic gauntlet: transitioning SA leadership, vague statements about how the vacant seat would be dealt with and inaccessible documents, such as the then-new SA Bylaws, which were passed in March. She claimed that SA officials gave her conflicting accounts of which bylaws would be used to address the vacancy, and, confused, she attended the first post-election

Senate meeting, where she saw Holloway resign.

In reading both the new and old bylaws, she determined that she, as the next-highest vote-getter, would get the seat. “I then received knowledge that a selection committee was how Senate wanted to proceed,” she said. “I was very appalled at this decision because I was under the impression that I would

“Stark said that the Senate believes its decision was constitutional, that no eligible candidate existed, and that the creation of a selection committee was reasonable ...”

definitely have been given the seat, if Senate was operating by the Bylaws.”

Stark began his statement with an apology to Almast: “I understand that this whole ordeal has been hurtful, or you felt wronged by this,” he said. “The student government should never make a student feel that way, and that certainly wasn’t our intention.”

He then transitioned into his

argument, explaining that no Senate in the past nine years has had less than three seniors and that a lack of seniors would be detrimental to the growth of other, younger senators. Stark said that the Senate believes its decision was constitutional, that no eligible candidate existed and that the creation of a selection committee was reasonable in order to increase the number of senior senators, who would add “significant value to the Senate,” mostly from their experience as students now in their fourth year of college. He cited the historically low number of seniors in the Senate this year as a crucial motive for selecting a senior, and he delved into the impetus for the bylaw changes, which was not to remove the three-senator requirement.

Stark asserted that the Bylaws show Almast is not eligible and cited several historical precedents for the Senate’s opinion.

Following opening statements, the hearing moved into a fact-finding period, in which justices posed questions to both benches to determine the facts underlying the case. Several of the initial inquiries revealed the vote count of the Senate’s original decision—12 out of 14 voting senators were in favor of the selection committee—as

SEE ACJC PAGE 4

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ACJC to deliberate on Almast v. SA Senate by Oct. 30

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well as the fact that applications for the vacant seat have been submitted by some seniors.

Associate Justice Patrick McConeghy, referencing a report submitted to ACJC by Stark featuring Senate Elections & Rules Committee Chair Paul Jaquish's support for the Senate, asked Stark what he thought the difference was between broad and narrow interpretation.

"In my mind," Stark answered, "I think narrow would imply without context, and broad would imply with context and with recognition of the intent of the writers and the intent of

[Almast] rebutted Stark's valuation of a senator's experience, saying that 'the experience of a senator is not a priority in Senate; it's all about representing the student body as a whole.'

the people who are executing these actions."

"So, in your opinion," McConeghy asked, "the decision to create a senator selection committee, would that be a broad or narrow decision?"

"I think the decision... would be something that is consistent with many, many years of how things were done, consistent with the intent of the people who wrote these documents," Stark replied. "There is so much murkiness going on between the Constitution and the Bylaws that, when we're talking about narrow and broad, I think what we're talking about is, are we shooting ourselves in the foot or are we not?"

"If we really want to shoot ourselves in the foot with all these documents," he continued, "we can certainly do that."

Soon after, Associate Justice Jacob Tyson asked Stark how the Bylaws prove Almast is not an eligible candidate. In response, Stark pointed to the words "in the matter that is described in

Article IV" in the section of the Bylaws describing senator succession, which he argued meant that the next-eligible candidate needed to align with Article IV's requirement that "the three highest vote-getters from the sophomore, junior and senior classes shall become senators."

McConeghy, turning to Almast, asked for her perspective on everything Stark had said so far. She rebutted Stark's valuation of a senator's experience, saying that "the experience of a senator is not a priority in Senate; it's all about representing the student body as a whole." She continued by stating that the three-senator requirement in the Bylaws had been fulfilled, as Holloway had technically been elected in the spring.

"The fact is that, for as long as we have records, that's never how it worked," Stark said when asked to respond. He went on to describe how scores of situations in the past have carried out succession in the manner that Almast alleged was unconstitutional, a manner which focused on class year.

Almast replied that these instances occurred under the old bylaws; the new bylaws, she said, treat senators as representatives of the student body as a whole, elected at-large except for the freshmen class.

At that point, Manuelpillai announced that ACJC would be taking a recess and asked everyone who was not a justice to leave for a moment.

A few minutes later, when the recess had ended and the crowd had funneled back inside the Gowen Room, the questioning resumed.

Almast soon brought up the April 20 Senate meeting minutes and pointed to a moment when Jaquish said: "The Bylaws Task-force changed the elections rules and discussed what would happen if there was not three people running to fulfill the class year requirement. They decided the best way to finalize this would be to appoint the person with next-highest amount of votes in the at-large elections because they got the votes." Stark had mentioned Jaquish's support for the selection committee earlier during the hearing.

After having Almast repeat her interpretations of the Bylaws, McConeghy asked Stark to directly respond to them. Stark said that the election of a candidate based on criteria deemed important by the Senate is not enough, and that to satisfy the Bylaws and the intents behind them, a senator matching those criteria must actually serve a term. He then returned to an example he had used earlier to illustrate this point, but when he asked McConeghy if he understood, the justice replied, "No, actually."

"So, a person was elected," Stark said, "and they were a senior, and thus that satisfies what the Bylaws mean when they say seniors should be elected to those seats. That would be the same thing as any position in which we appoint someone

Responding later to Stark's claim that the Senate is concerned with having senators with diverse experiences, Almast highlighted her own background as a commuter, international and female student

who has those qualities, [but] those qualities then no longer exist, and we're expected to be satisfied by that."

"I think that's a very, once again, narrow reading of something that's clearly not what's intended," he continued.

"So, looking at the Bylaws very narrowly," McConeghy replied, "would Anmol's interpretation be correct or incorrect?" After Stark paused, McConeghy added, "In your opinion."

"What do you mean by that?" Stark asked. McConeghy repeated his question, with some elaboration. Stark requested counsel with his advisor, which was granted.

"I think [the interpretation] would be narrow in the sense that the only way you'd have

that interpretation is if it benefited you," Stark said after conferring with Smith. However, he qualified, SA precedent dictates that just an election does not satisfy the intent behind the Bylaws. Stark and McConeghy discussed whether the former was defining narrow by lack of historical perspective, an exchange that ended with Stark saying, "We're not here to be lawyers; we're here to make a difference for students."

Responding later to Stark's claim that the Senate is concerned with having senators with diverse experiences, Almast highlighted her own background as a commuter, international and female student and pointed to an apparent discrepancy in past Senate races, where no comparable attempt was made to increase the body's female representation. It's rare, she added, that commuters are elected to the Senate. To refute Almast's gender-based argument, Stark cited the Constitution's prohibition of gender discrimination.

A question posed to Stark by Associate Justice Rachel Casper about the alternatives considered by the Senate to fill the vacancy revealed that the Senate had also discussed holding a special fall election, asking the next-overall-highest vote-getter to fill the seat and leaving the seat vacant. Several questions later, ACJC called another recess. The gaggle of spectators filed out of the room again.

Shortly after the hearing resumed, the fact-finding process concluded. Manuelpillai announced it was time for closing statements.

Almast went first, restating her arguments and repeating her refutations of Stark's. "I am not only a voice for the sophomore class," she said, departing from her previous points, "but a voice for Rochester students of all classes, just like how a senior senator would not only be a voice for the senior class, but for all classes." She concluded with a call for precedent to settle similar claims in the future, railing against the potential of the Senate to, in her view, further subvert the Bylaws and Constitution.

Stark, in his closing

statement, reemphasized the SA government's intent to see three senators elected from each upperclassman year and the value of having more seniors on the Senate. Again, he cited several precedents featuring the senator selection committee as a viable option for succession and held that the action was constitutional. Toward the end of his remarks, Stark suggested that, under a narrow reading,

Stark [...] reemphasized the SA government's intent to see three senators selected from each upperclassman year [...] He cited again several precedents featuring the senator selection committee as a viable option.

the entire appeal to ACJC may have violated the Bylaws, much to the ire of Manuelpillai.

"[This] would be exactly as fair of a reading as this petitioner has proposed," he said. "Let us be honest for a moment: We've all made mistakes in writing our government documents, and those documents are not perfect. They were written by 18- to 22-year-olds after late nights of arguing, as long as 11 years ago."

"Yet, I understand the goal of this ACJC in preparing this appeal is not malicious or deceptive," Stark continued, "but to hold this hearing fairly and professionally, to do the right thing. Likewise, the decision of the Senate... is made with the desire to serve the student body, to do the right thing."

The closing statements ended. Manuelpillai thanked all the participants and announced that ACJC's written decision would be made public on its website within two weeks. "We are adjourned," she said, and banged her gavel.

Trombly is a member of the class of 2018.

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OPINIONS

EDITORIAL OBSERVER



BY JEFF HOWARD
A&E EDITOR

It is my third year at this school, and I am living on campus. Many students by their junior year live in houses off campus. While there are compelling reasons for living off campus, there are also undeniable benefits to living on campus. Here are a few:

- 1) The strange yet undeniably pleasant utopian feeling that the morning sun shining over Jackson

Court creates.

Jackson Court residents are no strangers to the walk in the morning from Jackson Court to the quad. It is a one-of-a-kind experience to take this walk on a sunny morning. The sunlight reflects off of the neon green inverse-Eifel-Tower statue across from O'Brien, which, combined with the grassy hills and sloping pathways that lead to Danforth and other destinations, make me feel like an elite software developer living in a top secret bio-dome complex. It is a surreal kind of experience and I highly recommend off-campus students set their alarms for 7:30 a.m. and make it to Jackson Court to catch the feeling.

The benefits of living on campus

- 2) The ability to catch the Bagels at Douglass Dining Hall before they are carted out.
- Get 'em while they're hot! Douglass Dining Hall bagels are one of UR's most fleeting commodities. They say that Douglass breakfast closes at 11 a.m. but don't let this fool you—I have witnessed these bagels being swept away by dining workers earlier than that. If having a bagel a day is important to you while not sacrificing those crucial 8 hours of sleep a night, there is simply no substitute for the proximity to Douglass that on-campus living affords.
- 3) The illusion of productivity that's created by walking to and from

your resident hall approximately seven times a day for no reason.

Nothing justifies procrastination more than the ability to say “I just need to go back to my dorm.” There are countless reasons you can think up for walking from a library or study space back to your dorm. My personal favorite justifications for walking back to my dorm are, “I just need to collect myself” and “I just need to freshen up.” Remember, these walks can take up to ten minutes, so when you take approximately seven of them a day they really add up. In short, living on campus opens up a whole new world of possibilities for fostering the illusion of productivity while not actually doing anything.

- 4) The public restrooms in dorms have the acoustics of a large cavern.
- If it's just privacy you're looking for, the bathroom of an off-campus house will do you just fine. However, for those who want a little something more, on-campus restrooms offer the acoustics of a large cavern, which is great for playing music on your iPhone while showering. The sound from the iPhone speakers reverberates off of the cold and hard metal surfaces that make up the bathroom. I have found that playing albums in these bathrooms pumps me up for the day ahead in a way that conventional bathrooms can't.

Howard is a member of the class of 2017.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Editor's Note: The following Letters to the Editor regard "Preserve our library's character," published as an Editorial Board article on Oct. 15, 2015.

Dear Editor,

Hi, I'm Jessica Sheng, a senior Digital Media Studies major and an attendant at the Oct. 12 Senate meeting featuring a presentation on Lam square from Dean Mavrinac and Rochelle Mazar.

The op-ed piece in last week's issue of the *CT* depicts a pervasive attitude of dissatisfaction and bewilderment amongst the audience in response to the perceived changes that will compromise the character of Rush Rhees Library. While I cannot assure that everyone was in favor of the changes, there were many instances when students would break out in snaps and even applause for the presentation content, and I detected an overall atmosphere of curiosity and appreciation. While there may have been some discontent, it is unfair and inaccurate to frame the entire event from that angle. It's an op-ed, yes, but it was nowhere near as one-dimensional as students expressing discontent and the library administrators being "surprised."

Furthermore, I'm not sure if it's a misreading of the section, but I find the following passage to be inconsistent:

"Students asked if Evans Lam Square would be a comparable environment to Gleason Library, the collaborative study space that is populated by plastic, colorful furniture, or Rettner Hall, whose primary assets are large multicolored couches and rooms full of computers. Library administrators said that Evans Lam Square would not be like these spaces. We believe that changes to spaces within Rush Rhees Library have already contributed to waning appreciation of the library as a classical and iconic space, which is where much of the attractiveness of UR is rooted."

As written, students asked if Lam Square would be comparable to the two named spaces that both exhibit a departure from the classical and romantic space found elsewhere

in Rush Rhees. As a reply, the Dean Mavrinac and Rochelle did indeed respond in the negative, and I believe Dean Mavrinac acknowledged the importance of, and RCL's commitment to, the romantic charm that we students value so highly. How does the subsequent sentence, which alleges their "waning appreciation of...a classical and iconic space" follow from the reported dialogue?

On a broader note, I'm glad that students are engaged in plans for Rush Rhees and University spaces. I agree with the recommendation to seek more channels to advertise library happenings. However, the changing role of libraries, librarians and future standards for academic tools necessitate a reevaluation of technology and how it fits into academia on a grand scale, as well as in the day-to-day lives of students and faculty in a university setting. Dean Mavrinac and Rochelle's presence at the Senate meeting affirms their commitment to the opinions and feedback from students directly in this endeavor, and they cited the stages of the design process that centered on student feedback thus far (e.g. "we surveyed students and found that the vast majority of you stay in the circulation area for less than an hour, it's a passing-through space"). There are also River Campus Libraries Student Forums hosted by Dean Mavrinac which are open to all students to hear and respond to library concerns. They provide pizza!

Moving forward, following an opinion piece like this, I encourage you to provide the names of the library administrators as well as their contact information, which they were happy to give out at the end of their presentation to address any concerns that arise later on. They really and truly love to hear from students!

Thank you,
Jessica Sheng
Sheng is a member of the class of 2016.

Dear Editor,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Executive Cabinet of the Students' Association Government to express our discontentment with an article in your latest addition of the *Campus Times*, titled "Preserve our library's character." We believe that there are many inaccuracies in this article, and that its overall attitude toward the River Campus Libraries University Administration is unwarranted.

Firstly, this article does not accurately represent the reactions of students at the Senate Meeting held on Oct. 12. Students were of course critical of and curious about the changes being made to the library, but were understanding of them once the changes were explained in the context of other changes being made. The piece makes it appear as if the members of the River Campus Libraries (RCL) Administration were lambasted by the students in attendance, which is false, as the students were generally pleased.

Secondly, this article implies that the Administration made all of the decisions regarding Evans Lam Square without any student feedback. This is not at all the case. Two students, Ulrik Soderstrom and Matthew Carbone (the latter being uninvolved with Student Government) were personally invited to all design and architecture meetings. They were given the floor multiple times to speak, and their thoughts were very heavily taken into account. Additionally, Dean Mavrinac and the rest of the RCL Administration hold frequent Library Student Forums to gather feedback on the campus libraries. These forums are open to all students. We apologize that you feel that these have not been publicized well enough; however, the administration is, in fact, actively seeking student feedback. As a Student Government, we will do a better job to publicize these forums moving forward. There are two upcoming on Nov. 10 and Dec. 8 from 5-6 p.m.; we will be posting the locations of these on

our Facebook page as the events get closer.

Thirdly, this article frames the relationship between students and the RCL Administration as being extremely negative. In reality, the article itself could have deleterious effects on our departmental relationships as a student body, potentially damaging our current lines of communication. This article suggests a hostile relationship by explaining that, "the beloved wooden tables [have] been the center of much controversy over the past few weeks." However, the article fails to mention that the RCL Administration was extremely receptive to this feedback. The students who were displeased with the moving of these tables submitted a petition, and as soon as Dean Mavrinac received this feedback, she made sure that the tables were placed in their original spot at 7:30 a.m. the following Monday morning. The perceived divide between these two parties is nonexistent; the administration is very receptive to students.

Lastly, I'd like to address the overall concern that Rush Rhees will lose its "charm" after these renovations. Dean Mavrinac and the rest of the RCL Administration have commented multiple times that they do not wish for Rush Rhees to lose its "romantic" feel. They've all expressed that student feedback is the key to making sure this is the case. This Department is exemplary in its genuine concern for students, its receptivity to those concerns, and its transparency. We are disappointed to hear that you'd believe that the RCL Administration would be so insensitive to student insight.

We hope that we've addressed your concerns, and we also hope that you will take the genuine intentions of the UR Administration into account the next time you decide to write such an overtly negative review Thank you for reading.

Best Regards,
Melissa Holloway
Students' Association Vice President
Holloway is a member of the class of 2016.

Dear Editor,

I'm glad you were able to attend the SA Senate meeting, along with so many other students, where Ulrik Soderstrom, Class of '16, and I presented the preliminary plans for Evans Lam Square. It was a real pleasure to engage with everyone in attendance and hear their ideas, concerns and reactions. I'm looking forward to returning once we have more to share.

Thank you for raising your concerns about reaching more students than we already have. So far, we know a fair bit about what needs to be in the space based on a whole host of data collection over the last few years, including feedback from students, staff and faculty directly. All of these interactions help us understand what you value in Rush Rhees, which can only help us to get this project right.

You asked us if Lam Square will be like Gleason: it won't. We already have Gleason! This space is different. It's a transitional space; a space that has a sense of history, and also lives in the present. We will share design concepts when available from the architect, and we'll be soliciting your input.

To reassure you, as shared at the SA Senate: there will be approximately 30-40 percent more study space in Lam Square, as well as printers, copiers and computers for students.

Thank you for giving us ideas about how to collect more feedback and communicate better. We've been doing a lot of the things you asked for, but we'll press on and do more. Watch this space: library.rochester.edu/lam-square for more details as we get them! And thank you for giving me a platform to say, to you, and to your readers: if you have concerns or you're curious, please get in touch. Your ideas, reactions, and feelings about your library are always welcome.

We love Rush Rhees, too. And we want to get this right. Thank you for helping us to do that.

Rochelle Mazar
Coordinator for the
Lam Square Project, RCL
rmazar@library.rochester.edu

‘NO COMMENT’

The truth about Israelis and Palestinians



BY JESSE BERNSTEIN
COLUMNIST

Editor’s Note: ‘No Comment’ is a column by Jesse Bernstein featuring perspectives on politics, culture and current events.

It’s worthless to say how exactly the most recent explosion of violence in Israel began. It helps no one to mention that rising tensions over a perceived shift in the status quo with regards to Muslim dominion over the al-Aqsa Mosque (known to the Jews as the Temple Mount) set off a new cycle of violence. It doesn’t enhance our understanding of the conflict.

The truth is that it’s just another excuse in a long line of excuses. The truth is that the ever-raging battle between

Israelis and Palestinians over a sliver of land doesn’t need a rumored policy shift at a holy

The truth is that the ever-raging battle between Israelis and Palestinians doesn’t need a rumored policy shift at a holy site to be set off.

The truth is that the magnitude of the conflict laughs at the idea that it needs justification for violence.

site in order to be set off. The truth is that the magnitude of the conflict laughs at the idea that it needs justification for violence.

The truth is that children are being hacked to death on the street. The truth is that Israelis

and Palestinians alike are being killed on a daily basis. The truth is that people are afraid to leaves their homes, afraid to go to work, afraid that they’ll be the next blurred-out body on the news that has everyone trying to appropriate it for their own ideological purposes. The truth is that Palestinians have been stabbing Israelis and murdered a mother and father in front of their children; the truth is that Israelis have killed Palestinians (both attackers and the innocent) and lynched an Eritrean man mistaken for a terrorist. The truth is that none of those things justify or cancel out the other.

The truth is Mahmoud Abbas has all but praised the murder of Israelis in the press. The truth is that most of the attackers and their families have little regard for Abbas anyway. The truth is that Benjamin Netanyahu’s solution to discourage attacks is to raze the dead attackers’ homes and put their families on the street, which is part of the reason the attacks are

taking place. The truth is that Abbas has as little control over his people as Netanyahu

The truth is that when this all dies down, when the bodies have been buried and the insipid chain Facebook posts stop making the rounds, when people try and go back to their daily lives, little will have changed.

has over his, and that young people feel as if the window of opportunity for any sort of reconciliation has closed. The truth is that Hamas unapologetically encourages the Palestinians among those young people to martyr themselves in suicide bombings. The truth is that

none of those things are particularly surprising, nor are they new phenomena. The truth is that John Kerry acts like they are.

The truth is that when this all dies down, when the bodies have been buried and the insipid chain Facebook posts stop making the rounds, when people try and go back to their daily lives, little will have changed. The truth is that it will take precious little provocation for someone to feel as if savage violence is the only viable answer. The truth is that Israelis are more interested in peace, and the Palestinians are more interested in freedom. The truth is that there is no true peace without freedom, and vice versa. The truth is that unless something truly drastic happens to combat years of ingrained and mythologized beliefs in Israeli and Palestinian society, the violence isn’t going to stop any time soon.

Bernstein is a member of the class of 2018.

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FEATURES

Nick Kasper’s story: from Vocal Point to the Ramblers

BY ANGELA REMUS
PUBLISHER

When junior Nick Kasper was “sung in” by the Midnight Ramblers earlier this semester, he wasn’t new to UR’s a cappella scene. He was just new to the Ramblers. Last year, he sang with Vocal Point.

Kasper joined Vocal Point his sophomore year and, at the time, identified as gender non-binary. The term gender non-binary is used to refer to any individual who doesn’t identify with historically binary male-female identities. Auditioning Fall 2014, this is what Kasper told the members about his gender identification.

“At that time my identity was very open,” Kasper said. “If you asked me if I was a boy, I would have said yes. If you asked me if I was a girl, I would have said yes.”

Kasper had talked to Vocal Point member and current junior Elizabeth Johnson prior to auditioning.

“I wasn’t sure how the rest of the group would react to it because we’d never had someone audition who wasn’t 100 percent female before,” Johnson explained.

But, Johnson and other Vocal Point members took a pragmatic and open-minded approach.

“We thought, ‘Let’s just focus on his talent,’” Jonhson continued. “We’re not going to discriminate. He has an amazing ear and a great voice.”

Kasper joined as a Vocal Point soprano.

Whether or not Vocal Point members really understood what Kasper meant when he told the group he identified as gender non-binary didn’t really seem to matter: the group welcomed Kasper openly and warmly. Kasper loved Vocal Point, both by his own account and accounts of fellow singers. He was thoroughly invested in the group, and was even slated to hold a spot on their executive board this academic

year.

Vocal Point members were accepting and willing to accommodate Kasper’s identity.

For formal performances, for example, Vocal Point allowed Kasper to deviate from the traditional uniform of black dresses. Kasper recalled bringing up the dress issue to the group: “I was like, ‘You have no idea how much I can’t do that.’”

For Johnson, the resolution of the dress issue was just one example of the flexibility within the group and the education that Kasper brought to Vocal Point.

“Nick taught us so much,” she said. “It all worked because we were so willing to learn and be flexible with each other.”

While the group’s openness and flexibility made Nick feel comfortable, performances put Nick’s unique position in a different light.

“During performances I was in the public eye, kind of saying by association that that I was female,” Kasper explained.

As Kasper became more certain of his male identity, he began switching the name and pronouns he uses.

“[Vocal Point members] were some of the first people to use my new name and pronouns,” Kasper said, identifying one of the meaningful ties Kasper feels towards the group.

Johnson acknowledged that, while group members did their best to use the appropriate pronouns and would stop each other when they made mistakes, it grew more complicated when referring to the all-female group in the collective.

Last May, Kasper began taking testosterone.

“I knew I couldn’t stay in Vocal Point for much longer,” Kasper said.

He had considered auditioning for the Midnight Ramblers in the past, but hadn’t committed. Not only was there no precedent for someone switching from an all-female to an all-male a cappella group,



BRIAN CAPUTO / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

Nick sings his heart out with his fellow Midnight Ramblers.

in the UR a cappella world there’s something of a taboo in quitting one group and auditioning for another. But—as Johnson pointed out—“this was obviously an extraordinary circumstance.”

Key Scholar Cody Civiletto was instrumental in Kasper’s ultimate decision to audition. Through his friendship with the Vocal Point general manager, Aiyana Smith, Civiletto knew Kasper had considered auditioning. He reached out to Kasper via email.

Civiletto recalled writing to Kasper to let him know that “there’s nothing on [the Ramblers’] end that would keep this from happening.” The note was an open invitation to Kasper to audition if and when he was ready.

According to Johnson, that email “meant the world to [Nick].”

Kasper auditioned, singing “From Eden.” He received a callback and sang “Shut Up and Dance.” The performances were impressive.

“You’ve heard Nick in concert,” Civiletto asserted. “He’s really, really talented[...] He’s a wonderful soloist. The idea of taking on someone who’s very talented and who’s interested in us was huge.”

In line with longstanding UR a cappella tradition,

new members are “sung in” by veteran members. Kasper was crossing campus with Vocal Point when the Ramblers approached. Kasper remembered hanging to the back of the group, unsure of whether he had been accepted.

But, as the Ramblers approached, they broke into song. Vocal Point joined, singing “Signed, Sealed, Delivered,” a song the two groups have performed together innumerable times, serving as the perfect transition.

“I started crying,” Kasper said.

Many members of Vocal Point were crying, too.

“[It was like] we could give him our departing blessing,” Johnson said.

The experience left an impression on Civiletto as well.

“It was a pretty big moment,” he said. “I think out of everything in a cappella, that was pretty memorable to me.”

Now one of three new members of the Ramblers, Kasper sings as a tenor.

For the most part, the transition between groups has been seamless.

“Nick’s an excellent musician,” Civiletto said. “He just fell into the swing of everything.”

Kasper feels similarly: “I’m new to the Ramblers, but I’m

not new to a cappella,” he said.

However, that statement also captures one notable oddity about the switch: because he’s new to the Ramblers but not new to UR a cappella, some of the traditions for teaching new members about the annual A Cappella Jam or the energy needed during a performance are things that Kasper already knows.

Nevertheless, Kasper’s experience as a transgender student and in transitioning between two a cappella groups that have very distinct gender identities illustrates a success story of openness, flexibility and respect.

“Nick has made so many leaps and bounds within our little [a cappella] world,” Johnson said proudly.

He’s even set a sort of precedent: “If someone came to [the Ramblers] and said that they were [gender] non-binary, that wouldn’t be a problem as long as they know that [we’re] an all-male a cappella group,” Civiletto said, expressing his personal perspective.

But most importantly, Kasper is where he feels he belongs.

“[By joining the Ramblers], I’m kind of saying I’m male by association,” he said. “And that’s really awesome.”

Remus is a member of the class of 2016.

UR OPINION

BY BRIAN CAPUTO & TANIMA PODDAR
CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER &
FEATURES EDITOR

“WHAT YEAR WOULD YOU GO TO, AND WHAT PLACE WOULD YOU WANT TO SEE?”



MORGAN MACKAY ‘18
“2115, Cleveland, Ohio”



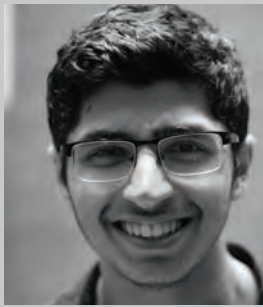
CHARLOTTE DEBOSSU ‘17
“1970, Woodstock”



CHLOE CHEPIGIN ‘16
“2215, Rochester”



MORRISH SHAYO ‘18
“2216, Japan”



VASIM PATEL ‘19
“2315, New York City”



CONNOR HADDIX ‘16
“1920, Venice”

Back to the future, today: flying cars, hoverboards and more

BY PARSA LOTFI
PHOTO EDITOR

Years ago, Doc Brown and Marty McFly traveled to the future to Oct 21, 2015. In “Back to the Future II,” we got a ton of glimpses into what people then thought the future would look like. How close were they?

Surprisingly, they were almost spot-on with their predictions. Of course, a lot of what they predicted exists now only because they predicted it. In this article, we’ll go through some of the biggest predictions and see if they got it right or if they were way off base.

Let’s start with the most iconic bit of tech, Marty’s hoverboard. Skateboards haven’t evolved much since their inception, so seeing a hovering version was the greatest thing imaginable. Unfortunately, we don’t have a version of it that’s gone mainstream, but Lexus (yes, the car maker) has built a version that does work. It uses magnets and nitrogen-cooled superconductors, paired with a special floor to achieve a hover. Unfortunately, this special floor only exists in Barcelona, Spain. Another company, Hendo, has built their own hoverboard, but that, too, needs a special floor to work.

Of course, you always have the option to make your own, which is totally possible. All you need is

a leaf blower, some plywood, and some other easy to find do-dads.

The next cool thing was the flying car. In the “Back to the Future” version of 2015,

aren’t available to the public yet, but the AeroMobil that currently has the best options hopes to have them for sale in 2017.

Aren’t you sick and tired of

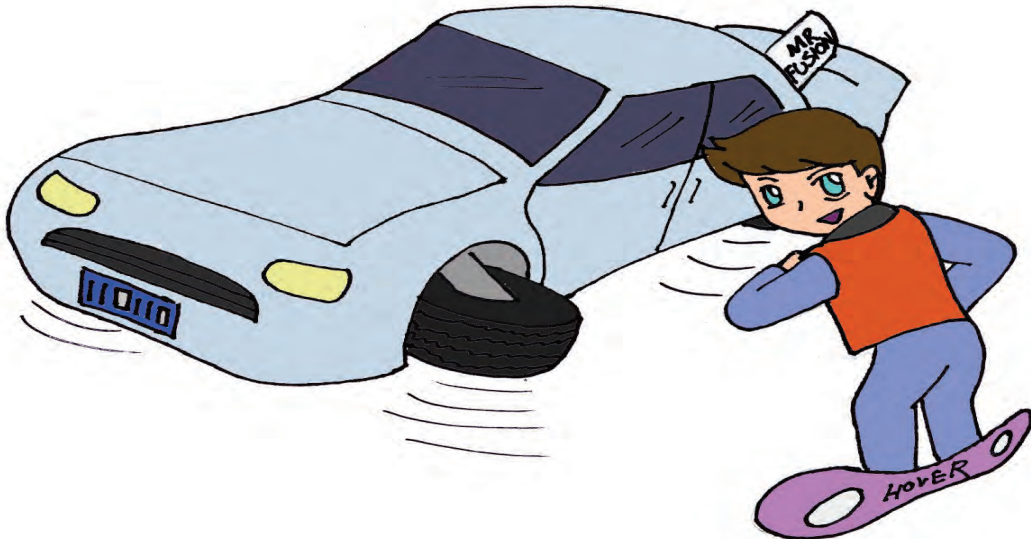
fingerprint as a security measure. You use your thumbprint to authorize payment to the vendor in question. It’s not quite as direct as your thumbprint on the card

virtual reality headset that will allow users to step into a whole other world where anything is possible. We’ve had headsets that would allow you to watch TV on them for a while, but VR takes that a step further, immersing you in that world completely. Boom! We’ve done better than predicted!

Speaking of going further than predicted, we should definitely consider video calling. In the movie, video calling was an available feature, but it required a big display and camera setup. Luckily for us, we don’t have to bother with any of that. We’ve got video calling in the palm of our hand. We can use our phones, tablets, computers or televisions to see and talk to people anywhere in the world.

There are a number of other great predictions made in the movie that have come true or are in development. Dehydrated foods are now widely available and Nike is working on creating self-tying shoes. With the way technology has taken off in recent years, I would say we’re pretty darn close to having the exact society envisioned in “Back To The Future.” With smart phones and connected devices, what is going to be left for us to write about in the future?

Lotfi is a member of the class of 2016.



CHRISTIAN CIERI / ILLUSTRATOR

the highways were replaced by skyways, and there were conversion kits that turned regular road cars into these awesome flying cars for the low price of \$39,999.95. Unfortunately, we don’t have flying cars quite as close to what we saw on the screen, but we’ve gotten to cars with wings. At best, they are regular cars on the road, but as soon as you want to fly, the wings fold out and you take off into the open sky. These

carrying around that bulky wallet in your pocket, or that annoying purse you don’t know what to do with? Well, in the 2015 of “Back To The Future,” you pay with your thumbprint. Well, wouldn’t you believe how close to that we’ve gotten.

We don’t just use thumbprints, but we have a smartphone as a mediator. Currently, Apple offers Apple Pay and Google has Google Wallet. In both, you can use your

swipe machine, but it’s pretty close.

Remember Google Glass? It was a great idea, but was poorly executed. In “Back To The Future,” Marty uses smart goggles to watch TV at the dinner table. Luckily, we didn’t let Google Glass stop us from pursuing that vision. A big trend in tech lately has been virtual reality. Everyone from Microsoft to Facebook has been working on some sort of



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Jodi says: Let’s rethink virginity

BY JODI ARMSTRONG
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I swear that every day I see someone complain on Yik Yak about being a virgin. Part of the problem here is how religiously I look at Yik Yak, but it’s also a shame that so many people, frequently men, are so concerned with virginity. Inevitably, talk about sex in college is pervasive. We play “Never have I ever” on our freshmen halls; friends trade stories about the weird sex they had last weekend; people hook up left and right. But, the reality is that sex in college is not nearly as abundant as talk about sex in college is. So, if you’re feeling left out: don’t. Easier said than done, I know. But, at least try to drop that 40-year-old virgin dread. Why? Because virginity is stupid and you are totally normal.

Think about it: the idea that the most significant sexual milestone in your life is the first time a penis squeezes into a vagina is just silly. Why is penis-in-vagina any more valuable, intimate or defining than mouth-on-mouth or hand-on-boob or mouth-on-genitals or, you know, butt stuff? “Well, reproduction is why, duh Jodi!” No, I refuse to accept that as justification. Are you trying to get pregnant right now? Is that why you are so concerned with virginity? Probably not, so reproduction just isn’t relevant. Sex is about the intimacy and pleasure of sharing your body with another person, and to say the salience of that experience is restricted to a configuration requiring a penis in a vagina is ridiculously limiting. These days, choosing to define that

particular event as the loss of virginity is totally arbitrary. After all, consider how that definition of virginity translates to same-sex couples. Not all sexual partners are equipped with a penis-vagina combo-pack. Do their experiences not count? Are they virgins for

“Sex & the CT”
LET SEX & THE CT HELP YOU
THROUGH YOUR MOST
AWKWARD SEXUAL YEARS.

life? No, that doesn’t make any sense. What about the straight couple who tries to have sexual intercourse for the first time but they’re a little nervous and there’s not really enough lube so they quit-(or bust)-after 30 seconds? How come they get to say they’re sexually experienced and everybody else is still a

virgin? That’s so misleading! So if the label of virginity is so consistently a useless descriptor, why get your panties in a bunch about it? “Fine, Jodi. I’ll throw away the label. But what good does that do me really? I still don’t know how to have sex. That’s what I’m worried about.” Well, I can be sympathetic to that. It can be scary stepping into the sexual abyss with no map and no flashlight. Alas, every single one of us has been sexually inexperienced. And, funnily enough, I bet if you surveyed 100 really sexually experienced people about the best part of sex, one of the top answers on the board would be exploration and learning. It’s not like you figure out how to sex and then you just repeat what you’ve learned over and over for the rest of your life. It’s a learning process. And, those of us with no experiences at all

have a whole world ahead of us to explore. That’s not sad, it’s exciting! So my advice to all those caught up in their virginity label: you are not behind the

It’s not like you figure out how to sex and when you just repeat what you’ve learned over and over for the rest of your life. It’s a learning process.

curve, there is nothing wrong with you and most importantly, you are no different than anyone else. Enjoy the ride.

Armstrong is a member of the class of 2016.

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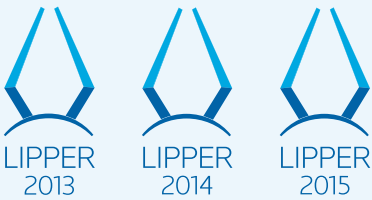
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HUMOR

Happy Valentine's Day!

BY ERIC FRANKLIN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Well everyone, it's that time of the year again. October is coming to an end, the leaves are turning and the first chills of winter are in the air; so mark your calendars, lovebirds, it's time to start shopping for that special someone!

Don't let your calendars fool you, February will be here before you know it. It may already be here! Everything has been pumpkin flavored for what feels like ages, Walmart is showing Christmas commercials and the auto companies have already started pushing their 2016 car models. If you aren't planning four holidays ahead, you're already behind!

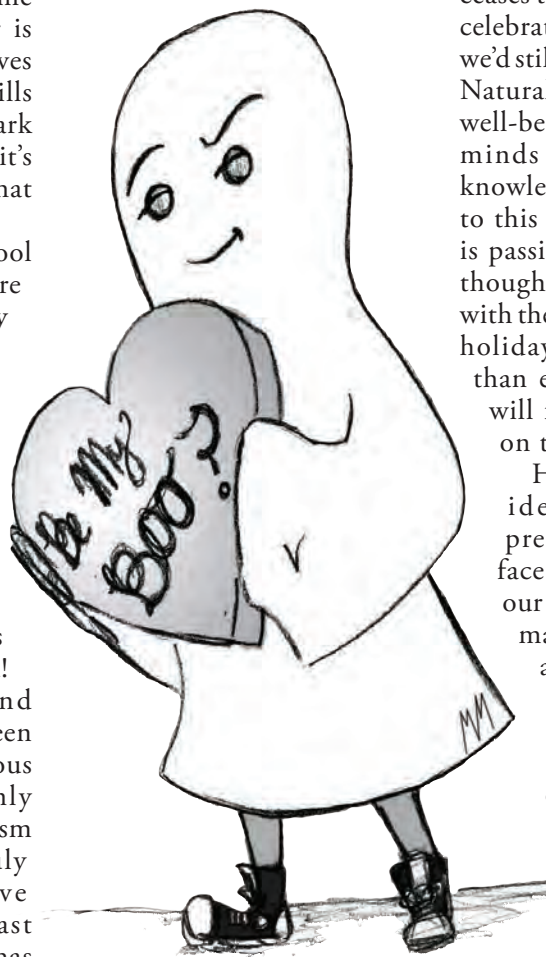
You see, a strange and elusive phenomenon has been discovered, one so mysterious and inaccessible that only the greatest minds capitalism has ever bought can truly understand what they've discovered. Over the past few decades, technology has been increasing in speed—computers, phones, the internet, Wi-Fi, 3G, 4G—until nowadays we're irritated if Facebook takes more than five seconds to load on our phones. But what capitalism's greatest minds have discovered is something fundamental

about our understanding of the Universe. It's not only technology that has been

consider this—in the Southern Hemisphere it's already next spring (the Coriolis force never ceases to amaze me). Even if we celebrate Valentine's Day today, we'd still be two months behind! Naturally concerned with our well-being, capitalism's greatest minds applied all of their knowledge and resourcefulness to this pressing issue. "If time is passing more quickly," they thought, scratching their heads with their invisible hands, "then holidays will come quicker than expected, and everyone will forget to get their gifts on time!"

Having successfully identified humanity's preeminent need in the face of accelerating time, our nation's great companies magnanimously put aside all pretense of logic and now confidently put out their holiday wares well before any of us even realize we need them. "Trust us," they say with a knowing smile, "even if it doesn't feel like it yet, you need to start spending money on these things now." So, all you lovebirds out there, hurry up and buy your heart shaped chocolates. I have an order of leprechaun-shaped cookie cutters coming in next week.

Franklin is a member of the class of 2017.



CHRISTIAN CIERI / ILLUSTRATOR

speeding up. It's time itself. That's right, even as download times have gone from hours to minutes to seconds, the hours and minutes and seconds have actually been passing by faster. It may sound incredible, but

Spotlight on the College Town punk scene

BY JEFF HOWARD
A&E EDITOR

Stroll through UR's "College Town" on any given day and you're bound to see a line out the door of the town's most beloved establishment, Chipotle. However, a new social group has emerged in College Town," and you're not likely to see it patronizing Chipotle any time soon meet the College Town punk scene.

The College Town punk scene emerged out of one UR student's desire to boycott national chains like Chipotle. *Campus Times* spoke with the group's founding member, senior Jesse Smith, on the subject. "It just didn't sit right to see my peers, day after day, like drones, line up inside Chipotle for their fix of carnitas and guac. These are multi-million dollar corporations who will stop at nothing to get an extra dollar out of you," Smith said, "so one day I stepped inside 'the Corner Bakery,' and boy was I in for a surprise. Immediately, I see enormous images of bread coming out of a brick oven and willowing strands of buckwheat on a pleasant pasture. I really got a sense that the employees here work with their hands on the hearthstone, crating a one-of-a-kind, artisan food experience for me. From that

day on I knew what I had to do."

It was then that Smith assembled the College Town punks, a group dedicated to supporting only the most artisan food establishments. The mission comes with a challenge though, and that's knowing which businesses are truly "artisan." sophomore Ben Hughes, a new member of the group, explained the painstaking process the group takes in determining which businesses are worthy of the support. "Pretty much any restaurant that has 'focaccia' on the menu is good," he explained. "Also, catchphrases go a long way. For example, 'Straight from the farm to your plate.' We like things like that." Smith says the group is about creating a lasting legacy and being a part of something bigger than himself.

"You're only in college for four years, and I think a lot of kids let that time pass them by without making the most of it. Let's be real, you're not going to remember your college years because of a Barbacoa burrito you had with pinto beans and medium salsa. But a wood-fired pesto chicken panini on a brioche bun with aioli mayonnaise? Now that's another story."

Howard is a member of the class of 2017.

Mason Jaybach and the meaning of physics

BY ERIK CHIDO
HUMOR EDITOR

Physics Students: they're everywhere. By everywhere, I mean their rooms. On occasion, they go outside to attend their physics classes with their physics teachers and fellow physics classmates. However, they usually prefer to stay in their rooms and simulate the experience of the outdoors by opening up their dorm windows. If they desire a breezy day, they will turn their fans on. Simulations for rainy days require a little preparation. First, they take a glance at their physics work requirements for that week. Shortly after, they lean back in their chair, tilt their heads back, hold their hands over their faces and cry. This process is a little complicated, so most physics students prefer walking outside in the rain to contemplate topics ranging from physics to what their lives would be without physics in it.

Mason Jaybach, a junior at UR whose name has been changed for his security, is someone who lives and breathes physics. Instead of using the word "lives," I would use the word "copes"

to characterize his plight. As a student who has devoted three years of his life to pursuing a degree in astrophysics, he provided me with insights, which turned out to be mostly grievances. Although the dialogue with him was mostly incoherent, I could make out a few important details that I will share. He went on and on about

stress of physics. I thought it only natural, as a good friend, to offer some advice in the form of a question.

After his diatribe, I



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how physics consumes his life much like a black hole uses its intense gravitational pull to suck in matter.

Mason spoke for roughly an hour about how much better his life would be without the

asked, "Why continue?" His eyes widened with revelation, his fists relaxed by his side and his mouth became slightly ajar, exposing a creepy, euphoric smile. At first, I was optimistic that he had finally understood.

However, I could see it in his eyes. I could see it in his lack of a smile. Physics was all he ever wanted, and his arms were open wide. He let out a few words that confirmed my suspicions. "I must continue; I've already come this far," he remarked with a single tear streaming down his face. To go on the record, following this comment, he bowed his head and let out a deep sigh.

Standing there, you could tell he was giving this comment a second thought. After a few more minutes of pondering, he picked his head up, turned around toward the door to his room and slowly receded back into what can be best described as a cave-like dwelling. His books on Newton, Galileo and Hawking barricading his door, prevented him from leaving, his papers rested on his desk in no particular order, riddled with sophisticated formulas. His problems seemed hard,

but apparently it's not an issue most of the time because he has the Right-Hand Rule at his disposal. Mason may seem like a physics robot lacking the capacity to have sympathy or compassion, but I assure you that beneath his metallic outside and somewhere in the software, is a function that gives him emotions.

Mason, contrary to popular belief—my belief—has feelings, feelings that are usually heard from his room as he shouts obscenities at his laptop. Wolfram Alpha is acting up. Apparently, Wolfram Alpha doesn't have the capacity to derive functions that have enough variable names to cover the whole alphabet and then some. Why do you think they include letters from the Greek alphabet? They got to Z and realized there was nowhere else to go. They thought to themselves, "I guess we will have to move on to another language. Why not Greek?" Physics definitely redefines the phrase, "It's all Greek to me." All I have to say is Godspeed, Mason. Godspeed.

Chiodo is a member of the class of 2017.

The OmniHillary 9000 vs. Donald ‘The Wall’ Trump

BY SCOTT MISTLER-FERGUSON
HUMOR STAFF

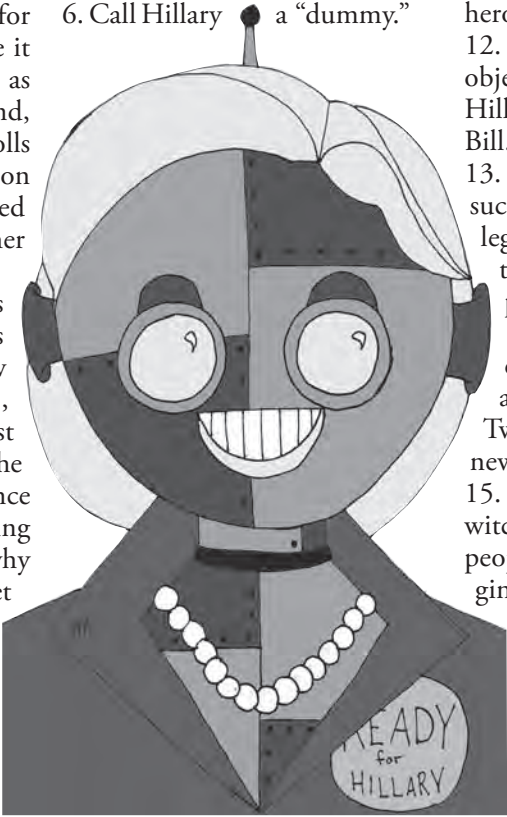
It’s common knowledge that Donald Trump doesn’t need to win the Republican nomination to continue his epic crusade for the presidency. He had made it clear he’d be willing to run as a third party candidate, and, of course, his lead in the polls could be an actual indication that he is the most qualified of the dozen or so other Republican candidates.

However, even if he bullies his way into the final rounds of this glorious clown show (sorry, presidential race), he will come up against his ultimate nemesis: the OmniHillary 9000. Since Donald is so busy learning about foreign policy and why exactly he can’t have Secret Service protection yet, I figured I’d help lay out a few tactics he can use to defeat the “Democratic Destroyer” that is Hillary Diane Rodham Clinton.

1. Build a massive wall around her house with only one beautiful door and lock her inside.
2. If the wall plan seems impossible, make Hillary pay for it.
3. Defeat her the same way he beat Rick Perry. Challenge her to a live pull-up contest.
4. Stick with his belief that “everything in life is luck” and

just flip a coin for it.

5. Prove that global warming is just a concept invented by China, and that Hillary and the other Democrats are in cahoots with the Chinese.
6. Call Hillary a “dummy.”



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7. Call Hillary a “loser.”
8. Remind everyone that he is worth a whopping \$4 billion while Hillary is only worth a measly \$34 million.
9. Lace his argument from the previous point with undertones about how he is a man of the people who came from nothing and inherited nothing.

10. Remind everyone that he is taller than Hillary, making him smarter and better at negotiating.
11. If the public starts losing interest in him, insult five war heroes instead of just one.
12. Talk about how he is objectively more attractive than Hillary Clinton and maybe even Bill.
13. Discuss how Jon Snow’s successes on The Wall prove the legitimacy of his own solution to the illegal immigration problem.
14. Cyber bully Hillary during the debates with advanced weaponry like Twitter, Instagram and his new Sizzler account.
15. Prove that Hillary is really a witch trying to lure the American people into a trap with her evil gingerbread house.
16. Unveil his plan to impose harsh taxes on China, Mexico, one of the Koreas and whatever Middle Eastern nations he can recognize on a map.
17. In lieu of deploying more troops abroad, start building walls around countries that are mean to us.
18. In the unlikely event that he loses, create a huge reality TV show dedicated to his flawless performance in the political arena.

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

Campus Times announces new crackdown on typos

BY MARK TENTARELLI
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

After a typographical fiasco in a recent article (namely “Deflowering Plants on Campus” from last issue) the *Campus Times* has issued a firm no-typo policy. In the words of the new editorial policy, “No more will such botches as ‘Congolese Man mauled by Leotards’ ‘Satan Callous as a Christmas Tradition’ and ‘Josiph Biden Running for Election?’ be allowed.

For the first time, this editor will be firmly looking over the articles I receive. Spelling, article agreement and proper usage of words will all be checked for. And misplaced prepositions, also. Needless to say sentence, fragments will be prosecuted to the fullest of.

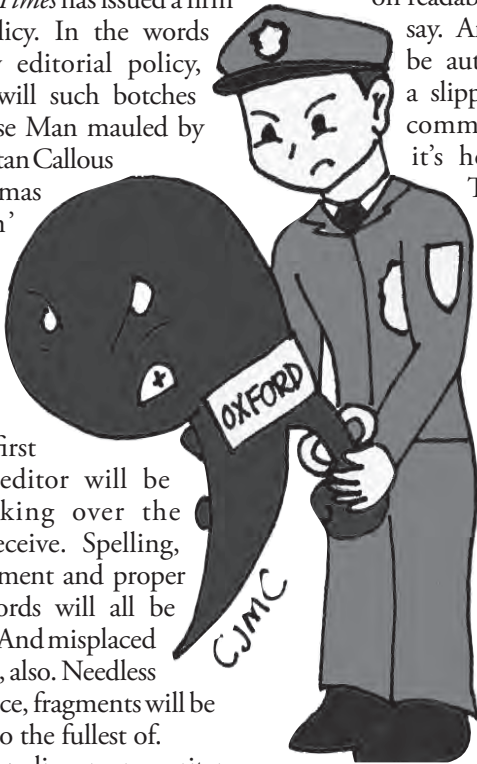
After this policy, many writers are understandably concerned, worried that honest mistakes may prevent their views from getting through. An anonymous contributing writer said, “It’s tragic that my inability to read or write above a first grade level is now going to get in the way of a series of articles on Socrates I was writing.

Now, the *Campus Times* will never get to print my upcoming finale ‘Socrates drinks Hancock.’ What an ineffable shame.”

Is freedom of speech indeed compromised by this insistence on readability? Who can say. Another would-be author saw it as a slippery slope. He commented, “First, it’s how we write. Then, it will be content. Next, basic standards of journalistic accuracy, and I’m not comfortable with that kind of world.”

Somber thoughts indeed. But, in this writer’s opinion, proper writing and grammar is a needed bulwark in a world full of misinformation, confusion and typos galore. So under this new policy I too will be striving to give the prospective readership the quality of work that they deserve and kneed.

Tentarelli is a member of the class of 2019.



CHRISTIAN CICRI / ILLUSTRATOR

VW at forefront of interstellar exploration

BY NATE KUHRT
HUMOR EDITOR

As science evolves at unprecedented rate, we have been seeing universal improvements in every aspect. The expansion of knowledge humans have been obtaining about the remainder of the universe is absurd. We have explored other planets and moons, and some would say lightyear journeys are now doable even in a darkyear.

There have even been great strides forward to founding a new planet. A high ranking official of Volkswagen said, “These scientific improvements are nice and all, but I am ready to land on some interstellar planets.” But this belief is rumored to have led to a company move in implementing a hidden device to falsely represent the fuel emissions of diesel cars.

When asked as why VW chose to scam users on diesel cars specifically, the official commented, “Some 10 years ago, we bet that it would be the way cheaper fuel option shifting demand to diesel cars. I guess you could say the oil prices rebounding back to two dollars really got us. The end goal of the scam was to make Earth so uninhabitable, that we would need to find a new place to live.

Had more people driven diesel cars like expected, we probably would be on Mars already.”

There was one question not being answered: what were the incentives at play for VW to try and establish a new space civilization? The official, who was surprisingly open to discuss a sensitive topic after an enormous drop in stock price, responded, “You know what’s great about VW? It’s an acronym. The market opportunities this move could present, let’s just say, are out of this world. We anticipated changing our name to Venture Wagons.”

With VW’s stock plummeting, the board of trustees hinted that “E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial” was their favorite movie of all time, and they were in complete support of the interstellar exploration.

But after looking at VW’s master plan to establish this new space civilization, it may have realized the strategy was a mistake. With this in mind, it is very admirable of VW to do their absolute best to push science toward something that seemed unheard of prior to the 1960s. Its move in increasing fuel emissions is arguably as progressive to United States science as the Soviet Union.

Kuhrt is a member of the class of 2017.

General Interest Meeting

BY JULIANNE MCADAMS
MANAGING EDITOR

When I first got to the UR, I knew I wanted to be a part of Cru, “a caring community passionate about connecting people to Jesus Christ,” according to their website. My mom told me getting involved with the campus ministry would help me make friends and stay involved with a moral community. With this in mind, I found out from my RA when the first Cru general interest meeting would be.

I walked into the conference room, a bit late. The first thing I saw was a man standing at the front of the room and asking a group of students, “And, in which side do you put the cox?” Astonished, I stood there at the doorway as a girl of small stature raised her hand and said, with a sense of accomplishment, “the back!”

“Good,” said the man, “And, it makes it much easier for us when they’re smaller.”

Still taken aback, I walked over to an empty chair in the back and sat down. Indecent visions filled my mind and I wondered if the man in the front was trying to make some kind of radical point about chastity.

“Now, you know they are longer than others, so you guys have to be careful with strategy in finishing head races.” Head?

Cox? I grew more confused, but the sheer novelty of the UR Cru chapter kept me glued to my seat.

“In Cru,” said the man, “the catch is aggressive, the drive is powerful, the hands are quick and the slide is smooth.” He continued. “It’s gonna be wet and slippery at some points, and you’re gonna have to be careful not to catch crabs.” My peers around me all groaned at the thought of ... “catching crabs.”

“Can anyone tell me any good techniques?” the man said. “Girls from last year, we did this together a ton so you should be raising your hands.”

A girl in the front, who looked much too young to be doing anything “a ton” with the man speaking, shouted out laughingly, “Well, there was that time Nick’s load got too heavy.” A boy to her left gave her a glare and said, “I’m stronger now, so just wait. And, we still beat Cornell that time, so whatever.”

The situation was more severe than I had originally thought. Other schools were involved in this erotic business. I wondered to myself if Cornell also referred to their group as Cru. Maybe they called it something else, like SIC: Sexual Intercourse Competition.

Was sending me here some kind of cruel joke by my RA? But no, the sex-crazy man up

there said himself—this was ‘Cru.’ I guess this group took their goal of being “passionate about connecting people” a bit too literally.

“Now you want to have a good finish, which is the last step of the process.” The man continued, “The removal is a bit rough sometimes. You boys remember last time I watched you try to extract your skulls.” Skulls? What in God’s name were skulls? At this, the boy to my right looked at me and rolled his eyes smilingly. I shifted away from him.

The man eventually moved into discussion of sleep.

“I know you guys don’t get much rest doing what you’re doing, but sleep is a huge part of this too. It’s a sport, and you need to make sure your body recovers to allow for maximum performance.”

I couldn’t take it anymore. I slowly stood up and headed inconspicuously for the door.

“Recovery should be as quick as possible, too, so you can start again.” Traumatized, I got out just as he started to say, “You want to make sure to have good oar—”

That night I told my mom I didn’t need Cru’s help in making new friends or maintaining good morals this year.

McAdams is a member of the class of 2017.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

A conversation with Keith Elder, the Eastman School of Music’s Director of Concert Activities

BY JEFF HOWARD
A&E EDITOR

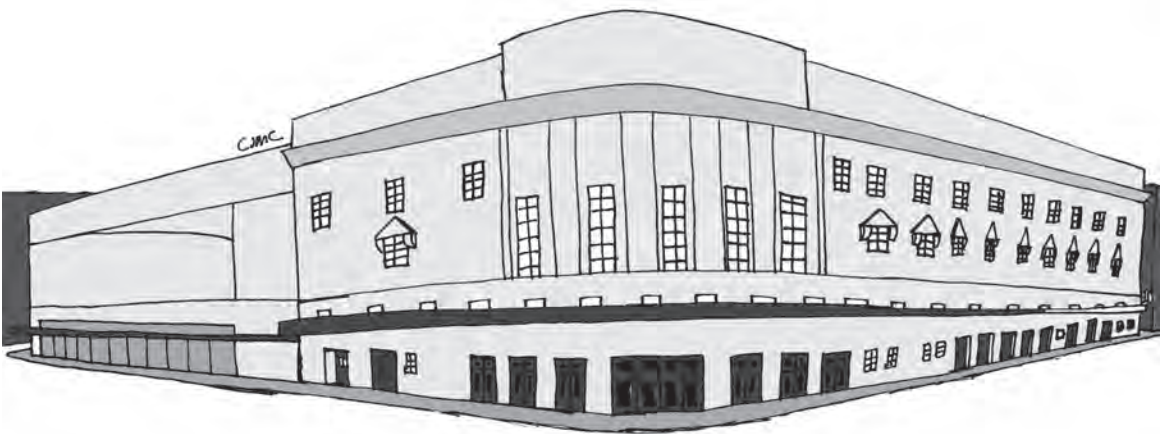
BY AUREK RANSOM
A&E EDITOR

Aurek Ransom: What do you think is important for us to know about what you did before [coming to] Eastman?

Jeff Howard: I was curious, because the “Eastman Presents” Concert Series is new. It started in 2013, from my understanding.

KE: It is and it isn’t. It was something that I was brought here to put together as one of our series. It basically continues the tradition of

artists out there—like I said, Wynton Marsalis and Kristin Chenoweth. Chenoweth did a Q-and-A for the students and was able to perform for them. Quality is always top. It’s not about redeveloping anything, but it’s making sure that we’re bringing in quality artists and bringing Kodak [Hall] back



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Keith Elder: Prior to Eastman, I worked 18 years in the Boston Symphony and the Boston Pops. While working there, I got a degree in law, so I’m a lawyer as well. While working, I programmed all of their classical concerts, from James Taylor to B.B. King and Bonnie Rait. Then, I went on to the Detroit Symphony, where I was their vice president. Then, I got out of the business and I was a lawyer. I had a law practice south of Boston. Then, I had the opportunity of getting back in the music profession and coming back here to the UR and Eastman to direct concert activities.

AR: What’s your favorite thing about Eastman so far?

KE: The quality of the students is amazing. The community here in Rochester and how it embraces the arts is phenomenal. It is a wonderful place. People talk about how the winters are

What we’re trying to do, honestly, is bring in the great artists out there—like I said, Wynton Marsalis and Kristin Chenoweth.

George Eastman. From 1927, when the hall opened, until the late ‘60s or early ‘70s, major artists would perform at Eastman. So, Eastman Presents is kind of a recreation of that series, bringing top-notch artists from many different musical genres here at Eastman.

JH: I definitely noticed the element of variety when I was reading through the concert. The two that piqued my interest the most were the “Final Fantasy” concert and the “Hydrogen Jukebox” Phillip Glass one.

KE: The “Final Fantasy” [concert] actually is through the Rochester Philharmonic. The “Hydrogen Jukebox” [project] is an interesting opera that our opera theater is doing. For Eastman Presents, we’ve got Wynton Marsalis coming in. We have Kathleen Battle from the Metropolitan Opera: great international soprano. We have Bela Fleck, a banjo player. We just had Kristin Chenoweth, and we have the Ukulele Orchestra, which kicked off the season.

JH: With Eastman Presents, are you trying to modernize or reinvent Eastman’s image at all?

KE: What we’re trying to do, honestly, is bring in the great

to being a major performance venue in the United States.

JH: Interesting. Are you pleased with the student turnout at these concerts?

KE: Yes, the student turnouts have been great. Students can go to the box office and buy tickets with a UROS account, which is something we just started last year. And so, student turnout to the concerts, but also to the Q-and-A’s, has been really great.

AR: What’s been the most

Students would come up after and say it was a life-changing event, and that it would stay with them for a long time. That’s been the best part for me with the series.

rewarding part of your job so far?

KE: I think the most rewarding part for me is seeing the moments the students are able to capture—for example, during the Q-and-A with Chenoweth, seeing how excited the students were to have that opportunity. Students would come up after and say it was a life-changing event, and that it would stay with them for a long time. That’s been the best part for me with the series. It reminds me of years ago when I saw the New York Philharmonic

SEE DIRECTOR PAGE 14

Light pierces darkness in ‘Beasts of No Nation’

BY JESSE BERNSTEIN
A&E STAFF

“Wherever the hero may wander,” Joseph Campbell once wrote, “whatever he may do, he is ever in the presence of his own essence—for he has the perfected eye to see. There is no separateness.” In Cary Fukunaga’s long-awaited “Beasts of No Nation,” out via Netflix and in selected theaters on October 16, Agu (Abraham Atta, making a stunning debut performance) is never separated from who he believes himself to be: a “good boy.”

Agu’s family lives in a buffer zone between Economic Community of West African States Monitoring Group forces and rebel groups, enjoying relative peace, though the threat of violence looms. Agu and his friends spend their days as children do, bothering adults and playing amongst themselves, learning what it is to be a part of a group. When they’re warned of approaching troops from both sides, Agu’s father rushes his two younger children and his wife to an unnamed capital city, while he, Agu and Agu’s older brother stay behind. In the ensuing clash, Agu’s father and brother are killed, while Agu, heartbreakingly depressed, escapes into the forest.

What follows is an exploration of masculinity, violence and loss that is as powerful as it is difficult to watch. Agu is picked up by a rebel group made up mostly of children, led by a man known only as Commandant. Idris Elba, playing Commandant, brings a brutal grace that is both sickening and seductive to watch. He commands his child soldiers through a mix of little victories (a ride in his jeep, praise in front of the battalion, promise of martyrdom) and savage violence.

He stalks across the screen, scowling and fierce, a sexual abuser of children, magnetic as he is repulsive. However, it’s the latter half of the movie, when we start to realize his insignificance within his loosely defined rebellion (he receives a dressing down from the “Supreme Commander”), that Elba shows Commandant for who he really is: a man who needs dominion over others to confirm dominion over himself.

All along, Agu learns how to be a child soldier. Attah does an excellent job at slowly but surely phasing out the physical paradigms of the beginning of the film, eschewing smiles and gangly flopping to stiff, rigid movements, both facial and otherwise. Agu makes new friends, and though they play and laugh like his friends back in his town, it’s tinged with violence, drugs and a profound sadness. Fukunaga

takes great pains to depict the older children becoming his new brothers, as they supply him with the same mix of older-brother understandings of sex and life that his biological brother once did. Agu, under Commandant’s direction, kills but never becomes a killer, never stopping his pleas to God in his head. He wonders how his actions can remain unpunished, and whether or not he’s still a good boy. Atta, a first-time actor, wears the face of an adult for most of the film; he’s seen things he’s not supposed to see, and, consequently, he becomes something a child is not supposed to become.

Much has been said of the movie not being set in any specific country. Indeed, it would seem disingenuous to let Agu’s vision of Africa as a lawless wasteland of murder and despair be a substitute for all of Africa. However, Fukunaga was staying true to the source material (“Beasts of No Nation” was published as a novel in 2005) in his decision to not name the country, and it’s a smart one—it puts the focus on the characters rather than on larger historical details, which, important as they may be, would’ve seemed out of place in this small psychological study. Fukunaga, best known for his Emmy-winning turn as the director of “True Detective,” creates whole worlds for Agu to inhabit, both in and outside of his head. “Beasts of No Nation” can sometimes have a dreamy, trippy quality to it, putting it more in line with psychologically harrowing war films like “Apocalypse Now” than the more journalistic iterations like “Saving Private Ryan.” A gauzy, textural score from Dan Romer (of “Beasts of the Southern Wild” fame) helps that along.

When Agu is finally, mercifully brought to a missionary school, he has more trouble than the other children in becoming a child again. His questions about God and life are similar to those that were asked by Holocaust survivors—asked to do unspeakable things just to survive—and Agu worries that the counselor assigned to him will consider him a “beast.” When we last see Agu, he’s approaching the beach, where all the other children are playing. Slowly, he steps into the ocean, but, picking up speed, he runs into the surf with the others, looking like a child for the first time in ages. “Beasts of No Nation” can be horrifyingly bleak, but that little glimmer of hope tries to provide us with the sense that humanity, no matter what the conditions, will always find a way out from under depravity.

Bernstein is a member of the class of 2018.

People talk about how the winters are snowy, but it does not slow down what happens here. There are over 700 concerts a year that we do at Eastman.

snowy, but it does not slow down what happens here. There are over 700 concerts a year that we do at Eastman. It’s fabulous.



AARON RAYMOND / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

DANCE GROUPS DAZZLE AT ‘GARBA’

On Saturday, Oct. 17, ADITI presented “Garba 2015” in the May Room in Wilson Commons, in celebration of the festival of Navratri.

Skylar Spence keeps it fresh and funky on ‘Prom King’

BY JEFF HOWARD
A&E EDITOR

Skylar Spence was once a vaporwave producer known as Saint Pepsi. Under his previous handle he was a big fish in a very small pond – the small pond being Reddit’s vaporwave subreddit. Now, Saint Pepsi has got a new name and is a medium-sized fish in a much bigger pond. On his new release under the Skylar Spence name, “Prom King,” Spence brings the elements of vaporwave and future-funk into a poppy context, plus he adds his own vocals. The result is a set of disco-pop songs that are slickly produced, catchy and a little bit vulnerable too.

On “Intro,” Skylar Spence starts things off by bridging the gap between his vaporwave past and pop future. The track starts off with a sample which sounds like a piece of early 2000’s R&B pump-up music meant for an event held in a large arena and sponsored by Pepsi (actually though!). The track shortly blossoms with the sound of clean funk guitar and crisp drums,

evolving into the sound of Skylar Spence today.

The next track, “Can’t You See,” sets the tone for the album. When I first heard the track it immediately made me think of the band Chromeo, what with the four-on-the-floor beat and glossy production. On the track, Spence sings the hook “I’m in love with my own reflection / I can hardly keep myself together.” The theme of vanity works well in the context of the track’s sleek sound. Also, a song about being in love with yourself is refreshingly honest and on point with what it sometimes feels like to be alive in this era.

The subsequent tracks all deliver in sharp production and intense grooviness. However, this slickness is distinctly contrasted by Skylar Spence’s singing. It is not bad by any means, but it’s just not as suave as the music implies it would be. Rather, Spence’s voice has a juvenile, unvarnished quality to it. In fact, after I heard the singing on this album, I thought of jam bands like the Disco Biscuits, where the singing is secondary to the

instrumentals. This was actually a pretty exciting realization to me. When I think of jam bands and vaporwave, I think of two music scenes that have devout followings but exist outside the mainstream (vaporwave more so than jam bands). Either way, both these music scenes mean so much to me in their own ways, and to feel them collide within the context of a pop album is nothing short of exhilarating. It makes me wonder if vaporwave will ever be incorporated into a jam band setting someday in the future. (Answer: it will, and I will be the one to do it.)

Like the new Carly Rae Jepsen album, which I reviewed and loved, “Prom King” is so wonderful because it captures the sound of 2015 and does it well. From the chopped and screwed vocal samples to the heavenly bell synthesizers on this thing, “Prom King” proves that pop music of this decade has evolved from where it was ten years ago—and I like the direction it’s going.

Howard is a member of the class of 2017.

Beach House album rolls with the tides

BY JESSE BERNSTEIN
A&E STAFF

When “Thank Your Lucky Stars” was announced via Beach House’s Twitter account last week, they stressed that the album was not a “companion” to their recently released “Depression Cherry,” nor was it a collection of b-sides. Slipped into the announcement was the claim that this album was not a “surprise.” Given that “Depression Cherry” was released, oh, two months ago, after the band hadn’t released any new material since 2012’s excellent “Bloom”, that claim should be taken with an enormous grain of salt.

This was absolutely a surprise release; indie posturing notwithstanding, “Thank Your Lucky Stars” finds Beach House moving in an interesting direction for the second time this year (last mention of that, I promise). It’s practically bare-bones by their standards, largely eschewing the theatrical reverberations that have come to define their sound. That’s

result is a sound that hearkens back to Beach House’s pre-Sub Pop days, especially on “Common Girl.” The opening keyboards are a dead ringer for “Wedding Bell” (from 2008’s “Devotion”), which feeds the notion that the band can sometimes cannibalize their own sound. Certainly, on the opener, “Majorette,” the word “B-side” comes to mind.

Whereas ‘Depression Cherry’ felt more focused on Alexander Scally’s guitar, ‘Thank Your Lucky Stars’ puts the spotlight back on Victoria LeGrand’s voice.

However, after that opening hiccup, the rest of the album pays tribute to Beach House’s past while also imbuing it with a newfound confidence and wisdom. Out with the timidity of Beach House past; in with a Legrand who sounds steely and battle-tested. “The Traveller” sounds like their take on The Doors, and it also happens to be one of the most fun songs they’ve ever recorded to boot. The other side of the coin is “Elegy to the Void,” a six and half minute slow burner that finds Beach House at their most dark and unhinged (“Black clock looming distant/You’re a great white”). Scally’s guitar has never sounded like this, a screeching car crash that is wholly unique within their discography. It signals a really intriguing future for the duo.

So, yes, the “not a surprise” album ended up actually being pretty surprising.

Bernstein is a member of the class of 2018.

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An interview with Keith Elder

DIRECTOR FROM PAGE 12
with Leonard Bernstein, and how that was a life changing event for me.
AR: I've heard that you have some interesting stories about experiences you've had on the job.

And I look at these student concerts just as I would look at the Super Bowl or anything of that sort.

KE: So the 2001 Super Bowl, which was in New Orleans, I had a wonderful opportunity working, producing pregame shows. I think I had Mariah Carey and Paul McCartney, as well as the World Series ring ceremony, as well as the Ryder Cup, as well as other concerts. So I've been fortunate from that angle.

AR: Is there an advantage to working in a more low-key place like Eastman, as opposed to booking events for the Super Bowl?

KE: [Laughs] Sure! I think it has to do with the education and being able to touch people's lives. When I came here to do the interview process three years ago, [I noticed] one, being in Rochester and seeing how

that I'm very proud that we started since I've been here is that we've got students from the University of Rochester coming over working as ushers and working in our offices and coming to see concerts, so that this coordination and collaboration is not just sort-of a downtown, three-mile-away Eastman thing, but it's a University of Rochester—as a whole—concept. So I think that will, looking at the Uros—looking at the different things and areas—make it accessible to the students. That's an important piece of what we've been trying to achieve. And then the other is that, if anybody's interested in other things that we have going on, eastmantheatre.org

I think we've talked a lot about Eastman students, but I think the UR students are extremely important to the whole equation.

is the website, and you can go on and take a look at all of our concerts that we have happening.

JH: I have one final question, and that's if there's one artist that you would love to book at Eastman in the future, who would that be?

KE: You know, people always ask me that, and there really isn't one artist. For me, it's very important that within the next few years we have a major orchestra—such as the New York Philharmonic or the Boston Symphony or the Chicago Symphony—here; I think that's an important piece. I think it's important that we continue bringing in the top artists off of Broadway. And then I think it's important for us to be able to bring in some contemporary artists, like I said with Nora Jones. I think, on a non-musical end, when you say

What I find interesting is out of the level of artist that we're looking at, almost all of them want some sort of engagement with the students,

top artist, I'd love to also spice up and throw some dance and lecture into the series, so that there would be some potential dance projects or potential lectures. Pretty interesting and intense projects. A project that's out there that I've been trying to get in has been Billy Joel, to give a lecture from the piano, which is actually a really cool thing. It's not a concert; it's a lecture, about his life from the piano. And so it's the

CT
RECOMMENDS

'JANE THE VIRGIN'

BY SCOTT ABRAMS
COPY EDITOR

Saying that “Jane the Virgin” is the CW’s best, most ambitious show might not be saying all that much, but the show is also the best, most ambitious comedy on network television this year. The series is an adaption of a Venezuelan telenovela and has one of the most ridiculous plots imaginable: Aspiring writer Jane Villanueva (Gina Rodriguez) is a responsible, 23-year-old virgin. However, she is impregnated after a mistake where she is artificially inseminated with the last semen sample of her boss, Rafael (Jason Baldoni). Think that sounds like a lot? Jane also has to contend with Rafael’s estranged wife Petra (the wonderful Yael Grobglas, lending an impressive shading and vulnerability to the series’ main antagonist), who still loves her husband but also can’t seem to stop scheming for an episode at a time. The dizzying number of plots doesn’t end there. Jane’s fiancé, Michael (Brett Dier), obviously isn’t pleased with Jane’s pregnancy, especially when it’s revealed that Jane might have feelings for Rafael. Finally, Jane’s home life includes her mother (Andrea Navedo), who had her as a teenager, her extremely religious grandmother (Ivonne Coll), an undocumented immigrant and her father (a hysterical Jaime Camil), a famous telenovela star who enters Jane’s life after twenty-three years.

The number of storylines the show balances is immense: that its first season was one of the strongest, most tonally focused shows on the air last year is incredible. In its first season, the show made nary a false move, creating a delirious soap opera that is aware of how ridiculous it is but also never loses the pathos of the situations in which the characters are placed. Even the obligatory love triangle is handled with more nuance and sensitivity than one could possibly imagine. The show also features the most hilarious, inventive use of narration I’ve ever seen. In fact, the narrator, Anthony Mendez, received an Emmy nomination for his work on the show. While the cast is uniformly superb, Gina Rodriguez, who won a Golden Globe for her respective role last year, gives a star-making performance. She balances both the comedic and dramatic aspects of the material with aplomb, creating a truly human character attempting to navigate the insanity of the situation she’s faced with.

“Jane the Virgin” airs Mondays at 9pm on the CW and is available on Netflix.

Abrams is a member of the class of 2018.

Quality is always top. It's not about redeveloping anything, but it's making sure that we're bringing in quality artists and bringing Kodak [Hall] back to being a major performance venue in the United States.

great the arts community is here, and two, the students—not just at Eastman, but the University of Rochester. Music is an important piece to the student fabric here. And, so, that was an important piece of working in a position that's not as, I guess you'd say, intense. But the other piece of it is that we do over 700 concerts a year, and so it might not be as high-profile, but it is just as much, just as busy. And I look at these student concerts just like I would look at the Super Bowl, or anything of that sort.

AR: Is there anything else that you want us to know, or that you want to tell us?

KE: Well, I think we've talked a lot about Eastman students, but I think the University of Rochester students are extremely important to the whole equation. One of the things

A project that's out there that I've been trying to get in has been Billy Joel, to give a lecture from the piano, which is actually a really cool thing.

sort of project that I think is really interesting and cool; something like that, I could see in the future.

AR: Do you look for artists that will directly engage with the students? I know Kristin Chenoweth invited a group of eight Eastman students, and I know Wynton Marsalis is very engaged in teaching, as well.

KE: You know, what I find interesting is the level of artist

One of the things that I'm very proud that we've started since I've been here is that we've got students from the University of Rochester coming over working in our offices.

that we're looking at, almost all of them want some sort of

engagement with the students, because the Eastman students, but also the University of Rochester students, are some of the premier students in the country. You know, one of the interesting things with the Nora Jones concert that's coming up is that Nora has played here multiple times with the jazz festival, but she's been pretty adamant about wanting to play here when

school is in session so students could go. And so, I find that most of the artists that we look at that are on the top, premier end want to really give back and engage with the students. And that actually helps us in getting some of the top talent here.

Howard is a member of the class of 2017.

Ransom is a member of the class of 2017.

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ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Kathryn Montgomery - Field Hockey

BY DANIELLE DOUGLAS
SPORTS EDITOR

BY MAX EBER
SPORTS EDITOR

Kathryn Montgomery, a senior, is a defender on the field hockey team. On Tuesday, she scored her first career goal to contribute to the team's 8-0 win against Elmira College. In 2014, Montgomery was awarded to the NFHCA Academic Honor Roll. During her sophomore year, she had the second-most defensive saves in the Liberty League and received Honorable Mention in the conference.

1. How did you first get involved in field hockey? I started playing field hockey in the seventh grade because I liked the skirts.

2. Which athlete do you look up to most? Why? Michael Jordan—the greatest athlete of all time, without a



Senior Kathryn Montgomery shields the ball from a defender as she dribbles the down the field.

shadow of doubt. His skill, coordination and mental game sets the gold standard for athletes today. “Tryna be like Mike!”

3. How did it feel to score your first collegiate goal as a senior? It was awesome! As a deep

defender, I usually don't step foot in our offensive circle, so it was a nice change of pace and scenery.

4. What is the best and worst part about playing defense? I love the point of view of playing in the backfield because

I'm able to see the entire field and use it to communicate with teammates playing in front of me. The worst part about playing defense is probably not being able to follow the play up the field, as a midfielder

would. It takes some serious self-control to hit the brakes and stay back to hold our formation.

5. How does it feel for the team to have another dominant showing, extending your record to an impressive 11-4? It feels great to have an 11-4 record, and we're humble about it! Our senior class knows what it's like to make a deep post-season NCAA run, and we work hard at every practice and every game to get there againw.

6. Would you rather build an igloo with John Travolta or Bill Gates? Why? Bill Gates for his innovative and creative mind. We would build the coolest igloo ever!

7. What is your favorite quote? “They gon’ love me for my Ambition.” - Wale

Douglas is a member of the class of 2017.

Eber is a member of the class of 2017.

LAST WEEK'S SCORES

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16

- Field Hockey vs Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute - L 0-1
- Women's Soccer vs Carnegie Mellon University - L 0-2
- Men's Soccer vs Carnegie Mellon University - T 2-2

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17

- Women's Volleyball vs Brandeis University - W 3-0
- Football vs Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute - L 21-35
- Women's Volleyball vs Emory University - L 0-3

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18

- Women's Soccer vs Case Western Reserve University - W 4-0
- Women's Volleyball vs Carnegie Mellon University - L 0-3
- Men's Soccer vs Case Western Reserve University - L 0-1
- Women's Volleyball vs Case Western Reserve University - L 0-3

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20

- Field Hockey vs Elmira College - W 8-0

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21

- Women's Volleyball vs Elmira College - W 3-2
- Women's Soccer vs Keuka College - W 3-0

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23

- Field Hockey vs Skidmore College - 4:00 P.M.*
- Men's Swimming and Diving at UR Invitational - Day 1 - 6:00 P.M.*
- Women's Swimming and Diving at UR Invitational - Day 1 - 6:00 P.M.*

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24

- Men's Swimming and Diving at UR Invitational - Day 1 - 10:00 A.M.*
- Women's Swimming and Diving at UR Invitational - Day 1 - 10:00 A.M.*
- Women's Rowing at Head of the Schuylkill - Philadelphia, PA - 10:00 A.M.
- Football vs Union College - 12:00 P.M.*
- Men's Soccer vs Moravian College - Bethlehem, PA - 3:30 P.M.
- Women's Soccer vs St. John Fisher College - Pittsford, NY - 5:00 P.M.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

- Field Hockey vs St. Lawrence University - Canton, NY - 3:00 P.M.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27

- Women's Volleyball vs Buffalo State - Buffalo, NY - 7:00 P.M.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28

- Women's Field Hockey vs Houghton College - Houghton, NY - 7:00 P.M.

*DENOTES HOME GAME
(DH) DENOTES DOUBLEHEADER

Despite offseason predictions, Warriors have golden future

BY MAX EBER
SPORTS EDITOR

Every year, the NBA sends out a survey to the general managers (GMs) of all 30 franchises to hear their expectations for the upcoming season, their predictions of the best players and more. These predictions are by no means guarantees of what we will see one week from now, when the shoes are laced up and the best in the world take the court. They are a rather unique metric that allows fans to gauge the lay of the land from some of basketball's top minds.

We see an overwhelming number of GMs predicting the Cavaliers to take the title, with 53.6 percent of the votes. The results show that the Golden State Warriors have a measly 17.9 percent chance of pulling off a repeat championship win—the lowest percentage a defending champion has received since the GM survey was created 13 years ago.

This is a good opportunity to address a portion of the hate the Warriors have been receiving this offseason. After winning the Finals, any team can expect a certain level of complaining from the competition, but this offseason has been an extreme case.

Not only are Cavs fans continuing to preach their gospel of “we would have easily won if the Cavs were healthy,” but fans across the league are attributing the Warriors’ success primarily to luck.

The Warriors managed to avoid the Clippers and Spurs in their road to the Finals. In the eyes of many delusional and jealous fans, this somehow makes the team’s trip through the teams of LeBron James, James Harden, Anthony Davis and Marc Gasol a cakewalk.

Interestingly enough, each of these players was voted the best player at his respective position in this year’s GM survey, with Steph Curry rounding out the final remaining spot of point guard.

Their playoff run was not the waltz to the Finals it is being made out to be, and people are quick to forget the monstrous overall season the Warriors had.

Last year’s Warriors were first in the NBA in points, average score margin, fast break points, assists, field goal percentage and opponent field goal percentage, as well as second in the NBA in blocks and assist-to-turnover ratio. These are just a handful of the array of accolades Golden State picked up on their way to 67 wins and a first overall finish.

While the GMs are quick to move on from the unrivaled dominance the Warriors displayed, they do not forget some of the details which got them there.

In the survey, the Warriors were ranked the best defensive team in the league, and head coach Steve Kerr was ranked as the coach that runs the best offense—both with 58.6 percent of the vote. After picking up the top slots for “Most Fun to Watch” and “Best Home Court Advantage,” the Dubs are poised to pick up right where they left off last season.

So, while the haters continue their parade of excuses, we can only look to “what is” rather than “what if.” After Kyrie Irving said the Cavs would’ve easily won if they were healthy, Warriors forward Draymond Green responded by explaining, “If I was 6-foot-11, I’d be Anthony Davis.”

The Warriors can do nothing now but laugh it off and prove them all wrong.

Eber is a member of the class of 2017.

SPORTS

Freshmen lead women’s soccer to biggest win differential since 2014

BY DANIELLE DOUGLAS
SPORTS EDITOR

With just three games in conference-play left in the regular season, the University of Rochester women’s soccer team shut out Case Western Reserve University 4-0 on Sunday to improve its record to 6-5-1. Of the four goals scored against the Case Western Spartans, three were netted by rookie athletes—freshmen Kerri Eden, Christina Feller and Shayna Levy had one apiece to result in the team’s biggest win since early in the 2014 season. “The freshmen have been working really hard in practice and in games,” junior midfielder Kim Stagg said. “They have become much more confident during games and have really integrated in our style of play.” Right from the kickoff, the ‘Jackets came out strong. Feller scored the first goal of the game—and the first of her college career—within a minute of the start. Case Western responded with an immediate shot on goal, but sophomore keeper Madilynne Lee kept the ball out of the net. Scoring momentum slowed a bit, but with just under 10 minutes left in the first half, Case Western committed an own goal to put Rochester up 2-0. Following the goal, Eden took control of the ball in the Case Western penalty box and earned the ‘Jackets a corner before the end of the first half. “A major team strength of the game was our confidence on the ball,” Stagg said. “We



PHOTO COURTESY OF UR ATHLETICS
Freshman Shayna Levy prepares to boot the ball down the field.

were confident in our runs and our passing, and we played with deliberate intent.” The team confidence continued right into the second half, as Levy put forward a long shot that landed right in the corner of the net to record her inaugural goal, bringing the score to 3-0. “My [freshman] teammates and I, along with the whole team, have worked hard all season to continually improve,” Feller said. “[We] have really great mentors and returning players to look up to and get motivated by.” Levy’s goal was a boost to UR’s energy. Junior Jean Chakmakas and freshman Margaret Lee both nearly scored from shots on goal within two minutes of each other after putting pressure on Case Western defense. Case Western had its only major threat to the UR defense at the 80 minute mark, as senior Case Western forwards

Mackenzie Best and Rachel Hammond attacked the UR goal, but Lee held off the two consecutive shots. However, the ‘Jackets would end the game on a high note. With just a few minutes left, Eden became Rochester’s third freshman of the game to score for the team after an assist from Stagg. “We stepped up our level of play,” Stagg said. “Having the younger girls do so well made everyone step up their game and have the confidence to keep the level of play up.” The winning streak continued on Wednesday afternoon as the team beat Keuka College 3-0, taking 35 shots on goal in the first 11 minutes alone. The ‘Jackets will play again on Saturday at St. John Fisher College at 5:00 p.m. *Douglas is a member of the class of 2017.*

XC impresses at Rowan

BY NATE KUHRT
HUMOR EDITOR

This past weekend, the University of Rochester men’s and women’s cross country teams were back in action as they raced at the Rowan University Border Battle in Glassboro, New Jersey. Both teams sent full squads to New Jersey for what is the last meet of the season that does not require that athletes have a qualifying time to compete. The men’s squad was led by juniors Dan Nolte and Eric Franklin, who finished 20th and 32nd, respectively. Senior captain Jeremy Hasset finished third for the ‘Jackets and was closely trailed by freshman Forrest Hangen, who earned second place. Junior Jake Greenberg rounded out the top five for the team. Every member of the team’s top five runners—as well as the majority of the rest of the team—set a personal record. The overall team ran an average time of 25:52.84 for eight kilometers and captured ninth place out of a very competitive field. The women’s team managed to secure third place in a field stacked with seven nationally-ranked teams, with superb performance in all scoring positions. Three UR runners among the top-10 overall finishers. Junior Annie Peterson

led the squad, placing seventh, while Senior Katie Knox and Victoria Stepanova ‘T5 finished eighth and tenth respectively. Rounding out the women’s team’s top five were juniors Sam Kitchen and Audrey McCarthy. As a team, the ‘Jackets covered six kilometers in an average time of 22:01.05, and on top of the impressive performances at the front end of the squad, most remaining members of the team were able to post a personal record to round out the season. Moving forward, the top-10 runners will be racing at Brandeis University on Halloween for the UAA conference meet. Following this meet, the top seven runners will compete against other teams from across the region at Letchworth State Park in hopes of securing a bid to the national meet. It is exciting to see the Yellowjackets make strides forward as the season comes to a close. “As a group, on both the men’s and women’s side, we are hoping to improve our team position compared to previous years at UAAs and qualify for nationals,” senior Mintesinot Kassu said. “Both goals will be challenging [...] but we think they are definitely in reach after this past weekend’s strong performances.” *Kuhrt is a member of the class of 2017.*



PHOTO COURTESY OF UR ATHLETICS
Junior Eric Franklin (left) and senior Jeremy Hasset push towards the finish.

Lawsuit could follow police altercation with NBA forward

BY JESSE BERNSTEIN
SPORTS STAFF

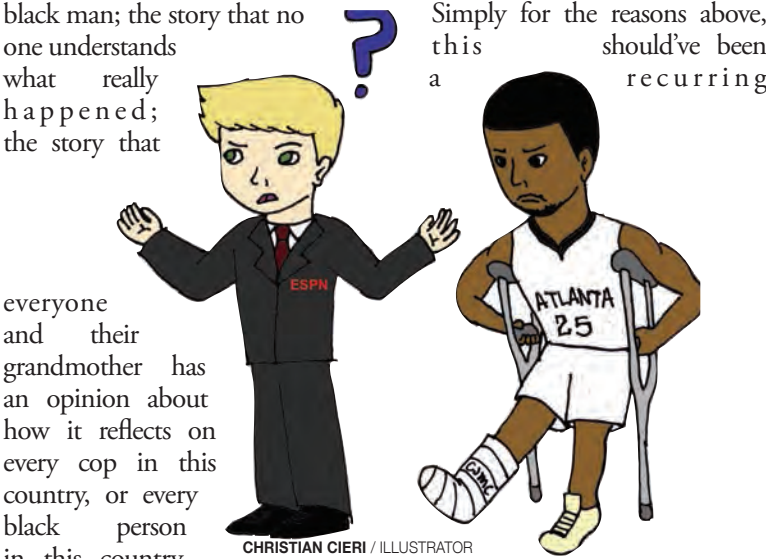
On Oct. 9, Atlanta Hawks swingman Thabo Sefalosha was found not guilty on three misdemeanor charges with regards to an altercation with a member of the New York Police Department in April. Sefalosha’s camp contended that officers were unduly aggressive and confrontational during his arrest, resulting in Sefalosha’s broken leg and missed playing time. Prosecutors presented a less flattering picture, describing Sefalosha as being uncooperative and combative with officers, resulting in the need for use of force. Now that the trial has ended, Sefalosha’s group has publicly mulled filing a civil case for \$50 million against the NYPD and New York City. Michele Roberts, head of the NBA player’s union, has stated that the NBPA would back Sefalosha if such a case were to come to fruition.

There are a lot of stories here. This is the all-too-frequent narrative of the questionable nature of excessive force by the police against a black man; the story that no one understands what really happened; the story that everyone and their grandmother has an opinion about how it reflects on every cop in this country, or every black person in this country. The circus of confusion and obfuscation blunders onward, impervious to logic or fact. That’s the bigger takeaway from this entire ordeal. What’s also deeply concerning is the minimal reporting surrounding

the event by a worldwide leader. ESPN’s lack of coverage of this hugely important event was as confusing as it was inexcusable. Simply for the reasons above, this should’ve been a recurring conversation on SportsCenter since it happened in the spring. Questions about race and identity have dominated the national discourse for a few years now, and, from a purely journalistic

standpoint, it’s baffling to consider why exactly ESPN shied away from this. It could be that ESPN didn’t want to insert itself into a realm in which someone might say something inexcusable on the air, but, as a news organization, that’s a risk it has to be willing to take. And, it has. There was no shortage of coverage on the Ray Rice debacle, which produced as much nuanced discussion as it did misguided spouting. But, as with anything, you take the good along with the bad, and you should be thankful that the good was there. For ESPN to largely ignore this trial—which, by the way, Fox Sports and Yahoo Sports did an excellent job covering—represents a lack of taste for anything beyond fluff. Even from a ratings standpoint, Sefalosha’s injury came in the middle of an NBA playoff series, drastically altering the Eastern Conference championship picture. How was this not bigger news? A few ESPN personalities have done a good job keeping this

news at the forefront. Jemele Hill, Bomani Jones and Michael Smith have discussed the trial at length since it began a few weeks ago, but, besides them, the coverage has been virtually non-existent. All the while, the intricacies of football inflation have been hammered at again and again, every day for months on end. Moralizing is easy. That’s why Steven A. Smith and Skip Bayless, his partner in crime against journalism, can swing from the ankles at moral softballs. They can turn their noses up at Derrick Rose for sitting with an injury or take potshots at Tom Brady for liking his footballs a little softer, but when it comes to discussions that require a little thought, they’re silent. ESPN is a sports news organization. This was sports. This was news. This was an opportunity to really take a leading role in an important national discussion, and they passed it over in silence. *Bernstein is a member of the class of 2018.*



CHRISTIAN CIERI / ILLUSTRATOR